

Rep. Patrick Murphy Announces Funding for Small Business Center

More than \$230,000 in Federal Money has been secured for a Center for Small Business Development at the Community College of Philadelphia's Northeast Campus

Washington, D.C. – Two local Representatives from Northeast Philadelphia announced funding for a new small business project at Philadelphia Community College. The new Center for Small Business Development will be housed at the Northeast campus of the college and is expected to be an economic engine for Northeast Philadelphia and lower Bucks County, providing training and resources for locally owned small business.

For the first time, this project will receive federal funding, which will help get this important project underway. On July 12, Rep. Patrick Murphy (D-8th District), along with Rep. Allyson Schwartz (D-13th District), announced the Small Business Center would receive more than \$230,000 in federal money. The money will expand the resources the Center will make available to students and local small business.

“Small businesses keep our economy strong and this Center will help those small business owners make the right choices and get the right help to make their businesses a success,” said Congressman Murphy.

The Center will be located at the Northeast Philadelphia campus of the Community College of Philadelphia and it will be operated by the school. The federal money will go to the expansion of a Philadelphia regional center for workforce education and economic development in Northeast Philadelphia.

Providing the additional space to focus on key skills in demand – from nursing and law enforcement to entrepreneurial business training aligned with local industry needs – will position the Northeast Regional Center as an economic hub for the community and the city.

“The resources provided by the Small Business Development Center will give the economy of Northeast Philadelphia and lower Bucks County a much-needed boost,” said Congressman Murphy.

The money was approved by the House of Representatives with the passage of the Financial Services Appropriations bill in June. Congressman Murphy has been working on other legislation to boost Small Business since January.

Recently, Congressman Murphy supported a \$4.84 billion small business tax relief plan. This was part of the Iraq Supplemental Appropriations bill and was signed into law by President Bush in June 2007.

Murphy also supported the Small Business Tax Relief Act of 2007, which allows small businesses to invest in new equipment and promote hiring of workers, including disadvantaged workers.