



THE AL GREEN REPORT

Proudly Representing Texas' 9th Congressional District

algreen.house.gov Biweekly Report, 113th Congress, Session 1-Issue 5



October 2013

FISHER HOUSE II DEDICATION CEREMONY

(Houston, TX)--On September 25, 2013, Congressman Al Green spoke at the Fisher House II Dedication Ceremony at the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans' Affairs Medical Center in Houston, TX. The Fisher House II will provide lodging for military and veterans' families. The Fisher House Foundation annually serves over 19,000 families in 11 states and the District of Columbia, as well as outside the US in Germany and England.

Fisher House II is the second Fisher House to open on the campus of the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center. The first Fisher

House opened in 2005 and serves over 1,000 families annually, making it the busiest house for the foundation.

"The Fisher House Foundation is providing an invaluable service to military and veterans' families as well as the community," Congressman Al Green said. "I am proud to represent the Ninth Congressional District where the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, the site of the two Fisher Houses, is located. I trust that the Fisher House Foundation's relationship with the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center will continue to be a

fruitful and productive one for our community."



Congressman Al Green with (from left to right) Mr. Adam Walms, Director- Michael E DeBakey VA Medical Center; Mrs. Rica Lewis-Payton, Network Director-Veteran Integrated Service Network (VISN); Dr. Richard Wainerdi, President Emeritus-Texas Medical Center; Dr. Robert Petzel, Under Secretary for Health-Department of Veterans Affairs; and David Coker, President, Fisher House Foundation, Inc.

STATEMENT ON THE BIPARTISAN AGREEMENT TO END THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN AND AVERT OUR NATION'S DEFAULT

(Washington, D.C.)—On October 16, 2013, Congressman Al Green released the following statement on the passage of the bipartisan bill to end the government shutdown and raise the debt ceiling.

"Self-imposed shutdowns and threats to default on our debts are not the way forward for the leader of the free world. When we allow extremely abnormal tactics to become the norm, we do more than place the full faith and credit of the United States at risk, we put our very way of life in jeopardy. We must compromise for the good of our country before we compromise the greatness of our country."

NEW HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS BEGIN FOR MILLIONS

(Washington, D.C.) – On October 1, 2013, Congressman Al Green announced that millions of Texans will have access to affordable, quality health insurance as the new online Health Insurance Marketplaces open in every state under the provisions of the Affordable Care Act.

Individuals looking to take advantage of the Health Insurance Marketplaces for health coverage should go to www.healthcare.gov and by putting in Texas as well as their zip code, they will be able to see and compare plans. If constituents have questions about the Marketplace, they can call 1-800-318-2596, a toll-free hotline. The open enrollment period for the first year of the Marketplaces runs from October 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014.

"The Affordable Care Act is designed to end among other things unfair discrimination based on gender, preexisting conditions, employment status, and age when obtaining health insurance," Congressman Al Green said. "It is my sincere hope that glitches in the technology will be corrected quickly such that the opening of the Marketplaces will move the U.S. forward in providing affordable healthcare for all."

COSPONSORED BILLS

- **H.R.3185:** Buffalo Bayou National Heritage Area Act (09/26/13)
- **H.R.3111:** Honoring the Fort Hood Heroes Act (09/17/13)
- **H.R.3050 :** Social Security Equality Act of 2013 (08/02/13)
- **H.R.3060 :** To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 232 Southwest Johnson Avenue in Burleson, Texas, as the "Sergeant William Moody Post Office Building". (08/02/13)
- **H.J.RES.56 :** Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women. (08/01/13)

HOW TO CONTACT CONGRESSMAN AL GREEN

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE
2201 Rayburn House

Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 225-7508

Fax: (202) 225-2974

HOUSTON OFFICE

3003 South Loop West
Houston, TX 77054

Phone: (713)-383-9234

Fax: (713)-383-9202

www.twitter.com/repalgreen

www.youtube.com/repalgreen

<http://algreen.house.gov>

www.facebook.com/repalgreen