

**April 16, 2004**

Dear Friend,

On April 2nd, the House finally passed H.R. 3550, the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (or TEA-LU). This important legislation is critical to improving our state's infrastructure. Also, the Transportation bill is most likely the only REAL jobs bill the 108th Congress will pass. I have been arguing since early 2003 when we began debating President Bush's ill-advised tax cut programs, that the best way to produce jobs is to invest in rebuilding our infrastructure. Amazingly, we've lost nearly 3 million jobs in America since January 2001, so this bill is a good step in the right direction to turn around our struggling economy. I am pleased that the version of the bill passed by the House contained many of the priority projects I requested for our state. Please visit <http://www.tomudall.house.gov/issues2.cfm?id=8547> for more information.

Last month, I hosted a Town Hall for Senior Citizens in Rio Rancho to educate them about the new Medicare Prescription Drug benefit. This is an incredibly complicated program, and I want to help New Mexico seniors fully understand what this new benefit really will or will not do to lower costs. For more information on what I am doing on this issue, please visit <http://www.tomudall.house.gov/display2.cfm?id=8450&type=Issues>. I also have added a calculator to my website so you can try to determine what your "savings" might be under the plan Congress passed last year. To learn more about it, please visit <http://www.tomudall.house.gov/display2.cfm?id=6442&type=Issues>.