U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN

# Marilyn Musgrave

SERVING COLORADO's 4th DISTRICT

# Congressional Acheivement REPORT 2005

*"It is an honor to continue serving as your voice in the United States House of Representatives. During the first half of the 109th Congress, I have worked hard to defend our Colorado values. In this report, you will find that my top priorities are creating jobs and stimulating economic growth, honoring our nation's veterans, ensuring that our area receives its fair share of transportation dollars, and promoting Colorado's farmers and ranchers. I hope that you will take a moment to review my acheivement report."*

Marilyn Musgrave

This mailing was prepared, published, and mailed at taxpayer expense:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Marilyn Musgrave

M.C.
PRSTD.STD.

# U.S. Congresswoman MUSGRAVE'S Top Priorities...

## TRANSPORTATION

"I have worked diligently to ensure that the Fourth Congressional District receives its fair share of transportation funding. Last year, I secured $20 million, a record amount, to help high-priority projects on the I-25 corridor, Heartland Express, Ports to Plains, and I-76."

## JOB CREATION & ECONOMIC GROWTH

"America's small businesses are critical to the success of our economy and to future job growth. As Chairman of the Small Business Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment, and Government Programs, I continue looking for ways that the federal government can stimulate the development of new small businesses, reduce regulations, and encourage job growth."

## IMMIGRATION

"Traveling across Colorado, I consistently hear that immigration is a top concern. It is imperative for Congress to enact common sense immigration policies that strengthen border security, equip local law enforcement, deter illegal immigration, and reject any amnesty provisions."

## VETERANS

"We all owe a great deal of gratitude to our nation's military heroes. Standing up for our veterans continues to be one of the most important things I do in Congress, and I remain steadfast in ensuring that the men and women in uniform are taken care of during their time of service and after."

# HONORING OUR NATION'S *Veterans*

Congresswoman Musgrave took time to thank members of the 137th Space Warning Squadron for their service after a Veteran's Day ceremony honoring Korean War Veterans.

## Helping Our Veterans in Rural Colorado

Faced with a large rural veteran population, Congresswoman Musgrave joined Nebraska Congressman Tom Osborne in supporting a program to assist veterans enrolled in the VA to obtain health care at a medical facility closer to home.

## Protecting Our Veterans and their Families

Seeking a quality future for the families of our nation's veterans, Congresswoman Musgrave supported permanently increasing maximum coverage for service members' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) to $400,000.

## Keeping Our Promise to Military Retirees

Congresswoman Musgrave worked with a bipartisan group of lawmakers to ensure quality long-term health care for veterans, including the veterans' spouses and children. In addition, she supports providing Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) coverage, pharmacy benefits, and a waiver for Medicare part B premiums for veterans who meet eligibility requirements.

## Offsetting Veterans' Cost-of-Living Expenses

Realizing the challenges that our disabled veterans face every day, Congresswoman Musgrave supported a cost-of-living increase in the rates of disability compensation. She also supported increasing compensation rates for dependents and survivors of certain service connected disabled veterans.

Congresswoman Musgrave speaking to residents at a Veteran's Day ceremony in Loveland, Colorado.

## Increasing Funding for Veterans' Programs

Congresswoman Musgrave believes our nation's veterans deserve the best care available. She supported an increase in funding for all eligible veterans' benefit programs administered through the Veterans Health Administration including: $20 billion for the Defense Health Programs, an increase of $1.8 billion over the previously enacted level, an increase in veterans' medical services by $1.64 billion, and doubling research money for mental health care to $2.2 billion.

*Find out more about this issue and other important topics by visiting:*

**WWW.HOUSE.GOV/MUSGRAVE**

# SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE REFORMS

# Healthcare

## Reducing the Cost of Health Care

Congresswoman Musgrave is working on bi-partisan legislation to make health care more affordable for all Americans by allowing people to compare insurance plans across the country and pick the one that fits their needs and those of their family.

