



Congressman Bud Cramer

June 2005
E-Newsletter

This month, I joined a delegation from the State of Alabama to further express our support of the Pentagon's BRAC recommendations for Redstone Arsenal. Our delegation met with BRAC Commissioners in Atlanta to urge them to accept the DoD proposal to relocate the U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC), the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC), and a significant part of the U.S. Missile Defense Agency (MDA) to Redstone. In total this could create nearly 3,000 direct and indirect jobs in North Alabama. I fully support these recommendations and believe these moves will take advantage of the capabilities and existing resources that are unique to Redstone. North Alabama's proud history, community support, unique facilities, and expertise are all valuable tools for the military and should continue to play a large part in our nation's defense for many years.

Bud Cramer

Washington Update

The House of Representatives approved the Fiscal Year 2006 Intelligence Authorization Bill this month. This legislation authorizes funding and programs for the fifteen U.S. intelligence agencies. Since 2002, Representative Cramer has been a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. In 2005, Cramer was named the Ranking Democratic Member of the Subcommittee on Oversight.

District Update

Rep. Cramer invited Rep. Bart Gordon (D-Tenn.) to North Alabama this month to update him on issues affecting the space community in North Alabama. Rep. Gordon is the Ranking Democrat on the House Science Committee. The Science Committee is working on a NASA authorization bill this year. Cramer said, "As Ranking Member, Congressman Gordon will have a significant role in shaping this legislation. Meetings like this are important as NASA continues to figure out how to best implement the exploration initiative."

Pictured on the right, Rep. Cramer joined Governor Riley, Senator Sessions, and officials from Northrop Grumman this month for the groundbreaking of Northrop Grumman's new campus in Huntsville.



Appropriations Update:

Representative Cramer, a member of the House Appropriations Committee, announced that all eleven Fiscal Year 2006 Appropriations Bills have been approved by the full U.S. House of Representatives. A few of the Appropriations bills considered by the House this month include:

Agriculture – Cramer included in this legislation \$599,000 for Precision Agriculture at the Tennessee Valley Research Center in Belle Mina. The legislation also included \$51.36 million, of which a portion will fund North Alabama's RC&D Center.

Defense - This bill provides \$363.4 billion for the Department of Defense and its programs and \$45.2 billion in additional funding for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Additionally, Cramer included in this bill over \$11 million for defense programs in North Alabama.

Transportation – This bill provides \$104 million for Essential Air Service (EAS) program. The EAS program ensures commercial air service for smaller communities. The Muscle Shoals Regional Airport receives funding through the EAS program.

Science, State, Justice, and Commerce – provides \$16.5 billion for NASA and its programs. This amount is a funding increase of \$15 million over the President's request and is \$275 million over this year's funding level.