

News from Representative Randy Hultgren



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[Sworn In!](#)

Along with fellow new and returning Members of Congress, I was sworn into the 114th Congress on Tuesday. I have to tell you I am excited about the new opportunities we are going to have in Congress to work on solutions that will control government spending and growth while freeing Americans to improve their current situation, obtain quality jobs, stay ahead of rising costs, and take full advantage of the liberties granted in the Constitution.

We all remember in November how frustrated Americans showed they wanted a change in Washington, and my colleagues and I can and must deliver.

I believe America still has a bright future ahead. Working together across the branches of government to ensure we have not already passed our nation's best days will require a healthy give and take, and I'm proud of the strides I have made with Members on both sides of the aisle in pursuit of bipartisan legislation.

[Floor Speech on Low-Dose Radiation Research](#)



(Click picture to watch video)



I want to thank you again for allowing me to serve as your representative in Congress. I was pleased to meet with constituents visiting Washington, D.C. this week and look forward to seeing many more visit their nation's capital this year.

Reading the Constitution on House Floor

Beginning in 2011 when I was first sworn into Congress, the House has begun actually reading the U.S. Constitution together—Democrats and Republicans— at the beginning of each Congress. I was given the great privilege of presiding over the reading as Speaker *pro tempore* on Friday. I posted a quick video that I shot in Statuary Hall just before I took the chair. Take a look!



(Click picture to watch video)

Opening Up Job Opportunities for Veterans

As soon as legislative business opened up this Congress, the House acted to encourage small businesses to hire veterans by providing relief from the Affordable Care Act's burdensome employer mandate. I cosponsored this same bill, the **Hire More Heroes Act**, last Congress and am pleased we were able to kick off the new session by helping get our servicemen and women back to work

Cutting this bureaucratic red tape is just the first step in getting government off the backs of small businesses and freeing them to expand and hire more workers. More info on the Hire More Heroes Act

[here](#).

House Passes My Bill to Advance Research of Innovative Low-Dose Radiation

Not even a day later on Wednesday, the House moved to pass my own bill, **H.R. 35, the Low-Dose Radiation Research Act**.

While it may sound scary, we come in contact with small amounts of radiation every day from the cosmic background, which many Americans are probably unaware of. At the same time, low-dose radiation's applications span the gamut, used in everything from medical imaging (X-rays) to manufacturing tools used by Illinois manufacturers to make precise measurements.

Currently, the assumption is that because high doses of radiation are harmful to human health, lower doses must be too. This is akin to saying that jumping down one step in a flight of stairs is harmful to your health because we already know the harm caused by jumping down a full flight of stairs.

While there is little doubt that there is a threshold above which humans should avoid exposure to radiation, my bill directs the Department of Energy's Office of Science to prioritize the research necessary to understand what that level actually is.

When considering any regulatory approach to protecting public health, it is essential we have the science and facts straight before taking any potentially burdensome regulatory actions that could hamper future innovation.

Maximizing Illinois' Tech-Based Economic Development

This week, Rep. Dan Lipinski (D-IL-03) and I led a bipartisan Illinois congressional delegation in supporting an Illinois initiative which would link top research institutions together and help accelerate deployment of top new technologies, "thereby driving competitiveness in key Illinois industries including advanced manufacturing, healthcare, agriculture, and information technology," as we wrote in our [letter](#) to the Secretary of Commerce.

Implemented by the University of Illinois, this network would **cultivate Illinois' regional innovation ecosystem**, thus helping to create jobs and propel technology commercialization across the state.

Promoting Community Banking Representation at the Fed

This week the House passed **H.R. 26, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015**, a Main Street bill I have supported that contains needed market-oriented conservative reforms that protect the taxpayer from excessive loss but also ensures we have a functioning terrorism insurance market that doesn't punish businesses—like small insurers in Illinois—for offering such insurance. ICYMI, here's my [New York Post](#) op-ed on it.

Importantly, included in the bill was language which will require that the Federal Reserve Board of Governors include at least one member with community bank experience. I previously [urged](#) the Obama Administration to make this change to ensure community banks have a say in regulatory rulemaking at the Fed.

Because our Main Street economy depends on stable access to credit from local, trusted institutions, we must defend our community banks from Washington regulatory straight-jackets targeted at big banks.

Heroin Fight Continues...

Over the holiday break, several newspapers covered our community's efforts to combat heroin, highlighting the great work produced from our Community Leadership Forum last year. Here are couple of highlights, but please see the "Randy in the News" section below for more.

"Thankfully, politicians like...Rep. Randy Hultgren this past year are paying a lot of attention to the heroin problem." –Aurora Beacon News

"A recommendation in a draft action plan developed by 14th District U.S. Rep. Randy Hultgren aims to prevent prescription pain pills from being stolen...at least one case proves burglaries of prescription painkillers do happen." –Daily Herald

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

- ['Man in recovery' not slowing down in heroin battle](#) (Aurora Beacon News)
- [Burglary case shows need to secure pills during home showings](#) (Daily Herald)
- [Dold, new Congress get started Tuesday](#) (Daily Herald)
- [Don't penalize those who choose transit](#) (Daily Herald, letter to the editor)
- [House Loses a Human-Rights Champion — But Don't Call Frank Wolf 'Retired'](#) (PJ Media)
- [How suburban politicians fight heroin with forums, funding](#) (Daily Herald)
- [Hultgren plan would study low-dose radiation effects](#) (Daily Herald)
- [Hultgren sworn in: 'I believe America still has a bright future ahead'](#) (Kane County Chronicle)
- [Looking back on 2014 humbling, inspiring](#) (Aurora Beacon News)
- [NEI Welcomes House Passage of Low-Dose Radiation Bill](#) (Nuclear Energy Institute)
- [Suburban congressmen starting new term try to strike bipartisan tone](#) (Daily Herald)

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

District Office
1797 State Street Suite A
Geneva, IL 60134
Phone: (630) 232-7104
Fax: (630) 232-7174

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