Congressman Tom Perriello
5th District of Virginia
2009 Annual Report

Working a Double Shift for Central and Southern Virginia

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A Letter from Tom

Rep. Tom Perriello

January 6, 2010

Dear Citizens of Virginia's Fifth District,

I am honored to serve you. As my first year of service in Congress comes to a close, I offer this summary report of what we have done to help the families and businesses in Virginia's 5th district, including a county-by-county breakdown of our efforts.

I pledged to work a double shift in Congress—as many of my constituents do just to make ends meet—and focus each day on jobs and improving the lives of people in the 5th district. In my first few weeks on the job, I toured all 22 localities, meeting with county administrators, economic development professionals, and business leaders to gather ideas for revitalizing the 5th district. Since then, I have been home to the district every weekend, putting over 23,000 miles on my truck as I travelled to meet regularly with the people I represent. I am proud that so many of you attended our listening tours, with over 35,000 citizens participating in our town halls, tele-town halls, and "Tom in your Town" sessions this year. We have been able to accomplish so much because of the ideas, opinions and suggestions offered by people throughout our communities.

While important policy debates about health care and energy independence have dominated the headlines, our office has focused a great deal of our efforts on economic development and quality of life improvements in our communities. The result has been over $300 million in investment in Central and Southside Virginia during a single year through policy, federally directed funds, competitive grants and any other opportunity we could use to support economic development. These include major investments in our public schools and law enforcement at a time when local officials might otherwise have had to raise property taxes or cut teachers and police officers. We have worked hard to ensure transparency in our efforts, to focus on the areas of greatest need, and to prioritize investments in our region's competitive advantage over one-time expenditures.

In conjunction with these investments, I have focused on reforms that benefit families in our district. While many in Washington responded to the financial crisis with handouts to the very banks that helped create this meltdown, I fought for the families and businesses in small towns across our district and our nation. I authored and supported policy changes that stem from conversations in kitchens back home, not with corporate interest groups in Washington. My first week in office, I authored a $2,500 tuition tax credit with an emphasis on community college students. Based on conversations with veterans in our communities, I wrote an amendment that became law supporting family caregivers of disabled veterans. Hearing from so many about the predatory practices of credit card companies, I helped to pass a major effort

to hold these companies to basic standards of fairness, including a rule I wrote that would lock in any teaser rates for at least six months. Based on my belief that service in all of its forms makes our nation, our community, and our souls stronger, I was proud to be a lead supporter of the Serve America act, with a particular emphasis on opportunities for senior citizens, veterans, and high school students to become more involved. These are just a few examples of how my many conversations in the district inspired legislation, listed in this report, that I believe will improve the lives of families in the 5th district.

One year into my term, I am proud of the work we have done to bring serious investment to our area, saving jobs and supporting the local economy during a brutal recession. I have worked hard to be present in the community, transparent in our funding requests, and focused as much as possible on game-changing investments rather than symbolic expenditures.

I would like to thank all of my constituents who have taken the time to voice opinions, share suggestions, and be engaged. It has not all been work, either. Many of you have welcomed me into your homes and churches, asked me to speak at your Eagle Scout ceremonies, let me walk down pit road at Martinsville Speedway, hit the lake at the Bassmaster Classic, speak to your graduating high school and community college classes, play volleyball at your fire department picnics, and even offered me homemade cookies along the way. I feel blessed to be in a position to serve you and, whether or not we agree on policy issues, to work with you to increase jobs and quality of life in our communities. Your kindness and engagement have meant a great deal to me.

I am proud of the work we have done and results we have produced, but I am not nearly satisfied. I look forward now to what we can accomplish together in year two.

Blessings,

Tom Perriello
Member of Congress

2009 By the Numbers

36,119 letters and emails sent to constituents

27,483 people attending **4** telephone town hall meetings

23,689 miles put on Tom's truck traveling the district

11 "Tom in Your Town" events providing one-on-one constituent services

21 town hall meetings in the month of August alone, attended by **4,742** people and lasting over **100** hours

8-day, **1,812** mile tour of the district for Economic Recovery Coordinator to meet with the administrative staff of all 22 localities and inform them of the funding opportunities in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

10 monthly emails alerting localities to new funding opportunities through American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

75 grant support letters written to federal and state agencies and foundations

52 "Perriello Reports" weekly newsletters

3,806 subscribers to the weekly e-newsletter

425 Washington tour requests from 5th district constituents processed

Breakdown of Federal Investments in 5th District (includes both Recovery Act funding and other federal investments):

$130,049,694 for public school districts to save teacher jobs and Head Start programs

$10,489,296 for energy efficiency programs, such as home weatherization, and clean energy projects such as Advanced Battery Manufacturing in Danville

$3,547,198 for law enforcement and emergency response, such as Microwave Ring Operability in Franklin County and a new fire station in Fluvanna County

$23,519,310 for higher education and workforce development, including for Patrick Henry Community College and Danville Community College

$72,098,253 for transportation projects such as replacing the Robertson Bridge in Danville, replacing Charlottesville Transit Service trolleys, and replacing the Clements Mill Bridge in Franklin County

$20,305,200 for tourist attractions and to increase quality of life for 5th district residents such as funding for the High Bridge Trail and Tobacco Heritage Trail, Kerr Lake and Philpott Lake, and the Timberlake Community Library in Campbell County

$9,542,374 for water infrastructure projects in locations such as Cumberland County, Town of Boones Mill, Henry County, and Halifax County

$10,034,613 for community health clinics in Nelson County, Farmville, Boydton, Ferrum, Victoria, Martinsville, and Danville that are the primary access to health care for our rural communities.

$3,269,251 for public housing improvements in Danville and Franklin County

$4,400,000 for important defense industry efforts in Martinsville and Buckingham County, two areas with high unemployment

Legislative Accomplishments

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Economic Development for Virginia

Our recovery from this economic crisis depends on three key ingredients: support for small businesses to grow and thrive, workforce development, and shoring up our infrastructure in Southside and Central Virginia. In the 111th Congress, I have been supportive of policies that alleviate the economic burdens small businesses face as well as those policies that ensure rural areas are not left behind as new technologies are deployed. I wrote a bill—H.R. 3627, the Rural and Small Town Telework Tax Credit Act of 2009—that would give a tax credit of $1,000 to businesses for telework employees in rural and small town America. I am committed to renewing the flow of credit as we come out of this recession, and to make sure that access to credit does not spiral into abnormally high debt. That is why I co-sponsored H.R. 3457, the Small Business Credit Card Act of 2009, which would give small businesses the same protections that individuals received under the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2009, and H.R. 4067, the Business Checking Fairness Act of 2009, which would repeal a law that prevents small

businesses from earning interest on their business accounts. I am also committed to bolstering American manufacturing by making permanent the tax credit for research and development. This would allow for businesses to plan in the long term and make the investments necessary for America to stay at the cutting edge of new technology.

Additionally, I am pleased to have been appointed to the House Democratic Caucus' Congressional Task Force on Job Creation, which will be creating economic initiatives in 2010 to promote job creation. The task force will focus on bringing new and innovative ideas to the table that will create jobs and restore America's competitive advantage in emerging sectors, for example, the clean-energy industry.

BILLS INTRODUCED

- 9/22/09: H.R. 3627, the Rural and Small Town Telework Tax Credit Act of 2009. This legislation would give a tax credit of $1,000 to businesses for telework employees in rural and small town America defined as non-metro/non-micro areas, micropolitan areas, and metropolitan area under 200,000 in population. (Link to Press Release)

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 4/21/09: H.R. 1552, the Small Business Formation and Job Creation Act, which would increase the amount allowed as a deduction for start-up expenditures to help new small businesses from $5,000 to $20,000. The National Federation of Independent Business is supportive of this legislation. Brad Close, vice president of federal public policy, NFIB, said of Congressman Perriello's endorsement of the bill: "It's encouraging to know that Congressman Perriello realizes how costly starting a small business can be for entrepreneurs. Funding and cash flow are often one of the main roadblocks in starting a new business. By passing H.R. 1552, Congress would help ease the financial burden facing many new small business owners during their expensive first years in business." (Link to Press Release)

- 5/21/09: Cosponsored H.R. 1545, which would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the credit for research activities permanent and provide an increase in such credit for taxpayers whose gross receipts come predominantly from domestic production activities.

- 7/26/09: Cosponsored H.R. 2936, the Bill to Underwrite Increased Lending to Domestic (BUILD) Manufacturing Act, which would provide qualified manufacturers increased access to private capital through a government-backed loan guarantee program. This bill has been endorsed by the National Association of Manufacturers, the Association for Manufacturing Technology, the American Small Manufacturers Coalition, and the Tooling and Manufacturing Association.

- 7/28/09: H.R. 3178, the Small Business Growth Act, to create a qualified real property deduction allowing a business to deduct up to $125,000 of those costs immediately. This covers capital improvements such as a new roof or an addition to an existing structure. Only

businesses with gross receipts of less than $5 million for the past three years qualify. The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) is supportive of this legislation.

- 7/31/09: H.R. 3457, the Small Business Credit Card Act of 2009. The bill would amend the Truth in Lending Act to provide coverage under such Act for credit cards issued to small businesses, ensuring that small businesses with credit cards are given the same protections as consumers.

- 9/22/09: H.R. 3615, Home Office Tax Deduction and Simplification Act. The bill would simplify the various deductions for small businesses and allow a standard deduction of $1,500 for home office expenses. The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) is supportive of this legislation.

- 11/18/09: H.R. 1613, the Made in America Act of 2009, which would promote American manufacturing by (1) making permanent the tax credit for increasing research activities; (2) increasing to 20% the rate of the alternative simplified tax credit for research expenses; (3) making permanent the increased expensing allowance for depreciable business property; and (4) reducing to 30% the maximum income tax rate for corporations.

- 12/3/09: H.R. 4067, the Business Checking Fairness Act of 2009. The bill would repeal a law that prevents small businesses from earning interest on their business accounts. The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) is supportive of this legislation. Language similar to H.R. 4067 was included in H.R. 4173, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2009, but Congressman Perriello voted against that bill because of other provisions that would have created an undue regulatory burden on community banks and because of remaining loopholes in the regulation of the derivatives market.

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 7/15/09: Signed onto a letter from Congressmen Bartlett and Mollohan to the Small Business Chairwoman Nydia M. Velazquez urging her to support the HUBZone program and work closely with the Small Business Administration to eliminate all waste, fraud, and abuse from the HUBZone program.

KEY VOTES

- 1/28/09: On final passage of H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, voted yes. The bill contains a number of provisions to spur job creation through small business growth, including: extending the increased bonus depreciation, extending increased small business expensing, providing a five-year carryback of net operating losses, cutting the capital gains tax for investors in small businesses, and providing more than $700 million in small business loans.

- 2/13/09: On final passage of the conference report for H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, voted yes. The bill contains a number of provisions to spur job creation

through small business growth, including: extending the increased bonus depreciation, extending increased small business expensing, providing a five-year carryback of net operating losses, cutting the capital gains tax for investors in small businesses, and providing more than $700 million in small business loans.

- 5/20/09: On the Kratovil of Maryland Amendment to H.R. 2352, Job Creation Through Entrepreneurship Act, to establish a Rural Entrepreneurship Advisory Council within the Small Business Administration. The council would be tasked with providing a report to Congress on rural entrepreneurship, and to provide ongoing advice and recommendations to foster rural entrepreneurs. Voted yes.

- 5/20/09: On final passage of H.R. 2352, Job Creation Through Entrepreneurship Act. The bill contained multiple provisions to encourage job creation through expanding incentives for small businesses, including veteran owned small businesses. Voted yes.

- 7/8/09: On H.R. 2965, SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2009. On July 8, 2009, the House considered H.R. 2965, which reauthorizes through FY2017 the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs of the Small Business Administration (SBA). The bill also made some modifications to allow more small businesses with venture capital backing to participate in the program. Congressman Perriello supported adoption of the bill as amended by the Committee of the Whole and the bill in final passage. Both were passed.

- 12/3/09: On final passage of H.R. 4154, Permanent Estate Tax Relief for Families, Farmers, and Small Businesses Act of 2009. Voted yes to protect and make permanent estate tax relief for small business owners.

- 12/9/09: On final passage of H.R. 4213, the Tax Extenders Act of 2009. The bill contained an extension of many expiring tax provisions, including the R&D tax credit that Congressman Perriello is working to make permanent. Voted yes.

OTHER

- 5/13/09: In recognition of National Small Business Week, Congressman Perriello produced a memorandum that outlines all the provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that are designed to help small businesses. The memorandum was provided to all 5th district Chambers of Commerce and available for download on his website. (Link to Press Release)

- 7/8/09: During debate on the rule for H.R. 2965, the Enhancing Small Business Research and Innovation Act, Congressman Perriello spoke in support of the bill. He outlined the importance of ensuring that small businesses, the dynamic engine of our economy, are not left behind in the conduct of new breakthrough research.

Economic Relief for Working Families

This economic downturn has been particularly hard on working families who are struggling to keep the lights on, put food on the table, and afford the skyrocketing cost of medicine. The surest way to economic success for our district is to make sure our citizens can get and keep jobs that help them support their families. Particularly in this economic climate, my top priority has been to support working families by promoting policies that produce good paying jobs with secure benefits for Southside and Central Virginia. I supported the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, which provided one of the largest middle-class tax cuts in history. This bill also contained "Buy American" provisions to help protect our manufacturing jobs. I also supported legislation to protect consumers from unfair practices of credit card companies, and predatory lenders. Two of my first votes in office were in support of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the Paycheck Fairness Act. These two bills, signed into law by President Obama on January 29, 2009, will help protect working Virginians and ensure that women receive equal pay for equal work. I have also fought against an unfair extension of unemployment benefits that would not benefit Virginia, forcing a change in legislation to extend unemployment benefits for all states and providing support for those in job transition. I support and will continue to support a new direction on trade to protect good paying manufacturing jobs.

Bills Introduced

- 4/30/09: Perriello Amendment to H.R.627, the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2009, which requires a 6-month period for a promotional rate for credit cards before the standard rate may be increased. The amendment was agreed to and has been signed into law. (YouTube clip of Congressman Perriello explaining his amendment)

Selection of Bills Co-sponsored

- 1/6/09: H.R. 11, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, which would amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and H.R. 12, the Paycheck Fairness Act. Both bills were among the first voted on in the 111th Session of the House of Representatives.

- 6/24/09: H.R. 3012, the Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment (TRADE) Act. The bill represents a new way forward on reforming trade negotiations and renegotiating past trade agreements to include environmental and labor standards. (Link to Press Release) (YouTube clip of Congressman Perriello at press conference) (YouTube clip of Q&A)

- 10/7/09: H.R. 3756, Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2009, which would amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008, to provide for additional weeks of emergency unemployment benefits for all states. Congressman Perriello was an original cosponsor of this legislation following his vote against a bill that would extend unemployment benefits for only half the states, not including Virginia. The Senate would

later incorporate many of Congressman Perriello's proposals into their unemployment extension act. (Link to Press Release)

- 10/29/09: H.R. 2378, the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act. The bill amends the Tariff Act of 1930 to require the administering authority to: (1) determine, based on certain requirements, whether the exchange rate of the currency of an exporting country is fundamentally and actionably undervalued or overvalued (misaligned) against the U.S. dollar for an 18-month period; and (2) take certain actions under a countervailing duty or antidumping duty proceeding to offset such misalignment in cases of an affirmative determination. This bill is specifically designed to address China's misalignment of its currency in order to exacerbate the trade deficit the US has with China. Multiple business groups, including the National Council of Textile Organizations, have organized in support of the bill through the Fair Currency Coalition. The AFL-CIO is also supportive.

- 12/16/09: H.R. 4300, Restoring America's Commitment to Consumers Act of 2009, which would cap interest rates for credit cards at 16 percent. All non-up-front fees not included in the cap, such as late fees or insufficient funds fees, are capped at $15.00 per fee. The bill's provisions will not supersede any state law with lower usury caps.

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 6/4/09: Signed onto a letter to President Obama asking for the "Buy American" waivers in the Recovery Act to be posted online. Congressman Perriello is a strong supporter of "Buy American" provisions and believes exemptions to these provisions should be made public.

KEY VOTES

- 1/9/09: On the final passage of H.R. 12, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex. Voted yes.

- 1/9/09: On the final passage of H.R. 11, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, which would amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and to modify the operation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to clarify that a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice that is unlawful under such Acts occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to the discriminatory compensation decision or other practice. Congressman Perriello was a cosponsor and voted yes.

- 1/27/09: On final passage of S. 181, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 with the Paycheck Fairness Act attached and other Senate modifications. Voted yes.

- 1/28/09: On final passage of H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Voted yes because of his strong support for increased investment in job-creating programs to turn the economy around and avoid another Great Depression. (Link to Press Release)

- 2/13/09: On final passage of the conference report for H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Voted yes because of his strong support for increased investment in job-creating programs to turn the economy around and avoid another Great Depression.

- 4/30/09: On final passage of H.R. 627, the Credit Cardholders Bill of Rights Act of 2009, which would create new protections for consumers facing excessive credit card fees, sky-high interest rates, and unfair, incomprehensible credit card company agreements. Voted yes. (Link to Press Release)

- 5/7/09: On final passage of H.R. 1728, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act. The bill would help ensure that lenders only make loans that borrowers would be able to repay and avoid the types of mortgages that led to the recent housing and foreclosure crisis. Voted yes. (Link to Press Release)

- 9/22/09: On the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3548, the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2009, which would extend unemployment benefits only in states with unemployment rates over 8.5%. Virginia has a low statewide unemployment rate, but localities in the 5th district such as Martinsville and Danville continue to struggle. Voted no on this unfair extension.

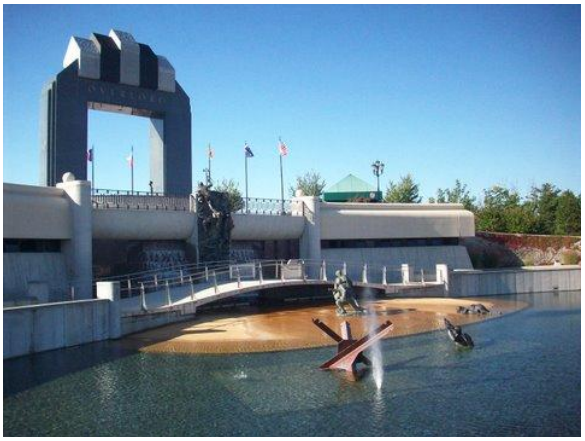
- 11/4/09: On the Sutton of Ohio Amendment No. 4 to H.R. 3639, the Expedited CARD Reform for Consumers Act of 2009. This amendment prevents the closure of a credit card account in response to the imposition of a new fee from negatively impacting a consumer's credit report or credit score. Voted yes.

