

The United States Mission to the OSCE

Office of the Public Affairs Advisor

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Congresswoman Jo Ann Davis -

Jo Ann Davis has a truly compelling story. From a poor, meager beginning to the halls of Congress, Davis is an inspiring figure in modern day American politics.

Overcoming numerous challenges by creating opportunity out of hardship, Jo Ann beat the odds and proved that no obstacle is too big for those who dare to dream. Now, as the first elected female Republican to the United States House of Representatives from the Commonwealth, Jo Ann Davis is a testament to the American dream.

Deeply in touch with her constituents, Jo Ann concentrates on a "district first" approach to her role in Congress, and emphasizes the importance of effectively representing the people who elected her to serve. This principle remains the bedrock of Jo Ann's convictions and plays an integral role in her service to her community.

Elected to Congress in November of 2000, Jo Ann brings to Washington a fresh perspective from outside the political Washington DC beltway. The people of America's First district returned Representative Davis to the House for a second term in November 2002.

The beginning of the 108th Congress signals significant leadership opportunities for the second term Representative. In addition to her committee work on the House Armed Services, International Relations and Government Reform Committees, Representative Davis was chosen to chair the Subcommittee on Civil Service. A subcommittee of the Government Reform Committee, the Civil Service Subcommittee's jurisdiction includes federal civil service and intergovernmental personnel, including compensation, classification, and retirement issues.

With over 36,000 retired and current federal employees in the First District as well as millions across the nation, Jo Ann looks forward to addressing the many issues important to her constituents. Additionally, Jo Ann will serve as Vice-Chair of the House International Relations Committee Subcommittee on Europe. The Congresswoman's committee assignments and chairmanship will enable her to work on legislative initiatives of great interest to Virginia's First District and the country as a whole.

In March of 2001, the House passed Jo Ann's first piece of legislation - HR 1015, the SGLI Adjustment Act, which increased the amount of Servicemember's Group Life Insurance paid to beneficiaries of members of the Armed Forces who died in the performance of their duty between October 1st and April 1st, 2001. These benefits are retroactive to cover families such as relatives of the USS Cole victims who were killed during a terrorist bombing, and other tragic occurrences which have stolen members of the Armed Services from us.

This legislation was included as a primary component of HR 801, a comprehensive veterans bill crafted to meet several pending needs of America's veterans. The President signed this legislation into law on June 5th, 2001.

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The adjournment of the 107th Congress marked the end of a successful first term for Congresswomen Davis, complete with several significant legislative accomplishments.

In addition to H.R. 1015, Jo Ann successfully sponsored three bills which were signed by the president and became law.

H.R. 3449 revised the boundaries of the George Washington Birthplace National Monument to allow the National Park Service to purchase 110 acres of additional land surrounding the national treasure located in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

Additionally, Congresswomen Davis was successful in securing \$160 Million for construction on the Navy's next generation aircraft carrier, CVNX. Funding was included in H.R. 4546 as part of the Department of Defense's FY03 Budget. This funding provides for a 12 carrier operational force, ensuring that our national defense will not suffer due to a shortage of aircraft carriers.

An advocate of a strong national defense, Davis is also the sponsor of H.R. 375, the National Naval Force Structure Policy Act, which would require the US Navy to have no fewer than 375 vessels in active service, including 15 aircraft carrier battle groups and 15 amphibious ready groups.

With many legislative accomplishments behind her, Congresswomen Jo Ann Davis looks forward to continuing working for the people of "America's First District" during the 108th Congress.

As a former real estate broker and small business owner, Jo Ann opened Davis Management Company in 1988 and Jo Ann Davis Realty in 1990. In this capacity, Jo Ann focused her attention on achieving the highest level of ethical standards for her industry, serving first on the Grievance Committee of the Virginia Peninsula Association of Realtors and then on its Professional Standards Committee.

Jo Ann Davis has been endorsed by several prominent organizations, including the Virginia Sheriff's Association, the Peninsula Housing and Builders Association, the Virginia Society for Human Life, the National Rifle Association, and the Madison Project. She has received a 100% rating from the National Federation of Independent Businesses, a pro-family grade of nearly one-hundred percent from the Family Foundation, and an "A" rating from the NRA Virginia Political Preference Chart.

An avid horse enthusiast, Jo Ann and her husband of 28 years reside in Gloucester. Jo Ann and Chuck have two grown sons.