

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Official Business



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## Energy

In June, Congress passed H.R. 338, the Promote a 21st Century Energy and Manufacturing Workforce Future Act. Our office has worked on this legislation for several years and was one of the primary sponsors of this bill that will prioritize education and training programs in the energy and manufacturing sectors for underrepresented Americans, including women, veterans, and minorities, as well as displaced and unemployed energy and manufacturing workers.

This legislation will help build public-private partnerships between private industry, colleges and universities, and workforce organizations, to development and improve training programs, and identify candidates from underrepresented and unemployed communities to enroll into training and apprenticeship programs.

The economy in our part of the country is rapidly expanding thanks to the development of the Eagle Ford shale and the Permian Basin. This bill will help ensure that this economic prosperity is shared across all of our community. These good paying and career jobs will be available to our students.



Congressman Green meeting with the Fullerton Civic Club in June where they discussed healthcare and several community issues.

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M.C.  
Presorted Standard  
W/S Carrier Route

29th Congressional District of Texas

Summer/Fall 2017



# Congressman Gene Green Reports

Dear Friend,

I am honored to represent you in the United States Congress. There has been a lot of movement in the House of Representatives recently on issues that affect our area and lives. I hope you will join us at a town hall or community event in August, so that we can talk more about the opportunities for our District.

Healthcare is an issue that I've worked tirelessly to improve since I've been your Representative. Too many families in our district still lack access to quality care, and I'm afraid healthcare will cost more for hard-working families if the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is repealed. I will continue to fight to preserve the ACA and encourage my colleagues to help us improve the bill rather than repeal it with worse coverage and fewer protections. You can read more about the details of the Republican repeal bill and how it will impact our community in the newsletter.

Energy is also an important issue. Texas's diverse energy production is the gold standard when it comes to investments and powering millions of homes. In June, I introduced a bipartisan bill to encourage and promote the construction of energy infrastructure across border lines with our North American neighbors. The Promoting Cross-Border Energy Infrastructure Act, would establish transparent, reliable procedures to provide regulatory certainty and enable the United States to further expand the mutually beneficial energy relationship with Canada and Mexico. This bill passed out of our Energy and Commerce Committee in June.

As a Senior Member of Congress, I represent you as the ranking Democrat on the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Health Subcommittee. Our Committee focuses on the energy, environmental, healthcare, and telecommunications issues that affect us every day.

I look forward to meeting with you, listening to your concerns, and working together to better our community. Remember, you don't have to wait for a town hall to contact us, we're always happy to hear from you and respond to your requests. In addition to our town halls, we're also hosting our Annual Immunization Day, Job Fair, and Paying for College Workshop. All event times and locations are listed in the newsletter, and can be found on our website at <https://green.house.gov>.

If we can ever be of service please contact us at one of our offices or on our website.

Sincerely,

Gene Green  
Member of Congress

## 2017 Summer/Fall Town Hall Meetings

**Wednesday, August 16 @ 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

*Town Hall Meeting*

Aldine Family Hope Center  
4700 Aldine Mail Route  
Houston Texas 77039

**Monday, August 21 @ 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

*Town Hall Meeting  
in conjunction with  
Fullerton Civic Club*

214 Adams Street  
Houston Texas 77011

**Tuesday, August 22 @ 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.**

*Town Hall Meeting  
in conjunction with  
Lindale Park Civic Club*

Lindale Park Clubhouse  
218 Joyce Street  
Houston, Texas 77009

**Wednesday, August 23 @ 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

*Town Hall Meeting*

American Legion Post 521  
2221 Preston Avenue  
Pasadena, Texas 77503

**Tuesday, August 29 @ 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

*Town Hall Meeting*

North Shore  
Community Fellowship of Faith Church  
444 Maxey Road  
Houston, Texas 77013

## Stay Connected



@RepGeneGreen  
[green.house.gov](https://green.house.gov)

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## Affordable Care Act Repeal

The American Health Care Act (H.R. 1628) is the House Republican plan to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and replace it with the House Majority's bill. According to the nonpartisan, independent Congressional Budget Office (CBO), it will force 23 million Americans to lose their health insurance. Deductibles and out-of-pocket costs will also greatly increase, leaving sick people unable to afford the care they need. Under the ACA, low and middle-income families received financial assistance based on age, income, and where you live. Under the House Republican leadership bill, I believe the subsidies will be slashed, saddling working families with massive health costs. According to the Congressional Budget Office analysis, insurers will be able to charge older Americans, particularly those aged 50 and older, five times higher than what others pay for health coverage, a policy that will devastate poorer, sicker Americans.