- 11/4/09: On the Sutton of Ohio Amendment No. 5 to H.R. 3639, the Expedited CARD Reform for Consumers Act of 2009. This amendment imposes a moratorium on increasing annual percentage rates, fees and finance charges, as well as a moratorium on changing the terms for repayment of outstanding balances on credit card accounts, for nine months after enactment of the bill. Voted yes.

- 11/4/09: On final passage of H.R. 3639, the Expedited CARD Reform for Consumers Act of 2009. This bill would move up the effective date of the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009. Voted yes.

- 11/5/09: On motion that the House suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3548, the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009, which would extend unemployment benefits in all states and both extend and expand the homebuyer's tax credit. Voted yes as the bill reflected changes he had proposed to extend unemployment benefits in all states.

Veterans Affairs



National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA

As a public official, the most sacred way I can serve my country is to make sure our troops are given a clear path to victory, that they are adequately supplied in battle, and that they are well taken care of as veterans. In the 111th Congress, we have achieved the largest budget increase for the Veterans Administration ever and one of the top legislative priorities for the leading Veterans Service Organizations: the Veterans Healthcare Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009 to give the VA advanced appropriations for medical care. As a proud member of the Veterans Affairs Committee, I've worked hard to ensure our troops get the education and job opportunities they deserve when they return home. I have introduced and pushed legislation to expand education and employment opportunities and to improve health coverage for veterans and their families. I have introduced several bills and amendments benefitting veterans, including legislation to increase on-the-job training benefits for veterans. My work helped pass legislation to increase health care benefits for individuals who serve as primary caregivers of severely disabled veterans. I have created a 5th district Veterans Advisory Board, representing conflicts past and present, who have been invaluable in informing my work on the Committee. I thank them for their service. And to ensure the economic sustainability of a crucial monument in our district, I introduced and passed legislation to start the process of transferring the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford over to the National Park Service.

BILLS INTRODUCED

- 2/13/09: Introduced H.R. 1098, the Veterans Worker Retraining Act of 2009, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of educational assistance payable by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to certain individuals pursuing internships or on-job training. Status: Legislation favorably reported out of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on 6/10/09 with bipartisan support. (Link to Press Release)

- 6/3/09: Introduced H.R. 2689, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia, as a unit of the National Park System. The bill was later included in the Defense Authorization Act and signed into law by the President. (Press Release of introduction) (Press Release of inclusion in the Defense Authorization Act) (Press Release of final passage of the bill)

- 6/4/09: Introduced H.R. 2734, the Healthcare for Family Caregivers Act of 2009, a bill to amend section 1781 of title 38, United States Code, to provide medical care to family members of disabled veterans who serve as caregivers to such veterans. Status: Passed the

House of Representatives as part of H.R. 3155, the Caregiver Assistance and Resource Enhancement Act. (Link to Press Release) (Press Release of passage)

- 6/17/09: Introduced H.R. 2929, a bill to amend title 38, United State Code, to provide for an apprenticeship and on-job training programs under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Program.

- 9/15/09: Introduced H.R. 3575, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an increase in the maximum amount of veterans' mortgage life insurance available under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

- 10/8/09: Introduced: Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute (ANS) to H.R. 2696, Service Members Rights Protection Act, to augment the list of covered contracts included in the Service Members Civil Relief Act (SCRA), which members of the armed forces are permitted to terminate without penalty as a result of being called to active military service or because of a permanent change of duty station. Under the ANS, the list of covered contracts would include telephone, internet, cable and certain utility services that are not available in the new assigned duty station. Status: ANS agreed to be voice voted and further incorporated into H.R. 2696. (H.R. 2696 was later included as a provision of H.R. 3949 (Veterans' Small Business Assistance and Service members Protection Act of 2009), which was passed by the House on 11/3/09.)

- 10/8/09: Introduced: Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute (ANS) to H.R. 2874, Helping Active Duty Deployed Act of 2009, which amends the Service members Civil Relief Act to add a cellular phone provision for family plans. As written, this bill (before the amendment) would allow service members to cancel their phone contract if they were to be deployed or received permanent change of station; however, cancelling their family phone contract would also cancel services for all family members even if they remain in their current residence where service is provided. Status: ANS agreed to by voice vote and further incorporated into H.R. 2874. (H.R. 2874 was later included as a provision of H.R. 3949 (Veterans' Small Business Assistance and Service members Protection Act of 2009), which was passed by the House on 11/3/09.)

- 10/29/09: Introduced H.R. 3976, the Helping Heroes Keep Their Homes Act of 2009, a bill to extend certain expiring provisions providing enhanced protections for service members relating to mortgages and mortgage foreclosure.

- 11/16/09: Introduced H.R. 4079, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to temporarily alleviate financial burdens on employers to hire veterans for on-the-job training programs.

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 1/28/09: H.R. 775, Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act of 2009, a bill to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan to offset the receipt of veteran's dependency and indemnity compensation.

- 3/4/09: H.R. 1308, Veterans Mental Health Screening and Assessment Act of 2009, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to adopt a program of professional and confidential screenings to detect mental health injuries acquired during deployment in support of a contingency operation and ultimately to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans. (Link to Press Release)

- 3/16/09: H.R. 1388, Serve America Act of 2009, a bill entitled "The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, an Act to reauthorize and reform the national service laws." This bill would more than triple the number of national service volunteers, from the current 75,000 to 250,000, and increase the education reward they receive to $5,350. (Link to Press Release of Passage)

- 4/21/09: H.R. 1313, Troops to Teachers Improvement Act of 2009, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 so that any local educational agency receiving funding under part A of title I of such Act or public charter school is eligible for Troops to Teachers participant.

- 6/9/09: H.R 1016, Veterans Healthcare Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide advance appropriations authority for certain medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs. This bill was a top legislative priority for major Veterans Service Organizations, including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans and the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America. (Link to Press Release)

- 6/15/09: H.R. 2879, Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2009, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve health care for veterans who live in rural areas, and for other purposes.

- 6/19/09: H.R. 1428, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide wartime disability compensation for certain veterans with Parkinson's disease.

- 9/10/09: H. Res. 679, Supporting the goals and ideals of American Legion Day.

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 12/4/09: Signed onto a letter from the House Committee on Veterans Affairs directing the Government Accountability Office to conduct a review of whether the Department of Veterans Affairs has adequate systems and controls in place to ensure that federal financial resources are being best utilized in the delivery of veteran's healthcare.

KEY VOTES

- 3/11/09: H. Con. Res. 64: Urging the President to Designate 2009 as the "Year of the Military Family." Voted yes.

- 6/23/09: S. 407: Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2009. Voted yes because the bill would provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2009, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans.

- 6/23/09: H.R. 1016: Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act of 2009. Voted yes; the legislation has been a top priority for every major veteran service organization for over a decade. H.R. 1016 authorizes Congress to provide VA medical care funding one year in advance. Advanced funding will provide the VA with additional time to plan how to deliver the most efficient and effective care to an increasing number of veterans with increasingly complex medical conditions. On October 22, 2009, this landmark legislation was signed into law by the President, signaling the dawn of a new era in the delivery of veteran's healthcare and benefits. (Link to Press Release)

- 6/23/09: H.R. 1211: Women Veterans Health Care Improvement. Voted yes because the bill would expand and improve health care services available to women veterans, especially those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, from the Department of Veterans Affairs. (Link to Press Release)

- 7/10/09: H R 3082: Making Appropriations for Military Construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes. Voted yes to ensure our veterans have access to the funds they need to properly serve our country.

- 7/28/09: Disabled Veterans Home Improvement and Structural Alteration Grant Increase Act of 2009. Voted yes because the bill provides an increase in the amount payable by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to veterans for improvements and structural alterations furnished as part of home health services.

- 11/2/09: H R 1168: Veterans Retraining Act of 2009. Voted yes because the bill provides critical employment training assistance to veterans seeking to reenter the civilian workforce.

- 11/3/09: H R 3949: Veterans' Small Business Assistance and Servicemembers Protection Act of 2009. Voted yes because he understands that small business is the backbone of our economy. The bill provides enhanced protections to veteran small businesses and helps to ensure that veterans receive a fair shake when competing for federal contracts. The bill also included two amendments offered by Congressman Perriello that would provide additional protections to members of the Armed Forces under the Service Members Civil Relief Act.

OTHER

- 5th District Veterans Advisory Committee: Formed a bipartisan committee of local veterans from various armed conflicts to provide insight into issues facing 5th district veterans. The Committee has held three formal meetings throughout the district. At the request of

Congressman Perriello, members of the Committee traveled to Washington DC to share 5th District veterans concerns with the U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs General Eric Shinseki.

- Congressional Visits: In fulfillment of his oversight responsibilities, Congressman Perriello has visited the Salem VA Medical Center and the Danville Veterans Outpatient clinic, meeting with staff and interacting with veterans at both locations.

- Traveled to Afghanistan as part of the Health Subcommittee of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Traveling with the Surgeons General of the U.S. Army and Navy and a bipartisan group of Members of Congress, he surveyed health care delivery for soldiers on forward operating bases, central bases, and transition hospitals.

- Committee Activity: In addition to maintaining an active veterans legislative portfolio, Congressman Perriello has also been very engaged in the work of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, where he routinely chairs oversight hearings on the Economic Opportunity and Health Subcommittees.

- Statements for the Record: Congressman Perriello has testified before the House Veterans Affairs Committee on multiple occasions in support of veterans' legislation.

- Floor speeches: On the day he introduced H.R. 2689, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia, as a unit of the National Park System, Congressman Perriello spoke in support of the bill and saving the D-Day Memorial as a permanent reminder of the sacrifice of D-Day. (Link to Press Release)

- Testifying: Congressman Perriello testified before the Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks about H.R. 2689. Bill McIntosh, President of the D-Day Memorial Foundation, also attended in support of the bill authorizing a study into whether the Memorial would qualify to join the National Parks Service.

Energy Independence

Energy independence is our best chance to reemploy Americans and rebuild our nation's competitive advantage; it is about national security and keeping our hard-earned money out of countries that hate us; and it is about prioritizing our nation's economic future over oil company profiteering. For decades we have known that our national security depends on addressing America's reliance on oil. For a generation, Americans have had no choice when they go to the gas pump but to send their hard-earned dollars overseas to petro-dictators who are enemies of our great nation. In voting for the American Clean Energy and Security (ACES) bill, I voted to shift those dollars from our enemies to our industries back home. This bill gives us a competitive advantage over China, India, and other competitors in the race towards the next generation of energy technology. For two generations, both parties have talked about

energy independence; but when it came time to set our energy policy, government would prioritize powerful oil interests and foreign despots ahead of American independence.

When it comes to jobs, Southside and Central Virginia will be among the biggest regional winners of a new clean energy economy. Put simply, the energy we can produce in our region wins under this bill, and the energy our enemies produce loses. Biofuels, nuclear energy, and other alternative energy sources provide tremendous potential for job creation in our region. In my travels around the district, I have seen these opportunities firsthand: a landfill that could convert captured methane gas into energy; poultry and dairy farmers who can turn manure and waste into power; a closed-loop biodiesel system that grows, makes, and sells its own fuels. We can convert former tobacco farms into biomass producers and turn farm and municipal waste into power. This bill, particularly the elements negotiated by those of us from rural districts, will spur investments in the 5th District and ease our transition into the clean energy economy. When we go to the pump now, 93 cents of every dollar goes straight out of the community, and most goes to oil companies and foreign powers. We have the technology right in Southside to produce fuel that flips that equation – 93 cents of every dollar will stay right in the community.

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 3/25/09: H.R. 622, which would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the credit for renewable electricity production to include electricity produced from biomass for on-site use.

- 3/26/09: H.R. 1158, the Biogas Production Incentive Act of 2009, to encourage the production of biogas from the manure of livestock and other sources. One company in Chatham, VA, would benefit from this incentive and could encourage more farms in the 5th District to use this technology.

- 4/23/09: H.R. 1775, the Grants for Renewable Energy Education for the Nation (GREEN) Act. The bill would provide support to develop career and technical education programs of study and facilities in the areas of renewable energy through a new competitive grant program.

- 6/26/09: H.R. 3083, the Investments for Manufacturing Progress and Clean Technology (IMPACT) Act of 2009, which would establish a program for the award of grants to states to establish revolving loan funds for small and medium-sized manufacturers to improve energy efficiency and produce clean energy technology. This bill was a key provision included in the American Clean Energy and Security Act, which passed the House.

- 10/6/09: H.R. 3731, the Community College Energy Training Act of 2009, which will support the training of technicians to work in the wind, solar, geothermal and biomass energy sectors. It will also cover other energy-related occupations, including energy-efficient construction and retrofitting, recycling and waste reduction, water and energy conservation, and sustainable agriculture.

- 10/28/09: H.R. 3919, the Clean Energy Business Zone Act. The bill provides at least $1.2 billion in tax incentives for small businesses involved in clean energy technologies in specific zones designated by the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of HUD, and the Secretary of Agriculture. Target communities will be those most in need of revitalization and best positioned to establish vibrant, clean energy economies.

- 12/3/09: H.R. 4155, the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Tax Benefits Act. The bill would make it easier for state and local governments to use PACE-related bonds for energy efficiency upgrades by making the interest earned on these bonds tax free.

- 12/15/09: H.R. 4226, the Expanding Building Efficiency Incentives Act. Congressman Perriello was a Democratic lead on the introduction of this bipartisan energy efficiency bill. The bill extends and expands five key energy efficiency incentives for the construction of a new home, retrofitting an existing one, upgrading commercial properties to conserve energy and cut energy costs, and assisting consumers seeking assessments of home energy usage. The National Association of Home Builders is supportive of the bill.

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 3/27/09: Signed onto a letter to Chairman Waxman supporting the inclusion of forest carbon provisions in climate change legislation, a provision that is helpful for farmers.

- 6/24/09: Signed onto a letter to Chairman Waxman supporting stronger provisions in the American Clean Energy and Security Act relating to nuclear energy, including fuel recycling processes.

- 7/29/09: Signed a Virginia delegation letter to the Ambassador from the United Arab Emirates in support of the AREVA-Bechtel led bid for the UAE's civilian nuclear power plant proposal. If the AREVA bid were selected, the project could generate up to 10,000 new jobs in the United States, many in Virginia.

- 8/4/09: Signed onto Virginia delegation letter to Secretary of Energy Chu supporting Dominion's application for funding for a smart grid program in Virginia.

KEY VOTES

- 6/26/09: On final passage of H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act. Voted in favor of the historic energy bill that would set America on the course to energy independence and combating global climate change. (Link to Press Release)

OTHER

- 4/10/09: Congressman Perriello convened an energy summit of 50 leaders in new energy from all corners of the 5th District. The goal of the summit was to design a blueprint for making Central and Southside Virginia a national model of the new energy economy. (Link to Press Release)

- 7/07/09: Congressman Tom Perriello unveiled a blueprint for new energy development in the 5th District. The strategy document outlines why the 5th District of Virginia is positioned to become a leading region in the nation for the clean energy economy. (Link to Press Release)

Health Care

I firmly believe that every American should have access to quality, affordable health care and the key to this must be competition and accountability. Small business owners and middle-class families should have the same negotiating ability as the largest companies and the federal government has. For these reasons, I supported the House version of the Affordable Health Care for America Act of 2009, because it will make quality health care accessible to over 50,000 currently uninsured residents in the 5th district and close the Medicare 'donut hole' for prescription drugs. It is unacceptable that our elderly should ever have to choose between buying medicine and putting food on the table, or that our small businesses should be burdened with skyrocketing health care costs that put them at a disadvantage to their competitors in other countries. I support policies that ensure the effective administration of Medicare and Medicaid and that reward, not punish, employers who provide health care to their employees. I am also committed to providing coverage for all our nation's children, and in my first month in office I voted for H.R. 2, the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Reauthorization Act of 2009, which will cover 11 million children. The SCHIP reauthorization also includes coverage for 55,000 additional Virginia children of working parents through a program that targets working families who are climbing their way out of poverty, who make too much to qualify for Medicaid but not enough to afford private insurance. These are families doing everything right to better their lives, and they deserve to be able to provide health care to their children.

Bills Introduced or Letters Authored

- 11/16/09: Sponsored H.R. 4078, the Long Term Care Insurance Disclosure Act of 2009, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a national model disclosure form to assist consumers in purchasing long-term care insurance.

- 9/25/09: Letter authored and transmitted to House leadership along with ten other members of the Freshman class seeking modifications to H.R. 3200 (the original health care bill). The key points expressed in the letter included: (1) Protecting Medicare and ensuring the solvency of the Medicare Trust Fund, (2) Ensuring 100% deficit neutrality and lower cost from CBO, (3) Increased competition across state lines, (4) Reducing litigation, medical error and overutilization, (5) Protecting small business, (4) Increasing preventive care and wellness programs, and (5) Ensuring that every American has the option to purchase the same level of health benefits made available to Members of Congress. We were successful

in adding many of these modifications to the House version of the health care bill. (Link to Press Release)

- 10/25/09: Letter authored and transmitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) at the request of the National Association of Independent Medical Equipment Suppliers (NAIMES) requesting that CMS conduct an assessment into how newly implemented bonding requirements are disadvantaging small locally owned durable medical equipment suppliers.

- 4/20/09: Letter authored and transmitted to Governor Kaine urging the Commonwealth to make efforts to identify and direct unallocated ARRA funds to Virginia Uninsured Medical Catastrophe Fund. (The fund, which covers the cost of medically necessary surgery/procedures for uninsured Virginians, was (and still is) at risk of becoming insolvent.)

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 2/11/09: H. Con. Res. 40, Expressing the need for enhanced public awareness of traumatic brain injury and support for the designation of a National Brain Injury Awareness Month.

- 3/30/09: H.R. 1261, Youth Prevention and Tobacco Harm Reduction Act, a bill to protect the public health by establishing the Tobacco Harm Reduction Center within the Department of Health and Human Services with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, and for other purposes.

- 5/7/09: H. Con. Res. 109, Honoring the 20th anniversary of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in the Nation's Capital and its transition to the Susan G. Komen Global Race for the Cure on June 6, 2009, and for other purposes.

