



jeanne
SHAHEEN
US SENATOR FOR
NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Reforming our Budget Process

I introduced a bill this month along with Republican Senator Johnny Isakson of Georgia that would switch Congress from an annual spending process to a two-year cycle. The *Biennial Budget Appropriations Act* allows for a more thoughtful budgeting process that would cut down on wasteful spending and give us the opportunity to address our long-term deficit. I am proud to be working in a bipartisan way with Senator Isakson, who sat with me at President Obama's State of the

Working for Small Business

I visited several New Hampshire small businesses in January to discuss the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program.

The program allows small businesses to compete for federal research and development dollars, and New Hampshire firms have received \$26 million through it over the last two years.

Unfortunately, SBIR has been operating under short-term extensions for a few years now,

Around New Hampshire

I had a great time in January, meeting with constituents across the state throughout the month. At [Newmarket Junior/Senior High School](#), I spoke with the eighth grade class about how Congress works and what it's like to represent New Hampshire in Washington. At a [New Hampshire National Guard ceremony](#) in Concord, I joined other officials in welcoming home members of Charlie Company's 238th Aviation Unit, which recently returned from a 10-month

President Obama's state of the Union address.

Biennial budgeting has been used successfully in New Hampshire for decades, and as governor I found it useful for keeping administrative costs low. It works in New Hampshire, so let's bring it to Washington.

We need to change the way we do business in Washington and biennial budgeting is a common sense beginning. Biennial budgeting would allow Congress to focus more on oversight, so we can figure out what works and what doesn't.

Click on the photo above to watch the Senator's press conference.

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creating uncertainty for businesses and agencies as they try to plan their research. It's time Congress approved a long-term extension to help drive American innovation and global competitiveness.

[Here are some photos](#) from my visits to Active Shock in Manchester, Spire Semiconductor in Hudson, and Airex Corporation in Somersworth—three great New Hampshire companies.

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returned from a 10-month deployment to Iraq. I was proud to pay tribute to the brave men and women of our state for their selfless service to our country.

During a trip to [Hollis-Brookline High School](#), I met with members of the school's award-winning robotics team. It was great to see young people working together to solve challenges through a combination of science and ingenuity. While I was there, I discussed legislation I introduced last year that would create a competitive grant program for non-traditional science, technology, engineering, and math educational programs. Maintaining a workforce that can successfully perform jobs in these sectors is critical to America's future global competitiveness, and I plan to reintroduce the legislation this Congress.

Keeping America competitive is the greatest challenge we face, and I spoke in depth on the topic at a [speech to the New England Council](#), the country's oldest regional business organization. In my remarks, I focused on exports, innovation, deficit reduction, and a comprehensive energy policy.

[View photos of the Senator's events](#)

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