H.R. 1628 puts Medicare at risk by shortening the life of the Trust Fund in order to give tax breaks to the wealthy. It ends the Medicaid expansion under ACA, which extended coverage to more than 11 million low-income people as of March 2016, according to The Kaiser Family Foundation. If Texas would expand Medicaid, more than 46,000 of our neighbors would be eligible for Medicaid. The bill cuts \$834 billion from Medicaid and fundamentally restructures the way the entire Medicaid program is financed to shift costs to states. This puts the future of Medicaid in jeopardy and will lead to a reduction in benefits and the rationing of care among beneficiaries – seniors in nursing homes, children, pregnant women and people with disabilities. The bill allows states to waive the Essential Health Benefit requirements, meaning there is no guarantee whether insurance actually would cover the benefits patients need like prescription drugs, emergency care, hospitalization, pregnancy, and mental health and substance abuse services.

As premiums soar and quality coverage is priced out of reach, families will be left with plans that cost more, offer worse coverage, and fewer protections. There are certainly ways the current law can be improved, like strengthening the risk pool, promoting competition among insurers, and requiring states to expand their Medicaid program so that almost 50,000 individuals in our district and millions of lower-income Americans across the country could get insurance. I hope to work with my colleagues to build on the ACA and improve the law.

## Northside/Aldine Job Fair

Join Congressman Green at one of his biannual job fairs. Dozens of local businesses will be on site looking to hire for full-time, part-time, and seasonal positions. Participants should dress professionally and bring their resumes. For more information, please call 281-999-5879.

**Monday, October 16 @ 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

M.O. Campbell Educational Center  
1865 Aldine Bender Road  
Houston, Texas 77032

## Children's Health Insurance Program & Federally Qualified Health Centers

The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) was created to build on the Medicaid program, providing financing support for states to expand coverage to uninsured children in families that make too much to qualify for Medicaid, but not enough to afford the out of pocket costs associated with private coverage. As of FY 2016, there were 37.1 million children enrolled in Medicaid, 8.9 million children enrolled through CHIP, and 1.1 million children with Marketplace coverage. Funding for CHIP is scheduled to run out on September 30, 2017. I will continue to advocate for the program and urge my colleagues to fully extend funding for five years.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) created the Community Health Center Fund (CHCF), which provided \$11 billion in mandatory funding through FY 2015 to the Health Center Program for health center construction and renovation. The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) reauthorized the CHCF by directly appropriating \$3.6 billion for each of fiscal years 2016 and 2017. Without an extension of CHCF funding, the Health Center Program would be decimated. Seeing that we have many quality community health centers in our district, this would be especially harmful for us.



Congressman Green standing with Jessy Ortega, winner of this year's annual Congressional Art Competition, representing the 29th Congressional District of Texas.

## 22nd Annual Immunization Day

Congressman Green invites students and families to start the school year with a discussion about children's health and health policy. Free immunizations will be available for school-aged children at the following times and locations. Parents must bring their child's shot record with them.

**Saturday, August 19 @ 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

AAMA Learning Center  
6001 Gulf Freeway, Building E  
Houston, TX 77023

Galena Park High School (Galena Park ISD)  
1000 Keene Street  
Galena Park, TX 77547

UT Physicians Community Health & Wellness Center  
2620 E. Crosstimbers, Suite 100  
Houston, TX 77093

## Workforce

Increasing federal investment in workforce training opportunities for our community is one of our office's biggest priorities in Congress. High-quality workforce training programs need to be readily available throughout Houston and Harris County for ambitious high school and college students, as well as more experienced workers, who are looking to obtain the skills and credentials necessary to find a well-paying job with good benefits.

In May, our office introduced the Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence Act, H.R. 2286. This legislation will authorize the U.S. Department of Transportation to designate maritime workforce training programs at community colleges, like the program at San Jacinto College, as a "Center of Excellence." Centers of Excellence under our bill will qualify for federal assistance to help support maritime workforce training, including technical assistance, surplus equipment, and funding. The bill has already been attached to larger pieces of legislation in the House and Senate, and we expect it will become law in the coming months.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act in June with our office's support. This legislation will increase federal funding for career and technical education (CTE) programs at high schools, community colleges, and trade schools, and provide greater flexibility for states to customize programs for the needs of their communities.

## Senior Citizens Issues Forum

Join Congressman Green for a discussion on legislative issues affecting seniors. Representatives from the Social Security Administration, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Harris County Area Agency on Aging will be available to answer questions about health care, referral services, and programs for seniors.

**Tuesday, August 22 @ 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club  
2600 Aldine Westfield  
Houston, Texas 77093



Congressman Green greeting constituents during his annual Citizenship Day in June where over 70 members of the community received help with their citizenship application.

## Paying for College Workshop & Academy Day

Congressman Green invites high school students and families to a free seminar to learn about the federal financial aid process, scholarship, loans and other ways of paying for college. Representatives from Sallie Mae, Project Grad, local colleges, and U.S. Military Academies will be available to answer questions.

**Monday, October 30 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Milby High School (HISD)  
1601 Broadway  
Houston, Texas 77012