



2023

Year in Review



U.S. CONGRESSMAN

**SEAN CASTEN**

6TH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

# Introduction

As a scientist, clean energy entrepreneur and CEO, and now as a Member of Congress, I have dedicated my life to fighting climate change. In Congress, I draw on my two decades of experience as a business leader to reduce emissions while creating jobs, lowering energy costs for Americans, and spurring economic growth.

This year, I served on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee and the Financial Services Committee. I also had the privilege to serve as Co-Chair of the Sustainable Investment Caucus, Vice-Chair of the New Democrat Coalition Climate Change Task Force, and as co-chair of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition Clean Energy Deployment Task Force.

While working diligently in Washington on behalf of Illinois' 6th Congressional District, I'm also committed to keeping in close contact with my constituents. Since coming to Congress, I have held over 70 town halls and over 540 community events.





# Delivering for the 6th District



28 new infrastructure projects have been created in the 6th District thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.



\$14.6 billion in investments statewide from the IJA and IRA for public infrastructure and clean energy expansion.



21,000 more people in the 6th District have access to affordable health care coverage through the Affordable Care Act this year.



28,400 new jobs have been created in the 6th District since 2020.



342,000 Illinoisans are paying less for their prescription medications thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act.



59,718 people statewide will save an average of \$519 per person per year on their insulin thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act.



# Casework Connections

As a Member of Congress, some of the most important work my office does is helping constituents navigate problems with federal agencies. When we successfully resolve cases, it gives constituents relief and answers, and reminds me how important it is that our community has an advocate at the federal level. On many occasions, we receive heartwarming stories like Jim's.

Jim looked into his family history and military records during the COVID-19 pandemic. Jim's grandfather served in WWI and earned The Citation Star for his service. Upon realizing that his grandfather's medal for this award was missing a written citation, Jim spent three years researching and contacting historians, the National Archives, and the Illinois National Guard looking for answers. Unable to find anything and on the verge of giving up, Jim contacted my office.

Jim wrote the following to our office:

In June 2023 I reached out to Representative Casten's office in Glen Ellyn. His office helped me elevate my concern or case to a higher level inside the US Army chain of command. A short time later I received a phone call from Maj. Damian Tong at Ft. Knox. He thought that most likely no actual citation was ever written for my grandfather or the other men he served with. Maj. Tong offered to write a certificate for my grandfather. I was more than pleased with this result. A few weeks later I received the certificate in the mail.

I very much appreciate the effort that Representative Casten and his team made on my grandfather's behalf. Although the war ended over 100 years ago, these kinds of recognition are still very important. I have been fortunate to grow up and enjoy a great life full of opportunity and freedom. I owe a debt to men like my grandfather and my father. Finally, as a long-time high school history teacher I am especially pleased to witness the efforts of Representative Casten and his team. I was glad my continued faith in our system of government is still trying to serve its people."





# 2023: By the Numbers

12

town halls

43,578

responses to constituent calls,  
emails, and letters

3,020

cases resolved

179

events and district visits

\$1.3M

returned to constituents

117

meetings with constituents

\$40,895,439

delivered in federal grant assistance



# Delivering in Washington D.C.



I'm proud to have written and introduced 15 pieces of legislation and co-sponsored over 278 bills to expand access to high-quality affordable health care and child care, create clean energy jobs across our state, support our veterans, ensure environmental justice for all, and protect reproductive freedom. I've joined 15 letters to federal agencies to fight for consumer protection and transparency. Most recently, I was proud to introduce the Clean Electricity Transmission Acceleration Act — a consumer-focused approach to United States energy policy. This bill will expand access to cleaner, cheaper energy and allow us to fully realize the clean energy benefits of the Inflation Reduction Act by transforming our electric grid and unlocking the full potential of our nation's clean energy power.





In the beginning of the month, I was sworn in for the 118th Congress.



I joined fellow lawmakers for an interfaith prayer breakfast in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

In February, I held 30+ meetings with local mayors to discuss community priorities.