- 7/15/09: H.R. 2373, Home Oxygen Patient Protection Act of 2009, a bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore payments for home oxygen therapy through the beneficiary's period of medical need. (By request of several oxygen suppliers in Virginia's 5th District)

- 7/23/09: H.R. 3312, Preventing Unintended Pregnancies, Reducing the Need for Abortion, and Supporting Parents Act.

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 7/7/09: Co-signed a letter to House leadership authored by Rep. Adler opposing the taxation of sodas and other sugary beverages as a means of offsetting the cost of health care reform. This had the support of local beverage bottlers/distributors.

- 7/16/09: Co-signed a letter to House leadership authored by Rep. Polis opposing the imposition of a surcharge on small business with income above 250K as a means of offsetting the cost of health reform. The Virginia Chamber of Commerce and various other small business interest groups were supportive of this.

KEY VOTES

- 2/4/09 H.R. 2: Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009. Voted yes because he believes that every child regardless of the circumstances to which they are born should have access to health care. H.R. 2 preserves health care coverage for the 7.1 million children currently covered by SCHIP, including more than 96,000 children in Virginia. It also provides coverage for 4.1 million uninsured children who are currently eligible for, but not enrolled in, SCHIP and Medicaid, including 55,000 children in Virginia. (Link to Press Release)

- 3/31/09 H.R. 577: Vision Care for Kids Act of 2009. As with his support of the Children's Health Insurance Program, Voted yes because he believes that every child should have access to medical care. The bill would provide for a national grant program for states to provide vision care to children.

- 7/21/09 H. Res. 270: Recognizing the Establishment of Hunters for the Hungry Programs Across the United States and the Contributions of Those Programs Efforts to Decrease Hunger and Help Feed Those in Need. Voted yes.

- 7/24/09 H.R. 3293: Making Appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2010, and for Other Purposes. This bill includes funding for, among many things, community health centers, teacher incentive funds, Pell Grants, and training investments. Voted yes.

- 10/21/09 S. 1793: Ryan White HIV/Aids Treatment Extension Act of 2009. Voted yes.

- 11/7/09 H. R. 3962: Affordable Health Care for America Act. Voted yes because he believes that our health care system is in desperate need of reform. This landmark legislation will provide access to quality affordable health care to over 50,000 residents in the 5th district, help rein in the skyrocketing cost of health care premiums, reduce the crushing burden of health care cost on small business, preserve and enhance Medicare for seniors, and help strengthen our rural hospitals. (Link to Press Release)

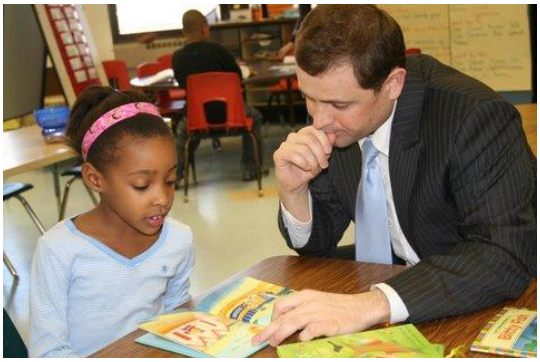
- 11/19/09 H.R. 3961: Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act of 2009. Voted yes because he knew that a 21% cut in physician reimbursement under the Medicare program would have had a detrimental effect on 5th district seniors. Congressman Perriello believes the current system of physician reimbursement under the Medicare program is unsustainable. Physicians and their patients deserve a system of reimbursement that is fair and predictable. By replacing the existing physician payment formula completely, H.R. 3961 provides a responsible approach to reform, one that will fairly reimburse doctors for their expertise while holding down health care cost.

OTHER

- Congressman Perriello has been highly visible and engaged in the area of health care.
  - Conducted 21 town halls in August
  - Held numerous in person and telephone conference calls with 5th district doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and hospital administrators.
  - Staffs in his Washington, DC and district offices have responded to thousands of constituent calls and letters regarding health care.
  - Started a blog on his website "Your Health, Your Voice" to inform constituents about progress of the legislation and give them a chance to provide feedback.

Education and Career Training

A well-trained workforce is critical to renewing the 5th district's competitive advantage in the global marketplace; and education for this workforce begins with ensuring that all children receive a quality education. This starts with ensuring high-quality early education in rural areas, making college and community college more affordable, and expanding access to vocational and skills training. Shortly after being sworn in, I co-authored the American Opportunity Tax Credit, which was signed into law. This new tax credit provides immediate relief to Americans struggling to finance their higher education by providing a tax credit of up to $2,500 of the cost of tuition and related expenses. I support increased funding for vocational programs, training facilities, and our great community colleges. I am also committed to reforming the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, commonly known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB) in this next year, and I look forward to working with the innovative school superintendents in the 5th district as we put policies in place that will broaden and improve education for children in rural areas.



Rep. Perriello discusses the importance of reading with a student in Charlottesville

BILLS INTRODUCED

- 1/9/09: Sponsored H.R. 386, the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act of 2009 to consolidate both the Hope Tax Credit and the above-the-line tax deduction for qualified tuition and expenses, including textbooks, for the first time. In place of these two provisions would be a new $3,000 tax credit, usable for undergraduate education and the first two years of graduate school, up to a lifetime limit of $12,000. Status: Legislation signed into law as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. (Press release of introduction) (Press release on signing into law)

- 4/21/09: Sponsored H. Res. 347: Congratulating Averett University in Danville, Virginia, for 150 years of service and leadership to the United States. Status: Legislation passed the House on 5/18/09. (Link to Press Release)

- 7/10/09: Sponsored H.R. 3180, the Strengthening Opportunity through Rural Education SCORE) Act, a bill to establish the National Advisory Committee on Rural Education in the Department of Education. (Link to Press Release)

- 7/22/09: Sponsored report language to the Labor Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill: Encouraging the Department of education to conduct research and devote necessary resources to eradicating disparities in rural education.

- 9/17/09: Sponsored H. Amdt. 441 to H.R. 3221, an amendment to require states participating in the Quality Pathways Grant Program to evaluate and report to the Secretary a description of any disparity by geographic area, rural and urban, that exists in ongoing high quality, early learning programs for low-income children. The amendment also requires that participating states outline the steps that would be taken to address any such disparities. Status: 9/17/09 amendment agreed to by voice vote and passed the House as a provision of H.R. 3221, the Student Financial Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009.

- 12/16/09: Sponsored H. Res. 991: Commending the University of Virginia men's soccer team for winning the 2009 Division I NCAA National Championship.

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 4/21/09: H.R. 1313, Troops to Teachers Improvement Act of 2009, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 so that any local educational agency receiving funding under part A of title I of such Act or public charter school is eligible for Troops to Teachers participant.

- 5/21/09: H.R. 1064: Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Support, and Education Act, working in partnership with U.S. Senator Jim Webb (D-VA).

- 7/30/09: H. Res. 686: Recommending that the United States Constitution be taught to high school students throughout the nation in September of their senior year.

- 9/22/09: H.R. 2329: Amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the deduction for certain expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers. This deduction was set to expire at the end of 2010. Extending this provision was included in a tax extenders packaged passed with Congressman Perriello's support.

- 10/27/09: H.R. 1526: Prescribe A Book Act, the main legislative priority of Reach Out and Read, which operates eight programs in the 5th District of Virginia.

KEY VOTES

- 5/5/09: H. Res. 338: Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Community College Month. The 5th district is home to a number of growing community colleges that provide students with alternative methods to seek undergraduate education and workforce training. Voted yes.

- 6/8/09: H.R. 1709: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education Coordination Act of 2009, which would establish a committee under the National Science and Technology Council with the responsibility to coordinate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education activities and programs of all federal agencies. Voted yes because he understands the important role that advanced instruction in science, math, and technology education will play in helping America's students better compete in the global economy.

- 7/24/09: H.R. 3293: Making Appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes. This bill includes funding for, among many things, community health centers, teacher incentive funds, Pell Grants, and training investments. Voted yes.

- 9/17/09: H.R. 3221: Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009. Voted yes because this landmark legislation makes significant investments in American education. By making college more accessible, reforming quality early education programs, and strengthening community colleges, H.R. 3221 will help put America on the path of renewed educational and economic competiveness in the global economy and enable our children to achieve their goals. This bill also included Congressman Perriello's amendment to address early childhood education in rural areas. (Link to Press Release)

- 10/6/09: H. Res. 707: Expressing Support for Designation of the Week of September 13, 2009, as Adult Education and Family Literacy Week. Voted yes.

- 10/20/09: H. Res. 558: Supporting the increased understanding of, and interest in, computer science and computing careers among the public and in schools, and to ensure an ample and diverse future technology workforce through the designation of National Computer Science Education Week. Voted yes.

- 12/9/09: On final passage of H.R. 4213, the Tax Extenders Act of 2009. The bill contained an extension of many expiring tax provisions, including H.R. 2329 to extend the $250 above-the-line tax deduction for teachers and other school professionals for expenses paid or incurred for books, supplies, computer equipment, and supplementary materials used by the educator in the classroom. Voted yes.

OTHER

- 10/9/09: Hosted an educational roundtable with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and 5th District School Superintendent's in Charlottesville, VA. During the meeting, local school leaders were able to address their educational concerns and priorities directly to the Secretary.

- Working with Obama Administration to create a Rural Advisory Committee within the Department of Education to address the specific needs of rural areas.

Fiscal Responsibility

Balancing the budget is crucial to our nation's ongoing financial health. Even in these difficult economic times, as we boost the economy to stimulate spending, we must be vigilant about the deficit we are creating for our children. In Congress, I have been fighting for balanced budgets and a return to the Pay-As-You-Go (PAY-GO) policies that helped balanced the budget during the 1990s and produced a record surplus. That is why I voted against the President's budget and opposed several appropriations bills. We cannot sustain these excessive levels of spending; during the passage of H.R. 2920 to restore PAY-GO requirements, I was one of only five Democrats to support the Republican substitute proposal that would have instituted discretionary spending caps to control spending increases. I also am an original cosponsor of H.R. 2920, which would reinstitute the requirement of budget neutrality on new tax and mandatory spending legislation. I also firmly opposed the $700 billion bailout to banks, although I was not yet a member of Congress and unable to vote on the legislation. In January 2009, however, I voted to block the second $350 billion in bailout money to Wall Street. Especially in a recession, it is our duty to support Main Street, not Wall Street, and I do not think the government should have bailed out the entities that caused the financial meltdown in the first place.

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 1/7/09: H.R. 156, the Stop the Congressional Pay Raise Act to prevent Members of Congress from receiving any automatic pay adjustment in 2010. Congressional leaders announced there would be no congressional pay raise for FY2010.
- 4/21/09: H.R. 1597, to repeal the law that provides automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress. Instead, Congressional pay raises would be brought to a simple up-or-down vote.

- 6/17/09: H.R. 2920: To reinstitute and update the Pay-As-You-Go requirement of budget neutrality on new tax and mandatory spending legislation, enforced by the threat of annual, automatic withholding of funds. Majority Leader Hoyer would later visit the district to highlight Congressman Perriello's support of the legislation. (Charlottesville Daily Progress article)

- 7/28/09: H.R. 3189, the Reduction of Irresponsible Member's Representational Allowance (MRA) Growth Act, a fiscally responsible piece of legislation that prevents the MRA from increasing during times of high unemployment or public debt.

- 12/15/09: H.R. 4255, Stop the Automatic Pay Raise for Members of Congress in Fiscal Year 2011 Act.

KEY VOTES

- 1/22/09: Relating to the disapproval of obligations under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. Voted to disapprove of releasing the second $350 billion installment of the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP)—or bank bailout—that was passed in the previous Congress. (Link to Press Release)

- 4/2/09: On the passage of the Congressional Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2010. Voted against the budget resolution, citing the President's failure to do enough to reduce the size of the deficit.

- 6/19/09: Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch FY 2010. Voted no.

- 6/26/09: Making appropriations for the Department of Interior and related agencies for FY 2010. Voted no.

- 7/15/09: On the Blackburn Amendment on making appropriations for the Energy and Water and related agencies for FY 2010. The amendment would make an across-the-board cut of 5% to all funding accounts in the bill. Voted yes, although the amendment was defeated.

- 7/22/09: Ryan of Wisconsin Part C Substitute Amendment for PAY-GO including discretionary spending caps. Voted yes and was one of only five Democrats to support the Republican alternative.

- 7/22/09: Motion to recommit with instructions to include new discretionary spending caps, disclosure of interest cost, and CBO scoring of conference reports. Voted yes and was one of only nineteen Democrats to so do.

- 7/22/09: On the passage of the Pay-As-You-Go requirement of budget neutrality on new tax and mandatory spending legislation, enforced by the threat of annual, automatic withholding of funds. Voted yes. (Link to Press Release)

- 7/24/09: On the Wittman Amendment on making appropriations for the Departments of Education, Labor, and HHS for FY 2010. The amendment would make an across-the-board cut of 0.5% to all funding accounts in the bill. Voted yes, although the amendment was defeated.

- 9/25/09: Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch FY 2010, with a continuing resolution. Voted no, citing both his original opposition to the appropriations and how the continuing resolution was attached without a straight vote.

- 10/29/09: Making appropriations for the Department of Interior and related agencies for FY 2010, with a continuing resolution. Voted no, citing both his original opposition to the appropriations and how the continuing resolution was attached without a straight vote.

- 12/16/09: On final passage of H.R. 4314, permitting continued financing of government operations through raising the debt limit. Voted no.

Transparency and Accountability

The only way for government to engender trust in its people is to be a model of transparency in which the special interests do not control public officials' voting records. When private interests contribute to members of Congress for personal gain, I believe that is corruption. In Congress, I have fought to strengthen ethics rules and hold lobbyists and politicians accountable for their financial deals. I have voted against my party multiple times in support of investigating ties between illegal contributions and earmarking by powerful members of the Appropriations Committee. In my own earmark process for 2010, I posted all of my requests online as a sign of support for transparency; I also included guidelines on how projects were chosen to make certain my criteria are transparent to the public. I was an original cosponsor of H.R. 2038, the Clean Law for Earmark Accountability Reform (CLEAR) Act, which would prohibit House members from accepting campaign contributions from executives or lobbyists for businesses and then sponsoring earmarks for those entities in the same election cycle. I have also voted to delay consideration of important pieces of legislation so that sufficient time is given for the bill's text to be posted online for the public to read. Government must take seriously its role in strengthening our democratic process, and we can only do that by giving people a voice in that process. I look forward to continuing my work in this area in the coming year.

Bills Introduced

- 4/22/09: Introduction of H.R. 2048, the Clean Law for Earmark Accountability Reform (CLEAR) Act, which would prohibit Members of Congress from taking campaign contributions from companies, including their senior executives and lobbyists, on whose behalf they have requested earmarks. (Roanoke Times article)

Selection of Bills Co-sponsored

- 3/18/09: H.R. 1586: To impose an additional tax on bonuses received from certain TARP recipients. The House of Representatives passed H.R. 1586 under a suspension of the rules on March, 19, 2009. (Link to Press Release)

- 3/23/09: H.R. 1664: To amend the executive compensation provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 to prohibit unreasonable and excessive compensation and compensation not based on performance standards. The House of Representatives passed H.R. 1664, with some amendments, on April 1, 2009.

- 5/13/09: H.R. 1207: the Audit the Fed Bill. This bill would reduce the restrictions on the Comptroller General auditing the Federal Reserve and require an audit by the end of 2010. It has received broad bipartisan support.

- 10/22/09: H. Res. 554: To amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to require that legislation and conference reports be available on the Internet for 72 hours before consideration by the House.

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 3/17/09: Signed onto a letter to Secretary Geithner expressing outrage over the AIG bonuses and supporting efforts to block them.

- 3/17/09: Signed onto a letter to JP Morgan Chase CEO James Dimon expressing outrage that he blamed the "constant vilification of corporate America" for the economic woes of the country just hours after announcing that the company would increase investments in outsourcing jobs to India.

- 7/27/09: Signed onto a letter to Chairman Ben Bernanke asking for an explanation for the special treatment of Goldman Sachs. Goldman Sachs has been granted a temporary exemption from the standard bank holding company Market Risk Rules, allowing the company to continue operating as if it were an investment bank. This enables them to take advantage of new government subsidies but still engage in risky practices.

KEY VOTES

- 2/13/09: On question of consideration of conference report on H.R. 1. Voted no in order to provide more time for the public to read the bill, which was known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

- On motion to table the Flake privileged resolution. Voted on seven separate occasions to allow for an investigation into illegal contributions and earmarking by members:
    - 3/10/09
    - 3/19/09
    - 3/25/09
    - 3/30/09
    - 4/1/09
    - 5/12/09
    - 7/22/09

- 9/23/09: On motion to instruct conferees on making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for FY 2010 requiring that the conference report be posted online for 72 hours.

- 9/29/09: On motion to instruct conferees on making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and related agencies for FY 2010 requiring that the conference report be posted online for 72 hours.

- 10/1/09: On motion to instruct conferees on making appropriations for Homeland Security for FY 2010 requiring that the conference report be posted online for 72 hours.

National Security

Our national security depends on keeping our military strong and prepared for combat outside our borders, as well as supporting smart and strategic policies inside our borders. Real security also involves investment in the intelligence and diplomatic networks necessary to support our military strategies on the ground. As a national security consultant before I came to Congress, I worked directly to support security strategies in war-torn countries. I believe that success on the battlefield requires the right political strategy combined with accurate intelligence and a well supported military. That is why I am working to ensure that our military is equipped with the resources, equipment, and training necessary to defeat those who want to harm our country.

Rep. Perriello discusses foreign policy with soldiers in Afghanistan

The conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan have placed great strain on our military, and I am committed to keeping our active reserve and National Guard forces fit to fight. Consequently, I have supported investments necessary to modernize our weapons systems and training doctrine for the 21st century battlefield.

In addition, our national security demands that we achieve independence from foreign oil during this generation. Past leaders have lacked the courage to do what is necessary to make our country safe in this respect, but I believe it is crucial to avoid sending money overseas to petro-dictators who wish our country harm; and that is one of the primary reasons I supported the American Clean Energy and Security Act.

