

## Rep. Ellen Tauscher Secures Funding For After School Program in Fairfield and Youth Library and Technology Expansion in Contra Costa County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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\$400K will Benefit Area Students

Washington, DC &ndash; Rep. Ellen Tauscher announced today that she has secured \$325,000 for &ldquo;The Place to Be After Three&rdquo; after school program in Fairfield and \$75,000 for the award-winning "Technology for Teens in Transition" for youth in Contra Costa County&rsquo;s Juvenile Hall.

The projects are part of the 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill which passed the House today.

&ldquo;These are investments in our community&rsquo;s most valuable resource, our children. I am proud to support after-school activities and other community-based solutions that promote childhood development at all stages. Every child deserves a good education and a community that values it,&rdquo; said Rep. Tauscher.

A brief description of the projects follow below.

1. Fairfield After-School Programs -- \$325,000 -- The Place to Be After Three (TP2B) program has operated in the city of Fairfield for many years. It offers after school activities at local middle schools at no cost to the participants. Overall, Fairfield families enjoy a median income of \$60,000, yet 75% of participants in the Place to Be After Three Program are considered to be from low or extremely low income families based on HUD standards. The average daily attendance at each program site is 50 students at the traditional middle schools and 20 students at the alternative education site.

Fairfield provides a well-balanced program for its TP2B participants. Daily programs include traditional activities such as arts and sports, as well as cutting-edge programs including environmental education, fitness activities, nutrition education, and conflict resolution/anger management skill development. Each site has a learning center hosted by a teacher and staffed by high school age peer tutors. &ldquo;Clubs&rdquo; that focus on specific interests of students have also been developed at each site providing activities such as electronics and computer game design.

Cooperative relationships and partnerships are used to provide this quality programming at an economical cost. For example, TP2B receives Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug prevention funds to train staff to teach a science-based drug and alcohol prevention education curriculum to their middle school participants.

2. Contra Costa County Juvenile Hall Library and Technology Program -- \$75,000 -- Contra Costa County&rsquo;s new Juvenile Hall opened in 2005 with a minimally equipped library space and limited outreach program. The library will serve all Juvenile Hall residents, where 2,500 teens are admitted annually.

These funds will be used to purchase books and electronic resources for the library as well as fund the expansion of library programs such as the library&rsquo;s existing award-winning "Technology for Teens in Transition" volunteer mentor program at Juvenile Hall.

Funding for these projects is subject to approval by the Senate and then President Bush. The appropriations process is

expected to be complete by the start of the next fiscal year on October 1, 2007.