



July 17, 2009

Dear Friends,

Health Pledge

This week, I signed a pledge to assure my constituents of the 10th District that I will not vote on the 1,000+ page health care reform bill unless I have read it in its entirety. This pledge also stipulates that the bill is to be posted on the Internet for 72 hours so the public can also read it.

This proposed legislation will potentially change our health care system and tax structure for many years to come. I believe, and doctors in my district believe, that this bill could be very damaging to quality of care and patients' ability to make their own medical decisions. Congress owes it to the American people to examine this bill and read the fine print, and not be forced into rash decisions because of an artificial deadline.

I believe that quality of care and patient choice must ultimately be protected in any reform of our health care system. I am committed to working in a bipartisan manner to achieve an alternative health care solution that does not include a government-run system.

Border Hearing

On Wednesday, the Border Subcommittee of the House Homeland Security Committee held a hearing on Combating Border Violence. I took this opportunity to question representatives from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) about their ongoing efforts to curb smuggling and violence along the Southwest Border.

The Financial Services and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

Today, the House passed H.R. 3170 which provides a total spending level of \$24.2 billion—\$1.5 billion more than last year. This spending comes on top of \$7.1 billion of emergency-designated spending in FY 2009. In addition to these staggering spending levels, this bill also contains almost 200 earmarks. Because of this excess in spending, I voted against this legislation.

The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

Today, the House passed H.R. 3183 which provides a total spending level of \$33.3 billion—\$46 million more than last year. Although similar to last year's funding level, this spending comes on top of \$58.7 billion of emergency-designated spending in FY



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2009. In addition, this bill provides for more than 700 earmarks. Because this bill continues the trend of overspending in Congress, I voted against this legislation.



Congressman McCaul signs the Health Care Reform Pledge



Congressman McCaul meets with Brenda Chen, Zhimin Li, and Stacy Chen representing Falun Dafa practitioners.

In the News

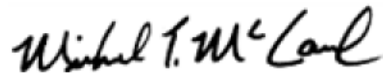
Job Fair at Merrell Center in Katy, Tuesday, August 18, 9:00am – 3:00pm

We have locked down the date and location for the Job Fair hosted by Congressman McCaul, and we continue to look 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 download the [registration form](#) from our website or contact our Austin district office at (512) 473-2357.

Page Program

We are now accepting applications for the Fall 2009 Congressional Page Program. Candidates must be at least 16 years old but no older than 17 years of age at any point during the term in which they serve. A page serving in the academic year must be a junior in high school with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA. Please contact Lauren Hayes at 512-473-2357 for an application and additional information. *Deadline for applications is July 15th, 2009.*

With best regards,



Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress

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