



[Website](#) | [Biography](#) | [Constituent Services](#) | [Issues & Legislation](#) | [Newsroom](#) | [District](#)

Dear Friends,

**Healthcare Update**

The Senate voted 60-39 Saturday to bring the Democrats' latest version of the healthcare bill to the floor for debate. Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, taxes will increase by nearly \$500 billion, and Medicare will be cut by \$460 billion. The legislation would mandate all individuals purchase health insurance, penalize employers who do not offer it, and create a government-run insurance plan. The bill also includes federal funding of abortions. When fully implemented, the plan will cost \$2.5 trillion over 10 years. Debate begins after Thanksgiving.

**U.S. 290 Funding**

The Texas Transportation Commission approved \$315 million to reconstruct Houston's 290/610 interchange. I testified before the Commission in Austin last Thursday, the day of the vote. 290/610 is ranked 13th on the list of 100 most congested roadway segments in Texas. This is the first step in expanding 290 through Cypress.



Congressman McCaul addresses the Texas Transportation Commission.

**Cyber Security Enhancement Act**

Last Wednesday, I joined a bipartisan coalition to pass H.R. 4061 through the Science and Technology Committee. This bill, of which I am the lead Republican sponsor, improves cybersecurity research and development and coordination between the federal government, academia and private sector. Further, it gives the National Institute of Standards and Technology authority to develop guidelines federal agencies must meet to

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Share on LinkedIn](#)

[Share on Twitter](#)

**E-MAIL UPDATES**

**Yes, please periodically send me e-mail updates.\***

[Click Here](#)

\*By subscribing to my e-mail updates, you are authorizing me to send regular e-mail updates from my office to your e-mail account.

**Please Feel Free to Tell a Friend**

E-mail:

E-mail:

E-mail:

[Send](#)

secure their own networks. This legislation incorporates some of the [key recommendations](#) of a report that the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Congressman Langevin and I presented to President Obama earlier this year.

### **Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act**

The House passed H.R. 3961 by a vote of 243-183. This bill will increase Medicare physician reimbursements in 2010 equal to the increase in medical inflation and replace the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) mechanism with the Medicare Economic Index (MEI) to calculate the Medicare payments to physicians. In the past I have voted for the "doc fix," and I am committed to ensuring our physicians are properly reimbursed for the services they provide. This payment formula is unquestionably in need of repair. However, like many other bills introduced this Congress, H.R. 3961 fails to include any provisions to offset the \$210 billion increase in federal spending in its first 10 years and is not a permanent fix. I am a cosponsor of H.R. 3693, the Ensuring the Future Physician Workforce Act that addresses the pitfalls and includes necessary offsets to pay for it.



Congressman McCaul at a press conference at Minute Maid Park with the Greater Houston Partnership and employees of BAE Systems, discussing efforts to overturn the Army's decision to discontinue production of the FMTV military tactical vehicle in Sealy. The loss of BAE Sealy would be the equivalent of seven Minute Maid Parks each year to the Houston area economy. See [coverage on Fox 26](#).



Congressman and Linda McCaul with Roy and Ann Butler, May 2009. Roy Butler, former Austin mayor, passed away November 13.

It was such an honor to call Roy my friend. He, Ann and Linda and I have spent many wonderful moments together. He will always be remembered as "Mayor Wonderful". He was the best public servant the City of Austin has ever had. We will miss him and his wonderful spirit. We always expected him to be around. I always told him that he was like a father to me to which he would always reply, "I'm too young to be your father." Indeed, he was the youngest 83 year old I've ever seen. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Ann and the family.



Congressman McCaul attended Tomball's 44th Annual Holiday Parade.



Congressman McCaul meets with Jerry Fowler, President of the Save Darfur Coalition.

#### **In The News**

[KVUE - Stimulus Website Inaccuracies](#)

[Lynn Woolley Show - Interview on Ft. Hood Investigation](#)

[Statesman - Shooter had his sights set on soldiers, sources say](#)

[San Antonio Express - Pentagon Mulls Potential Danger in Ranks](#)

[Cypress Times - McCaul Urges TxDOT to take Action on 290](#)

[Congestion](#)

[ABC 13 - BAE Contract](#)

[Fox 26 - BAE Contract](#)

I wish all of you a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday. Our nation has much for which to be thankful.

Sincerely,



Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress

This is an unattended mailbox, if you have additional comments and would like to contact Congressman McCaul, [please email me here](#).

**Office Locations**



**Washington, D.C. Office**

131 Cannon House Office Building | Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: 202-225-2401 | Fax: 202-225-5955  
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 6pm EST



**Austin**  
5929 Balcones Dr.  
Suite 305  
Austin, TX 78731  
512-473-2357  
512-473-0514 (fax)

**Brenham**  
2000 S. Market Street  
Suite 303  
Brenham, TX 77833  
979-830-8497  
979-830-1984 (fax)

**Katy**  
1550 Foxlake  
Suite 120  
Houston, TX 77084  
281-398-1247

**Tomball**  
Rosewood Professional Bldg  
990 Village Square, Suite B  
Tomball, TX 77375  
281-255-8372  
281-255-0034 (fax)

**[Update My Profile](#) - [Unsubscribe](#) - [Privacy Policy](#)**