



# Congressman Tim Bishop

*FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK*

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BISHOP SECURES \$300,000 TO IMPROVE SOUTHAMPTON HOSPITAL OB/GYN FACILITY**

*Funds will remedy patient safety, privacy, and health concerns*

SOUTHAMPTON, NEW YORK – Congressman Tim Bishop (NY-1) today announced that he had secured \$300,000 for Southampton Hospital's OB/GYN Unit, as part of the 2008 Labor-Health and Human Services (HHS)-Education Appropriations bill. The bill was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 276-140 on July 19. Bishop, a Southampton native, was especially proud to secure this project for Southampton Hospital, where he was born on June 1, 1950. The funding still must be approved by a House-Senate conference and signed into law by the President.

Southampton Hospital delivers about 900 babies each year and was designated last year by the New York State Department of Health as the OB Center for the eastern region of Suffolk County. Currently, women delivering by C-section must be moved from the labor and delivery area to the general surgery floor. Afterwards, mother and child are returned to the OB/GYN area through public hallways. This causes undue stress and unnecessary exposure to the general patient population. The new operating room will correct these patient safety, privacy, and health concerns.

"Many things have changed since I was born at Southampton Hospital, but one thing that has not is its mission to provide the best possible medical care to our community," said Bishop. "I am proud to secure these funds to help renovate Southampton Hospital's OB/GYN area, which will benefit thousands of families who seek the high quality of care that the hospital provides."

"Southampton Hospital is extremely grateful to Congressman Bishop for this assistance," said Robert Chaloner, President and CEO of Southampton Hospital. "The new unit will be state-of-the-art in terms of technology and in comfort for new mothers and their babies. We are very proud of our long tradition of delivering babies on the south fork of Long Island and with Congressman Bishop's help will be able to do this for many years to come."

The renovation also includes constructing private rooms in the nursery, which is the current standard of care for OB/GYN Units. In addition, the entrance of the OB/GYN area will be relocated to provide direct patient and family access as well as increased security.

The funds directed to Southampton Hospital were designated in the 2008 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill, which is expected to be considered by the U.S. Senate later this year. After years of significant cuts to vital programs, this bill will expand access to health care for the

uninsured, invest in life-saving medical research, make college more affordable, and help raise the achievement levels of American students.

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