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

January 31, 2014

Dear Friends,

The House has wasted no time in the new session of the 113th Congress, passing legislation aimed at getting individuals and families in Illinois back to work and increasing oversight of the President's health care law. I wanted to let you know how I'm working on your behalf in Washington.

[Protecting Health Consumers from Identity Theft](#)

The Affordable Care Act has continued its rollout as state and federal exchanges attempt to sign up insurance customers. But the central online portal, Healthcare.gov, has been plagued with disturbing cybersecurity threats.

The House Science, Space and Technology Committee, on which I serve, oversees the agency which provides security standards for federal websites like Healthcare.gov. This month, we held the second of two hearings featuring online security experts who testified to the threats the website poses to American consumers' personal information. David Kennedy, a "white hat hacker," has testified that there are "clear indicators that even basic security was not built into the Healthcare.gov website."

Americans deserve a secure online shopping experience. Here's what I am doing to hold the administration accountable to consumers:

- **Voted for H.R. 3811, Health Exchange Security and Transparency Act.** Requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to notify individuals of any breach on the health care law exchanges that endangers personal data within two business days. If Target is required to notify the 70 million customers whose information was jeopardized, the administration should be too.
- **Co-sponsored H.R. 3635, Safe and Secure Federal Websites Act.** No federal website that intakes personal data should be online without basic, industry-accepted standards of security. H.R. 3635 requires increased certification requirements for Healthcare.gov and future federal websites that collect sensitive personal before they are made public. Any federal website published after July 1, 2013 that is not certified must be taken down until certified as secure.
- **Voted for H.R. 3362, Exchange Information Disclosure Act.** More than three months after the exchanges launched, the administration keeps moving the goalposts of success for enrollment. This bill requires HHS to provide American consumers and Congress weekly reports on the status of Healthcare.gov, including unique website visits, accounts created, qualified health plan selection and Medicaid enrollment.

[Helping Our Veterans Find Work](#)

When our servicemen and women return home, the last thing they should fear is unemployment. But the healthcare law's employer mandate has discouraged many small businesses from hiring workers at a time when our economy is still struggling to recover. I have co-sponsored H.R. 3474, the Hire More Heroes Act, which allows small businesses to hire veterans without facing penalties by exempting veterans who already receive health coverage under TRICARE or the VA from being taken into account for purposes of the employer mandate. Lifting this burden on small businesses is a win for our veterans and our economy.

[Silence is Not an Option](#)**Tell a Friend**

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Coinciding with Religious Freedom Day, the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission held a hearing focused on the plight of prisoners of conscience around the world who are imprisoned because of what they believe. Member of Congress, including myself, have "adopted" specific prisoners in order to raise awareness and hold nations accountable for their human rights violations.

My adoptee, Chinese dissident Zhu Yufu, has spent nearly 700 days behind the walls of the overcrowded Zhejiang Prison Number 4 in China for his pro-democracy activities. *Please click [here](#) to hear his story.*



(Zhu Yufu, Poet and Pro-democracy activist)

Protecting the Vulnerable Among Us

It's rare Congress comes to an agreement on the issue of abortion, but ensuring no taxpayer dollars go to fund the procedure has enjoyed bipartisan support ever since the Honorable Henry Hyde introduced his amendment. Vast majorities of Americans oppose using taxpayer dollars to pay for abortion.

That's why I voted for H.R. 7, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, a bill I co-sponsored which passed the House and codifies the patchwork of federal provisions that ensure no taxpayer dollars fund abortions except in cases of rape, incest and when the life of the mother is at stake. H.R. 7 ensures this long-standing policy becomes permanent and government-wide, including in the exchanges created under the President's health care law.

All life should be protected, from conception to natural death, and forcing someone to pay for someone else's abortion that they oppose on moral grounds violates their freedom of conscience.

WATCH: Marking the 41st anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* this month, I gave a floor speech recognizing pro-life warriors including Illinois' own Honorable Henry Hyde and Irene Napier, President Emeritus of Right to Life of McHenry County. *Click [here](#) to watch the video.*

I also hosted students from McHenry County and marched with them at the March for Life in Washington, D.C. to remember the 55 million lost to abortion. *Please visit my Facebook album [here](#) to see photos from the week.*

Congressional Art Competition



The 2014 Congressional Art Competition for high school students has begun, and I am looking for entries from the talented young artists of the 14th District.

One winner is chosen from each district, and the winner's artwork is then sent to Washington, D.C. for display in the U.S. Capitol. However, submitted artwork will be hung at Water Street Studios for a reception announcing the winners, so please make certain that your artwork is "ready to hang." (If selected, winners will be required to frame their piece for display in the Capitol Building.) Each winner also receives a

roundtrip ticket to Washington, D.C. compliments of Southwest Airlines.

Entries for the competition are due to my district office, located at 1797 W. State St., Suite A, in Geneva, by Friday, April 4.

For any additional questions or to obtain a copy of the guidelines and student information/release forms when they become available, please visit the official [Congressional Art Competition Website](#) or contact Ruth Richardson at my Geneva office at 630-232-7104.

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](#)

Lake County Suburban Life: [Hultgren offers views on top issues](#)

Elgin Courier-News: [Kids teach congressman how to write computer code in Elgin's new downtown technology center](#)

Northwest Herald: [Local legislators react to State of the Union address](#)

Kane County Chronicle: [Protecting consumers' personal info \(Letter to the editor\)](#)

Contact Information

Washington, DC
332 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2976
Fax: (202) 225-0697

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

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