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**CONGRESSMAN  
RANDY HULTGREN***Proudly Representing the 14th District of Illinois*[Home](#)[About Randy](#)[Serving You](#)[News](#)[Our District](#)[Contact](#)

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#### [Comprehensive Jobs and Energy Bills would Get Illinois Back to Work, Lower Energy Prices](#)

Since I've been in Congress, my number one priority has been to get the people of Illinois back to work and open up opportunities for everyone to succeed. Washington policies, however, have driven away businesses and manufacturers and forced them to lay off Illinois workers. Further, rising prices of everyday items like groceries and transportation have hurt middle class individuals and families who are simply trying to get by.

Before the House left Washington for District Work Period, I supported House passage of two comprehensive pieces of legislation to help. H.R. 4, the Jobs for America Act and H.R. 2, the American Energy Solutions for Lower Costs and More American Jobs Act both contain bills I previously supported.

I challenge Harry Reid and Senate Democrats to take up just one of the many bills included in this legislation. The Hire More Heroes Act would help veterans find jobs. The Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act would permanently ban taxes on internet access. These common sense bills would do much to help Americans find jobs and keep more of the income they earn from them. I am hopeful Harry Reid has the courage to do what's right for the American people.

#### [Tracking Illinois Manufacturing with Atlantic Track](#)

This week, I visited Atlantic Track's manufacturing facility in Richmond along with representatives from the National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association (NRC).

Atlantic Track, which has supplied railroad and crane material since 1924, is an ESOP (employee stock ownership plan) company where each employee actually is an owner and has a stake in the company's success.

Employees work long hours to meet the high demand for their quality products and have invested millions to expand their operations in the 14th District. Northern Illinois is a major cargo and freight hub for our nation; seeing Atlantic Track's facility first-hand makes me proud to represent them in Congress.



(Rep. Hultgren meets with Atlantic Track employees)

I was also pleased the House passed a bill I cosponsored, the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation (RAMI) Act

#### **Watch: Obamacare Forces Taxpayers to Cover Abortion on Demand, GAO Report Confirms**



(Click picture to watch video)

#### **Condemning Anti-Semitism and All Religious Discrimination**

Click [here](#) to read about the House Resolution I supported which urges a redoubling of our commitment to "oppose all efforts to prevent any individual from freely exercising their religion without fear of prosecution or violence."

#### **Tell a Friend**

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of 2013 (H.R. 2996), which will help manufacturers in Illinois, which provide thousands of jobs in the 14th District, expand and train an advanced manufacturing workforce.

#### Keeping our Skies Safe with the SAFE TOWERS Act

For decades, the FAA has relied on colleges and universities to prepare air traffic controllers, ensuring candidates are well-trained for the position. This year the FAA changed its hiring practices with few details given about how the changes would be implemented and with little advance warning. These new, obscure and illogical hiring practices have passed over the most qualified air traffic controller candidates and raised concerns of safety and transparency.

With Rep. Dan Lipinski (D-IL), I introduced the SAFE TOWERS Act to make sure we have the best and brightest in our control towers. When you climb into an airliner, you trust the pilot, the crew and air traffic controllers will keep you safe. The SAFE TOWERS Act helps ensure our towers are again operated by qualified veterans and graduates with specialized aviation degrees, and provides relief for those who were unduly disqualified. Further, it makes sure the FAA is open and transparent about their hiring procedures.

The FAA has been non-responsive to my inquiries about how their changes make our skies safer. Among other things, I hope this bill will encourage them to be more transparent about these new hiring practices.

#### Johnsburg High School Excelling in College and Career Readiness

This week, I visited Johnsburg High School (JHS) in McHenry County, meeting with students and teachers to talk about college and career readiness and my work in Congress. JHS's teachers, students and administrators are an excellent example of a competent, caring and forward-looking Illinois school. Their focus on making sure their students are ready for what comes after high school, whether it be a job or further education, ensure their energies are directed toward academics and programs that fulfill that goal.



(Rep. Hultgren with Principal Kevin Shelton and JHS Student Government officers)

While there, a student who was a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) driver gave me a ride in the school's semi-truck. Student government leaders provided a tour of the school and discussed the importance of civic engagement. And I visited classes ranging from chemistry to welding to graphic arts. I want to especially thank Principal Kevin Shelton for his leadership and hospitality. As the 2012 Illinois High School Principal of the Year, Kevin shows what it means to put the needs of students, parents and teachers first. Go Skyhawks!



(Rep. Hultgren rides in the school's semi-truck)

#### Tackling Illinois' Education Challenges

Illinois educators and schools face deep challenges, from trying to comply with unfunded mandates when they are already stretched thin, to implementing new standardized tests with few resources.

At the invitation of the Kane County Regional Office of Education (ROE), I participated in a panel discussion with local legislators Rep. Bob Pritchard and Sen. Karen McConaughay to delve into our education challenges and develop solutions that will help schools in the 14th District have the flexibility to teach their students whom they know best.



(Rep. Hultgren with Rep. Pritchard and Pat Dal Santo, Kane County ROE)

#### Child Care Assistance Reforms for Low-Income Families

Illinois families are struggling to pay the bills, and the last thing they need is to worry about providing proper care for their children while mom, dad or both parents work to put food on the table.

No parent should have to choose between pursuing job training and caring for their children. They should have the opportunity to do both, and be able to choose the care that works best for them. I'm glad the House and Senate came together to pass reforms which will, among other things:

- **Make child care safer.** By requiring all providers to comply with state health, safety, and fire standards, as well as annual facility inspections, parents will be more comfortable, knowing their child's care facility is safe.
- **Enhance child development.** This grant extends the program's original goal of ensuring quality education through age-appropriate practices and education for all children – regardless of income, race, or location.
- **Give parents more choice.** By giving parents more information on child care options (including faith-based and community-based providers), they are able to choose a child care program that works best for their family.

#### Drop Off Your Drugs

Medicines that languish in medicine cabinets at home and assisted living centers, including powerful opioid painkillers, are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Most abused prescription drugs are obtained or taken from family

and friends. I invite you to **join Lake County Sheriff Mark Curran and me at the Fremont Township Administration Center, 22385 W. Route 60 in Mundelein on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. to drop off your unwanted, unused or expired prescription drugs.** Need a location closer to home? Click [here](#).

In Your Service,



*Randy Hultgren  
Member of Congress  
14th District, Illinois*

Randy in the News

[2 Illinois lawmakers seek to dump new FAA controller hiring rules](#) (Chicago Tribune)

[Bill would overhaul hiring procedures for air traffic controllers](#) (The Hill)

[County launches overdose remedy program](#) (DeKalb MidWeek)

[Fight human trafficking](#) (Northwest Herald)

[Rep. Hultgren visits Atlantic Track](#) (RT&S)

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