## Improving Health Care for Small Businesses

Congresswoman Musgrave advocated for improved access and choice of medical coverage for small businesses through Association Health Plans (AHPs). AHPs would allow small business owners to pool together to purchase health care insurance at equitable rates through professional associations. Additionally AHPs would create greater competition, lower health care costs, and offer new choices in health insurance markets.

## Lowering Prescription Drug Cost

Seniors are hit especially hard by the cost of prescription drugs. According to the Congressional Budget Office, seniors will spend $1.8 trillion on prescription drugs. Congresswoman supports legislation that would lower the cost of prescription drugs by allowing pharmacists and individuals to import FDA approved prescription drugs manufactured in FDA approved facilities. This would address safety and the cost of these medications.

# JOB Creation & ECONOMIC Growth

Congresswoman Musgrave listens to testimony during a hearing on how to help our nation's small businesses.

## Increasing Jobs & Financial Relief for Families

Congresswoman Musgrave consistently supports tax measures that encourage and strengthen small businesses, families, and individuals. Specifically, she helped pass an increase in the per-child tax credit from $600 to $1000, a reduction on the double tax in corporate dividends, and permanently repealing the marriage penalty tax provision.

## Tax Relief for Small Businesses

Congresswoman Musgrave took the lead on helping small business owners reduce their tax burden. Her legislation, passed in the House and Senate, allows small businesses to depreciate the full value of new equipment purchases, up to $100,000, in the same year the equipment is put into service. This legislation will create thousands of new jobs for small businesses across the country.

## Most Active Subcommittee Chairwoman on the House Small Business Committee

In 2005, Congresswoman Musgrave became the Chairman of the Small Business Subcommittee on Workforce, Empowerment, and Government Programs. This committee is focused on entrepreneurial programs in the Small Business Administration and reducing government regulation for our nation's small businesses. As the Chairman, she convened hearings in Washington D.C. and in Colorado on a number of issues including veterans' business opportunities, removing barriers to job creation, and fairness in labor law.

*Find out more about this issue and other important topics by visiting:*

WWW.HOUSE.GOV/MUSGRAVE

# PROMOTING *Agriculture*

## 2007 Farm Bill Forum
## U.S. Agriculture Secretary, Mike Johanns

In an effort to help Colorado's farmers and ranchers, Congresswoman Musgrave brought the foremost expert in agriculture policy, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns, to the Fourth District in Colorado. On October 24th, 2005 nearly 400 agricultural leaders joined Secretary Johanns and the Congresswoman in Greeley for the 2007 Farm Bill Listening Session. This visit by Secretary Johanns underscores the importance our region plays in the nation's agricultural industry.

United States Agriculture Secretary Johanns joined Congresswoman Musgrave at the 2007 Farm Bill Forum in Greeley, CO. Hundreds of farmers and ranchers attended this special event.

## Promoted CSU Agriculture Research

Congresswoman Musgrave secured funding for agricultural research including $817,000 for BSE research, Foot and Mouth Disease in wildlife, West Nile Virus, and E.coli. Additionally she secured $306,000 for drought resistant wheat research; $2,184,000 to assess the negative impacts of radiation on crops, livestock, ecosystems and forests; and $880,000 for developing improved methods of genetic evaluation of beef cattle in order to provide consumers with affordable and safe beef products.

Congresswoman Musgrave meets with farmers from Eastern Colorado during her 2005 Wheat Tour. This annual event has given farmers and ranchers an opportunity to share their concerns and learn more about national agricultural issues.

## Working to End Japanese Beef Embargo

In her effort to persuade the Japanese to lift their embargo, Congresswoman Musgrave met with the Japanese Ambassador to the U.S. twice in 2005. Additionally, she led a bi-partisan campaign emphasizing that U.S. beef is the safest beef in the world. After briefly opening their market, Japan quickly returned to banning American beef. As a result, Congresswoman Musgrave intensified her efforts by encouraging Congress to consider economic sanctions against Japan.

