

Town Hall Meetings

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I hope to see you at one of these upcoming meetings to discuss issues such as Social Security, economic development, hometown security, health care, education, and anything else that may be on your mind.

Saturday, June 23

Ewing Township

10:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Ewing Twp. Municipal Building 2 Jake Garzio Drive

Saturday, July 14

Middletown Township

10:30 a.m. – 12 noon

Middletown Township Hall One Kings Highway

Saturday, July 14

Cranbury Township

1:30-3 p.m.

Cranbury Town Hall 23 A North Main Street

Sunday, July 22

Freehold Township

1 - 2:30 p.m.

Freehold Twp. Municipal Complex One Municipal Plaza To receive regular updates about my activities in New Jersey and in Washington, D.C., please visit my webpage at www.holt.house.gov and sign up for my e-mail newsletter.

REPRESENTATIVE RUSH HOLT

As your Representative, I am here to help. Contact me any time.

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To learn more or to send me an e-mail, go to: www.holt.house.gov

Representative Rush Holt 50 Washington Road West Windsor, NJ 08550

Official Business
This mailing was prepared, published, and mailed at taxpayer expense.

Cush Hold M.C PRSRT-STI REPRESENTATIVE RUSH HOLT



Report To Central New Jersey

JUNE 2007

Dear Friend,

I would like to give you an update on some of the work that I have been doing in Washington, D.C. and in New Jersey on your behalf.

The new Congress has brought a new agenda. I believe that agenda reflects the priorities of the American people better than before. We have raised the minimum wage by about two dollars an hour. The House of Representatives also has acted to lower the interest rate on college loans, expand federal funding for embryonic stem cell research, and realize recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. The Senate still must act on these items, and we must work together to address vexing problems like energy independence and affordable, accessible healthcare. In addition to these legislative priorities, there is a new emphasis on oversight – or, as I call it, auditing the books – to ensure that government agencies are performing efficiently, ethically, and effectively.

The war in Iraq remains the most important political and moral issue of our day. Our troops continue to perform admirably, even as the Iraqis fail to heal the political rifts necessary to achieve stability. However, the President continues to prosecute the war based on a failed policy and has not offered a strategy beyond endless occupation and bloodshed. I believe it is time – past time – to withdraw American forces and for Iraqis to take responsibility for their own affairs.

My continuing priority in Congress is to restore citizens' faith in government, and every day I work to accomplish this by helping individuals with problems that they face with government agencies or with corporations. This ranges from awarding overdue medals to deserving veterans, helping to secure passports or visas, and much more. If I can be of assistance to you, please contact me toll free at 1-87-RUSH-HOLT.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or stop by one of my offices to ask for help, to register an opinion on legislation before Congress, or just to say hello.

Sincerely,

Rush Holt Member of Congress

New Jersey Office:

50 Washington Road • West Windsor, NJ 08550 • (609) 750-9365 • Toll Free: 1-87-RUSH-H0LT

Washington Office:

1019 Longworth HOB • Washington, DC 20515 • (202) 225-5801

Please visit my website at www.holt.house.gov to learn more about what I am working on for you and to sign up for my weekly e-mail newsletter, the <u>eGenda</u>.

R E P. RUSH HOLT

Honoring Our Veterans

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Since the Civil War, our nation has had a standing commitment – never fully met – to care for those who have borne the battle. Fulfilling this promise means treating the obvious physical wounds of war, as well as addressing psychological trauma and ensuring that veterans have access to effective and timely healthcare and employment assistance as they make the transition to a civilian life. The scandal over inadequate outpatient care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center has exposed that we still have much work to do if we are to fulfill our pledge.

I am currently working to pass the *Military Retirees Health Care Protection Act*, which would prohibit the government from increasing veterans' medical, dental, and prescription drug copayments. Congress should also pass a law that would allow federal civilian and military retirees to pay TRICARE premiums with pretax dollars. I am pleased that the House of Representatives passed

my bill creating a 'Hire a Veteran Week.' This encourages employers to employ veterans because the skills and work ethic that they have gained through service make them excellent employees.



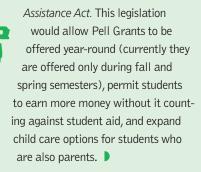
Rep. Holt with participants at his recent roundtable discussion on issues affecting New Jersey veterans, held in Old Bridge.

Making College More Affordable

One of the most important things we can do to ensure our economic competitiveness is to make higher education affordable and accessible for all students who are qualified and motivated to pursue it. One of the first actions of the new House majority in January was to cut the interest rate on federally-subsidized student loans from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent. If it becomes law, this will save the typical student borrower in New Jersey more than \$4,600 over the life of his or her loan.

In making higher education more affordable, we must recognize that many New Jersey

students are balancing their studies with a family and a full-time job. That is why I introduced the *Part-time Student*



REP. RUSH HOLT

Protecting Your Vote

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or several years I have been working to protect the integrity of our electoral system by insisting on the verifiability and transparency of elections. Public cynicism is at a dangerous level, as paperless electronic voting machines have left voters unsure that their votes have been counted as cast, and long lines and other forms of disenfranchisement have kept voters from the polls. Our democracy works only if we believe it does.

I am pleased to report that my legislation requiring electronic voting machines to produce a

voter-verified paper ballot for each voter will be on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives soon. I am confident that it will become law soon to allow for a smooth implementation. In addition to this legislation, which I have been advocating for years, I am also working to address other voting concerns, such as eliminating suppression and intimidation of voters, mitigating long lines at polls, ensuring that voter lists are accurate, and ensuring access to provisional and emergency ballots.



Rep. Holt tours a new Head Start facility and visits with students in Franklin Township.

MAKING INTELLIGENCE WORK

New Jerseyans understand the critical role that effective collection and analysis of intelligence plays in keeping our nation safe. This fall, Speaker Pelosi named me Chairman of the Select Intelligence Oversight Panel, a new body created to provide better coordination of Congressional intelligence oversight, a key recommendation of the 9/11 Commission. This Panel will play a vital role in ensuring that the many agencies within our intelligence community are communicating and cooperating to produce actionable intelligence that keeps Americans safe.