Bills Sponsored or Letters Authored

- 10/8/09: Sponsored: Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute (ANS) to H.R. 2696 (Service Members Rights Protection Act), which augments the list of covered contracts included in the Service Members Civil Relief Act (SCRA), which members of the armed forces are

permitted to terminate without penalty as a result of being called to active military service or because of a permanent change of duty station. The ANS list of covered contracts would include telephone, internet, cable and certain utility services that are not available in the new assigned duty station. Status: ANS agreed to be voice voted and further incorporated into H.R. 2696. (H.R. 2696 was later included as a provision of H.R. 3949 (Veterans' Small Business Assistance and Service members Protection Act of 2009), which was passed by the House on 11/3/09.)

- 10/8/09: Sponsored: Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute (ANS) to H.R. 2874 (Helping Active Duty Deployed Act of 2009), which amends the Service members Civil Relief Act to add a cellular phone provision for family plans. As written, before the amendment this bill would allow service members to cancel their phone contract if they were to be deployed or received permanent change of station, but by cancelling their family phone contract it would also cancel services for all family members even if they remain in their current residence where service is provided. Status: ANS agreed to by voice vote and further incorporated into H.R. 2874. (H.R. 2874 was later included as a provision of H.R. 3949 (Veterans' Small Business Assistance and Service members Protection Act of 2009) which was passed by the House on 11/3/09.)

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 1/28/09: H.R. 775: Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act, a bill to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan to offset the receipt of veteran's dependency and indemnity compensation.

- 4/21/09: H. Res. 259: Expressing the gratitude and appreciation of the House of Representatives for the acts of heroism and military achievement by the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, amphibious landing at Normandy, France, and commending them for leadership and valor in an operation that helped bring an end to World War II.

- 5/14/09: H.R. 2404: To require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to Congress outlining the United States exit strategy for United States military forces in Afghanistan participating in Operation Enduring Freedom.

- 10/20/09: H.R. 2874: Helping Active Duty Deployed Act of 2009, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to improve the equitable relief available for servicemembers called to active duty, and for other purposes.

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 10/6/09: Co-signed letter to House Appropriations requesting that language regarding the acquisition of Military Tires be retained in the final FY2010 Appropriations bill. Continued acquisition of tires through the Defense Logistic Agencies (DLA's) Tire Privatization Initiative (TPI) is critical to national defense and continued economic development.

- 12/4/09: Co-signed letter to the Secretary of Defense and the Chief of Naval Operation co-authored by Reps. Whitman and Courtney expressing concern over the Department of Defense's (DOD) plans to modify its acquisition schedule for nuclear submarines. A drastic reduction in the acquisition of nuclear submarines would represent a significant threat to national security and continued economic development.

KEY VOTES

- 4/22/09: H.R. 1679: House Reservists Pay Adjustment Act. Voted yes because the bill provides for the replacement of lost income for employees of the House of Representatives who are members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces who are on active duty for a period of more than 30 days.

- 4/23/09 H.R. 1139: Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Improvements Act of 2009. Voted yes on the bill because he strongly supports the work of this nation's peace officers. The bill will give police officers the resources necessary to combat street crime and to keep our communities safe.

- 6/16/09: H.R. 403: Homes for Heroes Act of 2009. Congressman Perriello is committed to eradicating homelessness among our nation's veterans. As such, he was pleased to vote for H.R. 403, a bill that will establish a federal grant program to provide much needed housing assistance low-income veterans.

- 6/24/09: H.R. 2892: Making Appropriations for Homeland Security FY 2010. Voted yes because he believes that it is imperative that the Department of Homeland Security and other threat reduction agencies have the resources necessary to keep America safe from those in world who wish America harm.

- 6/25/09: H.R. 2647: Department of Defense Authorization, FY 2010. Voted yes because he believes that our men and women in uniform must have the resources necessary to carry out America's national defense policies.

- 7/30/09: H.R. 3326: Making Appropriations for the Department of Defense for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2010, and for Other Purposes. Voted yes because he believes that our men and women in uniform must have the resources necessary to carry out America's national defense policies.

- 10/1/09 H.R. 2892: Making Appropriations for Homeland Security FY 2010. Voted yes because he believes that it is imperative that the Department of Homeland Security and other threat reduction agencies have the resources necessary to keep America safe from those in world who wish America harm.

- 10/6/09: H.R. 2647: Department of Defense Authorization, FY 2010. Voted yes because he believes that our men and women in uniform must have the resources necessary to carry out America's national defense policies. This bill also included the Local Law Enforcement

Hate Crimes Prevention Act and Congressman Perriello's legislation to begin the process of transferring the National D-Day Memorial over to the National Park Service.

- 10/15/09: H. Res. 829: Providing for Consideration of the Conference Report to Accompany the Bill (H.R. 2892) Making Appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes. Voted yes because he believes that it is imperative that the Department of Homeland Security and other threat reduction agencies have the resources necessary to keep America safe from those in world who wish America harm.

- 10/15/09: H.R. 2892: Making Appropriations for Homeland Security FY 2010. Voted yes because he believes that it is imperative that the Department of Homeland Security and other threat reduction agencies have the resources necessary to keep America safe from those who wish America harm.

- 10/28/09 S. 1694: To Allow the Funding for the Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program Established Under the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005 to Remain Available Until Expended Through Fiscal Year 2012, and for Other Purposes. Voted yes.

OTHER

- 12/4/09: Congressman Perriello received the 2009 Truman Wise Men and Women Award from the Truman National Security Project.

Agriculture

Family farms have long been the engine of the economy in Virginia, and especially in the 5th district. Over the past year, I have fought to protect tobacco and dairy farming, two of the most important agricultural sectors in the district. I have opposed overregulation by the FDA of farming, as well as a specific proposal that would harm tobacco farmers by reducing competition between cigarette companies. This has been one of the toughest years for dairy farmers, and I have fought for the Dairy Product Price Support Program. For family farms, I have co-sponsored multiple pieces of legislation to reduce the impact of the estate tax on farmers. This includes H.R. 4208, which would raise the exemption for the special use valuation of farmland. I also fought to make sure that farmers and ranchers would have a greater role in our

Rep. Perriello discusses dairy prices with farmers in Pittsylvania County

nation's energy independence by including a market-based carbon offset program as part of the American Clean Energy and Security Act. Whether producing biodiesel from locally grown grain or bringing produce to market, Virginia's farmers must be supported by both state and federal initiatives. As my tenure in Congress continues, I will keep fighting to protect family farms over corporate agriculture.

BILLS INTRODUCED OR LETTERS AUTHORED

- 5/13/09: Sent a letter to FTC Chairman Liebowitz concerning provisions of the Prevent All Cigarette Trafficking (PACT) Act of 2009, which may grant an anti-trust waiver for the Cigarette Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) litigation settlement from November of 1998. This would reduce competition in the cigarette industry and harm tobacco farmers.

- 7/14/09: Sent multiple letters to members of the Canadian government protesting a bill, Bill C-32, that would ban all flavors in cigarettes, including non-characterizing flavors. This would have a far greater impact on the tobacco industry than the ban on characterizing flavors passed by the United States and was opposed by many members from tobacco-producing districts.

- 9/09/09: Sent a letter to Secretary Sibelius and FDA Commission Hamburg urging them to ensure that provisions of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act that will protect small manufacturers are properly implemented.

- 12/4/09: Introduced H.R. 4208, which would raise the estate tax exemption for the special use valuation of farmland to $3.5 billion.

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 2/13/2009: H. Res. 81, a resolution recognizing the importance and sustainability of the United States hardwoods industry. The resolution was passed by voice vote on 9/15/2009. Congressman Perriello spoke in support of the resolution and the importance of the hardwoods industry for Central and Southside Virginia. (Link to Press Release)

- 3/31/09: H.R. 1831, the Conservation Easement Incentive Act of 2009, which would make permanent the enhanced tax deduction for land conservation easement donations.

- 7/7/09: H.R. 3050, the American Family Farm and Ranchland Protection Act, which would protect farmland by increasing the tax incentives for land subject to conservation easement.

- 9/29/09: H.R. 3674, the Milk Import Tariff Equity Act, which would update existing tariff-rate quotas to include milk protein concentrate (MPC) and protect domestic dairy farmers.

- 10/7/09: H.R. 3524, the Family Farm Preservation and Conservation Estate Tax Act, which would protect family farms by indefinitely deferring estate taxes on agricultural land as long as that land remains in the family as agricultural land.

- 11/18/09: H.R. 3227, which would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory. Congressman Perriello also did press on his support of this bill in the district. (Link to Perriello Reports) (Link to news coverage from The Franklin News-Post and NBC 29)

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 1/27/09: Signed onto a letter to Speaker Pelosi urging her to support phasing-in the tobacco excise tax increase that would be included in H.R. 2, Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009. The act would increase the tobacco excise tax by 61 cents per pack of cigarettes. Congressman Perriello supported phasing in the excise tax over the four years of the bill; 16 cents the first year and 15 cents for each of the next three.

- 7/13/09: Signed onto a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack urging the USDA to improve the effectiveness of the Dairy Product Price Support Program (DPPSP) to bolster the price of milk. Later that month, Secretary Vilsack announced that they would increase the amount paid for dairy products through the DPPSP, which increased dairy farmers' revenue by $243 million from August through October of 2009.

- 9/14/09: Joined other members of Congress in sending a letter to leaders on the Appropriations Committee expressing support for the recently approved $350 million dairy amendment in the Senate version of the FY2010 Agriculture Appropriations bill, and urging the amendment to be preserved in the conference report. The amendment was protected and Congressman Perriello supported the bill.

- 11/19/09: Joined other members of Congress in sending a letter to Congressional leadership urging an extension of the land conservation tax deduction promoting land conservation easements. This deduction is often the only alternative for family farmers facing difficult economic times other than selling their land for commercial development. The extension was included in the eventual tax extenders bill.

KEY VOTES

- 4/2/09: On agreeing to the Buyer Substitute Amendment to H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. The Buyer Substitute would work to reduce underage smoking without harming the tobacco industry through overregulation. Voted yes.

- 4/2/09: On the motion to recommit on H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. The motion to recommit would restrict the fees assessed by the FDA to the program itself so overregulation couldn't become a slush fund for other government programs. Voted yes.

- 4/2/09: On passage of H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. The bill would harm tobacco farmers by over regulating tobacco farmers. Voted no.

- 6/12/09 H.R. 1256: the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. Voted no because he believes that the legislation represented an undue regulatory burden on Virginia tobacco producers and smokers. Congressman Perriello joined with a bipartisan group of legislators to offer a substitute amendment that would have accomplished the same goals of H.R. 1256 without unduly punishing tobacco producers and smokers.

- 7/29/09: On motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2749, the Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009. Voted no because it would give the FDA too much power over farmers and especially hurt smaller family farms.

- 7/30/09: On agreeing to the resolution providing for consideration of H.R. 2749, the Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009. Voted no because the rule did not allow for amendments to improve the bill.

- 7/30/09: On motion to recommit on H.R. 2749, the Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009. Congressman Perriello supported this motion to require the FDA to do more for food inspections with preemptive purchase products from producers and to develop a reserve fund to compensate farmers when the FDA's mistakes produce recalls that harm them.

- 7/30/09: On passage of H.R. 2749, the Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009. Voted no because the bill still did not address his concerns about overregulation of farms by the FDA.

- 12/3/09: On passage of H.R. 4154, the Permanent Estate Tax Relief for Families, Farmers, and Small Businesses Act of 2009. This bill reduces the estate tax beyond 2011 to 45% of the estate's value and increases the exemption from $1 million to $3.5 million. Voted yes.

- 12/9/09: On final passage of H.R. 4213, the Tax Extenders Act of 2009. The bill contained an extension of many expiring tax provisions, including the land conservation tax deduction that Congressman Perriello is working to make permanent. Voted yes.

OTHER

- Joined bipartisan Congressional Dairy Caucus.

Second Amendment Rights

I am an avid supporter of an individual's right to bear arms, as well as a proud member of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus. I strongly believe in my duty to fight for the protection of all constitutional rights; politicians should not pick and choose which amendments our government will uphold, but rather make sure we uphold them all. I cosponsored the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (BATFE) Reform and Firearms Modernization Act of

2009, which will reform the BATFE to allow greater flexibility in how gun dealers are punished for violation of the law. I also supported changes to the Omnibus Public Land Management Act to ensure that no provision would be used to limit access to public lands for hunting and fishing. I am continually working to protect the rights of sportsmen to access public lands and pass down their heritage and traditions, and I am honored to stand up to protect the rights of gun owners nationwide and in the 5th district.

SELECTION OF BILLS CO-SPONSORED

- 9/10/09: H.R. 3046, the Hunting Heritage Protection Act. The bill would protect the right of hunters to access public lands by requiring public land management practices ensure that there is no net loss of public lands for hunting.

- 10/7/09: H.R. 3749, the Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act. The bill would require that public lands planning evaluate the effects of management alternatives on sportsmen's activities and recognizes the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council and the Sporting Conservation Council as policy advisors on issues relevant to the wildlife conservation and sportsmen's communities. The bill also assures that the states' authority to manage fish and wildlife on federal public lands is preserved and that the states have the exclusive authority to require licenses or permits of sportsmen.

LETTERS CO-SIGNED

- 3/13/09: Co-signed a bipartisan letter to President Obama opposing reimplementation of the assault-weapons ban from the 1990s. The letter stated, "Despite what the Attorney General might think, 'making the assault weapons ban permanent' would not be permitted under the Supreme Court's *DC v. Heller* decision. It would be an infringement of our right to keep and bear arms as expressly described by the Second Amendment." (Link to press release) Congressman Perriello was also a co-signer of another letter of just House Democrats to Attorney General Eric Holder with a similar message sent on March 17, 2009.

- 10/6/09: Signed onto a letter with Congressmen Minnick, Latta, and others, to request the House Appropriations Committee retains Senate Amendment 1447 in the DHS conference Report. This bipartisan amendment was added to the Senate bill to clarify that assisted-opening knives, used by over 35 million Americans, are exempted from regulation under the Federal Switchblade Act of 1958. This was supported by the NRA.

- 11/23/09: Joined an historic number of Members of Congress in support the Second Amendment in a congressional amicus brief sent to the Supreme Court regarding the case of *McDonald v. City of Chicago*. This brief, supported by the National Rifle Association and signed by 251 Members of Congress and 58 Senators, marks the greatest number of signees for a congressional brief in the history of the Supreme Court.

KEY VOTES

- 3/11/09: S. 22, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act, as amended by Congressman Altmire to ensure that no provision would be used to limit access to public lands for hunting and fishing. Voted yes. (Link to Press Release)

- 3/25/09: Ordering the previous question on H. Res. 280, the rule for consideration of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act, and preventing an amendment from being offered that would end the National Parks Service's restrictions on the possession of firearms. Voted no.

- 5/22/09: Concurring to Sec. 512 of Senate Amendment to the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act of 2009 to protect the possession of firearms in National Parks in line with the existing policies of other public land agencies. Voted yes.

OTHER

- During debate on the Omnibus Public Land Management Act, Congressman Perriello rose in support of the Altmire amendment, which states in part that: "Nothing in this title shall be construed as affecting access for recreational activities otherwise allowed by law or regulation, including hunting, fishing, or trapping." The NRA stated its support for the inclusion of the Altmire amendment in the bill. (YouTube clip of floor speech) (Link to Press Release)

- Joined the bipartisan Congressional Sportsmen Caucus.

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ALBEMARLE COUNTY

I grew up in Albemarle County, and have benefitted from its quality of life, including its schools and its great outdoors. A challenge in the county, however, is the availability of affordable housing. The community is fortunate to have volunteers and non-profits working to address this critical need for shelter. One of those non-profits, the Piedmont Housing Alliance, contacted my office in July 2009 because they needed help working with the federal government to finalize a project that would provide housing for seniors. Working together, we overcame the obstacles and the project, once completed, will provide affordable homes for 66 area seniors.

Rep. Perriello addresses veterans issues at VFW Post in Earlysville on Memorial Day

Visits Include:

Sat 1/24/09	Visit to site of potential National Ground Intelligence Center expansion
Fri 1/30/09	Meeting with students and teachers at Greer Elementary school
Sat 1/31/09	Briefing at the National Ground Intelligence Center
Sat 3/21/09	Visit to Gryffon's Aerie Farm in Crozet on farm tour
Mon 3/30/09	"Tom in Your Town" in Scottsville
Sat 4/25/09	Eagle Scout Award Presentation in Crozet
Mon 5/11/09	Meeting with Employees of U.S. Joiner in Crozet
Mon 5/11/09	Meeting with Crozet Library
Sun 5/24/09	Attending Scottsville VFW Post Memorial Day Event
Mon 5/25/09	Speaking at Earlysville VFW Memorial Day Ceremony
Sat 7/4/09	Officiating at Naturalization Ceremony at Monticello
Mon 7/13/09	Discussing 1st time homebuyers tax credit in Crozet
Thu 8/27/09	Meeting with Area Wineries at Jefferson Vineyards
Thu 8/27/09	Town Hall Meeting at Walton Middle School
Mon 10/5/09	Speaking at Crozet Meadows Apartments Groundbreaking Event
Wed 10/21/09	Meeting with Constituents from Scottsville on Medical Malpractice (in DC)
Mon 11/16/09	Albemarle County School Board/Thomas Jefferson Planning Dist Meeting
Tue 11/24/09	Speaking at Henley Cares! Rally at Henley Middle School
Mon 12/7/09	Attending Hadassah's Woman of the Year Award Ceremony at Monticello

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $9,236,574 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Energy Efficiency

- $2,935,140 for home weatherization (shared among multiple counties)
- $406,000 in block grants for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law Enforcement

- $113,138 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation:

- $4,848,000 in pavement restoration on Rtes. 20, 29, 33, 53, and 250 (covering 42 miles)
- $1,550,000 for construction of Interstate 64 interchange at Shadwell

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $980,191 "Teaching American History" grant from the U.S. Department of Education for Charlottesville City, Albemarle County, and Greene County schools.

APPOMATTOX COUNTY

Rep. Perriello learns about how federal stimulus money is being used to restore historic buildings at Appomattox Court House National Park.

Appomattox County is well-known as the location where General Robert E. Lee surrendered to General Ulysses S. Grant, thus ending the Civil War and reuniting a nation. The 150th anniversary—the sesquicentennial—of that momentous event will occur in 2015. The county is hoping to leverage the attention that will be focused on the community into a source for job creation and economic growth. If all goes as planned, this historic site will attract visitors from around the globe. To respond to this influx of tourists, a hospitality industry could flourish in the region as businesses move to respond to the needs of these guests to the region. I am working with the National Park Service and the community to make sure we are well-positioned to take full advantage of this upcoming opportunity.