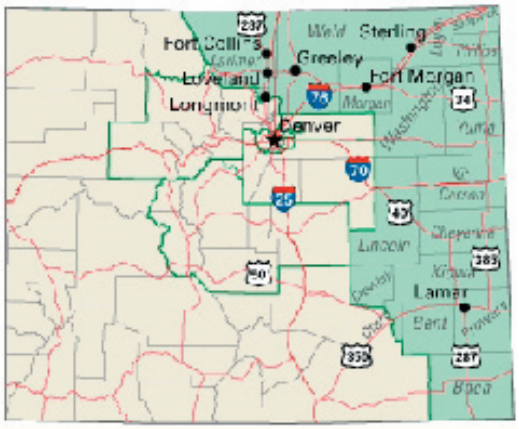
## Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Congresswoman Musgrave restored funding for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program after the funding was cut in the Senate. This funding will help farmers in seven counties in Northeastern Colorado conserve water and avoid costly court mandates.

## Eliminating the Death Tax

Congresswoman Musgrave firmly believes in reducing the tax burden on our nation's family farms. That is why she continues to be a strong supporter of permanently repealing the death tax beyond 2010.

# TRANSPORTATION



Colorado's Fourth Congressional District

# Funding

## Working for Lower Gas Prices for All Americans

Congresswoman Musgrave continues the fight against higher gas prices by opposing tax hikes, promoting renewable energy and other alternatives to oil from the Middle East, and supporting an increase in energy conservation.

## Standing Up for Colorado's Highway Projects

Congresswoman Musgrave secured record highway dollars for Colorado projects including $1.6 million for the Interstate 76 corridor from Fort Morgan to the Nebraska state line and $3 million for Ports-to-Plains.

# Record RETURNS

## Securing Transportation Money for Our Region

Colorado's Fourth Congressional District has been short-changed over the years when it comes to receiving a fair share of transportation money. Congresswoman Musgrave urged congressional leaders to stop using inefficient federal formulas to determine transportation funding. As a result, record amounts of money now go towards transportation projects in our region of Colorado.

## Boosting State-Wide Highway Funding

Congresswoman Musgrave supported a measure that will secure $2.8 billion over the next six years for critical transportation projects.

Joining the United States Transportation Secretary, Norman Mineta, Congresswoman Musgrave continues to work hard to ensure that Colorado's Fourth Congressional District receives a fair share of federal funding for important transportation projects.

# 4th District RECEIVES ITS FAIR SHARE

Congresswoman Musgrave secured a record $20 million in federal funds for high-priority projects around northern and eastern portions of Colorado:

-$8 million for Interstate 25 from Dacono to Fort Collins;
-$6 million for Highway 287 from Limon to the Oklahoma border;
-$6 million for interstate 76 from E470 to the Nebraska border.

# Citizen Response Form

Please send regular reports and legislative updates to the following email address:

_____

The following three issues are most important to me and my family:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Furthermore, I believe Congress should:

1. Make permanent the tax provisions that help individual workers and families.
__Yes __No
2. Extend tax reductions on small business investments that help promote economic growth.
__Yes __No
3. Continue supporting our troops fighting the War on Terror in Afghanistan and Iraq.
__Yes __No
4. Pass association health plans for employees of small businesses.
__Yes __No
5. Eliminate federal regulations that stand between Americans and affordable medications.
__Yes __No
6. Lower cost of prescription drugs by allowing safe importation from outside the U.S.
__Yes __No
7. Investigate alternatives for funding highway construction without raising the gas tax.
__Yes __No
8. Impose economic sanctions on Japan for their continued ban on American beef exports.
__Yes __No
9. Work on legislation that allows individuals to setup flexible savings accounts for health expenses.
__Yes __No

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

*Thank You!*

Please feel free to provide additional feedback on another piece of paper.

Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave
U.S. House of Representatives
1507 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Place Stamp Here