

(March 7, 2006) Science Democrats Honor National Engineers Week

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House Committee on Science Democrats

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - Today, the House passed H. Res. 681, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Engineers Week. Science Committee Member and sponsor of the resolution, Rep. Daniel Lipinski (D-IL) emphasized the important and positive contributions made by engineers to our quality of life.

"As one of the few Members of Congress with an engineering background, I appreciate the important role that engineers have played in American history," stated Rep. Lipinski. "Military engineers like George Washington were the key to early American victories during the American Revolution. And all types of engineers continue to make the United States safer and more economically secure."

Since 1951, the National Society of Professional Engineers has celebrated National Engineers Week to raise public awareness of the profession and its contributions.

Currently, there are more than 2 million working engineers in the U.S., but as many near retirement age, there are fewer entering the workforce. By highlighting engineering contributions, Congress hopes to increase public awareness of the engineering profession and encourage young people to pursue the field.

"We need to let young men and women know that engineering is an exciting profession pushing at the boundaries of technological advancement," added Rep. Lipinski. "Just in the last decade, engineers helped expand the internet and build the Mars rovers. Only time will tell where today's engineering students will take America tomorrow."

For more information on this national event honoring engineering, visit the National Engineers Week Foundation website at <http://www.eweek.org/>.