Visits Include:

Fri 3/13/09	Breakfast with Appomattox Chamber of Commerce
Sat 3/21/09	Dinner with Appomattox Young Farmers
Sat 5/23/09	Tour of Appomattox Court House National Park
Sat 5/23/09	"Tom in Your Town" at Baines Books & Coffee, Appomattox
Wed 5/27/09	Meeting w/ Appomattox Board and Economic Development Team

Thu 7/9/09	Meeting with Appomattox Officials regarding Water Line (in DC)
Mon 8/31/09	Partnership Lunch with Appomattox County officials at Granny Bee's
Mon 8/31/09	Meeting with Appomattox County Superintendent
Mon 8/31/09	Town Hall Meeting at Appomattox Community Center

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $2,650,452 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Energy Efficiency

- $829,519 (shared with Bedford County) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Transportation

- $2,000,000 for High Bridge Trail (shared among multiple counties)

Tourism

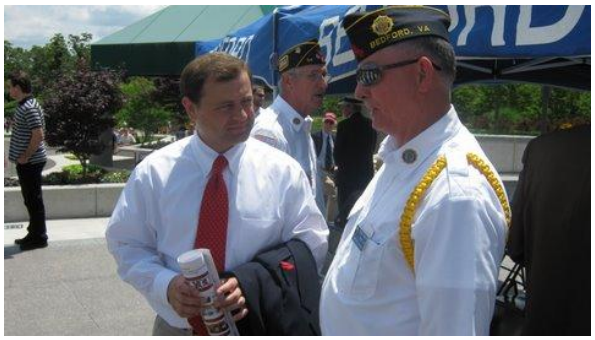
- $172,000 for restoration projects at the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $1.3 million grant and a $275,000 loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development fund for the town of Pamplin for construction of a sewer system

BEDFORD COUNTY AND CITY

Located atop a tall hill, just outside the city of Bedford, stands one of our true national treasures, the National D-Day Memorial. Since the dedication of this monument, thousands have made the journey to Bedford to pay tribute to our brave Americans who stormed the beaches of France more than 65 years ago. When I learned that the D-Day Memorial did not have sufficient funding to sustain its operations, I introduced legislation that would begin the process to bring the Memorial under the supervision of the National Park Service and keep it



Rep. Perriello discusses the National D-Day Memorial with a local vet on 65th Anniversary of D-Day

from closing. Not only is the memorial a moving and fitting tribute to those who sacrificed to preserve our liberty during World War II, but visitors to the site help boost the economy of the area, helping to create jobs.

Visits Include:

Sat 1/17/09	Meeting with Bedford Mayor and community leaders
Sat 1/17/09	Bedford Public Swearing-in Ceremony
Wed 2/18/09	Speaking at Bedford Chamber of Commerce
Sun 3/22/09	Visit to Bedford County Sheriff's Office/ICAC Task Force
Fri 3/27/09	Visit to Moneta Elementary
Fri 3/27/09	Smith Mountain Lake Community Meeting
Sat 3/28/09	5th District Veterans Advisory Committee at Bedford Welcome Center
Fri 4/10/09	Visit to Bedford's Hydroelectric Turbine Plant
Sun 4/26/09	Bassmasters Tourism Event at Smith Mountain Lake
Sat 5/23/09	Serenade Ceremony at National D-Day Memorial
Wed 5/27/09	Bedford Town Hall Meeting for Veterans
Tue 6/2/09	Bedford Boys Movie Reception (in DC)
Sat 6/6/09	Speaking at National D-Day Memorial on 65th Anniversary of D-Day
Sat 6/20/09	Attended Huddleston Rescue Squad 40th Anniversary
Sat 6/20/09	Speaking at Juneteenth Recognition Ceremony in Hardy
Sat 8/8/09	Town Hall Meeting at Bedford Elementary School
Sat 8/8/09	Visit to Bedford Museum
Wed 11/11/09	Speaking at "Take a Vet to School" Day
Wed 11/11/09	Speaking at Veterans Day Ceremony at National D-Day Memorial
Wed 11/11/09	5th Dist. Veterans Advisory Committee Mtng at VA National Guard Armory
Sat 11/14/09	Lunch with Service Academy Candidates at Bedford Welcome Center
Sat 11/14/09	Presenting Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Bedford
Mon 11/30/09	Telephone Town Hall at Smith Mountain Lake Retirement Village

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- County: $9,884,870 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education
- City: $939,520 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, and school construction

Energy Efficiency

- County: $829,519 (shared with Appomattox County) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy
- City: $649,136 (shared with Campbell County) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law Enforcement

- County: $695,017 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force
- City: $44,393 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $334,950 for small bridge replacement

Water Quality

- $198,330 for the Bedford water reuse line to Brooks Food Group

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $743,397 "Teaching American History" grant from the U.S. Department of Education

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

Rep. Perriello presents a flag to the Lake Country Area Agency on Aging.

On September 8, 2009, the Brunswick community was shaken by the news that the Commonwealth was planning to close the Brunswick Correctional Center. While trying to address that loss, the county is also working to diversify its local economy. Seeking to benefit from the county's rich heritage, the community is promoting its historic sites to attract tourists and the jobs that come with them. I was honored to attend the dedication of Fort Christanna on April 25, 2009 and was pleased to visit the future site of the Visitor and Interpretive Center and to write a letter of support for funding for this worthy project. The region's Tobacco Heritage Trail is being developed using $6 million from the Recovery Act. And the town of Lawrenceville is upgrading its water system, using an additional $715,000 from the Recovery Act, to lay a firm foundation for continued economic development efforts.

Visits Include:

Mon 3/16/09	Meeting with Brunswick County officials to discuss stimulus funds
Tue 4/7/09	"Tom in Your Town" at Tiger Express in Lawrenceville
Sat 4/25/09	Tour of County Building to Become Museum
Sat 4/25/09	Dedication of Fort Christanna Historical Site
Sat 6/13/09	Visit and Flag Presentation to Lake Country Area Agency on Aging
Sat 8/22/09	Town Hall Meeting at Southside Virginia Community College

Thu 10/22/09 Meeting with Green Fiber Board about locating in Brunswick (in DC)

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $2,911,974 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education
- $594,706 for St. Paul's College to restore historic buildings on their campus

Energy Efficiency

- $623,232 (shared with Mecklenburg County) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $25,473 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers
- $23,100 for upgrading technology and equipment for Lawrenceville Police Department

Transportation

- $1,559,250 for bridge repair
- $6,000,000 for Tobacco Heritage Trail (shared among multiple localities)

Water Resources

- $7,250,000 for John H. Kerr Reservoir (shared among multiple localities)

Clean Drinking Water

- $715,000 for water treatment plant upgrade for Town of Lawrenceville

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $22,540 grant and $7,520 loan to the Town of Brodnax to purchase automated water meter reading equipment

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY

Situated between the James and Appomattox Rivers, Buckingham County is perhaps best known for the high quality of slate which has been quarried there for generations. Today, one of these former quarries is being used to improve our national security. HI-TEST Laboratories, Inc., the county's third largest private employer, is helping to develop our nation's next-generation submarine program. I was pleased to help them secure $2 million to advance their work, which

Rep. Perriello discusses the importance of healthy eating at Dillwyn Primary School

will create new jobs for engineers and technicians and expand their business.

Visits Include:

Sat 1/31/09	Briefing at Central Virginia Community Health Center
Thu 2/19/09	Meeting with HI-TEST Laboratories
Fri 5/29/09	Tour of Central Virginia Community Health Center in New Canton
Tue 7/21/09	Meeting with Buckingham Branch Railroad (in DC)
Mon 8/24/09	Town Hall Meeting at Buckingham Middle School
Wed 8/26/09	Partnership Lunch with Buckingham County Officials at Depot Diner
Mon 11/2/09	Visit to Kyanite Mining Corporation
Mon 11/2/09	Visit to Dillwyn Primary School on Healthy Eating

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $2,707,067 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Health Clinics

- $150,000 for Central Virginia Health Services clinics in New Canton and Farmville

Energy Efficiency

- $1,260,532 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $13,191 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $2,699,400 for replacement of small bridges

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $2,000,000 for HI-TEST Laboratories submarine program (Rep. Perriello funding request)

CAMPBELL COUNTY

Rep. Perriello hosts 5th District Energy Summit in Rustburg

As Campbell County continues to grow, like many of the rural counties I represent, it needs broadband internet access to remain on the cutting edge of today's national marketplace. Companies seeking to locate or expand in our communities need the communication and technological

benefits that broadband access provides, so it is critical for job growth. It is also important for improving the quality of life of our citizens, who deserve the same access to civic, educational and recreational benefits of the internet as others in our country receive. In May, I held a forum with citizens in Altavista to discuss how to expand access. I was able to secure $220,000 to explore the benefits of providing WiMAX broadband internet service across the region, to include not only Campbell county but eight other counties in the 5th district as well.

Visits Include:

Mon 2/2/09	Roundtable with 5th District Superintendents in Rustburg
Fri 3/13/09	Meeting with Dislocated Workers from Campbell County
Fri 3/13/09	Tour of Timberlake Library
Sat 3/21/09	Lunch with Local Farmers at Colonial Restaurant
Mon 4/6/09	Visit to Gladys Elementary
Fri 4/10/09	5th District Energy Summit
Fri 5/1/09	Meeting with Lynchburg Regional Chamber of Commerce
Thu 5/28/09	Citizens' Roundtable on Access to Rural Broadband in Altavista
Sun 8/23/09	Eagle Scout Recognition Ceremony in Altavista
Fri 8/28/09	Partnership luncheon with Campbell County officials
Fri 8/28/09	Town Hall Meeting at Rustburg High
Mon 8/31/09	Tour of Wexco Plant
Mon 8/31/09	Tour of Centra Health and Discussion on Health Care Reform
Sat 10/17/09	Speaking at Campbell County NAACP Banquet in Evington
Thu 11/12/09	Donating books from Library of Congress to Gladys Elementary
Sat 11/14/09	Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Altavista
Sat 11/21/09	Campbell County's Seventh Annual Adoption Saturday

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $9,803,095 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Energy Efficiency

- $649,136 (shared with City of Bedford) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $67,762 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $297,000 for small bridge replacement

Clean Drinking Water

- $705,104 for water system upgrade for Town of Brookneal

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $220,000 feasibility study of the WiMAX broadband internet service (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $500,000 for construction of Timberlake library and community center (Rep. Perriello funding request)

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

The decline in manufacturing has left many in Charlotte County without decent jobs that can support a family. Seeking to bring jobs back to the region, the community is working hard to attract the Commonwealth's next correctional facility, which is expected to create roughly 600 jobs. To accommodate the new facility, the Town of Drakes Branch needs to upgrade its water and wastewater treatment capacity. During visits with local leaders, including a quick driving tour to the site, I have stressed my willingness to help and have worked with the town, the county and USDA to secure the necessary funding to move the project forward.

Rep. Perriello participates in Reach Out and Read program at Keysville Pediatrics

Visits Include:

Fri 2/20/09	Economic Recovery Roundtable at Heartland Business Park
Fri 2/20/09	Drive to site of proposed state prison in Drakes Branch
Sat 4/4/09	"Tom in Your Town" in Keysville
Tues 8/18/09	Reach Out and Read at Keysville Pediatrics
Tues 8/18/09	Partnership Lunch with Charlotte County Officials at Sheldon's
Tues 8/18/09	Town Hall Meeting at County Administration Building
Wed 8/19/09	Meeting with Southside Virginia Community College in Keysville

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $2,900,114 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Energy Efficiency

- $671,820 (shared with Halifax County) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $15,981 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

CHARLOTTESVILLE

Rep. Perriello discusses composting and local farming at QCC's Urban Garden

Charlottesville can be a center for the new energy economy, which will provide jobs in new businesses while improving our environment and reducing our dependence of foreign oil. I have met with individuals running small businesses, in city government and at the University of Virginia who are all focused on taking advantage of the new energy revolution. People in Charlottesville are working on an innovative design for new wind turbines to better harness that energy; new business models to make solar energy more available, new approaches to making homes and businesses more energy efficient and new technology to advance the production of electric cars. The city, for example, is using funds from the Recovery Act to create a revolving loan fund so people can weatherize their homes, with the homeowners repaying the with their energy savings. We are pushing for local residents to be trained to install the energy upgrades to address the issue of chronic underemployment that exists in the city, thereby both creating jobs for local citizens and reducing our environmental impact on the globe.

Visits Include:

Sat 1/17/09	Public Swearing-in at the Rotunda
Fri 1/30/09	Center for Nonprofit Excellence Grand Opening
Sun 2/15/09	Albemarle-Charlottesville NAACP Founders Day
Tue 2/17/09	Charlottesville Senior Center 49th Anniversary
Thu 2/19/09	Speaking at Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce
Fri 2/20/09	Cub Scout Troop 114 Blue & Gold Banquet
Mon 3/09	Ground Breaking on CTS Green Building
Wed 4/8/09	Tour of Quality Community Council's Urban Garden
Wed 4/8/09	Roundtable with Farmers on Locally Grown Food
Wed 4/8/09	"Tom in Your Town" at Java Java
Wed 4/8/09	Charlottesville Office Opening
Fri 4/24/09	Speaking at PACEM Meeting
Fri 5/8/09	Meeting with Virginians for High-Speed Rail
Fri 5/8/09	Meeting with Jefferson Area T.E.A. Party
Mon 5/11/09	Tour of Northrop Grumman Facility
Mon 5/11/09	National AmeriCorps Week Event at Blue Ridge Commons Apts

Tue 5/12/09	Roundtable on Foreclosures and Mortgage Assistance
Tue 5/12/09	Tour of Historic Jefferson School
Sun 5/31/09	UVA Children's Hospital Phone-a-thon
Mon 7/20/09	Announcing Energy Efficiency Block Grants
Mon 7/27/09	Virginia Summit on Broadband Technology
Sun 8/2/09	VICFA's 5th Annual Farm Food Voices Virginia
Tue 8/11/09	Partnership Lunch with City Officials
Tue 8/11/09	Town Hall Meeting at MLK Performing Arts Center
Thu 8/20/09	Meeting with Blue Ridge Housing and Building Association
Thu 8/27/09	Roundtable on Piedmont Corridor Rail Service
Thu 8/27/09	Meeting with James River Green Building Council
Fri 9/11/09	National Day of Remembrance and Service at C'ville Community Center
Mon 9/14/09	Opening of the Charlottesville Free Clinic
Fri 9/25/09	NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet
Fri 10/9/09	Blue Ribbon Ceremony at Greenbrier Elementary School
Fri 10/9/09	5th Dist. Superintendents Roundtable with U.S. Secretary Arne Duncan
Mon 10/26/09	Tour of Charlottesville Albemarle Technical Education Center
Mon 10/26/09	Tour of UVA/Central Wind Energy & Manufacturing's ROMAC Lab
Mon 11/2/09	Tour of Martha Jefferson Hospital
Tue 12/1/09	Discussing Gleaning Act at Blue Ridge Area Food Bank
Fri 12/18/09	Jobs Roundtable with African-American Leaders

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding (K-12)

- $4,029,725 for saving teacher jobs, school construction, special education, and early childhood education

School Funding (Higher Education)

- $21,445,310 for saving jobs, educational technology, and general support

Energy Efficiency

- $2,935,140 for home weatherization (shared among multiple localities)
- $195,300 for Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grants

Law Enforcement

- $230,080 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Housing and Economic Development

- $144,637 in Community Development Block Grants
- $796,931 in modernizing public housing

Transportation

- $1,306,442 for Charlottesville Transit Service

- $1,150,000 for construction of Interstate 64 5th Street interchange

University of Virginia

- $58,300,000 in grants for medical research and research positions across departments

Head Start Programs

- $108,022 to ensure that children receive the highest quality instruction

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $500,000 for Fast Charging Electric Vehicle Demonstration Project (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $980,191 "Teaching American History" grant from the U.S. Department of Education for Charlottesville City, Albemarle County, and Greene County schools.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Rep. Perriello presents USDA funds for a water line in Cumberland County

Cumberland County is searching for new opportunities to bring economic growth to the area. Using $2,000,000 in funds from the Recovery Act, the county purchased the historic Cumberland Community Center. With its history dating back to 1919, the property stands as a landmark for civil rights in education in the community, serving as the first high school for African-American children in Cumberland County. The property has also been used as an elementary, middle, and high school at one time or another until 2007 when a new middle and high school facility opened its doors. The building currently houses a number of different entities, such as the local departments of social services and recreation, charity organizations like Meals on Wheels and Clothes Closet, and multi-purpose rooms to handle community groups and activities. In addition, approximately 13 acres of land remain vacant and ready for possible development. In keeping with the Vision Statement created for the community center, the county has stated it will "use this wonderful resource to foster new business, social, cultural, and recreational opportunities for the county."

Visits Include:

Sat 3/14/09	Tour of Cumberland County Appropriations Projects
Tue 4/7/09	Visiting Project to Turn Poultry Litter into Energy
Sat 4/18/09	Patriots Day and Presenting of USDA Funds
Mon 8/24/09	Partnership Lunch with county Officials at Cumberland Restaurant
Wed 8/26/09	Town Hall Meeting at Cumberland Elementary School

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $4,698,407 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Energy Efficiency

- $1,260,532 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $12,176 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $767,250 for bridge repair for small bridge replacement
- $2,000,000 for High Bridge Trail (shared among multiple localities)

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $1.9 million from U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development fund for waterline extension
- $2 million loan from U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development fund to purchase the Cumberland Community Center

DANVILLE

Rep. Perriello gives legislative update at SCLC Dinner on Martin Luther King Day

Danville has a proud history as a center for manufacturing and tobacco processing, and the vestiges of that past still exist along the banks of the magnificent Dan River. Living in a city that straddles a river, however, presents a unique set of challenges. Since 1998, Danville has been trying to expand the Robertson Bridge, which is a choke point in the city's transportation network. The bottleneck is not only inconvenient to residents but it hampers economic growth. The day I was sworn in, I instructed my District Director to visit all 22 localities in the Congressional District to discuss their specific needs and projects. He had his first meeting the next day, and it was with Danville's City Manager. Not surprisingly, the first project he requested was the replacement of the Robertson Bridge. Using funding made available by the American Recovery and Reinvestment that I supported, we were able to secure $28.9 million needed to replace the Robertson Bridge and make this major economic priority a reality.