# JANUARY

In January, I held my first town hall of the year in LaGrange with over 160 constituents. Later in the month, I held a telephone town hall for those who couldn't make it in-person



# FEBRUARY



I was joined at the State of the Union by April Redzic, CEO of DuPage Pads. DuPage Pads provides housing for those in need in IL06.



I discussed flooding and stormwater management solutions with community leaders in Countryside.



My office collected Valentines for Veterans to show our gratitude for their service.



I visited the Children's Museum in Oak Lawn to celebrate their 20th anniversary.

Month Rewind

In March, I held a town hall in Orland Park to discuss my work in Washington, D.C. and the 6th District and answer questions from constituents.



In April, I celebrated the opening of my new satellite office in Oak Forest with a town hall.



# MARCH

This month, I introduced three bills to lower costs for Americans, help families afford college education, and keep our communities safe from illegal weapons.



This bill would require gun owners to report if their gun is lost or stolen within 48 hours.



The Pell Grant Sustainability Act indexes the Pell Grant to keep up with inflation.



This bill would repeal fossil fuel subsidies and provide a cash rebate to Americans.

# APRIL

In April, I joined a groundbreaking at Fermilab, visited with DuPage Pads to discuss the federal funding they requested for building improvements, toured Sciaky, Inc. and learned about manufacturing endeavors at DMG-MORI.



Month Rewind





In May, I spoke to political science students at the College of DuPage about my democracy reform bill package, A Commonsense Vision for American Democracy. This package would expand the House and Senate and change the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court back to its original capabilities laid out in Article III, making our government more representative of the people.

# MAY

I introduced the COVER Act to provide a \$5/acre crop insurance discount to farmers who plant cover crops. Cover crops are crucial to improving soil health, preventing erosion, & helping farmers mitigate climate-related risk.

**INTRODUCED:**

## The COVER Act

The Conservation Opportunity and Voluntary Environment Resilience Program (COVER) Act would:

- Provide a \$5/acre crop insurance discount to farmers who plant cover crops.
- Make farmland across the U.S. more resilient in the face of climate related weather risk by increasing soil health.



In June, Congressman Juan Vargas and I, as co-chairs of the Sustainable Investment Caucus, hosted a roundtable discussion with Illinois Treasurer Mike Frerichs, Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman, and US SIF Managing Director Bryan McGannon.

# JUNE



I visited the LGBTQ+ Legacy Wall at the Downers Grove Library to honor pride month.

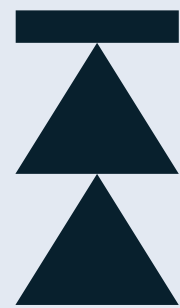
I toured the campus of the Universal Technical Institute in Lisle, a post-secondary provider of technician training for the transportation industry.



I hosted my sixth town hall of the year at the Alsip Village Hall, where I heard from constituents about their concerns and answered their questions about my work in D.C. and the 6th District.

Investors are demanding sustainable investment options. It's essential that we bring together Members of Congress and experts to progress past the distortion of facts and have robust, open-minded discussions about sustainable investing.

# Month Rewind



# JULY




In July, I joined students in my STEM Scholars program to tour the Willowbrook Wildlife Center.

I previously secured \$2,000,000 for the center to help construct and increase the energy efficiency of a new net-zero 27,000 square-foot wildlife rehab clinic and visitor center.



I introduced the IDs for an Inclusive Democracy Act to provide an optional, no-cost federal photo ID to all Americans over the age of 14.


**IDS FOR AN INCLUSIVE DEMOCRACY ACT**



11% of Americans have no form of government-issued ID, meaning they cannot rent a home, get a job, or access benefits.

This bill provides a free and optional federal photo ID to all Americans over 14.

**SEAN CASTEN**  
U.S. CONGRESS  
A MEMBER OF CONGRESS



In August, I hosted a roundtable discussing book bans with a panel of experts.



