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*Michael T. McCaul*  
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110th Congress  
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Congressman **Michael McCaul**

Congressman

**Michael McCaul**



110th Congress  
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



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Over the past year I have been hard at work for the good people of the 10th Congressional District of Texas. This update will help keep you informed about what is happening in Congress. Congress has not always taken up legislation that makes sense for average, hardworking Americans. That is why I have fought to represent the values that we hold dear and to keep the federal government from needlessly interfering with your lives.

At the same time, I have been able to help pass legislation that protects taxpayers from huge tax hikes, that increases funding for veterans' care and have pushed for more openness in Congressional spending. It has not always been easy, but I believe that if we can keep your money in your pocket and out of the government's hands you will be better off as a result.

This update includes information on legislation that I supported this year to improve care for American veterans, to keep down the cost of government and to prevent your taxes from going up. There are many issues that you may not have time to stay informed about and this update is a service to give you a picture of my votes in Congress over the past year.

In addition to updating you on my legislative priorities for the past year, this letter outlines some of my goals for the 2008 legislative year. As always, if you have any feedback or suggestions, please do not hesitate to get in touch via our website at [www.house.gov/mccaul](http://www.house.gov/mccaul) or at one of my offices. After all, the best ideas don't come from Washington—they come from concerned citizens like you.

I hope this Congressional update finds you and your family well and that you find this information helpful. It is a great privilege to represent you and your values in Congress.

