

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3705

For Immediate Release
February 4, 1997

For More Information
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Darlene Hooley Commends President on State of the Union
Praises Clinton's focus on balancing the budget while investing in education.

Washington, DC – Fifth District Congresswoman Darlene Hooley this evening gave high marks to President Clinton on his state of the union address. "I was extremely pleased with the President's speech. I was especially excited because the speech highlighted my top priority of balancing the budget while improving educational opportunities and the quality of our children's schools." Hooley went on to say, "I was also pleased to hear the President mention a number of other issues that I talked about in my campaign like targeting juvenile crime, campaign finance reform, and making polluters pay."

Hooley was also pleased with the amount of specifics contained in the President's address. "It wasn't just a lot of rhetoric. He outlined a number of concrete proposals and made a very effective call to action that the Congress needs to take seriously."

Hooley also commented on her continuing desire to put aside the petty partisan bickering of previous weeks, months, and years and move Congress forward in a bi-partisan manner. "I've been very encouraged that both the congressional leadership and the president have talked about working in a bi-partisan manner. I hope they mean it. As the President said, we need partners not partisanship."

Hooley, a Freshman, was on the floor for her first state of the union address. "It was a real thrill to be on the floor for my first State of the Union. It again reminded me how fortunate I am and what a great responsibility the people of Oregon have placed in me."

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For Immediate Release
January 31, 1997

For More Information
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Darlene Hooley Announces Continuation of Five Stop Friday
Vows to listen more than talk.

Oregon City, OR – Fifth District Congresswoman Darlene Hooley today made good on a campaign promise to continue her Five Stop Friday program she began during her campaign last summer. Throughout her service in Congress, Hooley will visit different towns on the Fridays when she is back in the district making at least five stops in each town.

“When I began Five Stop Fridays during the campaign, it was a way to get to know the district and what the people of the district cared about,” said Hooley. “I want to continue them as a way to stay in touch with people and continue to hear from them what they want and need out of Congress. That’s the best way to make sure that I’m doing my job.”

During Five Stop Fridays, Hooley will attend public events, meet with different community groups, and make herself available to the public in order to hear their perspectives on what’s happening at home and in Washington.

“In order to represent people, you have to take the time to listen to them. I want to be a different kind of Congresswoman, one who listens more than talks.” Added Hooley.

While in Oregon City, Hooley toured the downtown area talking with local citizens. Hooley also met with a group of seniors, visited King Elementary School, met with small business owners, and attended a Chamber of Commerce Dinner.

Hooley has gotten off to a quick start in Congress. She has been appointed to the prestigious Banking Committee and was elected to be one of the Democratic Freshmen Class Presidents.

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For Immediate Release
January 15, 1997

For More Information
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Hooley Commends Department of Labor

West Linn Resident grateful for \$800,000 grant for displaced Simpson Mill Workers

Washington, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Labor announced today that it is providing a grant of up to \$812,182 to assist approximately 200 workers who lost their jobs when the Simpson Paper Company closed their mill in West Linn.

Hooley, who as a Clackamas County Commissioner worked to save the mill before and after it closed, expressed her gratitude to the Department. "That mill was the identity of West Linn and Oregon City for decades. Watching it close was heart-wrenching both for those families directly impacted and for the whole community. I'm grateful that those families affected will be getting some help to stay on their feet." She went on to say, "This is what government should be about, helping people help themselves. This grant will help people by providing training and assistance to help them get back into the workforce."

The grant will provide a number of services including assessments, job search assistance, remedial education and vocational training, and supportive services such as day care, transportation assistance and emergency health care. The project will be operated by Employment, Training and Business Services of Clackamas County.

Congresswoman Hooley will be available today for further comment.

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For Immediate Release
January 9, 1997

For More Information
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Hooley Elected to Lead Freshmen

Agrees to serve in leadership position at the request of her Colleagues

Washington, D.C. – Starting her Congressional career with a bang, Freshman Congresswoman Darlene Hooley has been elected as one of the Presidents of the Freshman Democrats. As class President, Hooley's main task will be working with the leadership on both sides of the aisle to bring consensus and progress on major pieces of legislation including budget resolutions and omnibus spending bills.

Hooley, who was not planning to run for an office, was recruited by fellow Freshman because of her experience and leadership skills. "Darlene has quickly shown us that her experience and her ability to bring people together to get things done will be a tremendous asset to the Freshman class," said Rep. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan.

Hooley was excited by the opportunity, "It's always nice to be recognized by your peers. I'm excited because this puts me in a position to help move this Congress forward in a bi-partisan way and it will give Oregon the representation it needs among the leadership."

Hooley will serve as Vice-Chair for the next six months and then become President for the following six months. Jim Davis of Florida will serve as President until June.

Congresswoman Hooley will be available by appointment for interviews today.

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3705

For Immediate Release:
January 7, 1997

For More Information:
Robert Richman (202) 225-5711
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Darlene Hooley Sworn In as Fifth District Congresswoman
Will Focus on Bipartisanship, Solving Problems Facing Working Families

Darlene Hooley was sworn in today as Fifth District Congresswoman.

"Being sworn in to represent the people of the Fifth District is a truly humbling experience," Hooley said. "I am honored by the trust the voters have placed in me and I will do my best to fulfill this trust."

"Members of both parties must work together if we are going to solve the real problems facing Oregon's working families," Hooley said. "I'm going to let one principle guide me through my time in Congress; that principle is cooperation."

Hooley also outlined several legislative priorities:

- Expanding educational opportunity by making education and training tuition tax deductible.
- Keeping promises to seniors by reforming the way Medicare providers are reimbursed and protecting nursing home standards.
- Balancing the budget by setting priorities, cutting corporate welfare, and eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse in government programs.
- Helping small businesses and their employees by making pensions easier to get and easier to keep.

"I believe that the only way we can get Congress on track is to stop all the name-calling, roll up our sleeves, and get down to work," Hooley said. "I think we have an outstanding opportunity to overcome partisanship and get results in this Congress. We have to make the most of this opportunity."

Congresswoman Hooley will return to the Fifth District on January 11th to begin meeting with citizens and hearing their ideas on what Congress should be working on during the 105th session.

"I look forward to continuing my dialogue with the people of the Fifth District," Hooley said. "Listening to their concerns and suggestions is the best way I know to ensure that decisions made in Congress are based on Oregon values."