



The NUNES Report

Nunes works to preserve historic cabins

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Quick Facts

In June, Rep. Nunes wrote to 1,741 constituents in response to their inquiries. Year to date, Rep. Nunes has responded to 7,014 constituents via the U.S. Mail.

Furthermore, since Rep. Nunes was elected to Congress he has responded to 19,117 constituent letters via the U.S. Mail.

Rep. Devin Nunes is working hard to ensure the owners of a group of rustic cabins in the Mineral King Valley are not evicted from the dwellings that have been in their families for generations.

"The government should not be in the business of taking away property from citizens. These cabins have historic value for our area and generational value for the families who have passed them down through the years," Rep. Nunes said. "The National Park Service seems intent on tearing down part of our community heritage when it should be seeking to preserve it."

Rep. Nunes introduced legislation to ensure that the owners of cabins in the Mineral King area of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park can remain and pass them on to their children. A law was passed in 1978 which took the Mineral King Valley out of the Sequoia National Game Refuge and brought it into Sequoia National Park. The law was aimed primarily at protecting the area from development into a downhill skiing facility. Since that time, the National Park Service (NPS) has permitted the owners of 66 cabins to retain the cabins for 25 years or until the death



Top: Historic Mineral King Valley today. Bottom: Mineral King Valley community as it appeared before 1906.

of the owners, whichever is later. Now, the NPS says it is no longer required to renew permits for any cabins whose permittees have passed away, and that it will eventually acquire all of the cabins upon the deaths of

the permittees who held them in 1978

Rep. Nunes hopes his legislation will permanently preserve the cabins for the families who have owned them for more than a century.

Rep. Nunes honors late President Reagan

In honor of Former President Ronald Reagan, Rep. Nunes became an original co-sponsor of legislation honoring Mr. Reagan's life.

Mr. Reagan was a visionary leader who guided our great country through difficult and dangerous times. He faced adversity with a smile and quick wit. He solved problems with sober determination. He gave us hope for the future of freedom and prosperity. He reminded us what it meant to be proud Americans. We mourn his loss but remember that he left us with a rich heritage of memories, ideals, and a trail of lives changed at home and abroad because of his efforts. For that, we will be eternally grateful.



Nunes continues fight against Valley meth

Rep. Devin Nunes has stepped up the fight against methamphetamine in the Central Valley by seeking increased funding for existing programs and new strategies to combat the demand.

Last year, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and state and local law enforcement officials seized 9,873 meth labs. These numbers are growing at an alarming rate in many states. Even more disturbing is the fact that more than two-thirds of these labs are found in "average" residences in rural areas and a startling 12% of America's

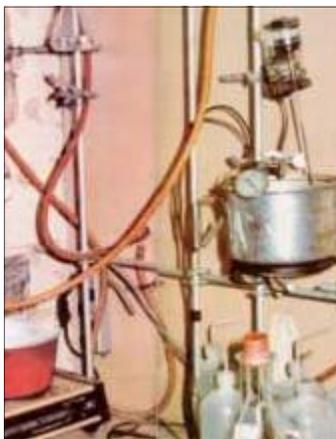
youth have used methamphetamine.

In addition to requesting that the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, a that coordinates anti-meth efforts, program receive an additional \$20 million in its annual budget, Rep. Nunes asked that the Central Valley HIDTA get an additional \$1.5 million on top of their normal budget. In the recent past, the Central Valley HIDTA task force has made tremendous gains when it received a temporary increase of \$500,000.

Lastly, the congressman requested funds to combat the demand for meth. The

vast majority of funds have been used to combat the supply of the illicit drug.

"Little has been done to effectively cut demand for methamphetamine, and as long as consumer demand remains unaddressed, the use of this dangerous illegal drug will continue spreading across the United States," said Rep. Nunes, who is a member of the Caucus to Fight and Control Methamphetamine. "The Methamphetamine Demand Reduction Program will reduce consumer demand for this drug through a media-based education campaign targeting consumers - teenagers, young adults and influencers. This research-based effort will build on the effective models, experience and success of the Partnership."



Meth lab

Legislative work encompasses many issues

Agriculture

Pesticides

The US Fish and Wildlife Service is currently considering new regulations to clarify the pesticide consultation rule. Currently, when registering or re-registering pesticides, the EPA is required to consult with the Fish and Wildlife Service and multiple other agencies if there are Endangered Species Act (ESA) concerns. However, the rules are vague and have left the EPA open to lawsuits over the proper amounts of consultation, even when the lawsuits did not claim a species had been harmed. These new rules will clearly delineate the required consultations and ESA review for pesticide registrations and help eliminate unnecessary lawsuits and ensure that farmers have the tools necessary for a plentiful and health food supply. Congressman Nunes joined colleagues in the House asking the Secretary of Interior to complete these new regulations as quickly as possible.

Banking

Stock Option Reform

Congressman Nunes became a cosponsor of H.R. 3574, the Stock Option Accounting Reform Act. This bill is designed to combat corporate abuse scandals by requiring the top five executives to disclose the expensing of their stock options. This bill has an exemption for small business, as defined by the Small Business Administration.

