

News from Representative Randy Hultgren

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## [Transportation Committee Chairman Visits Illinois](#)



(Rep. Hultgren, Chairman Shuster and transportation representatives)

The Chicago region is a central hub of transportation in our nation and world. However, we face roads in disrepair and a failing infrastructure.

To highlight and discuss the challenges we face, I hosted a roundtable Rep. Bill Shuster (PA-09), Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, along with representatives from Illinois transportation authorities, county and city governments, universities and industry. Included in the discussion was a focus on how to address the long-term funding needs of the region.

I wanted Chairman Shuster to see first-hand the challenges we face, and brainstorm how to unleash our deep capabilities as a transportation hub as the House prepares to consider the highway re-authorization bill. Chairman Shuster reiterated his strong desire to craft and pass a six-year funding bill, and ensure at least three years of funding to give certainty to states and local communities to complete ongoing efforts and plan and pursue new projects for the future.

### Paul Ryan Elected Speaker

This past week, Rep. Paul Ryan (WI-01), whose district shares the Illinois-Wisconsin border with our own 14th District, was elected as Speaker of the House of Representatives. He has committed to restoring much needed civility in the House that will unify not only the Republican Conference, but serve to set the tone for tackling our country's biggest challenges.

He was nominated in a speech by conservative stalwart Rep. Trey Gowdy (SC-04), supported by majorities of all conservative caucuses and groups in the House, and author of one of the most fiscally aggressive budgets in recent history. I supported his candidacy because I am convinced that, as Speaker, Paul Ryan will fight for cutting spending and putting our country on a path of financial responsibility that is vital to the future prosperity of this nation.

United under his leadership, as a Congress we must pursue policies that will help Americans get back to work and provide opportunities for themselves and their families.

### Yet Another Fiscally Irresponsible Debt Ceiling Hike

Unchecked spending is fueling larger budget deficits and a national debt exceeding \$18 trillion. Many government programs are in serious need of reform and oversight.

This past week I stood firm in support of fiscal responsibility and **opposed House passage of H.R. 1314, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015**, which increases the debt ceiling without meaningful spending cuts or reforms.

I believe responsible budgeting is one of the most important items in Congress's job description. But we have again failed to do our jobs and live up to what Americans expect of us, and what our constituents deserve. Congress can't get in the game of calling something a cap and then eviscerating it when it politically suits them.

I have long advocated for structural reforms like a Balanced Budget Amendment. We clearly need a stronger restraint on spending that will not buckle under political pressure.

### Protecting Access to Retirement Advice

Through my work on the House Financial Services Committee, I have made protecting access to retirement advice a top issue. I believe it is time for the Administration to stop restricting where and how Americans choose to pursue financial stability and security.

That's why I supported House passage of important legislation—the **Retail Investor Protection Act (H.R. 1090)**—that will allow Americans to continue to have access to the retirement advice and services that are currently available.

I cosponsored the bill, led two congressional letters to the Department of Labor which has put forth the proposed rule, and made the case against the rule in a May *Wall Street Journal* [op-ed](#).

### Fighting for Manufacturing Jobs

This past week I voted for House passage of legislation to reform the Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank of the United States, supporting manufacturers and employers in the 14th District and Illinois who have no other option for export credit and depend on the Bank for assistance in export financing.

Since 2007, the Ex-Im Bank spurred almost \$6 billion in Illinois export sales from 382 exporters, including almost 250 small businesses.

I care about retaining and growing manufacturing jobs in my District and I care about employees and working families who need the Export-Import Bank as a lender-of-last-resort.

I supported reform of the Bank after thoroughly investigating local export financing options and finding them either limited or non-existent. These local businesses can't get financial assistance from other banks to export their products.

[Please click here to read more about local businesses who rely on the Bank, and why I supported this legislation.](#)

Previously, [I hosted the Chairman of the Ex-Im Bank in the 14th District](#) in an effort to highlight the jobs and new exporting opportunities the Bank supports to manufacturers and businesses throughout Illinois.

### Repealing ACA Mandates, Defunding Planned Parenthood

Fighting for families hurt by the President's health care law and for women and children harmed by abortion providers has consistently been a priority of mine in Congress. That's why I supported House passage of **H.R. 3762, the Restoring Americans' Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act.**

Among other provisions, the bill:

**Dismantles the Affordable Care Act** by repealing the:

- Individual mandate
- Employer mandate
- 40 percent excise tax on high cost health plans ("Cadillac Tax")
- Medical device tax
- Prevention and Public Health Fund (ACA Slush Fund)
- Auto-Enrollment Mandate

**Protects taxpayers** by saving them \$78.9 billion overall.

**Defends life** by prohibiting all federal mandatory funding for one year to abortion providers while the House [continues its investigation into Planned Parenthood's activities](#). Previously, defunding abortion providers failed to address the mandatory spending that provided them with funds through Medicaid, which accounts for \$390 million of \$450 million of its federal dollars.

**Invests in women's healthcare** by redirecting \$235 million in federal funds to community health centers. These centers are widely available and provide a full range of health services for women. There are 670 community health care centers in Illinois vs. only 18 Planned Parenthood centers.

## Support Growing for State Health Care Options Act



Support is growing for my bill that empowers states like Illinois to build their own ACA alternatives, the [State Health Care Options Act](#).

[Read this blog by Illinois' Heartland Institute](#) which concludes:

“Congressman Hultgren’s bill...could bring real financial relief for families and real reform to Obamacare. His colleagues in the House would consider it well worth their time to investigate it for themselves.”

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](#)



[Expressing Concern about Lack of Security Screening and Lone Wolf Terrorists Infiltrating Refugees and Becoming Wolf Packs](#) (Helsinki Commission)

[House De-Funds Planned Parenthood Abortion Biz Caught Selling Aborted Baby Parts](#) (LifeNews)

[Hultgren Says South Carolina Lawmaker Would Make Good House Speaker](#) (WNIJ/WNIU Public Radio)

[Kishwaukee College receives \\$1.1 million grant to help students](#) (DeKalb Daily Chronicle)

[Leaders in Business, Congress, Science Urge Renewed Commitment to Research via "Innovation Imperative"](#) (Association of Research Libraries)

[McHenry County reps help elect Paul Ryan as House Speaker, vote against budget deal](#) (MySuburbanLife)

[Rep. Randy Hultgren votes to defund Planned Parenthood](#) (Kendall County Now)

[Ryan takes the gavel, vows to fix 'broken' House](#) (Chicago Sun-Times)

**Washington, DC Office**

2455 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: 202-225-2976  
Fax: 202-225-0697

**14th District Office**

40W310 Lafox Road, Suite F2  
Campton Hills, IL 60175  
Phone: 630-584-2734  
Fax: 630-584-2746

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