



U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
MICHAEL MCCAUL
PROUDLY SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE 10TH DISTRICT OF TEXAS



- HOME
- ABOUT MICHAEL
- CONSTITUENT SERVICES
- CONTACT
- DISTRICT
- ISSUES
- NEWSROOM



April 25, 2009

Dear Friends,

Border Legislation

After touring the border at El Paso this week, I introduced two bills designed to give federal agents and county enforcement the proper tools to secure our border with Mexico, combat violence from drug cartels and better enforce existing immigration laws.

H.R. 2047 would increase authorized funding to \$500 million for each of FY 2010-2014 to carry out Operation Stonegarden. This grant program provides funding to border sheriffs to prevent and respond to border security threats. The current funding of \$60 million does not give sheriffs the long-term funding commitment needed to retain qualified officers and replace outdated, substandard equipment to adequately protect their communities from cartel-related crimes.

H.R. 2048 would double the funding to the Office of Detention and Removal under ICE to \$5 billion in FY2010. It would allow ICE to double its staff to better secure the border and free up other agencies to focus on their responsibilities. It would also enable ICE to add to its Detention and Removal office, which detains and deports criminal aliens, and expand its 287(g) program which allows local law enforcement agencies voluntary training they may detain illegal immigrants and start the deportation process.

Click [here](#) to see video from my border tour and legislation announcement.



Rep. McCaul with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol Agents (left to right) Ron LeBlanc, Ramiro Cordero and Jose Perez at the newest section of border fence in El Paso.

Washington, DC
131 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
202.225.2401

Austin, TX
5929 Balcones Dr. Suite 305
Austin, TX 78731
512.473.2357

Brenham, TX
2000 S. Market Street,
Suite 303
Brenham, TX 77833
979.830.8497

Katy, TX
1550 Foxlake, Suite 114
Houston, TX 77084
281.398.1247

Green Energy Education Act

This week, I introduced the Green Energy Education Act which was passed in the House with overwhelming bipartisan support. This bill authorizes the Department of Energy to partner with the National Science Foundation support of multidisciplinary graduate education and curriculum development activities that will advance broad energy technology development. This initiative will help develop the next generation of engineers and architects work effectively together to produce buildings incorporating the latest in energy efficient technologies.

Congressional High Tech Caucus Event

This week, I joined my fellow co-chair, Representative Eshoo, to organize the first High Tech Caucus event of the Congress. This event focused on developments in Smart Grid technology which could drastically increase the efficiency of our nation's electricity infrastructure. A smart grid is a set of interconnected technologies that deliver electricity from suppliers to consumers using digital technology to save energy, reduce cost and increase reliability. This event brought together leading experts in this field. Guest speakers included: Steve Hauser, Vice President, Strategy, GridPoint; Darren Deffner, Federal Government Relations, Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E); Craig Glazier, Vice President, Federal Government Policy, PJM Interconnection; Michael Donohue, Managing Partner, Accenture; Robert Shein, Security Architect, EDS/Hewlett Packard.

Foreign Affairs Committee Hearing with Secretary of State Clinton

On Wednesday, I engaged Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in a question and answer period during the Foreign Affairs Full Committee Hearing addressing *foreign policy priorities in the Obama Administration*. Our discussion focused on the national security threat of Tribal Areas in Pakistan and AQ Khan, the founder of Pakistan's nuclear program and one of the biggest nuclear proliferation threats. **Click [here](#) to watch my question and answer session with Secretary of State Clinton.**



Congressman McCaul delivers the opening address to panelists and attendees at the Congressional High Tech Caucus event.

Joint Service Academy Days!

Congressman McCaul will be co-hosting Service Academy Days on May 9th and May 30th. Representatives from the U.S. Naval Academy, Military Academy, Air Force Academy, Coast Guard Academy and Merchant Marine Academy will be on hand to meet with prospective students and their families. In addition, Academy Liaison Officers will be available. The program will feature information about the nomination process involved in security academy appointments. Please contact our Austin district office at (512) 473-2357 for more information.

Saturday, May 9th at Cinco Ranch High School in Katy, from 2-4p

In the Commons Area
23440 Cinco Ranch Blvd., Katy, TX

Saturday, May 30th at the University of Houston Clear Lake 10am–12pm

In the Bayou Theatre
2700 Bay Area Blvd., Houston, TX

IN THE NEWS

Houston Chronicle - Border
http://blogs.chron.com/txpotomac/2009/04/rep_mccaul.html

Houston Chronicle – Earmarks
<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/chronicle/6381688.html>

Tomball Potpourri
http://www.hcnonline.com/articles/2009/04/24/tomball_magnolia_potpourri/news/po_as_mccaul_tea_party_4_2

El Paso Times
http://www.elpasotimes.com/newupdated/ci_12185858

I wish you and your family a happy and safe weekend.

With best regards,



Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress

**** If you would like to register to receive the McCaul Minute click [here](#)**