

## (September 20, 2006) Lipinski Promotes Comprehensive Effort to Provide Support for Pregnant Women

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Lipinski Joins in Introducing Legislation Designed to Ease Burdens on Pregnant Women and Lower the Number Seeking Abortions

WASHINGTON - U.S. Congressman Dan Lipinski today joined colleagues in announcing the introduction of legislation aimed at reducing the number of abortions in America by providing more support for pregnant women and new mothers and their babies. The Pregnant Women Support Act combines a package of 14 policy changes including more options for health care, renewed support for adoption, and programs to counsel and support women throughout their pregnancy.

"Abortion is a highly contentious issue, but everyone can agree on the desire to reduce the number women seeking abortions in America," Lipinski stated at a Capitol Hill event to announce the new legislation. "This bill takes a big-picture approach to the issue, with an emphasis on providing pregnant women with support and assistance in carrying their child to term."

The bill would expand coverage to pregnant women and unborn children through Medicaid and the state Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), and by making sure that insurance companies do not deny health care coverage to pregnant women. Other provisions would increase funding for domestic violence programs, make adoption tax credits permanent and provide counseling for pregnant women and childcare on university campuses.

"The Pregnant Women Support Act reflects a serious effort to find common ground among lawmakers in order to help women and reduce the number of abortions," Lipinski said. "I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation and I urge my colleagues to support it."