

Congressman Childers Talks Jobs, Economic Development in the First District

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April 10, 2009

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"Hard working North Mississippians are fighting to stay employed in the face of constant plant closures, layoffs, and reductions in hours," said Congressman Childers. "Help is on the way in the form of significant investments from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that will create and save jobs and provide much-needed relief to working families. I am committed to doing everything I can to help implement important local infrastructure and development projects that will put North Mississippians back to work and bolster economic growth in the First District."

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, which became law on February 17, is estimated to directly impact 30,000 jobs throughout Mississippi, including nearly 9,000 jobs in the First District. The legislation has already invested quickly in the economy, with millions of funds going towards important infrastructure projects, school districts, law enforcement, and other areas that will help create and save jobs and jumpstart economic development.

The legislation also enacted the "Making Work Pay" provision, one of the largest tax cuts in American history, as well as additional benefits for the 12 percent of First District residents who are currently unemployed.

Earlier this month, American workers began benefitting from Making Work Pay, a refundable tax credit for 2009 and 2010 of up to \$400 for working individuals and \$800 for married taxpayers filing joint returns. This tax credit will benefit 95% of American workers, and an estimated one million Mississippi taxpayers.

Under the Recovery Act, the first \$2,400 of unemployment benefits an individual receives in 2009 are tax free. Individuals who receive unemployment benefits this year should check their withholding to ensure they are not having unnecessary tax withheld. For additional information about this benefit from the IRS, [click here](#).

For more information on the First District's and Mississippi's share of Recovery Act funds, visit my Recovery Tracker at <http://www.childers.house.gov/>.

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