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CONGRESSMAN  
**RANDY HULTGREN**

Proudly Representing the 14th District of Illinois

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June 16, 2012

### Listening to You

Over the last two weeks, I've [visited with factory employees, doctors, and job creators.](#)

On Thursday night, I held a [town hall in Batavia](#), and even a [Twitter Q&A](#) last week.

Below are dates and times for [upcoming Mobile Office Days.](#)

After listening to you, it's clear that right now in Illinois, the economy is not 'fine'. Parents are looking at their children and wondering how to pay for college. One in two recent graduates are looking at the diploma they just earned and wondering if they'll ever be able to put it to use. Seniors are looking for security when it comes to their healthcare. Many employers in the 14th district are looking at gridlock in Washington and wondering if we'll ever have a long term Farm Bill or Transportation Bill they can count on so that they can plan for the future and think about expanding.



On Monday, I'll head back to Washington and will be helping to mark up the Farm Bill, as well as urging the Conference Committee to finish crafting our final Transportation Bill. We'll also take up [a legislative calendar that is heavy on jobs.](#)

Next week, aides will visit **Montgomery, Oswego, Yorkville, Plano, Sandwich, Newark, Gilberts, Hampshire, Burlington and Pingree Grove** for Mobile Office Hours.

These are a great way to get your questions answered and ultimately even save money,

because they allow us to connect with you without opening a brick-and-mortar office in each city. [Click here for times and details](#), and keep in mind that constituents seeking assistance during Mobile Office Hours will be asked to fill out a consent form.

As always, feel free to call my office if I can assist. It's a privilege to represent you.

In Service,



Randy



### Could You Translate That?

The jargon used in Washington is often far from intelligible.

Q: What does it mean for a bill to be 'in conference'?

A: Before a bill can be signed by the President, identical versions must pass both the House and Senate. The process of working out that final compromise happens in a Conference Committee. This year's Transportation Bill is 'in conference' right now.

If you're curious about how a Conference Committee works, take a look at [this \(brief\) report](#) written by the Congressional Research Service and shared online by Politico.

Q: What is markup?

A: 'Marking up' a bill happens in committee, and is the process of changing language to be acceptable to as many members as possible. According to [the House Rules Committee](#), a member will have greater freedom to offer amendments while in committee that at any other point in the legislative process.

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