Visits Include:

Fri 1/16/09	Meeting with IALR, DCC and City of Danville on appropriations requests
Sat 1/17/09	Speaking at SCLC Martin Luther King Dinner
Sun 1/18/09	Public Swearing-in Ceremony at DCC
Fri 1/23/09	Southside Mayors Meeting at IALR
Mon 2/16/09	Helicopter Tour of Danville Mega Park
Mon 2/16/09	Speaking to students at George Washington High School
Mon 2/16/09	Danville Office Opening
Tue 2/17/09	Economic Recovery Roundtable at Stratford Courtyard
Sun 3/29/09	Meeting with Displaced Workers from Corning and Goodyear
Mon 4/6/09	Weatherization and Efficiency Roundtable at IALR
Wed 4/29/09	Announcement of Robertson Bridge Funding
Thu 5/14/09	Danville Post Office Meeting (in DC)
Sun 5/17/09	Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Presentation
Tue 5/26/09	Tour of Veterans Community Based Outpatient Clinic
Tue 5/26/09	5th District Veterans Advisory Committee at National Guard Armory
Sat 6/6/09	Press conference on First-Time Homebuyers Tax Credit
Sat 6/6/09	Meeting with Danville Airport
Tue 6/16/09	Meeting w/ Danville Regional Medical Center (in DC)
Wed 7/1/09	Healthcare Roundtable at Danville Regional Medical Center
Sat 7/4/09	Independence Day in Danville
Tue 7/28/09	Tour of Capitol for City of Danville TV (in DC)
Sat 7/18/09	Economic development meeting with U.S. Secretaries Vilsack and Chu
Tue 8/4/09	Speaking at Danville Rotary Club
Wed 8/5/09	Tour of Advanced Vehicle Research Center
Wed 8/5/09	Partnership lunch with Danville government officials
Wed 8/5/09	Town Hall Meeting at O.T. Bonner Middle School
Thu 8/6/09	Meeting with Leaders of Danville T.E.A. Party
Wed 9/23/09	Meeting with Danville Deputy City Planner (in DC)
Thu 10/1/09	Danville Post Office Follow-Up Meeting (in DC)
Mon 10/12/09	Tour of Riverside Health & Rehabilitation Center
Mon 10/12/09	Goodyear Plant Tour
Mon 10/12/09	O.T. Bonner Middle School Visit
Thu 11/12/09	Reading to Students at Sacred Heart for National Young Readers Day
Sun 11/22/09	Speaking at Bread for the World Sunday Community Service

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $9,712,212 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, special education, and early childhood education

Health Clinics

- $189,738 for Piedmont Access to Health Services (PATHS)

Energy Efficiency
- $1,194,637 (shared among multiple localities) in home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy
- $202,200 for Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grants

Law enforcement
- $222,432 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Housing and Economic Development
- $283,823 for Community Development Block Grants
- $1,515,064 for modernization of affordable housing

Transportation
- $28,945,377 for replacement of the Robertson Bridge
- $200,000 for Danville Transit System

Youth employment
- $1,374,000 (shared among multiple localities) to employ 450 youth for summer

Head Start Programs
- $102,205 to ensure that children receive the highest quality instruction

Other Federal Funds Received:
- $200,000 for Advanced Battery Manufacturing (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $200,000 for Institute for Advanced Learning and Research environmental education program (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $100,000 for Danville Community College for Wood Products Advanced Manufacturing Lab (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- Language for Military Tires for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company (Rep. Perriello request)

FLUVANNA COUNTY

For more than a decade, Fluvanna County has been growing rapidly as people are drawn to its natural beauty, historic sites and Lake Monticello. The county has embarked on a forward-looking capital improvement program

Rep. Perriello holds a town hall meeting at Fluvanna County M.S.

to rehabilitate its existing schools and build a new high school to accommodate the growing population. While obvious changes are happening to the school buildings, Fluvanna's superintendent is also working on innovative approaches within the schools. I was pleased to host a meeting among U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan and school superintendents from around the district, including Dr. Tom Smith from Fluvanna. I wanted the Secretary to see the progress smaller schools in more rural districts can make in educating our children. Dr. Smith and the others at the meeting impressed the Secretary with approaches that can allow our smaller schools to make a national impact.

Visits Include:

Thu 2/19/09	Speaking at Fluvanna Chamber of Commerce Forum
Thu 2/19/09	Fluvanna Legislative Issues Dinner
Sat 5/23/09	Speaking at Fluvanna High School Graduation
Mon 8/17/09	Tour of Tenaska Virginia Generating Plant
Mon 8/17/09	Partnership Lunch with Fluvanna County officials
Mon 8/17/09	Town Hall Meeting at Fluvanna County Middle School

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $3,471,903 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Energy Efficiency

- $2,935,140 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $18,772 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Emergency Preparedness

- $1,415,540 for the Fluvanna County Fire Department for construction of a new fire station with state-of-the-art equipment in Fork Union

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Rep. Perriello discusses home weatherization with a constituent in Rocky Mount

Like communities across our nation, Franklin County has infrastructure needs that cannot be met by the locality alone. I have met with county leaders about their needs, and they told me that one of their top priorities is the replacement of the Clements Mill Bridge. The bridge has been closed since the summer of 2005, causing not only substantial inconvenience for residents but risks

to safety due to significantly reduced emergency response time in the area. Working in partnership with the county and the Commonwealth, I was pleased to address this pressing need by helping to deliver $950,000 of federal assistance that will help get the project moving.

Visits Include:

Mon 1/26/09	Discussing Higher-Education Tax Credit at Ferrum College
Wed 2/18/09	Speaking to Government Students at Franklin County H.S.
Wed 2/18/09	Tour of Pigg River Power Dam Removal Project
Fri 3/13/09	Tour of Franklin Center
Tue 3/17/09	Meeting w/ Ferrum College Social Policy Class (in DC)
Thu 4/9/09	Broadband Roundtable at the Franklin Center
Fri 5/1/09	Tour of stimulus weatherization project in Rocky Mount
Fri 5/1/09	Visit to Rocky Top Wood Preservers Company
Tue 5/26/09	Tour of Ferrum Community Health Center
Wed 7/1/09	Meeting with Franklin County Sheriff's Office re: appropriations
Fri 7/3/09	Unveiling 5th District Energy Blueprint at Gereau Center
Fri 7/3/09	Tour of Carilion Franklin Memorial Hospital
Tue 7/21/09	Meeting with Carilion Franklin Memorial Hospital (in DC)
Fri 8/28/09	Groundbreaking for CEED energy design project at Gereau Center
Sat 8/29/09	Partnership meeting with Franklin County officials
Sat 8/29/09	Town Hall Meeting at the Franklin Center
Sat 8/29/09	Meeting with Franklin County Dairy Farmers
Sat 8/29/09	Visit to Diamond Street Extension on Flooding Issues
Mon 11/23/09	Discussing Gleaning Act at Heavenly Manna Food Pantry
Mon 11/23/09	Visit to Aaron's Store to discuss small business issues

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $7,691,556 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, special education, and early childhood education

Health clinic

- $172,289 for Laurel Fork Health Commission (serving the clinic in Ferrum)
- $493,355 for the Ferrum Community Health Center to build and equip a new pharmacy for the clinic

Energy Efficiency

- $621,780 for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $34,948 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $1,126,950 for bridge repair

Clean Drinking Water

- $3,396,400 for a water system upgrade for the Town of Boones Mill

Housing

- $528,796 to the Franklin Redevelopment and Housing Authority for capital improvements

Head Start Programs

- $68,096 to ensure children receive the highest quality instruction
- $1,198,456 to expand Head Start programming to more children

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $950,000 for replacement of the Clements Mill Bridge (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $400,000 for expansion of Ferrum Community Health Center (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $200,000 for Microwave Ring for Public Safety/E911 Voice and Data Interoperability in Henry County, Martinsville, and Franklin County (Rep. Perriello funding request)

GREENE COUNTY

As one of the Commonwealth's smallest county, Greene faces unique challenges upgrading and renovating existing infrastructure. During my visits to Greene, community leaders have stressed the importance of upgrading the water and wastewater facilities in Stanardsville, the county seat. They also have stressed the need for increased access to broadband internet service, which is crtical to meet the area's educational and economic development needs. The improvements to these essential services will not only benefit the residents of the town, but can help attract new industries and with them, new jobs.

Rep. Perriello hosts a town hall meeting in Stanardsville

Visits Include:

Thu 2/19/09	Tour of Recreational Park in Greene County
Thu 2/19/09	Economic Recovery Roundtable with Greene County officials
Thu 2/19/09	Tour of Greene County Pre-K Program
Tues 4/7/09	Town Hall Meeting at William Monroe H.S. in Stanardsville
Mon 5/25/09	Visit to Vietnam War Foundation Museum

Sat 7/25/09	Tour of Stanardsville Fire Dept, new water plant, Blue Ridge School
Mon 8/10/09	Town Hall Meeting at Ruckersville Elementary

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $3,350,315 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, special education, and early childhood education

Energy Efficiency

- $2,935,140 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $18,264 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $980,191 "Teaching American History" grant from the U.S. Department of Education for Charlottesville City, Albemarle County, and Greene County schools.

HALIFAX COUNTY

Rep. Perriello discusses public safety with North Halifax Volunteer Firefighters

To bring jobs back to the region, Halifax County has an extensive vision for economic development. They are working at making their towns, like Halifax and South Boston, into economic engines, building off the successes they are experiencing at Riverstone Technology Park and the Virginia International Raceway. In my first meeting with local representatives, however, they identified the lack of adequate wastewater treatment capacity as a major obstacle to their efforts to bring more jobs to the area. They have been working on the project for the last decade, and I am pleased to support their efforts. Using funding from the Recovery Act, which I supported, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is close to finalizing financing on the $18 million project.

Visits Include:

Fri 1/23/09	Tour of Halifax Regional Health System
Fri 2/20/09	Economic Recovery Roundtable with Halifax County Officials
Sat 3/14/09	Tour of South Boston appropriations projects
Sat 3/28/09	Veterans Town Hall Meeting at American Legion Post 99

Mon 4/6/09	Tour Landfill-to-Energy Project in South Boston
Mon 4/6/09	Visit to Southern Virginia Higher Education Center
Fri 5/1/09	Visit to North Halifax Volunteer Fire Dept. in Nathalie
Fri 5/1/09	Old Dominion Resource & Conservation Development Council
Thu 5/7/09	Meeting with Halifax Community Center (in DC)
Thu 5/28/09	Opening of Halifax Regional Hospital Primary Care Facility
Sat 6/13/09	Presenting Flag to Senior Group
Sat 6/13/09	"Tom in Your Town" at Ernie's Restaurant
Thu 7/2/09	Green Workforce Training Announcement at VIR
Fri 8/7/09	Meeting with Halifax County Chamber of Commerce
Fri 8/7/09	Partnership Meeting with Halifax County officials
Fri 8/7/09	Town Hall Meeting at Halifax High School

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $7,493,993 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, special education, and early childhood education

Energy Efficiency

- $671,820 (shared with Charlotte County) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $48,542 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $2,290,200 for bridge repair
- $6,000,000 for Tobacco Heritage Trail (shared among multiple localities)

Water Resources

- $7,250,000 for John H. Kerr Reservoir (shared among multiple localities)

Tourism

- $13,200 for Halifax County Museum

Head Start Programs

- $89,453 to ensure that children receive the highest quality instruction

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $500,000 for upgrading and expanding the Maple Avenue wastewater treatment plant (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $25,000 planning grant from USDA for the Maple Avenue wastewater treatment plant

LUNENBURG COUNTY

Rep. Perriello presents Eagle Scout award to Banks twins

Known as "The Old Free State," Lunenburg County has a distinctively independent spirit and is home to beautiful farmland and forests. With hardwood being an important industry to the county, I was proud to support a resolution in Congress to recognize the importance of the U.S. hardwood industry and encourage that American hardwood be given full consideration in any program directed at constructing environmentally preferable commercial, public, or private buildings. American-grown hardwoods, including those from Lunenburg County, are an abundant and sustainable resource that can be part of a vibrant new green economy. As an Eagle Scout, I was also proud to present at a Court of Honor ceremony for Darius and Marsalis Banks, twin brothers who became the first African-American Eagle Scouts from the county.

Visits Include:

Sat 3/14/09	Tour of Lunenburg County projects for appropriations requests
Sat 4/4/09	"Tom in Your Town" at Mildred's Meals, Kenbridge
Wed 8/19/09	Partnership Lunch with Lunenburg County Officials in Victoria
Wed 8/19/09	Visit to Barnes Manufacturing Co.
Wed 8/19/09	Town Hall Meeting at Kenbridge Community Center
Sun 9/20/09	Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Darius and Marsalis Banks

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $2,368,991 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Health Clinic

- $232,365 to hire staff at Southern Dominion Health Systems in Victoria
- $705,700 for capital improvements to the facility

Energy Efficiency

- $1,260,532 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Transportation

- $6,000,000 for Tobacco Heritage Trail (shared among multiple localities)

Law Enforcement

- $15,642 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

MARTINSVILLE AND HENRY COUNTY

Henry County has developed a diverse approach for recruiting and growing jobs in the region. In addition to investing in Commonwealth Crossing—a well-situated industrial park—the community is also looking to take advantage of the natural resources that surround the region. By increasing outdoor recreational opportunities, the county hopes not only to improve the quality of life for residents, but also attract tourists and companies seeking to locate where they can offer a high quality of life for their prospective employees. One project is the expansion of the Smith River trail, which provides outdoor enjoyment for hikers, bicyclists, and outdoor enthusiasts from the region and beyond. I was pleased to help secure $300,000 to construct a paved 4.5 mile segment of the trail along an abandoned rail corridor. Philpott Lake is another amenity that has been largely untapped. To unlock the economic potential of the lake, major upgrades are required. I was pleased that the Recovery Act provided $3,750,000 to improve the recreational opportunities at the lake and improving its ability to produce low cost electricity.

Rep. Perriello visits clean energy projects in Martinsville-Henry County

Martinsville is working hard at retooling its economy after a decade of devastation. The city is undertaking a major effort at Uptown revitalization, and I was pleased to be able to play a small part by locating the first Congressional office in the new Uptown area. More broadly, the city is simultaneously trying to recruit and grow new industries while training a new workforce. Patrick Henry Community College received $300,000 in federal funds for its innovative Middle College Program to discourage high school truancy and dropout, encourage enrollment in higher education and provide career readiness training to prepare the workforce for jobs in area businesses. The New College Institute provides a promising avenue for those aspiring to college, and in addition will provide another economic engine to fuel job growth in the region as it grows. Job training, however, must go hand-in-hand with job creation. I was pleased to help a new local employer secure $2,400,000 in federal funding to support approximately 30 positions in the Martinsville and Henry County area, offering the opportunity for local college graduates to find challenging employment, fulfilling a national need, without relocating.

Martinsville-Henry County finds itself at the precipice of another community reinvention. Complementing diverse strategies related to entrepreneurship, tourism and workforce

development, a component of this reinvention could be a true redefinition of manufacturing-related job growth in Martinsville-Henry County.

Visits Include:

Fri 1/16/09	Meeting w/ Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Partnership
Fri 1/16/09	Discussing SCHIP Bill at Health Centers of the Piedmont
Sat 1/17/09	Public Swearing-in Ceremony at VA Museum of Natural History
Mon 2/2/09	Visit to Virginia Employment Commission office
Tue 2/10/09	Meeting with Martinsville Chill group (in DC)
Wed 2/18/09	Town Hall Meeting at Martinsville High School
Mon 3/23/09	"Tom in Your Town" at Daily Grind
Mon 3/23/09	Meeting w/ I-73 Committee for Martinsville and Henry County
Thu 4/9/09	Visit to Virginia Employment Commission Office
Thu 4/9/09	Speaking at Martinsville-Henry Chamber of Commerce Lunch
Thu 4/9/09	Tour of Red Birch Biodiesel Plant in Bassett
Sat 5/2/09	Game Day for Volunteer Fire & Rescue Appreciation
Sat 5/2/09	Tour of Smurfit Stone
Sat 5/2/09	Meeting with Displaced Workers at Blue Ridge Community Library
Sat 5/2/09	Tour of Projects for appropriations requests
Sat 5/16/09	Speaking at Patrick Henry Community College Commencement
Thu 5/28/09	Governor's Economic Crisis Strike Force Regional Meeting
Wed 7/1/09	Tour of Patrick Henry Community College re: appropriations
Sat 7/25/09	Swearing in Army Recruits at Hooker Field
Mon 8/3/09	Partnership Lunch with Martinsville officials
Mon 8/3/09	Tour of proposed commercial scale solar array
Mon 8/3/09	Town Hall Meeting at Martinsville High School
Tue 8/4/09	Smith River Trails Funding Announcement
Tue 8/4/09	Partnership meeting with Henry County officials at Laurel Park M.S.
Tue 8/4/09	Town Hall Meeting at Laurel Park Middle School
Mon 10/12/09	Martinsville Office Opening
Tue 10/13/09	Tour of Blue Ridge Aquaculture
Tue 10/13/09	Ribbon Cutting at Renewable Engineered Systems, alternative energy company
Mon 11/23/09	Philpott Lake Groundbreaking Event with Rep. Rick Boucher

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- Martinsville: $3,582,469 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education
- Henry County: $10,306,411 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Energy Efficiency

- $1,194,637 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- Martinsville: $38,558 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers
- Henry County: $126,329 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Water Resources

- $705,000 for purchasing and installing stand-by generators for the Henry County sewer system
- $3,750,000 for Philpott Reservoir to restore shorelines, rehabilitate recreation and campground facilities, and hire additional staff to provide visitor assistance during the peak season

Transportation

- $2,389,384 for Liberty Street expansion project (Martinsville)

Health Centers

- $120,228 for the Martinsville/Henry County Coalition for Health and Wellness

Emergency Programs

- Martinsville: $8,442 for emergency food and shelter programs
- Henry County: $24,233 for emergency food and shelter programs

Youth Employment

- $1,374,000 (shared among multiple localities) to employ 450 youth for summer

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $300,000 for Smith Rivers Trail project (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $300,000 for Patrick Henry Community College's Middle College Program (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $200,000 for Microwave Ring for Public Safety/E911 Voice and Data Interoperability in Henry County, Martinsville, and Franklin County (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $2,400,000 for Missile Activity and Characteristics – SPARTA, Inc. (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $250,000 Upward Bound Math and Science Competition Program grant from the U.S. Department of Education for Patrick Henry Community College

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Rep. Perriello participates in groundbreaking at Lake Country Education Center

Kerr Lake in Mecklenburg County provides not only a wonderful recreational opportunity for the people who live in the community, but provides an opportunity for further economic development. Together with the $6 million investment in the Tobacco Heritage Trail we were able to secure, improvements at Kerr Lake should bring more tourists to the region, along with the spending they bring with them. To help enhance the recreational amenities at the lake, the Recovery Act provided $7,250,000 to upgrade those facilities, including the funding of major improvements at North Bend Park. Along with state partners, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is developing a master plan which will help identify how to make the 50,000 acres of public land in the area a more substantial recreational destination and a more productive economic engine.

