

(February 21, 2006) Lipinski Honors National Engineers Week

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WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Lipinski today encouraged the celebration of National Engineers Week, which aims to raise public awareness of the important and positive contributions made by engineers to our quality of life. This year, National Engineers Week is observed from February 19th to 25th and always coincides with the birthday of President George Washington, a military engineer and surveyor.

"As one of the few Members of Congress with an engineering background, I realize the important role that engineers have played in American history," stated Lipinski. "Engineers helped us explore the West, develop the strongest military in the world, and now reach to edges of our universe and beyond."

Engineering awareness is especially pressing at a time when we are hearing from the Council on Competitiveness, the National Academy of Science, and others that our failure to educate more engineers could have major economic consequences. Engineers Week promotes recognition among parents, teachers and students of the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education and literacy, and motivates youths to pursue engineering careers in order to provide a diverse, vigorous and informed engineering workforce.

"Last week, I was pleased to introduce a resolution, co-sponsored by Rep. Bob Inglis of South Carolina, to the U.S. House of Representatives that recognizes and honors National Engineers Week," stated Lipinski. "Now, more than ever, it is important to recognize the many contributions that engineers have made to all Americans and the role they must continue to play for us to remain competitive in an increasingly connected global economy."

To learn more information about this national event, please visit the National Engineers Website at <http://www.eweek.org/>. For Chicago specific events and information, please visit <http://www.chicagolandeweek.org/>.