



Congresswoman

Eleanor Holmes Norton

Fall 2001

NORTON FIGHTS TERRORISM

D.C. Residents Fight Back!

A Message to the D.C. Homeland Front of this War:



If there were a purple heart for a city injured during wartime, D.C. would deserve it. The first war in the homeland in 189 years came home to us early. We were still grieving the loss of 10 District residents in the attack on the Pentagon when anthrax struck our Brentwood Post Office and took the lives of two postal workers who had diligently served our city. There have been four U.S. military deaths during this war, all accidents. But, there have been four anthrax deaths, two in this city, all of them acts of war. The fallout of the airport shutdown, fear of flying, and fear of anthrax have left thousands of our neighbors and friends unemployed and our tourism sector, small businesses, and Metro struggling.

However, when President Franklin Roosevelt said, "There is nothing to fear but fear itself," he spoke for our time as well as his. Bioterrorism coupled with an attack from the air give plenty of reason to be vigilant and cautious, but not alarmed and terrified. We cannot think straight or consider rational ways to protect ourselves if we fear even remote danger. For instance, notwithstanding the tragic deaths, for most of us anthrax remains hard to get and easy to cure. By our example, we must show the rest of the country that we can counter the false messages that D.C. is dangerous for visitors or will expose them to anthrax.

I am proud to represent residents who have shown such courage and calm in the face of an unprecedented crisis. We in the District are accustomed to struggle. No Americans have ever faced the storm we have weathered. We have and will continue to be strong.

Eleanor Holmes Norton



Postal workers and unemployed D.C. residents reach out to Congresswoman Norton for answers during a crowded Convention Center town meeting on the city's security and economy featuring key federal and D.C. officials.

Norton Takes Action Against Terror, Gets Results

- ❖ Subcommittee passage of Norton amendment to Homeland Security Legislation putting D.C. at the table for preparation, coordination and execution of national and local emergency preparedness plans
- ❖ Won \$50 million in federal preparedness funds for the District and seeking millions more
- ❖ Held standing-room-only *Fight Terror Town Meeting and Speak-Out* with over 500 D.C. residents and federal and District experts
- ❖ Successful effort with regional allies to reopen National Airport
- ❖ Successful effort as a senior member of the Aviation Subcommittee that got congressional aid to keep airlines alive
- ❖ A leader in the successful push to federalize and professionalize airline security screeners
- ❖ Legislation introduced with Leader Dick Gephardt for federal victims compensation funds for anthrax victims
- ❖ Norton bill to give the Mayor, rather than the President, the authority to call up the D.C. National Guard
- ❖ Two House D.C. Subcommittee hearings focusing on D.C.'s security and faltering economy requested by Norton
- ❖ Successful effort, working with House colleagues, to prevent closure of Constitution and Independence Avenues

Bounce Back, Seek Peace of Mind

If you're frightened, sad, worried or agitated:

- Be with friends and/or relatives, and talk openly about your feelings
- Spend time doing things you enjoy
- Seek professional help if emotional or psychological problems persist
- Consult your minister or spiritual advisor
- Do not harbor resentment against another cultural or ethnic group

For help, call 1-888-793-4357.

Excerpt from "When Terror Strikes," D.C. Department of Mental Health



D.C. Can Help Lead the Country Back to Normalcy

“A country on its knees, out of work, afraid to fly and cautious about visiting its own capital won't have much equal opportunity to offer. We can't go down that road. We must take the high road. We can help lead our country out of troubled waters.”

EXCERPT FROM A NORTON COLUMN, ESSENCE MAGAZINE, NOVEMBER, 2001

Congresswoman Norton Fights Economic Terror With...

Aid to Unemployed Workers

What is available now:

- ❖ Benefits based on a percentage of an individual's earnings over a recent 52-week period
- ❖ 26 weeks of unemployment benefits
- ❖ Call the Department of Employment Services (DOES) at (202)724-7000

What Norton is fighting to get:

- ❖ 26 extra weeks
- ❖ 25% increase in weekly benefit or \$65
- ❖ Federal payment of 75% of the health insurance premium for an unemployed worker
- ❖ Tax rebate for taxpayers who did not get prior rebate

Norton Keeps Key Domestic Issues Alive Despite War on Terror



Congresswoman Norton and District Court Judge Reggie Walton (seated front row, far right after testifying) listen to the Hendricks family testify at a hearing of the Commission on Black Men & Boys established by Norton.

SBA Loans for Small Businesses

After an October press conference with D.C. small businesses, there was a surge in Special Economic Injury Disaster Loans now available to D.C. businesses because of the attack on the Pentagon. Thus far half of the loans in this region have gone to D.C. small businesses.

Here's what you may get:

- ❖ Up to \$1.5 million per business at low interest
- ❖ Tailored to borrower's ability to pay
- ❖ Up to 30 years to repay
- ❖ No requirement to exhaust available credit
- ❖ Deadline for applications: January 21, 2002
- ❖ Call 1.800.U ASK SBA (1.800.827.5722).

Got Questions? Get Answers.

Key Emergency Numbers:

- D.C. Emergency Management Agency 24-hour Assistance Number: **202.727.6161**
- D.C. Metropolitan Police Department: **311 non emergency 911 emergency**
- The Mayor's City-wide Call Center: **202.727.1000**
- D.C. Department of Health: **202.442.5999**
- D.C. Mental Health Services: **202.373.7166**
- D.C. Water and Sewer Authority: **202.787.2000**
Emergency Number: **202.612.3400**
- Metro: **202.637.7000**

Holiday Travel Tips

- Arrive 2 to 3 hours before your flight
- Avoid most congested times, early morning & late afternoon
- Be prepared to show ID at the counter, at security checkpoint & at the gate
- Pack light, be prepared for random luggage searches
- Don't pack sharp objects in carry-on bags: knives, corkscrews, scissors, knitting needles, razor blades, tweezers, nail files

Let's Fly: National Airport is Open!

Congresswoman Norton was a leader in the three week fight to open National Airport. But the fight goes on. Phased in return of flights now has National at 56% of passenger capacity. Norton is fighting to have National back to 100% normal operations to get D.C. tourism back to normal.



Capitol Hill Office

2136 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-8050
TTY (202) 225-1904

N.W. District Office

815 15th Street, NW, #100
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 783-5065

S.E. District Office

2041 MLK Ave., SE, #300
Washington, D.C. 20020
(202) 678-8900

On the World Wide Web
www.house.gov/norton/

Congress of the United States
815 15th St., N.W., #100
Washington, D.C. 20005

Official Business



Eleanor Holmes Norton

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Washington, D.C.

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