



## NewsLETTER

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## 13<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT



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# 13<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT UPDATE

## TOP NEWS:

### **Representative Scott Congratulates Clayton County for Regaining Accreditation *May 1***

“I am very pleased to learn that today the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools has retro-actively reinstated accreditation to the Clayton County School System,” stated Rep. Scott. “Over the last nine months many positive changes have taken place within the county and this news signifies that the county is indeed moving forward. Congratulations to the school board, students and families of Clayton County and may we all continue to uplift the students and work together for the benefit of all residents of Clayton County.”

**Read More:** [Clayton News Daily: Community Reacts to SACS Accreditation Verdict](#)

### **Congressman David Scott to Host the 13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Economic Recovery Exposition – Friday, May 29, 2009**



Congressman David Scott is proud to host the **13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Economic Recovery Exposition** on **Friday, May 29, 2009 from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm**. The exposition will bring together a diverse group of corporations, small businesses, non-profit organizations and government agencies to assist constituents survive in these tough economic times. The event will take place at the **Georgia International Convention Center** in College Park.

At the Economic Recovery Exposition, participants can learn about transiting careers, short-term training opportunities and starting a small business; talk one-on-one with HUD-approved housing counselors; receive information on extended unemployment and health benefits through the Economic Stimulus Package; and explore available job opportunities from over 100 companies. Participants seeking employment are encouraged to dress professionally and bring copies of their resume for interviews and networking opportunities with a variety of employers, such as the IRS, Colonial Life, U.S. Census Bureau, Six Flags Over Georgia, CSX Transportation, MARTA and many others.

[Click here](#) for more information and a list of participating organizations.

### **Scott Wraps Up Congressional Trip to Africa *April 23***

Congressman David Scott (D-GA) completed a week-long Congressional visit to volatile regions in Africa, including Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Yemen. During the trip, Congressman Scott and four other members of the U.S. House meet with world leaders to discuss counter-terrorism cooperation.



**“Many of the people living in these areas are suffering through abject poverty and deprivation,”** stated Rep. Scott. **“Their living conditions are awful, there’s a scarcity of jobs, and many people see little hope for surviving their circumstances. With a growing presence of Al-Qaeda in areas like Yemen, we must ensure that the humanitarian aid is reaching the ‘people’ if we are to have any hope of stabilize the region.**

[Click here](#) to continue reading

**See More:**

- [USA Today: U.S. Foreign Aid Needs Overhaul](#)

- [WSB-TV: GA Congressman Treks into Epicenter of Piracy Outbreak](#)

**Congressman Scott Supports Balancing the Federal Budget *April 30***

U.S. Representative David Scott and other fiscally conservative Blue Dog Democrats introduced the “Fiscal Honesty and Accountability Act of 2009” The legislation seek to re-instate the binding pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) rules that helped lead to balanced budgets in the 1990s.

**“Throughout the last decade, our expenditures have steadily increased, while our revenues have continued to decrease,”** stated Rep. Scott. **“We have fallen into a system of perpetual borrowing and it is time that we put an end to these unsustainable practices. Just as families and small businesses across this nation have to live on a balanced budget, so should we [federal government].”**

President Obama recently urged Congress to pass legislation similar to the Blue Dogs’ bill. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer also wrote in support of statutory PAYGO rules in an April 28<sup>th</sup> letter to the Blue Dogs.

**“When we commit to fiscal responsibility and institute mid- and long-term fiscal reform, we will begin to balance the national debt and lesson the financial burden that we have created for the next generation.”**

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**In Other News:**



**Connect with Rep. Scott on FACEBOOK!** Get exclusive content and interact with Representative David Scott right from Facebook. [Click here](#) to become a Fan.

**Scott Announces that Post 9/11 Veterans Can Begin Signing Up for the New GI Bill for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Rep. Scott announced that Iraq and Afghanistan veterans can now begin signing up for benefits under the New GI Bill. The “Post-9/11 GI Bill” was enacted last year to restore the promise of a full, four-year college education for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and

will take effect on August 1, 2009. **As of May 1, 2009, veterans may begin applying for a *certificate of eligibility* for the new college benefits.**

[Click here](#) to continue reading

[Click here](#) to apply for a certificate of eligibility

### **Representative Scott Decries Secretary Gates' Announcement To Cut Production of the F-22 Aircraft**



**“Over the last few months, I have personally spoken with President Obama and Secretary Gates on several occasions about the future production of the F-22 aircraft and how cutting production would potentially impact our national and economic security,”** said Rep. Scott. **“I am extremely disappointed that Secretary Gates chose to ignore the security concerns laid out by many experts and**

**dismiss an immense opportunity to help secure jobs for the almost 100,000 employees nationwide that will undoubtedly be directly or indirectly affected by this loss in production. Specifically, the state of Georgia and my district may lose up to 7,000 jobs. This is a critical time in our nation’s history and a time when we cannot afford to keep losing jobs.”**

The Air Force will receive funding to purchase an additional four F-22 aircrafts through the war spending supplemental later this year.

Congressman Scott’s 13th Congressional District includes Marietta, home to the F-22 plant.

### **11Alive News Reports: \$24 Million Stimulus to Clayton County Schools**



Amid the struggle to regain accreditation, the Clayton County School District is getting more than \$24 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The announcement came from the office of U.S. Congressman David Scott saying the money will be used in three designated areas: Title I-A grants, construction and programs for the education of children with disabilities.

