



June 12, 2009

Dear Friends,

Hearing on Hurricane Ike Assistance

This week, I submitted a request for a hearing before a Homeland Security subcommittee to examine the wide disparities in federal assistance administered between Hurricanes Ike and Katrina. Figures from the Federal Emergency Management Agency reveal higher average payments for overall assistance to Katrina victims and an astoundingly higher rate of housing assistance.

While some of the changes resulting from [my 2006 investigation into waste, fraud and abuse in Katrina assistance](#) have likely contributed to the disparity in favor of taxpayers, the numbers suggest a possible overcorrection by FEMA resulting in lack of assistance and diminished quality of service. It is incumbent upon us to examine this. [Video of my committee Q&A with FEMA's administrator is available **HERE**.](#)

Darfur Genocide Amendment

The House unanimously passed my amendment to the FY 2010-2011 Foreign Affairs Authorization Bill, requiring the President to develop a comprehensive interagency strategy to address the genocide crisis in Sudan. The death toll is at more than 2 million.

My amendment calls for the President to submit his strategy to Congress within 60 days. It should address restoring access for humanitarian aid organizations and it requires the President to consider various means to advance U.S. policy in the region including multilateral sanctions, a no-fly zone, other coercive measures, or diplomacy.

While my amendment passed, I voted against the Foreign Relations Authorization Act because it authorizes \$18 billion for FY 2010 alone that would go toward multilateral programs including the United Nations, without true reform. The bill passed. [Video of my floor remarks is available **HERE**.](#)

United States Border Patrol 85th Anniversary

On Tuesday, the House honored the United States Border Patrol on its 85th anniversary. I was proud to be the lead Republican on a resolution that passed praising the tireless efforts the 52,000 CBP employees including the over 18,000 CBP Border Patrol agents, 1,000 CBP Air and Marine agents, almost 22,000 CBP officers and agriculture specialists and the nation's largest law enforcement canine program. Please click [here](#) to view my remarks on this resolution under "Issues Extra" below the video.



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Giddings residents line the streets to send the Buffaloes off to the State 3A Baseball Championship Game in Austin Friday. GO BUFFS!



With Paul Ehlert, Fredda Lemons and Donald Spiess of Germania Insurance in Brenham. The group hosted a Blue Bell Reception on Capital Hill.



With Mark Miller, Jeanie Coffey, and Jack Ritter from the Navy League of the United States, Lone Star Region Task Force, Austin.



With Robin Knocke, Devin Scott, and Allison Ellingson from [Energy Xtreme](#), Austin.



IN THE NEWS

KPRC-TV - [McCaul calls for Investigation into Ike assistance](#)

Cypress Sun - [Officials press feds about differences in Ike, Katrina recovery efforts](#)

The Cypress Times - [McCaul requests hearing on Hurricane Ike assistance](#)

Employers Wanted for Job Fair

Congressman McCaul will be hosting a Job Fair in August and is looking for employers interested in participating. The Job Fair will feature employers from across the district, state, and nation. If you are an employer looking for workers, please contact our Austin district office at (512) 473-2357 or visit my [website](#) and download the registration form.



Hurricane Season: Be Prepared

Hurricane Season started on June 1. Congressman McCaul hopes to increase

awareness and preparedness among his constituents. As we were reminded by Hurricane Ike last September, these storms are one of the greatest weather threats to Texas and citizens need to know the actions they can take to help protect themselves, their families and their property. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has created a hurricane preparedness webpage. The information can be found at http://www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/hu_season09.shtm

DTV Transition 

The nation will be completing the transition to digital television **TODAY, June 12, 2009**. The transition will only affect older antenna TVs that are not hooked up to cable, satellite or other pay television service. If you do not subscribe to pay television service, the TV Converter Box Coupon Program offer two \$40 coupons per a household to assist with purchasing eligible converters. Congress recently passed legislation to allow consumers with expired coupons to request replacements. Consumers may apply for coupons or replacements online at www.dtv2009.gov or by calling 1-888-DTV2009 (1-888-388-2009).

With best regards,



Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress

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