



# Congressman Bud Cramer

February 2008 E-Newsletter

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In the early morning hours of February 6<sup>th</sup>, tornados touched down in Lawrence and Jackson Counties. Tragically, five people from North Alabama lost their lives during this series of storms, thirty-five individuals were injured, and hundreds of homes were either damaged or completely destroyed. Governor Riley and I toured the affected areas this month, and I know our community has a long road to recovery. We owe it to those affected to do everything we can to help them pick up the pieces. On behalf of all of North Alabama, my thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families.

*Bud Cramer*

## News From Washington

Representative Cramer announced this month that the House approved legislation ensuring consumers are not unknowingly removed from the Do-Not-Call registry. Current law allows the FTC to remove phone numbers after five years unless each number is re-registered prior to its five-year limit. This legislation prevents the FTC from automatically removing phone numbers from the Do-Not-Call registry, creating a permanent registry.

This month's House action cleared the bill for the President's approval. This legislation became law on February 15<sup>th</sup>. [\[more\]](#)

## News From the Fifth District

Representative Cramer joined Governor Riley, National Alabama Chairman and CEO Gregory Aziz, and Shoals' area leaders to put in place the first steel beam in the construction of National Alabama's Barton manufacturing facility. Representative Cramer played an essential role in the recruitment of this facility to the Shoals. It is anticipated that National Alabama's Barton Riverfront Industrial Park will employ as many as 1,800 employees.

"This is a key step in the construction of this facility," said Cramer. "For those of us who have worked on the project for the past year and a half, it is a very good day." [\[more\]](#)

## Are You Ready for the Digital TV Conversion?

At midnight on February 17, 2009, consumers who rely exclusively on analog television sets will need a digital converter box, cable service, or satellite to continue to view their favorite programming.

To help consumers transition, Congress has established a \$40 coupon program to help households acquire a digital converter box for analog televisions. Applications for a limited amount of coupons are now available. [Click here to apply.](#)

### Useful Links for Information on the Transition:

- ✓ [DTV Transition 2009](#)
- ✓ [Federal Communications Commission DTV](#)
- ✓ The National Telecommunications and Information Administration's and the U.S. Department of Commerce's brochure - ["Preparing for the Digital Television Transition."](#)

**For More Information on These and Other News Items Please Visit:**  
<http://cramer.house.gov>