



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

# Making a Difference for NY-12

CONGRESSWOMAN NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ

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## Making a Difference for New York's 12<sup>th</sup> District



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Congress of the United States  
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Official Business

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M.C.  
 PRESOR T STD



Congress of the United States  
 House of Representatives

Dear Friend,

Getting the economy back on track is my top priority. I was proud to be part of designing and passing crucial legislation to New York's local economy and that of the entire country. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (H.R. 1) provides support for our communities where it is needed most, and brings \$5 billion in direct aid for New York City.

The recovery package will have a direct impact on our state, creating or saving 91,000 jobs in New York City over the next two years. That means 14,000 teachers and 1,000 police officers will stay on the job serving our community. In the 12th Congressional District alone approximately 8,000 people will avoid job cuts or find employment helping to rebuild our City.

With this legislation, Congress has taken important steps to make sure working families are able to thrive, despite the current economic turmoil. H.R. 1 expands affordable housing options, restores our transportation systems and repairs New York City's public housing buildings. It also provides resources to improve energy efficiency and lower your energy bills. A family's home should be its safe haven, and I am working to ensure it remains that way.

Over the next two years, the support created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will benefit hard-working families and entrepreneurs in all of our vibrant neighborhoods. It will create opportunities for growth and serve as a vehicle for economy recovery.

Sincerely,

Nydia M. Velázquez  
 Member of Congress





# The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

## More Money in Your Pocket

- Provides nearly 7.1 million New Yorkers a tax cut of up to \$400 for individuals and \$800 for families through the new Making Work Pay Credit.
- Invests in families by expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to families with three or more children and increasing the standard deduction for married couples.
- Increases the number of working families eligible for the Child Tax Credit – benefiting nearly 1 million families in our state.



## Keeping New Yorkers Healthy

- Defends health coverage for those most in need by extending \$2 billion in resources for Medicaid services to New York City.
- Directs \$6 million in resources to assist local health centers in providing services to working families, including \$1.3 million for the William F. Ryan Community Health Center Network in New York City.
- Initiates a 65% subsidy for COBRA health coverage making the program more affordable for workers who lost their jobs.

## Fueling the City's Economic Engine

As Chair of the Small Business Committee, I worked to secure provisions that enable small firms to help revive America's economy and spur growth and development in New York City.

- Provides assistance and counseling for micro-entrepreneurs, including those considering starting their own home-based business.
- Makes affordable credit available to entrepreneurs in order to help them meet payroll and expand their operations.
- Small business provisions included in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act are expected to generate \$21 billion in new lending and investments.



Rep. Velázquez hears from small business owners about the importance of green collar job creation.

## Renewing New York's Landscape



- Enacts the largest investment in America's roads, bridges, and water projects – including \$544 million in new infrastructure spending for New York City.
- Provides \$1 billion to the Metropolitan Transit Authority to improve the largest mass transit system in the western hemisphere –right in our back yard.
- Every \$1 spent on these infrastructure efforts is expected to pump an additional \$2.12 back into the city's economy, further spurring growth and development.

## Ensuring Essential Needs Are Met

- Extends unemployment benefits to a total of 59 weeks and provides job training.
- 1.1 million New Yorkers who lost their jobs will receive an extra \$100 per month to help make ends meet.
- Helps keep food on the table with \$1.3 billion for New York in enhanced food stamp benefits.
- New York will receive \$100 million towards childcare services for low-income individuals.

## Opening the Door to Quality, Affordable Housing

- Designates \$4 billion to enhance public housing, including \$390 million for New York City buildings that house more than 400,000 New Yorkers.
- Revitalizes neighborhoods in New York City and increases housing options for working families with \$50 million for Community Development Block Grants.
- Works to keep New York families off the streets by allocating \$75 million to fund New York City's homeless shelters.



## Raising Standards and Boosting Student Achievement

- Upgrades public school buildings and classroom technology with \$1.75 billion for education assistance.
- Makes college more affordable by increasing the Higher Education Tax Credit and the amount of grants available to help students pay tuition and other education-related expenses.
- Giving children a quality education at an early age, New York City will get \$29 million in additional Head Start funding.



Congresswoman Velázquez meets with students from Grand Street Settlement who benefit from access to computers and new technology.

## Putting New Yorkers Back to Work

- Creates or saves 3.5 million jobs over the next two years including 215,000 in New York alone.
- Ensures 400,000 jobs across the country rebuilding roads, bridges and schools, connecting nearly every American to broadband and upgrading buses and trains.
- Increased assistance for small businesses will spur the creation of 634,000 jobs nationwide.