January 14, 2021

Dear Friends,

There is no doubt the year 2020 will be remembered as one of the most challenging in our history. The pandemic we are living through has taken a toll on everyday life for Rhode Islanders and has made the work of my office and staff even more critical. We have faced many obstacles; however, I am proud that we were able to achieve a lot in the midst of an economic and public health crisis. We adapted, rose to the occasion, and kept working to ensure Rhode Islanders could weather the storm.

In the 116th Congress (2019-2020), I authored 35 bills and resolutions and cosponsored 448 pieces of legislation. I supported efforts to make healthcare more affordable, protect the environment, rebuild our infrastructure, ensure national security, and prepare workers for success in a 21st century economy. But since the first reported cases of COVID-19, my focus has been to keep people safe and healthy, ensure that our economy remains stable, help our mom-and-pop shops and restaurants stay open and keep folks employed.

I am proud to have helped advance four COVID relief packages into law to help the hardest hit communities, support workers and families, bolster our health care system, and set into motion robust testing and vaccination operations. We secured crucial aid for our state and nation with the passage of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the CARES Act, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, and the year-end funding package that included $900 billion in relief that was signed into law in late December. These COVID relief packages made billions in aid available so that we could crush the virus and help families and small business owners keep their heads above water.

As relief became available, my staff continued to work diligently to make resources and assistance available to Rhode Islanders in need. In 2020, my dedicated constituent representatives assisted in resolving over 1,000 constituent cases, helping with issues including economic relief payments, the VA, Social Security, and more. In total, my office helped get nearly $7 million in benefits and savings for Rhode Islanders. Further, we helped secure over $1.3 billion in federal grants and targeted COVID-19 relief for the Second Congressional District. Throughout the year we also prioritized keeping our constituents updated on the latest from Washington. My office continues to engage over 440 community leaders across our eight advisory committees.

With 2020 in the rear-view mirror, I have set my focus on building from the lessons of the past year. Our nation has been tested like never before, but we learned that no matter how daunting the situation, Americans can overcome anything by working together.

Cheers to you and your loved ones on a New Year and new opportunities to work together to improve the Ocean State and the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Jim Langevin
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