[Click here to play video](#)

### **Congressman Scott Reminds Constituents to Get Ready for the Nationwide Transition to Digital Television- June 12, 2009**

With the nationwide transition to digital television less than a month away, Rep. Scott reminds constituents that on **Friday, June 12, 2009** analog television sets that receive signals over the air, and not from cable or satellite, will need a digital-to-analog converter box to display digital signals.

For more information on the digital television transition visit [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov) or call 770-210-5073.

[Click here](#) for more information on the TV Converter Box Coupon Program.



## Local Grant Awards

### Department of Health & Human Services: Head Start Projects

- Clayton County Community Services Authority - \$1,354,591

### Department of Homeland Security: ARRA Emergency Food & Shelter Program

- Fulton County - \$598,635
- Cobb County - \$227,012
- Clayton County - \$110,306
- Douglas County - \$45,490

### Federal Emergency Management Agency: Emergency Operations Center Program

- Douglas County - \$500,000

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## What's Happening in Congress?

### Currently on the House Floor

Keep track of the latest developments and votes on legislation being considered in the House.

### [Current Proceedings](#)

### Weekly Senate Schedule

See what bills and what amendments will be discussed in the Senate this week, courtesy of the Senate's official website.

### [Senate Calendar](#)

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## Legislative News:

### Recent Votes by Congressman Scott:

#### ⌘ H.R. 1256 – Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act

The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act will provide the FDA with the authority to regulate tobacco products under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The FDA will have the authority to require changes in current and future tobacco products to protect public health; prevent the dangerous marketing and sale of tobacco to kids; and prevent tobacco companies from making false and misleading claims about their products. The new tobacco program will be funded entirely through user fees on tobacco product manufacturers. The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act will also reinstate the FDA's 1996 rule aimed at reducing underage smoking, which includes provisions that will ban outdoor advertising of tobacco within 1,000 feet of schools and playgrounds, ban all remaining tobacco-brand sponsorships of sports and entertainment events, and restrict vending machines to adult-only facilities. The legislation will also prohibit the use of misleading terms such as 'light',

'low-tar', and 'mild' and require larger, more specific health warnings. Finally, the bill provides the FDA access to data about tobacco product ingredients that can be used in designing new product standards and new disclosure requirements.

• **DS voted FOR H.R. 627; H.R. 627 passed 298-112 (4/2/09)**

• **H.R. 627 – Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act**

The Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights Act prevents card companies from unfairly increasing interest rates on existing card balances – retroactive increases are permitted only if a cardholder is more than 30 days late, if a promotional rate expires, if the rate adjusts as part of a variable rate, or if the cardholder fails to comply with a workout agreement. This legislation also requires card companies to give 45 days notice of all interest rate increases or significant contract changes (e.g. fees) and requires companies to let consumers set their own fixed credit limit that cannot be exceeded. It also prevents companies from charging "over-the-limit" fees when a cardholder has set a limit, or when a preauthorized credit "hold" pushes a consumer over their limit. Limits (to 3) the number of over-the-limit fees companies can charge for the same transaction and ends unfair "double cycle" billing – card companies couldn't charge interest on debt consumers have already paid on time. If a cardholder pays on time and in full, the bill prevents card companies from piling additional fees on balances consisting solely of left-over interest. Many companies credit payments to a cardholder's lowest interest rate balances first, making it impossible for the consumer to pay off high-rate debt. The bill bans this practice, requiring payments made in excess of the minimum to be allocated proportionally or to the balance with the highest interest rate. Requires card companies to mail billing statements 21 calendar days before the due date (up from the current 14 days), and to credit as "on time" payments made before 5 p.m. local time on the due date. Extends due date to next business day for mailed payments when the due date falls on a day a card company does not accept or receive mail (i.e. Sundays and holidays). Establishes standard definitions of terms like "fixed rate" and "prime rate" so companies can't mislead or deceive consumers in marketing and advertising. Gives consumers who are pre-approved for a card the right to reject that card prior to activation without negatively affecting their credit scores. Prohibits issuers of subprime cards (where total yearly fixed fees exceed 25 percent of the credit limit) from charging those fees to the card itself. These cards are generally targeted to low-income consumers with weak credit histories. Prohibits card companies from knowingly issuing cards to individuals under 18 who are not emancipated. Requires reports to Congress by the Federal Reserve on credit card industry practices to enhance congressional oversight. Requires card companies to send out 45-day notice of interest rate increases 90-days after the bill is signed into law; the remainder of the bill takes effect 12 months after enactment.

• **DS voted FOR H.R. 627; H.R. 146 passed 357-70 (4/30/09)**

• **H.R. 1913 – Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act**

H.R. 1913 adopts the definition of "hate crime" as set forth in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (i.e., a crime in which the defendant intentionally selects a victim, or in the case of a property crime, the property that is the object of the crime, because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation of any person). Authorizes the Attorney General, at the request of a state, local, or tribal law enforcement agency, to provide technical, forensic, prosecutorial, or other assistance in the criminal investigation or prosecution of a violent crime, a hate crime, or a crime that constitutes a felony under state, local, or tribal law. Authorizes the Attorney General to award grants to state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies for extraordinary expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes. Declares that nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the exercise of constitutionally-protected free speech.

• **DS voted FOR H.R. 1913; H.R. 1913 passed 249-175 (4/29/09)**



