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CONGRESSMAN  
**RANDY HULTGREN**

Proudly Representing the 14th District of Illinois

Home

About Randy

Serving You

News

Our District

Contact

May 5, 2014

Dear Friends,

I have met with many of you these past few weeks, and am working on and supporting several pieces of legislation to the benefit of the people of the 14th District. Here's the latest on how I'm serving you.

#### Supporting Family-Owned Businesses and Farms

Growing up in a family funeral home, I saw first-hand the grief families endured following the death of a parent, and I understand how important it is to protect people when they are most vulnerable. I recently supported two efforts to that end:

- **Urged repeal of the Estate Tax ("Death Tax"):** The estate tax diminishes the ability of families to pass on their life's work to their children and grandchildren. Burdening family farmers and small-business owners in Illinois only adds insult to injury after a loss. Furthermore, a report by a former Congressional Budget Office director estimated that a full repeal of the estate tax would create 1.5 million new jobs. Along with 59 colleagues, I [sent a letter](#) to House Leadership urging a repeal of the tax in any tax reform package.
- **Cosponsored H.R. 4213, the Funeral Rule Improvement Act of 2014:** A 1984 Federal Trade Commission (FTC) rule was intended to forbid business practices that would exploit the grief-stricken consumer, but a loophole made the rule only apply to funeral homes that provide both goods and services—family funeral homes. H.R. 4213 would close the loophole and ensure that these consumer protections would cover all businesses selling funeral goods or services, such as cemeteries, internet sellers and retail stores.

#### Connecting Workers with 21st Century Jobs

One the greatest challenges facing the long-term unemployed and the youth is connecting the skills and knowledge they have with the jobs that actually exist. Many times, the jobs workers' held previously no longer exist or require advanced training.

**H.R. 4425, the Perkins Modernization Act of 2014**, is a bill I have cosponsored that better connects future employees and adults reentering the workforce with the demands of an ever-evolving labor market.

Right now, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 authorizes formula grants to State boards of career and technical education (CTE) and sub grants to local education agencies and postsecondary institutions, including community colleges, comprehensive high schools, technical schools and community-based organizations. This helps develop the academic, vocational, and technical skills of future employees and adults reentering the workforce.

By replacing language in the Act from "high skill, high wage, or high demand occupations" with "employment in in-demand industry sectors or occupations," CTE will use workforce data—including analysis of job openings and Department of Labor statistics—to drive career and technical education curriculum to meet emerging labor market demands. This will help align CTE programs with local workforce needs and prepare workers making a transition to a new industry or skill set for the jobs of both today and tomorrow.

#### Drug Drop Off

Prescription drug abuse has wrecked countless lives, and careless disposal or neglect of home medicines can exacerbate the problem. Further, the link between prescription drugs and eventual heroin use is clear, and we must work together as a community to lessen the danger to the young and old alike.

#### Honoring our WWII Veterans

Do you know a WWII veteran who has yet to see the World War II Memorial on the National Mall? Honor Flight Chicago needs your help! Assist them by referring a deserving service member:

<http://honorflightchicago.org>.



(Rep. Hultgren at the WWII Memorial with ex-Marine and former DuPage County Sheriff Richard Doria)

#### Survey Results

Do you support legislation to allow students in Illinois to substitute a computer science course in place of an upper-level math class (provided they complete Algebra II)?

Answer	Total
Yes	54.41%
No	38.24%
Unsure	7.35%

#### Tell a Friend

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(Rep. Hultgren using new drug drop box with Kane County Coroner Rob Russell)

I was pleased to participate in the nationwide drug “take-back” effort in April which provided Illinois residents with no-cost, anonymous collection of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription medicines, including powerful opioid painkillers.

When a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet, the entire northern Illinois community must search their homes for these drugs and get them out of harm’s way.

**Please click [here](#) for information on disposing your own prescription drugs throughout the year.**

I will continue to fight to stop the epidemic of heroin and opioid abuse. More information is available on my website at: <http://hultgren.house.gov/heroin>.

#### Preparing our Next Generation of STEM Leaders

Our next generation of technicians, engineers and scientists should be exposed to careers and jobs they hadn’t even considered when imagining their futures.

Here’s a floor speech I gave on the USA Science and Engineering Festival in Washington, D.C. which energized students and teachers and showcased the opportunities of the future.



(Click picture to watch video)

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](#)

Letter to the Editor: Chicago Sun-Times: [We must teach more computer science](#)



Letter to the Editor: Daily Herald: [ACA's 30-hour rule bad for business](#)

1440WROK.com: [Riley and Scot Visit Rep. Randy Hultgren VIDEO](#)

Chicago Sun-Times: [Entire Illinois GOP D.C. delegation asks for federal Quinn probe](#)

Chicago Sun-Times: [What your representatives did on their spring break](#)

Chicago Tonight, WTTW: [Rep. Hultgren on ACA, Common Core & More](#)

Christian News Network: [U.S. Congressmen Meet with German Ambassador to Urge Homeschooling Freedom](#)

Crain's Chicago Business: [Congressmen push funding for Fermilab, Argonne](#)

Illinois Review: [Hultgren Pushes to Repeal "Death Tax," Create 1.5 Million Jobs](#)

National Journal: [TRIA Triage Policy Summit](#)

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