

Issue April 2022

# U.S. CONGRESSMAN BENNIE G. THOMPSON MISSISSIPPI'S SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



### Welcome...

To The Thompson Report on the Second Congressional District of Mississippi. Inside you will find information about the district, grants, legislative actions and more. My monthly newsletter will be distributed by email to constituents.

Spread the word, share this newsletter. <u>Click here</u> to subscribe or unsubscribe to the newsletter.

Thank you.

Bernie Athonpoo

## Mississippi Museum of Art to Present Exhibit on The Great Migration

The Mississippi Museum of Art (MMA) will open "A Movement in Every Direction: Legacies of the Great Migration," on April 9th. The exhibit explores the impact of the Great Migration on the social and cultural life of the United States from historical and personal perspectives. The Great Migration saw more than six million African Americans leave the South for destinations across the United States at the start of the 20th century and well into the 1970s. This movement of people transformed nearly every aspect of Black life, in both rural towns and urban metropolises, and spurred an already flourishing Black culture. A Movement in Every Direction provides a platform for the featured artists to explore, reflect on, and capture their own relationships to this singular historic happening, both personally and artistically.

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### THE THOMPSON REPORT - benniethompson.house.gov

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## Offices

Washington Office 2466 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515-2402 Phone: 202-225-5876

> 107 West Madison P.O. Box 610 Bolton, MS 39041 Phone: 601-866-9003 In State: 800-355-9003

> 910 Courthouse Lane Greenville, MS 38701 Phone: 662-335-9003

728 Main Street, Suite A Greenwood, MS 38930 Phone: 662-455-9003 3607 Medgar Evers Blvd Jackson, MS 39213 Phone: 601-946-9003

P.O. Box 356 263 East Main Street Marks, MS 38646 Phone: 662-326-9003

Mound Bayou City Hall 106 Green Avenue, Suite 106 P.O. Box 679 Mound Bayou, MS 38762 Phone: 662-741-9003

# District Calendar of Events



### APRIL

22nd 2022 Congressional Art Competition Call: Ms. Ashley Beale (662) 335-9003

#### Annual Dates

#### FEBRUARY 1st - OCTOBER 31st

Congressional Nominations for Military Academies - Applications Accepted Call: Ms. Shander Gund (662) 741-9003 What is a Congressional Record? A Congressional Record is documentation of activity (e.g., debates, legislative bills introduced, resolutions, etc.) carried out on the house floor by members of Congress. All documentation of these proceedings become permanent records of the United States Congress.

Every month, I honor constituents from the District for their outstanding achievements. I request that each individual be recognized for their achievements and therefore he/she be entered into the Congressional Record as a permanent record. Recognition of this type is a high honor.

## 2022 Congressional Records Monthly Categories

February	Black History
March	Black Organization
April	Outstanding Students
May	Black Churches
June	Law Enforcement
July	Unsung Heroes
August	Black Professional Womer
September	Minority Businesses
October	Local Artists
November	Veterans

# Legislative Update

These updates are provided to keep you informed of legislative activities in Washington, DC.

- Introduced: H.R. 5633 addresses reports conducted by the Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The bill requires the OIG to submit to Congress any report finalized on or after 30 days after the enactment of this bill that substantiates a violation of specified provisions regarding prohibited personnel practices, protected communications, or retaliatory personnel actions.
- 2. Sponsored: H.R. 6825 is the Nonprofit Security Grant Program Improvement Act of 2022. The NSGP provides funding for physical security enhancements and other security-related activities for eligible nonprofit organizations, which includes houses of worship, that are at high risk of a terrorist attack.
- 3. Co-Sponsored: H.R. 981 is the 1-year anniversary of the March 16, 2021, shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, and denouncing anti-Asian hate, which condemned the acts of gun violence that led to the tragic loss of eight lives.
- 4. Co-Sponsored: H.R. 936 is a bill introduced that will support the designation of International Black Aviation Professionals Day. It also encourages the observation of the day through recognition and celebration of the contributions of Black aviation professionals.

## Mississippi Museum of Art to Present Exhibit on The Great Migration con't...

The exhibit was brought together by co-curators Ryan N. Dennis and Jessica Bell Brown. It offers a rumination on the complexity of the Great Migration as a narrative that is still unfolding. The exhibition showcases a richness of artistic vision and endeavor, with installations ranging widely in conceptual and technical approach and embracing painting, sculpture, drawing, video, sound, and immersive installation. MMA and BMA are also creating digital assets tied to the exhibition for their websites for virtual engagements.

# You need to know...

Here is what you need to know about the latest news happening that could affect you and your family or friends.



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#### PROTECTING CITIZENS THE RESPONSIBLE WAY

The IRS has updated its frequently asked questions on the 2021 Child Tax Credit and Advance Child Tax Credit Payments. These updates are to help eligible families properly claim the credit when they prepare and file their 2021 tax return. The changes are detailed in IRS Fact Sheet 2022-17 and reflect that Publication 972 and the Child Tax Credit has become obsolete. Taxpayers should refer to Form 1040. For information, visit <u>www.</u> <u>irs.gov</u>.



#### WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES

As prices continue to increase, low-income families who often live in poorly insulated, drafty homes bear the financial brunt of the increases. One program that addresses the current utility usage and the long-term needs of low-income families is the Home Weatherization Program. To apply for this program, residents must submit a Pre-Application through the <u>Common Web Portal</u> or schedule an appointment at their local Community Action Agency.



#### USDA SEEKS APPLICATIONS TO HELP FARMERS AND RANCHERS

U.S. Department of Agriculture is accepting applications for grants to help farmers and ranchers create economic prosperity by maximizing the value of the items they produce. USDA is making the grants available under the Value-Added Producer Grants program. Electronic applications must be sent via <u>Grants.gov</u> by April 25, 2022. Paper applications must be sent to the <u>State Office</u> where the project is proposed.

