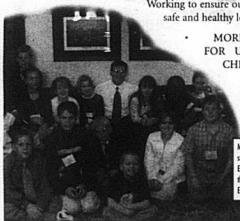


CHARACTER EDUCATION
 Authored and passed a Character Education Amendment that brings character education to our schools on a voluntary basis.
 Introduced the Seniors In Our Schools Act that would allow Seniors to share their lessons of life by mentoring, tutoring and volunteering with students during regular school hours and in after-school programs.

SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS
 Working to ensure our children will have a safe and healthy learning environment.

MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN

Increased funding for the Head Start program.



Meeting with Jessamine County students from Rosewood Dunbar Elementary school and recognizing them for winning the 1999 Environmental Youth Awards.

WORKED TO IMPROVE CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY FOR STUDENTS & TEACHERS AND ELIMINATE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE
 Authored and passed a Teacher Empowerment Amendment that gives schools the opportunity to use education dollars to provide teachers with instruction in technology training. The Teacher Empowerment legislation also provides funds to give schools more flexibility and hire more quality teachers to reduce class size.

Introduced and passed an amendment that allows the Secretary of Education to issue 3 year competitive grants to local public television stations to develop, produce and distribute K-12 digital content for local schools.

As an original co-sponsor of the New Millennium Classrooms Act, Fletcher is working to expand tax credits to encourage companies to donate high quality computers to needy schools and libraries.

REDUCED FEDERAL UNFUNDED EDUCATION MANDATES
 Co-sponsored and passed the IDEA that increased funding for children with disabilities to give more opportunities to physically and academically challenged students so that they can reach their fullest potential.

MAKING COLLEGE MORE AFFORDABLE FOR MORE STUDENTS
 Called for increased Pell Grants and campus based aid programs through the Pell Grant Resolution. ■

PROVIDED FUNDING TO REDUCE THE SOURCE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS THAT ENTER THE U.S. THROUGH OUR BORDERS.

WORKING TO INCREASE FUNDING BY \$6 MILLION TO FIGHT DRUG TRAFFICKING IN KENTUCKY

WORKING TO PROVIDE FULL FUNDING OF \$40 MILLION FOR THE DRUG FREE

COMMUNITIES LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD GIVE LOCALITIES THE NECESSARY RESOURCES TO BUILD AND STRENGTHEN EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY DRUG COALITIONS.

Harrodsburg, KY has already received approximately \$100,000 to support community based anti-drug programs. Full funding will assure this money is there in the future for Harrodsburg and other Central Kentucky communities.

WORKING TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO ASSURE THAT EVERY POLICE OFFICER THAT NEEDS A BULLETPROOF VEST IN CENTRAL KENTUCKY AND AMERICA WILL RECEIVE ONE.



Congressman Fletcher meets with a young constituent to view the Capitol.

Crime and Drugs

CONGRESSMAN FLETCHER SUPPORTS MEASURES THAT WILL ASSURE SAFER, CRIME AND DRUG FREE COMMUNITIES ACROSS CENTRAL KENTUCKY AND AMERICA

Congressman Fletcher believes we must continue to address the crime and drug problems that remain a critical concern of Central Kentuckians. While violent crime overall in America has experienced a modest decline, violent crime among our nation's youth has risen dramatically. One fifth of all violent crime is committed by teenagers under the age of eighteen - an alarming statistic that Congressman Fletcher is addressing. Strengthening families and increasing personal accountability are essential elements of effective reform.

Fletcher's Fight To Keep Our Streets Safe and Free From Drugs

FLETCHER HAS RESPONDED TO THE RISE IN YOUTH CRIME BY SUPPORTING LEGISLATION THAT TAKES A TARGETED APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM OF JUVENILE VIOLENCE

PROVIDED FUNDING IN THE 2000 BUDGET FOR 50,000 NEW POLICE OFFICERS ON OUR NATION'S STREETS

DELIVERED \$100,000 FOR THE LEXINGTON-FAYETTE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT

INCREASED FUNDING FOR SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS



Health Care

CONTINUING IMPORTANT WORK TO ENSURE REAL PATIENT PROTECTIONS AND STRONG MANAGED CARE REFORM

Congressman Ernie Fletcher, the only physician from the House serving on the Health Care Conference Committee, is one of the select members from the entire Congress responsible for drafting a final patient protections bill that will be considered by the full House and Senate.

"It is an honor for me to be a part of this House/Senate Conference Committee on health care legislation. As a family physician, I took an oath to work to the best of my ability to help people overcome illness and injury. This oath applies whether or not I am in a hospital or seeing a patient—it is a moral commitment to help people in need. This same obligation will guide my actions in this conference. We must address not only the quality of care provided by insurance plans, but also the accessibility of these plans to all Americans."



Left: Talking with a constituent during a Clark County Town Hall meeting



Below: Discussing the problems facing folks throughout the 6th Congressional District

"For the past several weeks, Republicans and Democrats have been working together to ensure that patients get the quality health care they need - when they need it. I am pleased that we have reached a major bi-partisan breakthrough."

Dr. Fletcher believes strongly in improving Health Care and is working to:

- Hold insurers accountable if they make medical decisions. He believes we can do this with limited liability, while preventing frivolous lawsuits that would siphon much-needed health care dollars from patients' pockets.
- Prevent employees, who are offered quality insurance plans from their employers, from losing the insurance they have through their workplace.
- Ensure medical decisions are made by physicians, not by insurance bureaucrats.
- Ensure that you can appeal a medical coverage decision to an independent board of doctors. This binding external review will also ensure that physicians are making medical decisions so that you get the care you need.
- Ensure that you will get your emergency room visit paid for, even if it's only a false alarm.
- Make sure doctors are not barred from informing patients of all treatment options, regardless of whether their plans cover all of them.
- Make sure healthcare plans give consumers all the information they need to make informed decisions about their health care coverage.

Under the Conference Committee's agreement, if your HMO denies the care you need - you will be able to appeal that decision to ensure that physicians make medical decisions, not insurance bureaucrats. This will guarantee that all Americans get the care they need in a timely manner.

"This agreement will give us the ability to address the other remaining controversial issues including HMO accountability and liability," said Fletcher. "I'm very optimistic we'll be able to resolve those debates and produce real patient protection legislation."

"I am pleased we have reached a bi-partisan agreement on four important patient protections: A Binding, Independent External Review, Access to Pediatricians, Access to Emergency Room Care and Prohibition of Discrimination Against Providers," said Fletcher. While there are still several important issues to resolve, these are some of the key elements making a strong foundation for real patient protections.

"It is an honor for me to be a part of this House/Senate Conference Committee on health care legislation. As a family physician, I took an oath to work to the best of my ability to help people overcome illness and injury."