Visits Include:

Sun 1/18/09	Public Swearing-in at South Hill Volunteer Fire Department
Fri 2/20/09	Economic Recovery Roundtable with Officials in South Hill
Tue 5/5/09	Meeting w/ Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative (in DC)
Sat 5/16/09	"Tom in Your Town" in South Hill
Sat 7/25/09	Tour MacCallum More Museum & Garden in Chase City
Fri 8/21/09	Tour Community Memorial Health Center in South Hill
Fri 8/21/09	Ground Breaking of Lake Country Education and Enrichment Center
Fri 8/21/09	Meeting with the Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors in Boydton
Fri 8/21/09	Town Hall Meeting at Mecklenburg County School Board Office
Sat 8/22/09	Chase City Chamber of Commerce Meeting
Sat 8/22/09	Tour Boydton Community Health Center
Sat 10/3/09	Meeting about Southeast High-Speed Rail Line in La Crosse
Sat 10/3/09	Presenting flag to South Hill Volunteer Fire Department

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $5,604,434 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Health Clinic

- $145,367 to hire additional staff at the Boydton Community Health Facility
- $330,410 for capital improvements to the Boydton Community Health Facility

Nursing Facility

- $528,842 to expand Meadowview Terrace, which provides nursing, personal and restorative care, and rehabilitation services to persons in need of long term care

Energy Efficiency

- $623,232 (shared among multiple locations) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $44,909 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $2,446,950 for bridge repair
- $6,000,000 for Tobacco Heritage Trail (shared among multiple localities)

Water Resources

- $7,250,000 for John H. Kerr Reservoir (shared among multiple localities)

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $25,000 to the Town of Chase City to complete an engineering study for upgrades to the water system
- $25,000 to the Town of Boydton to complete an engineering study for upgrades to the water system
- $25,000 to the Town of Clarksville for water system upgrades

NELSON COUNTY

While Nelson County has shown great strides in growth and economic development, there is a continued need for economic development in the southern part of the County and a pressing need for access to quality, affordable health care, especially in rural areas. The Blue Ridge Medical Center addresses this need for countless citizens in Nelson County. I have visited the center multiple times and have seen for myself the reception area teeming with people receiving medical care. In fact, last year over 2,000 new patients sought care at BRMC, for a total of 9,255

Rep. Perriello meets with local officials at economic recovery roundtable in Lovingston

patients served. This year, an average of 150 new patients a month continue walk in the door. To meet the increasing health care demands in Nelson County and the surrounding communities, Blue Ridge Medical Center has received $5,000,000 from the Recovery Act, which I supported, to expand their facilities. Not only will this provide more people with access to quality health care, but it will also provide employment for people as the new building is completed.

Visits Include:

Wed 2/18/09	Economic Recovery Roundtable with Nelson County officials
Wed 5/27/09	Tour of Blue Ridge Medical Center
Wed 5/27/09	Tour of Central Virginia Electric Cooperative
Wed 5/27/09	Visit to Nelson Center to discuss rail service and broadband
Thu 8/20/09	Partnership lunch with Nelson County officials
Thu 8/20/09	Town Hall Meeting at Nelson Center
Thu 8/20/09	Hurricane Camille Remembered 40th Anniversary Event
Sun 9/20/09	Presenting Flag for 100th Anniversary of Bethel Church of the Brethren
Wed 12/9/09	Announcing $5 Million Grant for Blue Ridge Medical Center (in DC)

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $1,780,963 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, and special education

Energy Efficiency

- $2,935,140 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $10,147 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $7,446,450 for bridge repair and replacement

Health centers

- $5,000,000 to expand facilities and service at Blue Ridge Medical Center
- $239,719 to hire additional staff at the Blue Ridge Medical Center
- $573,925 to make capital improvements at the Blue Ridge Medical Center

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $2.45 million loan from USDA Rural Development fund for expansion of Wintergreen Water Treatment plant

PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Rep. Perriello discusses clean energy and agriculture with U.S. Secretaries Vilsack and Chu at community forum in Blairs

For centuries, farming has provided jobs for the citizens of Pittsylvania County. As we work to reduce our nation's dangerous dependence on foreign oil, farmers in the region are thinking about producing not just food, fiber and tobacco, but also energy. The Secretaries of Agriculture and Energy toured the area in July 2009 to see the promise of the region for advancing the new energy economy. We have been working with Van Der Hyde dairy, who discussed with the Secretaries their plans for converting tons of manure into electricity. In Gretna, the Secretaries saw the biorefinery built by Piedmont BioProducts, which has the capacity to take a feedstock grown by neighbors and convert it into heating oil and other valuable byproducts of refining, like precursors to plastics and carbon fibers. To aid the effort to find the most valuable feedstock for farmers to grow, I helped the Institute for Sustainable and Renewable Resources receive $502,000 to generate high-value plants and feedstocks for bio-based energy and biomass-based products. In addition to protecting the county's farming heritage, there is a continued need to support emerging small businesses and high-quality schools to move the economy forward. I will also be working hard to make sure we have improved water infrastructure in the county so they don't lose jobs and can attract new ones.

Visits Include:

Sat 3/21/09	Visit Mountain View Farms of VA on Farm Tour
Sat 3/21/09	Visit Maxey Farms on Farm Tour
Sat 5/9/09	Meeting of Southside NAACP Chapters in Ringgold
Tues 5/26/09	"Tom in Your Town" in Chatham at Pino's Pizza
Sat 6/6/09	Speaking at Tunstall High School Graduation
Sat 7/18/09	Tour of Piedmont BioProducts
Sat 7/18/09	Meeting with Anti-Uranium Mining Constituents
Sat 7/18/09	Community Forum w/ U.S. Secretaries Tom Vilsack and Stephen Chu
Thu 8/6/09	Visit to Virginia Uranium, Inc. site
Thu 8/6/09	Partnership lunch with Pittsylvania officials in Chatham
Thu 8/6/09	Town Hall Meeting at Chatham Middle School
Thu 10/1/09	Meeting with Constituent about Health Care Sharing Ministries
Sat 10/31/09	Roundtable with Pittsylvania County Farmers on Estate Tax
Wed 11/11/09	Utilities Roundtable at Danville-Pittsylvania Chamber of Commerce
Wed 11/11/09	Tour of Structural Insulated Panel Plant in Blairs

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding

- $10,883,573 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, educational technology, school construction, special education, and early childhood education

Energy Efficiency

- $1,194,637 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Law enforcement

- $112,804 for supporting crime prevention and hiring of law enforcement officers

Transportation

- $6,469,650 for bridge repair

Youth employment

- $1,374,000 (shared among multiple localities) to employ 450 youth for summer

Head Start Programs

- $124,263 to ensure that children receive the highest quality instruction

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

Rep. Perriello participates in public swearing-in ceremony at Moton Museum

In Virginia's heartland, Prince Edward County has a stable, diversified economy that benefits from a strong hospital, two higher-education institutions, natural beauty, and a rich history. The county recently dedicated its Light of Reconciliation, acknowledging the county's role in closing its schools rather than integrate them. The Light of Reconciliation, in the bell tower of the Prince Edward County Courthouse, is a permanent monument created to honor the memory of the historic events in Prince Edward County during the era of public school segregation, to recognize the role of local students in ending school discrimination in Virginia and across the United States and to call on each of us to shine our own Light of Reconciliation in the world. Using its past to promote its future, Prince Edward's historic High Bridge is the centerpiece of the High Bridge Trail State Park. The trail is designed to be a premiere shared-use path for hikers, bikers and horseback riders and will not only provide outdoor recreational opportunities to citizens of the region, but should also attract guests from

outside the region, and the job growth they bring with them. I was pleased that $2 million from the Recovery Act, which I supported, will be used to expand the trail and improve the park. Additional jobs can come to the region through investments in Longwood University as it expands its role as an economic driver in the area, both providing jobs and preparing the workforce. Similarly, STEPS, Inc. provides manufacturing jobs and jobs training for people with disabilities. I was pleased to help secure $300,000 to ensure that their job training and manufacturing plant on Industrial Park Road will be structurally sound as they continue this mission.

Visits Include:

Sun 1/18/09	Public Swearing-in Ceremony in Farmville
Mon 1/19/09	MLK Day Volunteering with Longwood Students
Mon 2/19/09	Superintendents' Roundtable in Farmville
Mon 3/9/09	Speaking at Farmville Area Chamber of Commerce
Mon 3/30/09	"Tom in Your Town" at the Daily Grind in Farmville
Sat 4/4/09	Habitat for Humanity Blitz Build to Discuss Service
Sun 6/14/09	Farmville Office Opening
Thu 7/23/09	Tour of Capitol w/ Prince Edward Community Center (in DC)
Tue 8/25/09	Partnership lunch with Prince Edward County officials
Tue 8/25/09	Meeting with Southside YMCA Directors in Farmville
Tue 8/25/09	Town Hall Meeting at Prince Edward County Middle School

Recovery Act Funding Allocated:

School Funding (K-12)

- $3,442,951 for saving teacher jobs at K-12 schools, school construction, special education, and early childhood education

School Funding (Higher Education)

- $6,339,336 for educational technology at local universities

Health Clinics

- $150,000 to expand staff at the community health center in Farmville

Energy Efficiency

- $1,260,532 (shared among multiple localities) for home weatherization upgrades to help residents save on energy costs and train workers in clean energy

Transportation

- $4,430,000 for pavement restoration on Rte. 460
- $2,000,000 for High Bridge Trail (shared among multiple localities)
- $891,000 for small bridge replacement

Other Federal Funds Received:

- $300,000 for Southside Training, Employment and Placement Services, Inc. in Farmville (Rep. Perriello funding request)
- $100,000 for Robert Russa Moton Museum: Moton 2011 (Rep. Perriello funding request)

Congressional Record Statement on the Dedication of Light of Reconciliation Memorial:
(Link to Statement)

Mr. PERRIELLO. Madam Speaker, today I wish to commemorate the official unveiling and dedication of the Light of Reconciliation Memorial in Prince Edward County, Virginia. The Light of Reconciliation, in the bell tower of the Prince Edward County Courthouse, is a permanent monument created to honor the memory of the historic events in Prince Edward County during the era of public school segregation, to recognize the role of local students in ending school discrimination in Virginia and across the United States and to call on each of us to shine our own Light of Reconciliation in the world.

In 1951, a group of dedicated high school students led by Barbara Rose Johns organized a strike to protest the disgraceful condition of Robert Russa Moton High School in Farmville, Virginia. The school lacked a gymnasium, a cafeteria, heat, desks, blackboards, and in some cases even classrooms: a school bus parked outside served as one classroom for the overcrowded and underfunded school. The student strike ultimately led to Davis v. County School Board of Prince Edward County, one of the five court cases that would make up Brown v. Board of Education. The Davis case was the only one of the five to arise from student activism. Following the Supreme Court's decision that ``separate educational facilities are inherently unequal,'' Prince Edward County closed its public schools for the years of 1959 to 1964 rather than allow black and white students to attend school together. After five years and the Supreme Court decision in Griffin v. County School Board, the schools were finally reopened and integrated. The Light of Reconciliation and the memorial stand as both a reminder of the mistakes of the past and a celebration of the students from R.R. Moton High School and from other schools across the country who continued the fight for education for all.

Today marks the 50th anniversary of the action that would close the Prince Edward County public schools, one of the darkest moments of Virginia's civil rights struggle. Acknowledging this part our history is painful, and I commend the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors for their courage in publicizing past transgressions against our fellow citizens in hopes of preventing future ones. It is only in seeking truth about our past that we can hope to pursue justice for our future, and this memorial is a public expression of our renewed commitment to justice for all.

On this occasion we are reminded that each of us is called to work to bring our nation closer to its fundamental ideals of equality. If one 16-year-old student can spark the protests that would

ultimately galvanize a nation in the cause of civil rights, we should all ask of ourselves what we can do to fight for human dignity and the common good. As long as inequality and suffering persist in our nation and in the world, our work is incomplete. This memorial not only looks back to the dreams deferred by locked schoolhouse doors, but also forward to a better nation, one of ever-expanding opportunity for all. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, ``Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.'' Let this light in Prince Edward County, Virginia be a permanent reminder of our ongoing struggle for a fairer world.

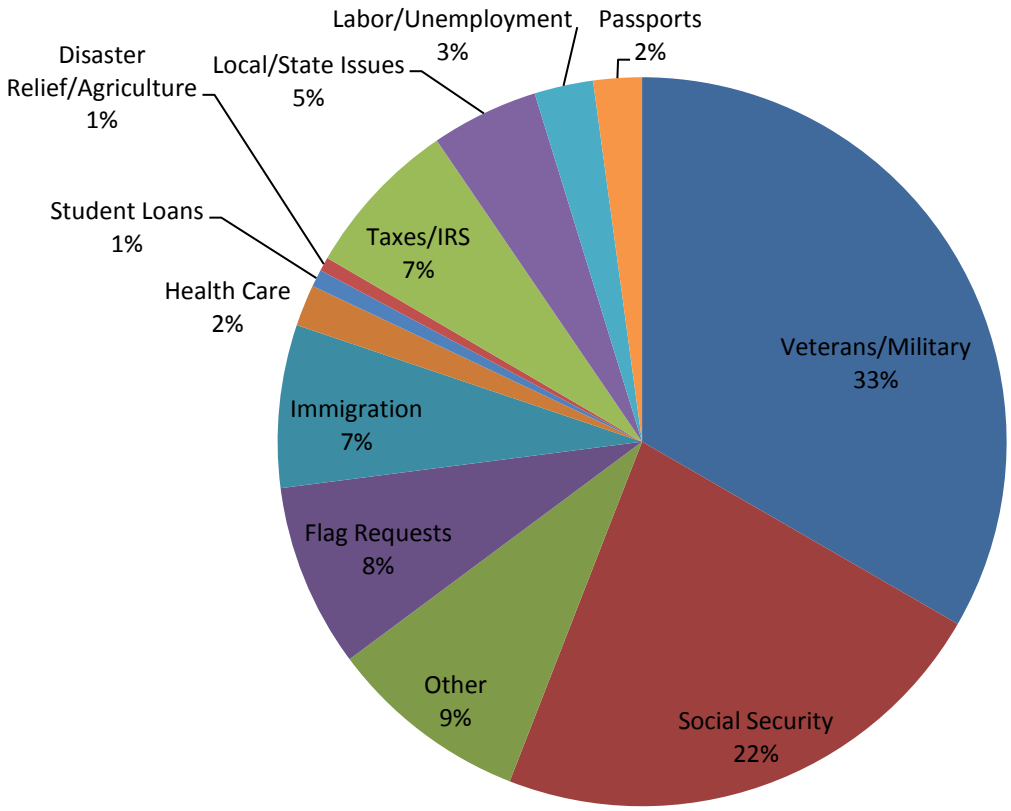
Constituent Services Summary

One of the most important parts of my job is to assist constituents with any issues or problems they are facing when dealing with federal government agencies. The caseworkers in my offices in Charlottesville, Danville, Farmville, and Martinsville helped nearly 800 5th district residents in 2009 cut through government red tape and solve individual, sometime complex, problems with federal agencies.

Here are the kinds of cases we helped with and some of the stories behind the numbers.

-Congressman Tom Perriello

Types of Constituent Cases Handled in 2009:



Veterans:
A Vietnam War veteran from Danville was hospitalized in the Salem Veterans Administration Hospital for about two weeks in 2008. Before he was discharged, his doctor told him he would not be able to work full-time due to his permanent service-related medical problems. Early in January 2009, he contacted my office, which kept him informed of what was going on while his claim was being reviewed. It was possible that the VA might turn down his claim, but in early July, the much-anticipated letter arrived from the VA approving his claim with the extra benefit of it being permanent and total. This means he doesn't have to be reevaluated every few years. The celebration didn't last too long though. Two days later after getting the great news, this gentleman's wife learned that she was losing her job of 11 years. She would have to pay close to $400 a month for health insurance under COBRA, but getting the added VA benefit allowed her to get new insurance through the VA, and keep the same doctors who she's seen for years.

Military:
A young lady from Buckingham County had enlisted in the Army at the beginning of her senior year of high school. As a reward for her early enlistment, she was promised a sign-on bonus of $15,000. Unfortunately, by the end of her senior year, she had to undergo an emergency appendectomy, and while she didn't know it at the time, that disqualified her for military induction for a six-month period following the operation. Because she would not be eligible to join until after the 365-day anniversary of her original signature, the Army told her she would lose all of her bonus money. She was told she must sign on all over again (with no bonuses) if she still wanted to join the Army.

When my staff first spoke to Army officials (from the recruiter to the Pentagon), they told him there was absolutely nothing that could be done. I wrote a letter to Fort Knox appealing the decision on behalf of my constituent. Days later, the same sergeant called both the young woman and my staffer to apologize, and told us that in his 25 years he'd never seen the Army reverse course on this matter. In response to my letter, orders came down from Fort Knox, and she was guaranteed a new contract, including all the money she was promised, and immediate induction into the Army.

Social Security:
A 70 year-old woman from Albemarle County received a letter from her insurance company saying her supplemental insurance had been cancelled because the Social Security Administration had reported her as deceased. Needless to say, she was shocked, scared her Social Security benefits may be affected, and confused about where to turn. My office immediately talked to the local SSA offices and straightened out the error. As she put it, we had her "brought back to life" in no time and her benefits were not affected.

