

Defense

Providing for the common defense is the first responsibility of the federal government. It's an obligation that I hold sacred and one that guides all of my decisions.

This obligation begins and ends with the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces. If we are to protect our nation from its enemies, we must ensure that the men and women who have volunteered to defend us are well trained and well equipped. This means making the necessary investments in the technologies that protect them on the battlefield and allow them to effectively undertake their varied missions.

We must also ensure that their families - those who don't fight, but who make immeasurable sacrifices - are well cared for. With their loved ones often gone for months at a time, it is important that military spouses and children are provided with the support and services that help them through difficult times. Without such effort, we undermine our cause.

The national defense is bolstered by innovative companies throughout our nation and especially in Connecticut with a long history of producing the weaponry, vehicles, planes, and armor that protect our soldiers. I have been and will continue to be a strong supporter of making sure that the sensitive defense production that takes place in communities throughout Connecticut at the hands of our skilled Connecticut work force remains here in our state. We have the knowledge, the facilities and the workers to make this happen, and I will continue to ensure that the federal government has the wherewithal to make it a reality.

Our freedom has been tested and molded by the many battles we have fought in its name over the years. From wars here at home to struggles overseas, the men and women of the United States Armed Forces have served with one common purpose - the protection and freedom of their fellow citizens. In my work in Congress I honor that service and always remember my first obligation - the defense of our nation.

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