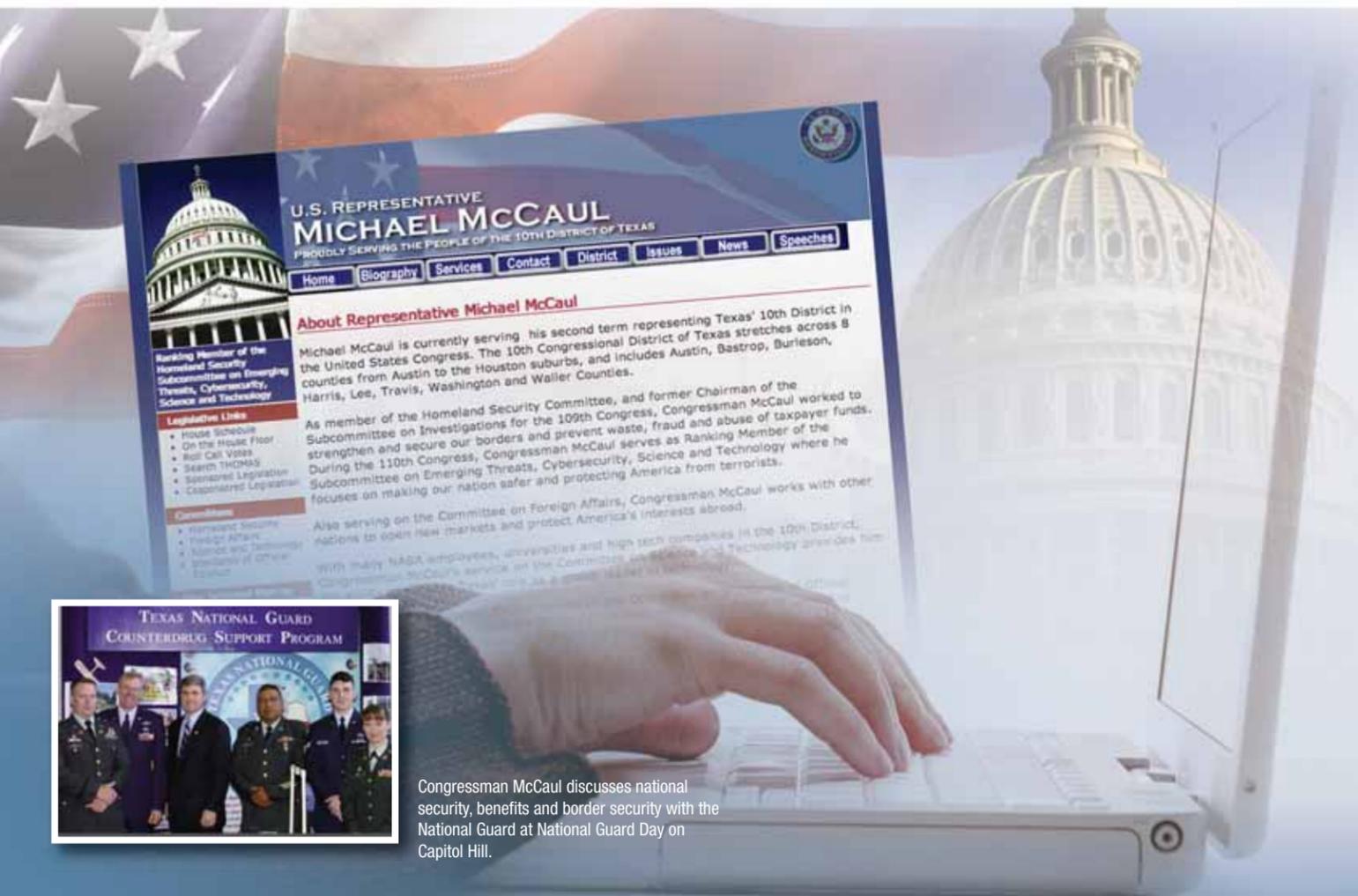
Sincerely,

*Michael T. McCaul*

Michael McCaul  
U.S. Congressman



Congressman McCaul meets with the 136th Signal Battalion and Task Force Southern Lightning to discuss the war effort in Iraq.



Congressman McCaul discusses national security, benefits and border security with the National Guard at National Guard Day on Capitol Hill.

# ACTIONS of the 110th Congress

Congressman McCaul meets with veterans in Katy, Texas to discuss issues with retired military veterans.

Congressman McCaul discusses legislation with a veteran at a Memorial Day event held by the Travis County Council of Veterans of Foreign Wars.

## Keeping our Borders Secure

Today more than ever, the issues of national security and immigration policy are of extreme importance. Last year, over 96,000 people from countries other than Mexico crossed our southern border illegally, and over 4,000 people continue to cross our southern border illegally each and every day.

Allowing illegal immigrants to cross our borders and flaunt our laws is a fundamental undermining of our centuries long tradition of the rule of law. We must enforce America's current immigration laws and enact sensible laws that secure our borders and make this land safe. We must also protect immigrants who follow the rules to come here legally and give employers the tools they need to hire legal workers.

Since being in Congress, I have supported and voted for legislation that will secure our borders with additional border agents and improved technology and security infrastructure. I have also sponsored legislation that will give employers new tools to quickly and easily determine the legal status of potential employees and enhance current methods of immigration law enforcement.

Congress needs to take decisive action to secure our borders and stem the flow of illegal immigrants. This is clearly a matter of national security and I have pledged to make it one of my top priorities.



Congressman McCaul meets with the Texas Border Sheriffs before they speak about illegal immigration and other troubles along our southern border.

## Legislation to protect you

**I have supported the following bills to address illegal immigration and border security:**

**H.R. 4088** - SAVE Act, authorizes the hiring of 8,000 additional Border Patrol agents and creates an efficient system of employment eligibility verification checks that allows for businesses to ensure that they are not hiring illegal aliens.

**H.R. 5440** - The FISA Amendments Act establishes a procedure for intercepting and monitoring communications by suspected terrorists overseas.

**H.R. 138** - Employment Eligibility Verification and Anti-Identity Theft Act, which requires an employer to take action after receiving official notice that an individual's Social Security account number does not match the individual's name. I also cosponsored this legislation.

**H.R. 136** - Identity Theft Notification Act of 2007, which provides that individuals and appropriate authorities are notified by the Commissioner of Social Security of evident misuse of Social Security account numbers. I am a cosponsor of this legislation.