Health Care:
A woman from Nelson County who retired at age 62 was expecting to receive her Medicare Card at age 65 (the official retirement age), but she never received one. Medicare was deducting a monthly premium from her benefits check each month since she reached retirement age, but they refused to send her a card or provide her with benefits. After a long

time trying to figure out why she was being denied service, the woman discovered that her Social Security number and identity had been stolen, affecting her status with Medicare. She and her husband came to my office desperate because she needed medical care and previous claims submitted to Medicare had been denied. They could no longer pay for her medical care out of pocket without knowing they would ever be reimbursed by Medicare. Our office worked with Medicare, and within a few days the matter was resolved. She is now receiving Medicare benefits as she deserves.

Taxes/IRS:
A gentleman in Pittsylvania County had been trying to obtain an Earned Income Credit (EIC) from the IRS since March of 2009. The paperwork with the IRS was backlogged and he could not get the money owed to him. When he came to us by the end of October, we started working on his case with the IRS. By November's end, his case was resolved and he has received $1,650.48 for the EIC.

Immigration:
This year, I had the honor of speaking at the annual Naturalization Ceremony at Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, on Independence Day. I was thrilled that three of my constituents who had been working towards citizenship were included in the ceremony. The citizenship status allowed one woman to travel to visit a dying family member at an urgent time. It was a special moment for me to administer the Oath of Citizenship to my constituents as they had the proud experience of becoming U.S. citizens.

Passports:
A family from Campbell County contacted my office with an urgent request for passport assistance. The father had received the opportunity of a lifetime to travel on business to a foreign country and he wanted to bring his wife and newborn baby with him. They had applied for a passport for the four-month-old to accompany them, but the application was returned because both parents had not signed the application. By the time they would have re-applied, it would have been too late to make the scheduled trip (they contacted us on June 26 and their flight was scheduled for June 30). My office contacted the Passport Office who agreed to let us expedite the passport application. They did not have to reapply or pay additional fees. They made their flight in time and had a wonderful trip.

Flag Requests:
My office helps 5th district residents with requests for flags flown over the U.S. Capitol building for special occasions and to honor loved ones. One very special request came from a woman in Martinsville, who asked that a flag be flown on the fifth anniversary of her son's death. Her son, Lance Corporal Demarkus D. Brown, was 22 when he was killed while serving in Iraq's Anbar province. After the flag was flown on the U.S. Capitol, it was placed permanently on the flagpole dedicated in his honor at Laurel Park Middle School in Martinsville.

Looking Ahead

Given the economic crisis we faced last January, few would have been optimistic enough to predict a stabilized economy and a stock market above 10,000. But these promising signs should not be taken to mean our problems are solved – far from it. I am going to redouble my focus this year on economic development, from the micro level of business and workforce growth opportunities in the district to the macro problem of breaking up the Washington–Wall Street collusion that is choking out small and medium-sized American business. We must expand local opportunities to rebrand our part of the Commonwealth and get ahead of the next big economic boom. At the same time, however, we must address the skyrocketing debt, systemic risk, and infrastructure needs that will impact consumer and investor confidence and get this economy moving again.

I share with many a concern about the health of capitalism in our country, but my diagnosis is not that we have a government takeover of business but rather that the financial sector has too much control over the public sector. With this capture, the biggest players are doubling as the referees on the field, producing an economy that rewards failure, stymies innovation, and creates perverse incentives for systemic risk and for bigger over better. Both parties seem to begin and end the jobs debate with how to bail out the financial sector instead of investing in real economic development and pinning down a strategy to outcompete the rest of the world. I will continue fighting with all of my might to shift our national focus from speculators on Wall Street to job creation on Main Street.

I remain bullish on Southside Virginia. I believe we are in a strong position to transform our district from yesterday's furniture and textile capital into tomorrow's energy and automotive capital. We can grow diversified economic foundations with a strong infrastructure, broadband, and a focus on small and medium-sized innovation companies. We can invest in early childhood development, as well as our colleges, research facilities, and skills training centers. We can reinvent this area to invite tourism based on our history, our heritage trails, our natural beauty, and our outdoor recreation. We can see data processing and tele-work flourish in a low-cost environment, and we can rebuild advanced manufacturing. Our farmers can become the freedom fighters in our struggle for energy independence, and we can shift more of our capital from big banks far away to local community banks and credit unions.

In every county, I have met with local officials, business leaders and educators full of great ideas for economic revival, and these suggestions guide my work in Washington. These ideas do not belong to either party but to the people who deserve better from their government. I am proud of the strides we have made this year, but I am even more excited about what we can accomplish together in the year ahead. We will forge ahead with a laser-like focus on jobs and competitive advantage, and we will work as a strong federal partner to these great local initiatives. The double shift will continue.

Congressman Tom Perriello

How the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is Making a Difference in Virginia's 5th: a News Round-Up

EMPLOYMENT

Stimulus funds send 450 Southside youth to work for summer (June 25, 2009)
"Thanks to federal stimulus funding, hundreds of area youth, age 14 to 24, will have summer jobs. And it's not costing the employers a dime. Kim Adkins, executive director of the West Piedmont Workforce Investment Board's Summer Youth Employment Program, said the agency received almost $1.5 million in stimulus funding that will cover the cost to train, manage and pay the salaries of about **250 youth** in **Danville** and **Pittsylvania County**, and **another 200** in the **Martinsville**, **Henry County** and Patrick County area."
(Danville Register & Bee)

Danville company awarded $813,000 for N.C. 700 work (December 2, 2009)
"Federal stimulus funds will help a **Danville** company. The North Carolina Department of Transportation awarded W-L Construction & Paving Inc. of Danville an $813,505 project contract for resurfacing and shoulder reconstruction of 8.7 miles of N.C. 700 in Rockingham County, according to a department news release. The work can begin as early as March 1, 2010, and should be finished by May 29." (Danville Register & Bee)

Fluvanna to Receive Stimulus Funds for New Fire Station (September 25, 2009)
"**Fluvanna County** is getting $1.4 million in federal stimulus funds to build a new fire station, announced Congressman Tom Perriello's office on Thursday. The new station will replace the current Fork Union volunteer fire company station that's sitting on a flood plain. **More than 100 contractors** in Fluvanna will have work when construction starts on the brand new Fork Union fire station." (NBC 29)

EDUCATION

Gladys Elementary to stay open, in large part to stimulus money (March 16, 2009)
"**Campbell County** Schools officials said they will not close Gladys Elementary School and likely will not lay off personnel, due in large part to the federal stimulus plan." (Lynchburg News & Advance)

Stimulus fills in gaps for sports, bus routes (February 26, 2009)
"**Halifax County** Superintendent of Schools Paul Stapleton said Monday the $2.5 million stimulus money that the county is expected to receive should close gaps in the schools' upcoming budget. The cash infusion prompted the School Board to shelve plans to eliminate middle school sports and participation in the Regional Governor's School." (The News & Record)

Perriello: Greene Schools to get $940,000 (March 6, 2009)
"Perriello made quite the impression on some Pre-K students at the **Greene County** Primary School. The congressman learned about the school's Pre-K program and he got a peek at why the school system's budget can't afford to get any tighter. According to Perriello, Greene County schools should get $940,000 from the national stimulus package. That's money that school board members have been lobbying for this month in Washington D.C. 'Our purpose for being there was to ask that schools not be forgotten in that package,' said Michelle Flynn, Greene County School Board Chair." (NBC 29)

PVCC: Stimulus cash prevent layoffs; school plans for ex-visitors center (March 13, 2009)
Piedmont Virginia Community College in **Albemarle County** "will benefit from federal stimulus money to the tune of $400,000 next fiscal year, money the college's president said should prevent previously anticipated layoffs." (Charlottesville Daily Progress)

Education money slated for Pittsylvania County (March 13, 2009)
"The money will help the **Pittsylvania County** School Board shrink its budget gap from $6.4 million to $2.5 million for the 2009-10 school year. The Title I and IDEA funds will enable the school division to free up money to balance the budget and avoid employee layoffs and salary reductions, Superintendent James McDaniel said." (Danville Register & Bee)

Perriello briefs Chamber on federal stimulus package (March 4, 2009)
"The package expands the child tax credit and creates a $2,500 tuition tax credit. Perriello said that he coauthored the tuition tax credit provision. **Bedford County** Public Schools will get $3.4 million out of the package's education provisions. Perriello said that it also contains a number of tax breaks and incentives for businesses." (Bedford Bulletin)

ENERGY

Albemarle readies for green grant (November 30, 2009)
"Despite an economic recession that has **Albemarle County** officials wondering how to pay for education without teacher layoffs, the county is expecting an increase in environmental and energy efficiency funding, courtesy of the federal government. Sarah Temple, the county's environmental manager, said the grant would be used to save energy costs and improve the environment… 'It just makes financial sense,' said Bill Letteri, the county's director of facilities development, adding that the county saves a substantial amount of money years down the road because of the reduction in energy costs." (Charlottesville Daily Progress)

Perriello Sees First-Hand Local Weatherization Work (May 4, 2009)
"Fifth District Congressman Tom Perriello came to Rocky Mount on Friday to tell 85-year-old Ruth Tyree that she will have a warmer house and lower heating bills this winter. Perriello talked with the elderly Rocky Mount woman as workers with STEP pumped insulation into her attic and walls, and took other steps to weatherize the home. Tyree's home on Mary Coger

Lane in Rocky Mount is among about 80 houses in Franklin and Patrick counties that will be weatherized with $621,780 in federal funds as a result of the federal stimulus package." (The Franklin News-Post, article not available online)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Nelson medical center scores stimulus money for expansion (December 9, 2009)
"**Nelson County**'s Blue Ridge Medical Center will get $5 million in federal stimulus money to help treat increasing numbers of low-income and uninsured patients, the White House announced Wednesday. The grant means more medical services, including programs of care for children and the elderly, will be available for low-income and uninsured residents, said Peggy Whitehead, the center's director. About 9,200 people sought health care last year, and an average of 150 new patients a month continue walk in the door this year." (Lynchburg News & Advance)

Stimulus funds will go toward pharmacy in Franklin Co. (July 9, 2009)
"The latest beneficiary of federal stimulus money in the region is the Ferrum Community Health Center in **Franklin County**. A $493,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will provide a new pharmacy for the health center on the Ferrum College campus. The new pharmacy will be five times larger and allow for more storage and retail space. The medication assistance program for uninsured patients will be moved from the clinic to the pharmacy." (Roanoke Times)

Perriello Announces Over $377,000 in Recovery Act Grants for Victoria and Boydton Community Health Centers (April 8, 2009)
"At the **Victoria** clinic, the federal funding will be used to hire two new positions in mental health services: an administrator and a licensed clinical social worker, as well as to add part-time hours for one psychiatrist. At the **Boydton** clinic, the federal funding will be used to expand dental services by hiring a dentist and a dental hygienist, and to save an additional job. As the only clinic in the region that serves Medicaid patients, this clinic has seen an increased demand for dental services." (Kenbridge-Victoria Dispatch, article not available online)

HOUSING

Danville housing getting $1.2 million in stimulus funds (March 12, 2009)
"The **Danville** Redevelopment and Housing Authority is getting $1.2 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for improving the city's public housing projects. The stimulus funds will be used for a long list of capital improvements to the city's public housing properties... Wasson said public housing units will get new stoves, many cabinets will be replaced, some floors will be redone and water/sewage/drainage issues will be assessed. He also said some landscaping projects will be done, including improving the entrance at Pleasant View Apartments." (Danville Register & Bee)

Perriello promotes homebuyer credit (July 14, 2009)
"Brent Yowell, a UPS employee and National Guard veteran, had long wanted to become a homeowner, but worried that he would struggle to afford buying a house in the **Charlottesville** region. An $8,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers, however, convinced Yowell to make an offer on a 1,440-square-foot townhouse in the Old Trail community of Crozet. Yowell, 30, closed on the property at the end of April. The tax credit, he said, gave him enough cash to buy furniture and appliances for his first home." (Charlottesville Daily Progress)

PARKS AND RECREATION

Work begins on Philpott project (November 24, 2009)
"Ground was broken Monday on a sewer project at Philpott Lake, a move that could open the door to the development of a marina there. The sewer project, which will connect the park to the Henry County Public Service Authority's water lines, represents the 'next wave of economic development' in **Henry County**, 5th District U.S. Rep. Tom Perriello said during Monday's ceremony… Proponents of the marina say it would boost tourism in the area." (Martinsville Bulletin)

Stimulus cash helps Appomattox Court House (April 25, 2009)
"Two projects at **Appomattox** Court House National Historical Park will be completed thanks to $172,000 in federal stimulus money. The money will pay for restoration of the slave quarters log cabin at the historic McLean House as well as improving energy efficiency of a building used to house temporary workers and volunteers, said Reed Johnson, the park's superintendent." (Lynchburg News & Advance)

Stimulus for High Bridge (May 1, 2009)
"**CUMBERLAND**—High Bridge Trail State Park's signature landmark—High Bridge—just got the funding it needs for conversion to safely accommodate those hiking or biking the trail…The stimulus funds will be used 'to reconstruct High Bridge,' according to Perriello, adding protective decking to a bridge which is 2,400 feet in length and 160 feet above the Appomattox River…The congressman said the presence of the bridge 'will take that trail from recreation to a destination location' that will keep tourism dollars coming into the economy." (Farmville Herald, article not available online)

Danville forestry department nets stimulus money (September 18, 2009)
"**Southside** will have two jobs created and 12 retained for tree planting, maintenance, removal and inventory projects, according to a news release from the Virginia Department of Forestry. The department received more than $1 million of federal stimulus money for projects in Southside and the Shenandoah Valley." (Danville Register & Bee)

Tobacco Heritage Trail nets $6 million in stimulus funds (April 30, 2009)
"The Tobacco Heritage Trail has landed its largest grant to date — $6 million in federal stimulus funds to build a 16-mile segment of trail from Lawrenceville to Brodnax, which straddles the

Mecklenburg-Brunswick county line. The award, announced Tuesday by Fifth District Rep. Tom Perriello, provides a welcome boost for the rails-to-trails project, envisioned to run 160 miles through the counties of **Mecklenburg**, **Brunswick**, **Halifax**, **Lunenburg** and **Charlotte**. Sandra Tanner, president of Roanoke River Rails to Trails, Inc. and a member of the Virginia Tourism Corporation, noted that trails project achieves one of the chief goals of the stimulus bill — providing jobs. 'This trail project is putting people to work during this tough economic time,' said Tanner. The trail also will have spinoff economic benefits, including building a market for tourism-related businesses in Southside Virginia, Tanner said." (The News & Record)

PUBLIC SAFETY

Perriello announces Recovery Act funds for law enforcement (March 12, 2009)
*__Bedford__ and **Franklin** counties are among the 5th District localities that been able to keep policeman on the street and maintain public safety due to the over $1 million in law enforcement funding made eligible for use in the district through the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program.
(Smith Mountain Eagle)

Grant likely for sheriff (March 18, 2009)
"The **Nelson County** Sheriff's Office is expected to receive more than $10,000 in federal stimulus funds. The monies come from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that was signed into law by President Barack Obama last month…Nelson County Sheriff David Brooks said the funds would be used for training, equipment, drug enforcement and helping to start an anti-domestic violence program." (Nelson County Times)

TRANSPORTATION

Kaine, Perriello: $29.8M of stimulus to pay for Robertson Bridge project (April 29, 2009)
"The Robertson Bridge project is a go, thanks to $28.9 million in funding from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act...[**Danville** Mayor Sherman] Saunders said the new bridge plans include natural gas and water lines that will be used to serve the new industrial mega-park on Berry Hill Road…that would make the mega-park an 'attractive business location.' Without federal stimulus money, the Robertson Bridge project would have been put off indefinitely." (Danville Register & Bee)

Shovel-ready projects in region ready for Washington boost (May 9, 2009)
"**Nelson County** was the biggest winner of transportation dollars among nearby localities, with $6.3 million for repairs to 17 bridges and culverts. **Charlottesville** and **Albemarle County** received $6.8 million for repaving on major roads, according to Perriello." (Lynchburg News & Advance)

Danville, Pittsylvania County to put stimulus to use (May 6, 2009)
"About $5.5 million in federal stimulus funds will help pay for three bridge projects in **Pittsylvania County**, and an additional $200,000 will go toward **Danville**'s transit system… [T]he

three projects are for superstructure replacement. The projects will entail raising the bridges about a foot because of clearance issues for large trucks, Jones said. The bridges are functionally obsolete, Jones said." (Danville Register & Bee)

CTS receives stimulus funds (June 2, 2009)
"Of the $1.3 million, $1.18 million will be needed to replace two older Trolleys—each with a lifespan of 10 years—with new, diesel-electric hybrid ones. 'It's a great step forward,' says Arens. 'We'll get those two buses fully outfitted with all of the equipment and all the stop upgrades.' Some of the upgrades include cameras, radios, AVL units and other electronics. According to **Charlottesville** Transit Service, ridership has increased and the company is close to 1.6 million boardings in the city." (C-VILLE Weekly)

OPINION

A good gamble (February 20, 2009)
"The stimulus bill includes tax cuts and sends billions of dollars to the states and their local governments. The immediate benefit of the stimulus will probably be extended unemployment benefits because that's money that will be spent quickly. Stimulus money will also help states pay for basic government services such as education, law enforcement, health care, roads and transportation. Local governments in the Dan River Region — and around the country — already have wish lists of infrastructure projects they want funded. Those local wish lists include a bridge, water lines and an industrial park — hardly the stuff of wasteful government spending…The stimulus bill is far from perfect. But that federal stimulus money — if spent wisely — could really help this community for years to come." (Danville Register & Bee)

A bridge that only the feds could build (September 14, 2009)
"We know local drivers will like the new Robertson Bridge. That's because the new bridge has been designed to fix today's problems and handle tomorrow's growth. After years of reviews by engineers, it represents the most bang for the buck possible… The question is how local people will see it. A few still argue that the new bridge wasn't needed. But the people stuck in traffic around that bridge every day — and the traffic engineers — know better. Fair people will give Perriello the credit he deserves for working hard for this community, even if they don't support everything he has done or will do over the next year. The question is how many people who don't like Perriello and didn't support the ARRA will still drive on the new Robertson Bridge — and think nothing of it." (Danville Register & Bee)

A Hand Up in Nelson for Health Care (December 15, 2009)
"Thanks to the federal stimulus package, the county's Blue Ridge Medical Center will get $5 million to help treat an increasing number of patients. The grant announced by the White House will mean more medical services, including programs of care for children and the elderly, for county residents…Good health care is important to every community across America. In Nelson County, thanks to the federal economic stimulus program, good health care — especially for low-income and uninsured residents — will become better in the years ahead." (Lynchburg News & Advance)

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