**Washington, DC-** Congressman Vern Buchanan (FL-13) today conveyed his sympathy and prayers to the family of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, who was shot in the head Saturday while holding a constituent town meeting in her Arizona district.

"My heart goes out to the husband, and family of Congresswoman Giffords as well as the families of the other victims," Buchanan said, calling the shooting "a senseless and cowardly act of violence."

Giffords and Buchanan were elected to Congress the same year, 2006. "She was a dedicated and respected Congresswoman who was fully committed to serving the people of her district."