# IRS Highlights Importance of Child and Dependent Care Credit

The Internal Revenue Service issued a filing season reminder that those taxpayers who pay expenses for the care of a qualifying person while working or looking for work may qualify for an important tax credit. The Child and Dependent Care Credit is expanded for tax year 2021. This means that more taxpayers will qualify this year. Taxpayers with an adjusted gross income of more than \$438,000 are not eligible for this credit. Based on the taxpayers income, they can receive a credit worth 50% of their qualifying childcare expenses. For tax year 2021, the maximum eligible expense for this credit is \$8,000 for one qualifying person and \$16,000 for two or more. For information, please visit <u>www.irs.gov.</u>

## Grants and Funding Opportunities

Grants are competitive. Grants have deadlines set by the agency who has the money. Below are current grants. Visit each one for more information. Click this link to see a compiled list of other <u>Grant</u><u>Resources</u>.

Grants.gov Click Here

Federal Student Aid Click Here

Funding for NRCS's Regional Conservation Partnership Program <u>Click Here</u> Economic Development Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity <u>Click Here</u>

USDA Rural Development Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants <u>Click Here</u>

Local Food Purchase Assistance Program <u>Click Here</u>

Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program <u>Click Here</u>

Rural Innovation Stronger Economy Grant <u>Click Here</u>

FY 2022 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP)

The objective of the NSGP is to provide funding for physical security enhancements and other security-related activities for nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of a terrorist attack.

All grant proposals must be submitted electronically to the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) April 15, 2022. For more information, click <u>here</u>.

## Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is seeking stakeholders input on barriers to health care access and coverage for underserved families and communities. There is a 60-day public comment period for stakeholders, which opened on February 17, 2022, and will close on April 18, 2022. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is seeking to develop and implement a comprehensive access strategy for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Using regulations and guidance, along with other tools, CMS will set forth a multifaceted approach to help ensure equitable access to health care for Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries across all care delivery systems. There are a wide range of barriers to accessing Medicaid and CHIP covered services, including Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS), which include institutional care and home and community-based services (HCBS). For more information, click <u>here</u>. Schools and Libraries in Mississippi's 2nd Congressional District that received funding from the FCC Program include:

Attala County School District	\$107,703.15
Carroll County School District	\$61,560.00
Claiborne County School District	\$269,487.60
Clarksdale Collegiate	\$105,324.00
Clarksdale Municipal School District	\$1,038,185.00
Copiah County School District	\$1,500,195.00
E. E. Rogers Adventist School	\$12,000.00
East Tallahatchie School District	\$129,150.00
Greenville Public Schools	\$96,612.70
Greenwood Leflore Public Library System	\$562,470.00
Grenada School District	\$44,155.66
Hollandale School District	\$160,740.00
Holmes County School District	\$2,142,180.50
Jefferson County School District	\$339,219.00
Leland School District	\$8,936.00
MS Delta-Leflore Legacy Academy	\$118,308.00
North Bolivar	\$185,658.80
South Delta School District	\$136,260.67
Sunflower County School District	\$398,337.60
West Bolivar School	\$437,205.20
West Tallahatchie School District	\$91,652.08

# **Constituent Services**

Constituent Services is about being available and willing to assist you when you need it. Below are just some of the ways I can help. If you have trouble with any of the links below on my website, call Alexus Hunter at 202-225-5876.

#### HELP WITH A FEDERAL AGENCY

Sometimes dealing with federal agencies can be overwhelming. If you live in the Second Congressional District of Mississippi you can call my office for assistance with a federal agency. We will do our best to help you. I cannot guarantee you a favorable outcome, but I guarantee you my office is willing to try. Click here to fill out a <u>Privacy Authorization</u> form.

#### VISITING WASHINGTON D.C.

Washington D.C. is a beautiful place to visit with lots of educational and tourist attractions. I think everyone should visit the nation's capital and see how government is operated. If you are planning to visit Washington D.C., my office can assist you with tours of the U.S. Capitol and the White House. Please call my Washington D.C. office at 202-225-5876 at least three months before arrival. On <u>My Website</u> I have suggested some sites to visit.

#### FLAG REQUESTS

If you would like to order a U.S. flag through my office, click here to print and fill out a <u>Flag Order</u> form. Here you can calculate the price and shipping cost. You may choose to have your flag flown over the U.S. Capitol which comes with a certificate that can be personalized at your request.

### MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS

Every year I have the opportunity to nominate a limited number of qualified young people who live in the Second Congressional District of Mississippi to the Military Service Academies. One of the benefits is that graduates come out as commissioned officers in a branch of the military or reserve. Applications are accepted every year beginning February 1st through October 31st. Visit the <u>Military</u> <u>Academies Nominations</u> page on my website.

#### WORDS OF THANKS...

#### Ms. Angela Cotton Clarksdale, MS

"Being a Member of Congress is not an easy task, but you have made it look amazing over the years. You are approaching your 30 years of being in office and my hat goes off to you. You have played many roles in this position, but the one that stands out the most is being a true servant for your people.."

#### Mr. Walter Johnson Jonestown, MS

"You have been a man of your word since elected. Thank you Congressman Thompson for being so generous and for helping my community. Your hard work will always be remembered. Your kind act will go a long way so continue to provide for the people in the 2nd Congressional District. You have made so many people proud... "

### Mr. Joseph V. Johnson Edwards, MS

"Thank you for your assistance for veterans disability compensation benefits and veteran health care. As a Total Vietnam Veteran and retired Police Chief, I know the characteristics a person must have to serve and lead. You carry them all. "

