

News from Representative Randy Hultgren

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Stepping Up the Pressure on Human Trafficking

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month, and I reintroduced my legislation, the Sex Trafficking Demand Reduction Act (H.R. 611), which pushes nations to use their authority to clamp down on the demand for commercial sex, a key factor in the prevalence of human trafficking. If the demand for violating human lives dries up, the horrific "market" for sex slavery will wither. Read more by clicking [here](#). I talked about my bill on EWTN's The World Over with Raymond Arroyo:



(Click picture to watch video)

Additionally, I supported House passage of several pieces of legislation, including two bill I cosponsored, to fight this global epidemic and help victims caught in its trap. Read more [here](#), and watch my floor statement highlighting our efforts [here](#).

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month, and I invited Laila Mickelwait of [Exodus Cry](#) as my guest to the State of the Union address. Read more about her tireless efforts in the **Randy in the News** section below. Speaking of the State of the Union...

Thoughts on State of the Union

I listened with great interest to the President's State of the Union Address and had hopes he would chart a brighter course for future generations and would enlist Congress to work together to solve our nation's challenges. Instead, he put forth a wish list of items that in large part were intended to divide the country, rather than bring us together. But I still have hope that both sides can come together to put forth solutions for the benefit of all Americans. Here was my take immediately after:



(Click picture to watch video)

Supporting Illinois Business and Defending Taxpayers

Manufacturers and suppliers in the 14th District rely on the Export-Import Bank, a key financing tool, to remain competitive, ensure exports reach their customers, and preserve the jobs of their employees. Since 2007, the Ex-Im Bank has supported almost \$6 billion in Illinois export sales from 301 exporters, including 204 small businesses.

I supported **H.R. 597, the Reform Exports and Expand the American Economy Act**, which reauthorizes the Bank for five years and includes key reforms to improve transparency and accountability to taxpayers. Among other reforms, the bill would require an independent audit of the Bank's financing portfolio. Reauthorizing the Ex-Im Bank benefits smaller production suppliers here in Illinois, including the 29 production suppliers and other vendors in the 14th District that fulfill Boeing orders. A five-year extension with reforms will ensure stability for Illinois businesses and jobs, and accountability for the American taxpayer.

How Can We Keep Our Kids Safe Online?

This new Congress, I was honored to rejoin the Science, Space and Technology Committee, and the Subcommittees on Energy, and Research and Technology. Basic scientific research has important and direct effects on the 14th District,

including at Fermilab National Laboratory and the many manufacturers who rely on their discoveries to innovate and bring new technologies to the market.

In a subcommittee hearing, I asked industry cyber experts about how we can improve password technology and cyber protection. I am especially concerned about keeping children, including my own, safe as they use internet-connected technologies. [Click here](#) to watch as I speak with industry and government experts.

What other cool things are happening in the Science Committee? For one, making sure America remains at the forefront of supercomputing technology, which does everything from analyzing the life of our nuclear stockpile, to modeling the human brain to find out what causes Alzheimer's disease. I introduced legislation last year which [passed the House](#) to help propel us forward. We talked about it further at a hearing. WATCH: <http://youtu.be/uOJqWyLIP8c>.

Fighting for Life at All Stages

It has been more than 40 years and more than 50 million lives lost since the infamous *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court ruling, but the fight to protect the most vulnerable among us continues. Majorities of Americans agree that no child should be aborted after five months of life, no doctor should be forced to violate their moral convictions, and no one should be forced to pay for someone else's abortion. That's why I cosponsored the following legislation:

- **H.R. 36, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act**, which stops abortions after 20 weeks, or five months, based on the child's ability to feel pain. A November 2014 poll from Quinnipiac found that 60 percent of Americans support legislation limiting abortions after 20 weeks.
- **H.R. 940, the Health Care Conscience Rights Act**, a comprehensive bill that will respect the religious freedom of Americans seeking health insurance, as well as the ability of the greater health care community to provide patient care in accordance with deeply-held, reasoned beliefs.
- **H.R. 217, the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act**, which prevents federal tax dollars from going to organizations that perform abortions. No American should have to pay for someone else's abortion.

I was honored to join my colleagues and the thousands of young people at this year's March for Life on the National Mall. View pictures I took from the stage [here](#).

House Defunds President's Executive Overreach

I have made it clear that if the President used his executive power to overreach his authority, I would oppose such actions that violate the Constitution and the will of the American people. I supported House passage of a bill to defund the President's unlawful executive orders and restore the proper legal procedure whereby a judge—not the President—processes any deferred action on deportations.

As I've said before, many in Congress are willing to work with the President on securing our borders, improving the visa system, and pursuing real reform of the broken system. But we must do so without stepping outside of the bounds of the constitutional roles each of us has sworn an oath to defend.

Please [read more](#) on what actions I took to block the President's overreach.

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

- [Congressman listens to Plainfield officials' pleas for help](#) (Chicago Tribune)
- [House votes to undo Obama's executive actions on immigration](#) (Northwest Herald)

- [Hultgren Co-Sponsors Pro-Life Bills, Offers Office Goodies to DC Marchers](#) (McHenry County Blog)
- [Hultgren fighting human trafficking](#) (Daily Herald)
- [Hultgren highlights human trafficking problem with speech guest](#) (Daily Herald)
- [Hultgren on Rauner inauguration: 'I look forward to our brighter future'](#) (Kane County Chronicle)
- [Illinois GOP congressmen back new bill to renew Export-Import Bank](#) (Crain's Chicago Business)
- [McHenry County's reps react to 2015 State of the Union address](#) (Northwest Herald)
- [Should the government hire 'off-the-street' air traffic controllers?](#) (The Washington Examiner)
- [Trained observers](#) (The Enterprise)
- [Trains, automobiles subject of Plainfield transportation talk](#) (Joliet Times-Herald)
- [U.S. lawmakers looking to intensify DOE's low-dose radiation research](#) (Science Magazine)

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