News from Representative Randy Hultgren



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Passing a Long-Term Highway Bill

Over the past months, I have sought the input and expertise of 14th District transportation officials and communities who know first-hand their infrastructure needs. Since my time on the Transportation Committee in the House, I have fought hard to find long-term solutions that provide certainty for Illinois' state and local governments planning to improve roads and bridges. I also believe we must avoid short-term funding bills and prevent never-ending fiscal crises from stopping our important work of overseeing how tax dollars are spent.

I supported House passage (363-64) of H.R. 3763, the Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2015, a long-term bill which reauthorizes federal surface transportation programs for six years. (The last time a highway bill lasting longer than two years made it to the president's desk was 2005!)

Here's how I acted on input I received from a variety of transportation officials and communities throughout the 14th District:

In September, County Chairmen from northern Illinois <u>sent a letter to</u>
 <u>me</u> asking me to raise the issue of equitable transportation funding
 among urban, suburban and rural areas. Following <u>a regional</u>
 <u>roundtable I hosted</u> with Rep. Bill Shuster (PA-09), Chairman of the
 House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I <u>secured a</u>

commitment from the Chairman to work on directing funding to suburban areas.

- In August, I <u>hosted a Community Leadership Forum on</u>
 <u>Transportation and Technology</u> to discuss how the community can take advantage of the power of technology to transform northern Illinois.
- In February, <u>I joined nearly 300 of my colleagues</u> in urging House leadership to include a long-term, sustainable funding stream for the Highway Trust Fund.
- In January, I <u>met with Plainfield officials</u> to hear from them about what should take priority in any and all transportation legislation.

I filed an amendment that would stop the Department of Transportation from lobbying for any Federal, State, or local legislation. This amendment was not included in the final bill, but I will continue to fight to ensure your tax dollars are not spent on federal agencies lobbying for their own interests.

For a full summary of the bill's benefits to Illinois and the nation, please visit: http://transportation.house.gov/strr-act.

Thank You Veterans



We can never fully repay the debt of gratitude we over to our nation's veterans. Their service deserves our highest recognition.

I am always amazed at the dedication our 14th District veterans have to our country. On Veteran's Day, I visited American Legion Post 911 in Wauconda.



To the 727,000 veterans in Illinois and the millions more across the country, we all say: Thank You.

Providing Affordable Housing Grants to Neediest

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded the State of Illinois and local governments millions of dollars in grants for Fiscal Year 2016 to help provide housing assistance for needy individuals and families, including more than \$48 million affecting the 14th Congressional District.

Colder months are ahead, and I'm pleased at the additional assistance provided to our neighbors most in need this next year.

I trust our state and local officials will use this funding efficiently and responsibly to ensure the 'least of these' in our communities are served well.

For more details on the individual grants, click here.

Leading in Health Innovation

I was honored to be named a "Champion of Healthcare Innovation" by the Healthcare Leadership Council (HLC), a coalition of leaders of the nation's premier health care companies and organizations, at an event showcasing developments in health care technologies, treatments and practices.



Congressional App Challenge





It's time for the second annual Congressional App Challenge! I was thrilled by the high caliber of last year's submissions, demonstrating how the competition is a great way students can showcase their ideas and technical know-how.

Learning computer code alongside young students, I have seen strong promise with our next generation of pioneers and innovators. I am excited to see what inventive apps students in the 14th District create to solve everyday problems and enhance our lives.

The 2016 Congressional App Challenge submission period is open now and will run through January 15, 2016.

For more information, please visit <u>www.congressionalappchallenge.us</u> or my website at <u>http://hultgren.house.gov/serving-you/stem-competition</u>.

If you haven't already, be sure to <u>like my Facebook page</u>, follow me on Twitter (@RepHultgren), or <u>check out my YouTube page</u> 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

<u>Changes in state assistance rules a concern for seniors</u> (Kendall County Now)

Experts: U.S. airports safe, but Egyptian breach may bring crackdown (Daily Herald)

House passes two anti-Semitism resolutions (JUF News)

Hultgren Favors Keeping Guantanamo Open (McHenry County Blog)

Nuclear power must be a part of greener future (Los Angeles Times)

Will County receives \$2.4 million in HUD grant dollars (Joliet Herald-News)

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