

Sixth District Perspectives with Congressman Ben Cline

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This week offered the American people a clear difference in a way forward for our Nation. The path the President laid out in his State of the Union Address was more government dependency, higher taxes, and more spending. Republicans on the other hand believe in lower taxes, less dependency, controlling spending -- and an overall belief that individuals and families know what's best for themselves and can spend their money better than a government bureaucrat. Congress also began investigating the weaponizing of agencies within the federal government, voted unanimously to condemn China for their spy balloon incident, and passed legislation disapproving of a Washington, D.C., provision allowing non-citizens to vote. Also, I introduced the Veterans Entrepreneurship Act, which would give Veterans an option to use their GI Bill benefits to start a small business or purchase a franchise. As always, I enjoyed meeting with folks visiting the Capitol and discussing the challenges facing our great Nation.

The Real State of the Union

This week, President Biden gave his view of the State of our Union, and after hearing his version, it was clear that our President lives in an alternative reality. His failures of the last two years have left us with a beleaguered economy, crippling inflation, high interest rates, skyrocketing energy costs, a wide open border, a deadly drug crisis, and a more dangerous world.

The contrast couldn't be clearer. House Republicans have already gotten to work by passing legislation to defund 87,000 IRS employees and agents, restore our Strategic Petroleum Reserve, establish a select committee to compete with China, halt the COVID vaccine mandate for servicemembers and end the COVID national emergency, and fully reopen the Capitol to the American people. Oversight on the border crisis and DOJ politicization are also underway, and solutions and accountability will follow. We are just getting started. To use the words of President Biden: House Republicans plan to 'finish the job' -- but the right way for the American people.





Click [here](#) to watch my response to the SOTU

Veterans Entrepreneurship Act

As supporting Veterans in the Sixth District and across the country remains one of my top priorities, this week I introduced the Veterans Entrepreneurship Act of 2023. Reps. Byron Donalds (R-FL), Lou Correa (D-CA), and Chris Pappas (D-NH), co-led the bill. This bipartisan legislation will expand the options under which Veterans can access their benefits in the GI Bill.

Currently, GI Bill benefits can only be used to help Veterans further their education. However, not all Veterans wish to continue their education when transitioning to civilian life. Many wish to pursue professional development, enter the workforce, or start their own small business. This legislation will allow funds under the GI Bill to be applied to special business training programs or to resource grants to help Veterans achieve their goals. The bill establishes a 3-year pilot program where 250 Veterans will participate in a training program and receive assistance in putting together a business plan that, if approved, will win them a grant which they can use to realize their plan. The Veterans Entrepreneurship Act is grounded in the idea of allowing Veterans to choose how to best use their earned benefits to help accomplish their goals. Learn more [here](#).



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EXCLUSIVE: Rep. Ben Cline Introduces Bipartisan Legislation To Increase Op...

Rep. Ben Cline introduced legislation that would allow veterans to have access to their GI Bill benefits in order to start their own businesses and more.

Read an article on the bill [here](#)

The Slippery Slope Towards Insanity

In fulfilling our constitutional oversight duties over the District of Columbia, House Republicans passed a resolution expressing our disapproval of D.C.'s Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022 for devaluing the voice of American citizens by allowing illegal immigrants to vote in local elections.

Our democracy must be protected and preserved – and step one is to ensure only American citizens can vote, not illegal immigrants.



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Celebrating the Life of Harvey Hotinger

On the House Floor this week, I celebrated the life and memory of Harvey Hotinger, who passed away recently at the age of 91. Born in Kerrs Creek in 1932, after graduating from Virginia Tech with a focus on engineering, Hotinger joined the Army, specializing in missile systems. After his service, he taught algebra to high school students, upkept his garden and shared his fruits, vegetables, and honey to friends and neighbors, and taught Sunday school for over 50 years. In addition, Harvey served his community on the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors for four years. A great man of VA-06, he will be missed by his family, friends, loved ones, and the Valley.





[My Floor speech](#) in tribute of Harvey Hotinger

Capitol Meetings



Meeting with Governor Youngkin along with the House VA GOP Delegation on our continued effort to make Virginia the best place to live, work, and raise a family



Showcasing the Capitol rotunda with a tour group from Cavalry Christian School



Meeting with a delegation from the European nation of Kosovo

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Congressman. If my office can ever be of assistance, please contact my Washington office at (202) 225-5431.

For the latest updates from Washington and across the Sixth District, please follow my [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

Ben Clive