

**January 19, 1999**

**STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE JAN SCHAKOWSKY ON THE PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS**

**It was a breath of fresh air, a welcome relief to finally return to the issues that every day people care about. I was particularly pleased to hear the President stand firmly in support of Social Security and Medicare, and soundly reject the efforts of those who want to dismantle these critical social insurance programs.**

**I hope that my Republican colleagues who control the agenda of the House will turn their attention to the pressing issues raised by the President tonight. While much of Washington is focused on the verdict in the Senate, the verdict of most Americans will be based on how this Congress addresses these basic issues.**