Education

Vocational Education

Congressman Nunes signed onto a letter of support for Vocational Education funding. This bipartisan letter expressed that the Perkins and other VocEd programs should not lose 25% of their funding next year and to continue the long-standing bipartisan commitment to career and technical education.

Educational Center in Fresno

Congressman Nunes recently introduced H.R. 4581 a bill that would transfer former USDA land from the federal government to the City of Fresno for purpose of building a military academy. Fresno Mayor Alan Autry has unveiled plans to build the new educational institution and the former USDA laboratory located at 2021 South Peach Avenue would make a perfect location. This is an important piece of legislation that will greatly increase the educational opportunities for children in the greater Fresno area.

Fire Fighting

Air Tankers

The Forest Service recently grounded the fire fighting air tanker fleet after the National Transportation Safety Board expressed concern with the agency's process for ensuring the airworthiness of some planes. The concerns arose following an NTSB investigation of three air tanker crashes in the last decade. However, the NTSB does not have the regulatory authority to inspect and certify the planes, and the FAA

is not required to certify contracted Forest Service aircraft. This issue is of critical importance considering the severity of the fire season already upon us. Consequently, Rep. Nunes cosponsored H.R. 4533 which would get these tankers back up in the air until the end of the calendar year. During this time, the air takers can fight during this fire season and resolve the bureaucratic issues that face the fleet.

General

Congressional Research Service Report on San Joaquin Valley

Rep. Nunes joined with his fellow San Joaquin Valley colleagues to request that Congressional Research Service (CRS) undertake a comprehensive review and report on the status of government assistance to the San Joaquin Valley of California. To date, there has been a great deal of information published by various organization, task forces, and government agencies that point to specific economic problems our area. In order to address these problems appropriately, there needs to be a comprehensive review of the data to identify inter-relationships and the scope of the problems facing the region. Specifically, the CRS report should include, but not be limited to the following: Statistical information on: employment, population, immigration, key infrastructure, education, economic base; Historic levels of federal investment – sorted by agency and specific pro-

Quick Facts

In the month of June, 2,862 web surfers visited Rep. Nunes' website at www.nunes.house.gov.

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gram; a list of any federal programs the San Joaquin Valley has not used to its full potential and why; a comparison of San Joaquin Valley economic data with other high poverty areas; a comprehensive review of any existing studies on the San Joaquin Valley and the principle findings; a review of current environmental concerns face the San Joaquin Valley.

Health

Health Professional Shortage

Under the "Conrad 30 program," states are entitled to as many as 30 waivers of the J-1 immigration visa "home residency requirement," if they agree to work in health profession shortage areas within the United States. This program has permitted a limited number of foreign medical graduates to serve in American communities, which have otherwise been unable to attract health care providers. Congressman Nunes recently cosponsored H.R. 4156, which would reauthorize this program.

Housing

Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program

Congressman Nunes became a cosponsor of H.R. 4363, the Helping Hands for Homeownership Act of 2004. This bill would block a rule change made by the Department of Housing and Urban Development that would restrict the use of "sweat equity" hours by groups that apply for Self-Help Homeownership

Opportunity Program (SHOP). This program provides competitive grants for groups like Habitat for Humanity to overcome the largest obstacle to house building - land and infrastructure expenses. These funds are crucial in helping Habitat affiliates across the country acquire sites for affordable home and community building.

Portugal

Commending the Portuguese Government

Rep. Nunes introduced legislation (H.Res. 688) that would commend the Government of Portugal and the Portuguese people for their long-standing friendship, stalwart leadership, and unwavering support of the United States in the effort to combat international terrorism. The United States and Portugal have a long history of consistent friendship and support.

Transportation

Mexicana Airlines and Fresno Yosemite International Airport

Rep. Nunes is aware of the ongoing discussions between the Fresno City Council and Mexicana Airlines to allow direct flights between Fresno Yosemite International Airport (FYI) and various cities in Mexico. In a letter to the Fresno City Council, Rep. Nunes commended the City Council for its work to increase economic development and jobs in the San Joaquin Valley and expressed support for the concept of direct flights

from Fresno to numerous international destinations. However, this support is contingent on the highest standards of agricultural inspections based on United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations. The threat of infestation from exotic pests or disease is real and can potentially destroy the livelihood of many families in the San Joaquin Valley. Rep. Nunes encouraged the Fresno City Council to work with USDA, Department of Transportation, and Homeland Security to develop a comprehensive plan to protect the San Joaquin Valley.

Water

Upper San Joaquin River Basin Storage Feasibility Study

Rep. Nunes wrote to President Bush requesting that he include \$5 million line item for the Upper San Joaquin River Basin storage feasibility study in his Fiscal Year 2006 Budget. The San Joaquin Valley continues to face a water crisis in which our water supplies have become inadequate to meet expanding needs. Demands by domestic users, industry, and environmental needs continue to grow with no relief in sight. The Upper San Joaquin River Basin storage feasibility study would take the next step in the process to resolve this pervasive problem. In fact, this study will determine the feasibility of increasing water storage capability on the Upper San Joaquin River in California.

Quick Facts

In June, Rep. Nunes helped 47 constituents overcome problems with government agencies. For the year, the Congressman has directly solved cases for 214 constituents and is currently assisting 399 others.