**H.R. 850** - IRS Illegal Immigrant Information Act of 2007, which further addresses the disconnect between the IRS and Department of Homeland Security.

**H.R. 849** - Stop the Misuse of ITINs Act of 2007, which requires the Secretary of the Treasury to notify the Secretary of Homeland Security of employer returns showing the employment of individuals not authorized to be employed in the United States.

**H.R. 1314** - Photo Identification Security Act, which restricts the forms of individual identification that may be accepted by the federal government or by financial institutions.

This legislation represents a step in the right direction by securing our borders and making a strategic investment in our national security.

## Supporting Our Troops and Fighting for Our Veterans

In order for America to be successful in our fight against violent, radical terrorists we must provide the resources our troops need to accomplish the tasks we've given them.

Without our support, their task becomes doubly difficult. We must give them the tools they need and the protection they deserve. And it is equally important that we show the families they leave behind that we stand with them.

As I have stood with our military men and women I have been proud to support the following legislation that passed the House this year:

**HR 1538**, the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act. The bill addresses the problems in military health care facilities by improving access to quality medical care, beginning the process of restoring the integrity and efficiency of the disability evaluation system, taking steps to cut bureaucratic red-tape and improving the transition of wounded service members from the Armed Forces to the VA system.

**H.R. 2642**, 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations: would allocate \$87.7 billion to the VA system, an increase of approximately \$8 billion from 2007.

**H.R. 3793**, the Veterans Guaranteed Bonus Act of 2007: would require that veterans who are retired or separated from the military due to disabilities from combat, as well as service members who have died, receive the bonuses that were promised them.

**H.R. 303**, the Retired Pay Restoration Act: would allow all veterans, regardless of their disability percentage, to receive both military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation with respect to any service-connected disability.

## 2007 Legislative Update:

**SUPPORTED**

**The Internet Tax Freedom Act Amendments Act of 2007**, which puts a moratorium on the taxation of Internet access and electronic commerce until at least 2014.

**OPPOSED**

**H.CON.RES.99**, the 2008 federal budget proposal, which assumed tax increases of \$392 billion dollars and increased non-defense government spending by \$23.4 billion.

**SUPPORTED**

**S.2499**, the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act, which protects Medicare recipients from the effects of a proposed cut in Medicare payments to doctors and expands and extends the State Children's Health Insurance Program until March of 2009.

**SUPPORTED**

**H.R.3996**, the Tax Increase Prevention Act, which keeps the alternative minimum tax from hitting 23 million middle class Americans with a \$2000 tax increase.

**SUPPORTED**

**S.1927**, the Protect America Act, which modernized outdated laws that prevented American intelligence personnel from listening to foreign terrorists.

**SUPPORTED**

**H.R. 85**, the Energy Technology Transfer Act, which helps bring advances in energy technology to rural areas.

**SUPPORTED**

**Protecting the privacy of students:** by amending education legislation this year (H.R. 4137 and H.R. 429) to protect students from massive, intrusive government databases of personal information.

**SUPPORTED**

**H.R. 3580**, which bolsters FDA monitoring of prescription drugs and ensures consumer access to lifesaving drugs.

## Congressional Priorities for 2008:

As we enter a new year I am working with my colleagues to enact legislation that makes sense for America. To that end, I support the following legislative priorities:

- Enact legislation that moves us toward better enforcement of our immigration laws, secures our borders and cracks down on illegal immigration.
- Support our troops with the funding they need to continue to defeat terrorism around the world and give our veterans the best healthcare and benefits this country can offer.
- Prevent tax increases for average Americans in order to promote a healthy economy and continued job growth.
- Push for real energy reform that helps develop new sources of energy instead of merely taking short-sighted and punitive actions against companies working to develop new sources of oil and natural gas.
- Stop child predators, criminals and foreign agents who use the internet to prey on others or attack our computer systems.