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Twenty-four students from 19 communities in Second District receive prestigious honor

December 7, 2011

CONCORD, NH – Congressman Charles F. Bass (NH-02) today announced that 24 students from New Hampshire's Second District received Congressional nominations to the U.S. Service Academies.

Bass said:

"Nominating outstanding New Hampshire students to the U.S. Service Academies is one of the highlights of my job. The 24 students who received nominations this year have top-notch academic, athletic, and extracurricular records, and I know the citizens of the Second District join me on congratulating these exceptional young men and women for their achievements. They will undoubtedly go far in their future endeavors."

As part of their official duties, Members of Congress nominate students to the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York; the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland; the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York (the U.S. Coast Guard Academy does not require a Congressional nomination for an appointment). Students must obtain a Congressional nomination in addition to applying directly to the school.

A board of retired and active military personnel and community leaders in New Hampshire reviewed the applicants and made recommendations based on the students' academic, athletic, and extracurricular achievements as well as personal interviews. Bass then nominated the top students from the Second District to the academies.

A Congressional nomination does not guarantee an appointment. After a careful review of each student's academic, athletic, leadership, and physical fitness skills, the service academies extend appointments to the most outstanding applicants.

A list of the students receiving nominations to the service academies, with their high schools and hometowns, follows:

U.S. Military Academy

Matthew R. Chapman of Nashua, Bishop Guertin High School
Graham R. Cox of Mont Vernon, Souhegan High School
Alexander G. Kempf of Amherst, Souhegan High School
G. Patrick M. Kennedy of Pembroke, Bishop Brady High School
Luke E. Morenz of Swanzey, Monadnock Regional High School
Charles T. Neild of Litchfield, Campbell High School
Jonathan R. Vinnenberg of Bow, Bow High School

U.S. Naval Academy

Jennifer P. Coletta of Nashua, Nashua High School North
Connor W. Gundy of Concord, Concord High School
John Houston of Litchfield, Campbell High School
Bernard Polaski of Orford, Rivendell Academy
Matthew Sanborn of Plymouth, Plymouth Regional High School
Andrew T. Yourell of Amherst, Bishop Guertin High School

U.S. Air Force Academy

Michael A. Croatti of Pelham, Pelham High School
Zacchaeus R. Graf of East Andover, Newfound Regional High School
Eric S. Hambleton of Weare, Bishop Brady High School
Jake T. Kobylarz of Hollis, Hollis/Brookline High School
Sarah J. Laperle of New Ipswich, South Merrimack Christian Academy
Neil Lombardozi of Salem, Salem High School
Andrew D. Sackett of Bow, Bow High School
Ashley J. Thrower of Windham, Bishop Guertin High School
William J. Tremblay of Wilton, Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative Middle/High School
Griffin E. Yianakopolos of Hopkinton, Hopkinton High School

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Michell A. Boyd of Bow, Bow High School

Students interested in applying for a Congressional nomination from Bass for the Class of 2017 should contact his Nashua Office at (603) 595-7701 or [click here](#) for more information.

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