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**RANDY HULTGREN***Proudly Representing the 14th District of Illinois*[Home](#)[About Randy](#)[Serving You](#)[News](#)[Our District](#)[Contact](#)

Dear friend,

December 18, 2011

Last week, the House voted to approve the Fiscal Year 2012 budget, which cut \$31 billion from discretionary spending. In fact, with the passage of this budget, Congress has now cut discretionary spending for two straight years in a row – the first time this has occurred in modern history.

I commend the leaders in the House and the Appropriations Committee for their work on this budget, however I was unable to support the final bill. While there are many items in the budget that I support, I felt that combining numerous bills together with little time to properly review them is not the transparent government that Americans have called for.

Early last week, I voted to support H.R. 3630, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2011. This bill extends the payroll tax cut for almost 160 million hard-working American families. It is also fully paid for, not with job-crushing tax hikes, but with spending cuts, including a continued salary freeze for Members of Congress.

The bill would also create tens of thousands of jobs and improve America's energy security by requiring the President to make a decision within sixty days on the Keystone XL pipeline.

Fortunately, the Senate voted to pass H.R. 3630, with amendments, on Saturday. The House will now return to Washington early next week so we can consider the Senate's amendments to the bill.

If you haven't already, be sure to like my [Facebook page](#), follow me on [Twitter](#), or check out my [YouTube page](#) to stay informed on everything I'm doing on your behalf in Washington and in Illinois.

As always, it is truly an honor to serve you in Washington. Please contact me at 630.232.7104 or 202.225.2976 if I can be of assistance, or if you'd like to share your thoughts on the issues before Congress.

In service,

Randy Hultgren
Member of Congress

Congratulations to Fermilab

I'd like to congratulate Fermilab for the groundbreaking of the Illinois Accelerator Research Center (IARC). The potential for collaborations like the IARC, where our nation's top scientists and engineers can work together alongside academic and industry stakeholders, makes me tremendously excited for the future of Fermilab and High Energy Physics.

I firmly believe that the health and well-being of our nation is strongly tied to our ability to develop and nurture a strong ecosystem where basic research, academia, and industry all complement one another. And I'm confident the IARC will serve that purpose extremely well.

I look forward to continuing to work with Fermilab on assuring the lab's long-term future and success.

Video of the Week**E-mail Updates**

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[Click here](#) or on the picture above to watch Congressman Hultgren speak on the House floor about a recent Gallup poll where 64 percent of Americans responded that their biggest fear and the greatest threat to our country is big government.

Coming Up in Washington

The House will return to Washington this week to consider the Senate amendment to H.R. 3630, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2011.

Randy in the News

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[House Passes Tax Cut, Democrats Threaten to Kill It](#)

[Hultgren Statement In Support Of House Bill For Payroll Tax Cut Extension, Job Creation](#)

[Congressman Tells Regulators NDI Guidance Needs Redo](#)

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