

News from Representative Randy Hultgren



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Fighting for Affordable Health Care

While the Supreme Court's decision regarding the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in *King v. Burwell* locked in federal insurance subsidies for approximately 15,000 individuals in the 14th District, it does nothing to stop crippling premium increases or prevent a health insurer monopoly that is severely restricting choice for hundreds of thousands of Illinoisians.

The ACA has caused health care to be grossly unaffordable to millions of Americans. Some in Illinois could face [a more than 30 percent premium hike next year](#), and many simply can't afford even higher health costs.

I will not stop fighting to make health insurance better and more affordable for everyone in the 14th District. I have **cosponsored the three bills**

Nepal Traffickers on the Prowl in Earthquake Aftermath

Based on recent news reports, human traffickers in Nepal have taken advantage of the April earthquake's ensuing chaos to traffic children into sex slavery and forced labor. I delivered a statement on the House floor drawing attention the plight of these children, urging Nepal to act to protect victims.



(Click picture to watch video).

Chicago Region "Ground Zero" for Damaging Effects of New EPA Rules

Watch my comments to EPA Administrator McCarthy as I press her on proposed regulations which could have strong negative effects on Illinois' economy, especially manufacturers and low-income and minority communities.

in the House that would repeal three of the ACA's costly and misguided taxes and move toward a more affordable health care system for Illinois individuals, families and businesses. [Click here to read more](#) in my letter to the *Northwest Herald*.

In addition, I joined the House in passing **H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act**, a bill I cosponsored to accelerate the development of life-saving medical treatments. Medical researchers have discovered more than 10,000 diseases and conditions, but have found cures and treatments for just 500 of them. Unfortunately, under current regulations it takes around 14 years and \$2 billion or more to develop a new drug for suffering patients—and 95 percent of those drugs fail during development, according to NIH.

21st Century Cures will help speed up the discovery, development, and delivery of potential new treatments and cures by providing new incentives for drug development, streamlining the FDA's approval process for life-saving drugs and modernizing clinical trials, among other provisions.

Restoring Local Control of Education

Every child deserves a good education, but well-intentioned efforts like No Child Left Behind have fallen short of delivering on that promise. Further, through mandates like the Common Core Standards, the Department of Education has forced parents and educators to follow unflinchingly rigid standards, while also restricting students learning to standardized tests.

I believe our students are best educated by curriculum developed by the state and our communities, involving parents and students in the process. I supported House passage of the **Student Success Act (H.R. 5)** to help restore local control over education. H.R. 5 underwent a process of improvement as it moved through the House. While the final bill did not contain all of the



(Click picture to watch video)



provisions I believe are necessary to give full responsibility back to parents and educators, the bill as amended is a step toward reversing the Department of Education's overreach and preventing future federal transgressions against state and local control of education policy.

I supported the **Academic Partnerships Lead Us to Success Act (A PLUS) amendment** which, if included, would have further reduced the power of the Secretary of Education to coerce states to adopt certain criteria, like the Common Core Standards, through threats to funding. Unfortunately, it was not included in final passage. I encourage further revision of the bill as the Senate works on its own version to ensure we restore local control over education to parents, teachers and students where it belongs.

12 Local Students to Attend Military Service Academies



Twelve of our 14th District students were selected to attend our nation's military service academies in the fall. Their stories are impressive, and I am proud to have nominated these ambitious individuals.

[Click here to read more](#) about each of these

students and which academy they plan to attend.

Reintroducing Legislation to Bolster Illinois' Manufacturing Industry

Illinois' manufacturers are ready for the challenge of increasing engaging in our global and technology-based economy. Unfortunately, decades-old policies governing a key tool that manufacturers use to expand operations no longer address today's challenges, needlessly impeding growth and job creation in the Illinois manufacturing sector.

With Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA-01), I reintroduced my bill, the **Modernizing American Manufacturing Bonds Act (MAMBA) of 2015 (H.R. 2890)**. [Read more about the legislation here.](#)

Protecting Veterans Exposed to Agent Orange

Many Veterans across our nation have suffered greatly as a result of their service to our nation. [Read more about a bill I cosponsored \(H.R. 969\)](#) which enables eligible veterans to receive VA health benefits from diseases linked to Agent Orange which was used extensively during the Vietnam War.

House Passes My Amendment to Defund Tainted FAA Test

Given the [disturbing revelations of cheating](#) going on at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) I have written about to you previously, the FAA's Biographical Questionnaire (Bio Q) hiring test is tainted and should no longer be used in the air traffic controller hiring process. I was pleased **the House joined me in passing my amendment** to restrict funding for the FAA to further the Bio Q. [Read more about the ongoing issue here.](#)

If you haven't already, be sure to like

my [Facebook page](#), follow me on Twitter ([@RepHultgren](#)), or check out my [YouTube page](#) to stay informed on everything I'm doing on your behalf in Washington and in Illinois.

As always, thank you for the honor and privilege of serving you.

In Your Service,



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

Randy in the News

[Congress Moves to Cut FAA Funding](#) (Fox Business Network)

[New experiment could make Fermilab leader in physics research — again](#) (Chicago Tribune)

[Supreme Court upholds Obama's health care law](#) (Kane County Chronicle)

[Top FAA Official Says 'Not My Problem'](#) (Fox Business Network)

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