



Congressman Tim Bishop

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BISHOP ANNOUNCES WIN IN EFFORT TO SAVE AMERICAN JOBS

Congressman Blocks Federal Funds for Use to Outsource Welfare Call Centers

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Tim Bishop today announced a big win, but a continued commitment to fight for hard-working American families by preventing more jobs from being shipped overseas. Along with his colleagues Congressmen Robert Andrews (NJ) and Tim Ryan (OH), Bishop successfully attached an amendment to the welfare reform bill in the House Education and Workforce Committee prohibiting any funds for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to be used to 'outsource' employment to foreign countries. The amendment passed the Committee on Wednesday with unanimous consent.

"I am pleased we have passed this amendment to prevent taxpayer money from being used to outsource jobs," Bishop said. "We need to help American workers find employment. Now, I will work with my colleagues to make sure this amendment stays in the bill."

Bishop was joined for the event by New York State Assemblywoman Patricia Eddington and Village of Patchogue Mayor Paul Pontieri, and Suffolk County Legislature candidate Jack Eddington in front of the One-Stop Unemployment Center in Patchogue.

Bishop noted that One-Stop centers like that in Patchogue could be affected without such protections. In addition to keeping jobs in the United States, the amendment helps protect the privacy of those on welfare. While the U.S. and most states have enacted various privacy laws, other countries may not have the same legal protections for consumers' personal, financial, and medical records. The amendment prohibits use of any to be used to either contract or subcontract work to a location outside the United States, or reduce employment within the U.S. The amendment passed with unanimous consent.

The Commerce Department reports that 3 million jobs were outsourced over the last 4 years with another 13 million jobs projected to be shipped overseas over the next 10 years.

Bishop noted that J.P. Morgan Electronic Financial Services, which is based in New York City, entered contracts with many states to issue the electronic food-stamp cards and the machines that read them. One of J.P. Morgan's largest contracts- worth \$21 million- is with the state of New York.

"I don't think any of this funding should be used for exporting our jobs, especially to countries that pay the lowest wages, provide zero benefits, have no environmental protection or worker safety laws - all in the name of saving costs," Bishop said.

Assemblywoman Eddington echoed the Congressman's stand to protect local jobs.

"I am glad we have Congressman Bishop fighting to keep these jobs here at home," Assemblywoman Eddington said. "We should not be using taxpayer dollars to outsource jobs that could put unemployed Americans to work."

Photo (L to R)-- Village of Patchogue Mayor Paul Pontieri, Congressman Tim Bishop, New York State Assemblywoman Patricia Eddington, and Suffolk County Legislature candidate Jack Eddington held an event to announce efforts to ensure that taxpayer dollars aren't used to outsource any funds used for federal unemployment assistance.