Congresswoman Melissa Bean is serving her third term as U.S. Representative to Illinois' Eighth Congressional District, which includes portions of Lake, McHenry and Cook Counties. The Congresswoman was sworn into office onJanuary 4, 2005.

Rep. Melissa Bean is sworn in for her second term by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.

Rep. Bean serves on the House Financial Services Committee, including the Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance and Government Sponsored Enterprises and the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit. She also serves on the House Committee on Small Business, and serves on the Subcommittee on Tax, Finance and Tax and the Subcommittee on Regulations and Healthcare.

Rep. Bean brings her 20-year business and entrepreneurial background combined with a deep commitment to her community as a wife and mother, to her role in Congress, where she is working to increase access to affordable health insurance, provide meaningful tax relief, improve the climate for small businesses, and demand greater fiscal responsibility and accountability from Congress and the federal government.

Before entering Congress, Rep. Bean helped build revenues in sales management positions at leading technology companies before founding her own consulting firm in 1995, which for nine years served high-tech Fortune 1000 clients. She has also been an active community leader and involved parent.

She credits her work ethic to her mother and father, who was a WWII Marine Raider and small business owner. Rep. Bean, the oldest of four, was born in Chicago on January 22, 1962 and raised in Park Ridge, where she graduated from Maine East High School . Bean earned her BA in Political Science from Roosevelt University .

Rep. Bean and her husband Alan have been married for 25 years, and have lived in Barrington for 19 years, where her daughters, Victoria, 18, and Michelle, 16, have attended District 220 schools .

Because of her background and connection to her community, Congresswoman Melissa Bean is a vocal advocate for seniors, small business owners, and all families who call Illinois' Eighth Congressional District home.