

## Altmire Votes to Override President's Veto of Critical Flood Protection Bill

(Washington, DC) - Today, U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-4), a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, voted to override President Bush's veto of the Water Resources Development Act (H.R. 1495) that included \$90 million for flood prevention and control measures in Allegheny County. Congressman Altmire joined his colleagues in successfully overriding the veto by a vote of 361 to 54.

"I saw firsthand the impact that the August floods had on homes, small businesses, and communities throughout Allegheny County," said Congressman Altmire. "We need to do more to ensure that our communities avoid this kind of devastation in the future. I am pleased my colleagues have joined me today in overriding the president's veto. This important bill will provide communities with the necessary resources to make critical infrastructure upgrades so that they can plan and prepare for the future."

"I thank Congressman Altmire for his leadership in voting to override the president's veto," said Barbara McNees, President of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. "Western Pennsylvania needs this critical funding to repair and maintain our locks and dams which are a critical part of our infrastructure and to prepare and protect our communities from future flooding."

The Water Resources Development Act would authorize \$90 million for the Army Corps of Engineers to construct flood prevention measures in Millvale, located in the Girty's Run River basin, and in Etna, located in the Pine Creek watershed. These efforts would include structural flood control, streambank protection, stormwater management, and channel clearing projects.

The Water Resources Development Act would also direct the Army Corps of Engineers to plan for effective flood control measures in the entire Allegheny and Upper Ohio River basins. This effort would encompass the complete watershed area and would require coordination measures to ensure upstream development does not adversely impact downstream communities. Priority communities include, but are not limited to, Ross Township, Shaler Township, Tarentum Borough, and East Deer Township.