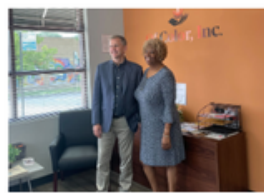
# AUGUST

This month, I visited different municipalities and organizations that requested federal funding for the FY2024 appropriations cycle, joined my STEM Scholars program on visits to STEM businesses in the district, and toured several small businesses.

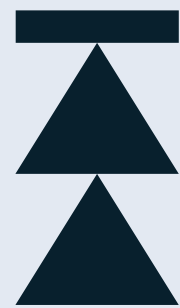
I hosted my 8th town hall of the year in Palos Hills.



I rode a bio-fuel powered lawn mower at the DuPage forest preserve.



# Month Rewind





In September, I helped secure \$15 million for the Morton Arboretum to enhance the health of forests, specifically in underserved communities, so Illinoisans can have equitable access to greenery in urban areas.



**INTRODUCED:**

**Educators Expense Deduction Modernization Act of 2023**

Increases the amount educators are able to deduct on qualified out-of-pocket classroom expenses on their annual tax return from \$250 to \$1,000.



I introduced a bill to help teachers afford the school supplies they need to educate their students.

In October, I met with the DuPage County Board to present the \$1.5 million in federal funding I secured for East Branch DuPage River Trail. This funding will go towards trail development and improve conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists, runners, and better connect our communities.



# SEPTEMBER

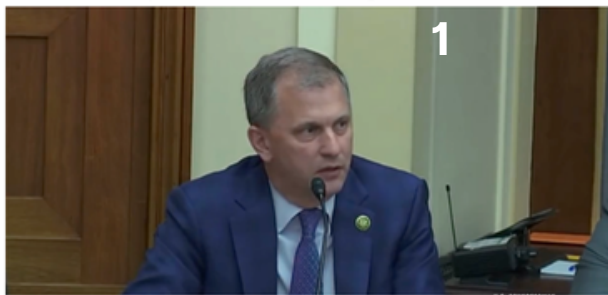
I met with DuPage County Health Department and discussed the \$1 million in funding I helped secure for a crisis recovery center.



I joined the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force to call for commonsense legislation to keep our communities safe.

# OCTOBER

I addressed the Financial Services Committee about the need for a legal framework in place to ensure accountability as AI continues to grow.



I met with the DuPage Forest Preserve to discuss their plans for a brand new bridge in the Maple Grove Forest Preserve.

Month Rewind

# NOVEMBER



In November, I joined the Dawoodi Bohra Community to tour their mosque and brand-new school and learn about the services and programs the community provides.



I joined the Palos Hills community to honor our veterans.



I visited Next Steps Chicago, a non-profit that assists folks in the community who have neurological conditions.



In December, I addressed the Financial Services Committee about how climate disclosure rules could be impacted by AI.



I visited Teen Parent Connection who provide much needed support to young families.



I hosted a 2023 wrap-up telephone town hall to discuss my work in D.C. and the district.

I introduced the Stop Sexual Harassment in K-12 Act to create clear Title IX standards and ensure students are protected in educational environments.

INTRODUCED:

STOP SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN K-12 ACT

A bill to combat sexual harassment, assault, and sex-based discrimination in K-12 schools.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE SEANCASTEN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

# DECEMBER

I introduced the CETA Act, a comprehensive Democratic vision of transmission & permitting reform legislation our country direly needs.



Month Rewind



“It is an honor to represent the 6th District of Illinois. Happy holidays to all and wishing you a wonderful 2024.”



[casten.house.gov](http://casten.house.gov)



(630) 520-9450 (Glen Ellyn)  
(202) 225-4561 (Washington, DC)



[www.facebook.com/RepSeanCasten](https://www.facebook.com/RepSeanCasten)



@RepCasten



@RepSeanCasten

U.S. CONGRESSMAN  
**SEAN CASTEN**  
6TH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS