

Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2009 1:25 PM

To: EMAILUPDATE-MI08@LS1.HOUSE.GOV

Subject: Legislative Email Update: House Passes Rogers' "Fallen Heroes Act"

House Approves Rogers' Bill to Help Families of Slain Officers

Yesterday the House of Representatives passed the Special Agent Samuel Hicks Families of Fallen Heroes Act (H.R. 2711), legislation I authored to assist families of federal law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

FBI Agents and other federal law enforcement officers dedicate their lives to protect the United States against terrorism and keep us safe. When an officer makes the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country, their families deserves the full support of the federal government.

My legislation would allow the Department of Justice (DOJ) to pay for the transportation, relocation, and moving expenses of families of federal law enforcement officers who are killed in the line of duty. Because of a loophole in the law today, the DOJ can only assist a family if an officer is killed overseas - but not if an officer is killed in the United States.

The bill was named after FBI Special Agent Samuel Hicks, who was killed in 2008 while serving a federal search warrant associated with a drug distribution ring. Special Agent Hicks is survived by his wife and 3-year old son. A former officer with the Baltimore Police Department, his family relocated to Pittsburgh when he became an Agent. But because of a gap in the law, the DOJ was unable to assist the Hicks' family in moving back to Baltimore when he was killed.

Special Agent Hicks was an incredibly brave FBI Agent who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. I believe we have a clear duty to assist the families of these heroes who have fallen in the line of duty, both at home and abroad, as they try to piece their lives back together. Wives, husbands and children all sacrifice part of their lives by supporting their loved ones as they proudly serve their country. I am thankful the House passed this bipartisan measure, and I am hopeful it will soon be passed by the U.S. Senate and signed into law.

To watch my statement on the House floor regarding this important legislation, please [click here](#).

Gov't Panel's Decision on Mammograms Hurts Women

Recent recommendations issued by the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) regarding breast cancer screening are very troubling to me.

As a cancer survivor, I know how valuable early detection at diagnosis can be - it saved my life. Unfortunately, this panel has recommended that women under 50 not receive regular access to mammograms and other breast cancer screening measures. I believe the panel's report is misguided and threatens the health of million of women across the country. I am also concerned with the new powers given to the USPSTF under the Democrat health reform legislation, recently passed by the House of Representatives. H.R. 3962 specifically gives this task force broad new authorities and powers, including the ability to set mammography coverage policy for women in a new national health insurance exchange.

Indeed, one of the reasons I voted against H.R. 3962 was because it gave the federal government vast new powers to determine what health benefits will be covered for millions of Americans. And this is an example of what we can expect under the Democrat health bill - government bureaucrats rationing care often solely based on cost. This type of rationing happens frequently in the United Kingdom and Canada. For example, cancer patients in the UK are routinely denied life-saving or life-extending treatments simply because the drugs cost too much in the eye of a government bureaucrat.

I think many Americans would agree than even one life saved from breast cancer is worth many tests or screenings that turn up nothing. Government panels should not be used to decide who can access screening programs. I firmly believe any woman should have access to breast cancer screenings if recommended by their physician, and I am hopeful most insurance carriers, including government programs like Medicaid, will continue to cover this life-saving service.

Last week, the House Energy and Commerce Committee held a hearing on this important topic. My comments at this hearing were featured in several news reports. To watch an ABC News video, [click here](#). To watch a report from CBS News, . To watch video from MSNBC, [click here](#).

You can also view my entire committee statement by [clicking here](#).

Rogers Calls for Probe of Altered Climate Data

As you may know, last week thousands of emails and other documents were released from the Climate Research Unit at the University of East Anglia in England. This university and its scientists write the reports given by the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. I am concerned

these documents appear to show a conspiracy to falsify data and suppress academic debate surrounding climate change. Because of my concerns, I have requested that the Energy and Commerce Committee launch a thorough investigation, including open hearings, to determine if scientists may have altered climate temperature data and research to support specific research hypotheses.

Michigan's high unemployment rate and prolonged recession will no doubt be negatively impacted by the economic burden of the job-killing Cap and Trade legislation passed by the House in May. The National Association of Manufacturers estimated this dangerous proposal would kill over 90,000 Michigan jobs.

Now, this disturbing disclosure that climate-science researchers may have altered temperature data to justify their desired results creates a new set of concerns about this job-killing legislation. Congress has a responsibility to fully investigate these alarming reports of and to determine if the results are completely accurate and based on true science.

To read an article in the *Livingston Daily* about my calls for an investigation, please [click here](#).

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to contact you. You can read more about my health reform legislation by visiting my [website](#). You can also follow my efforts on [YouTube](#) (RepMikeRogers) and [Facebook](#) (Mike J. Rogers). Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,

Mike Rogers
Member of Congress

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