

From: Congressman Mike Rogers
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 5:22 PM
To: EMAILUPDATE-MI08@LS1.HOUSE.GOV
Subject: Legislative Email Update - Health Debate Should be Open to Public



Democrat Leaders Writing New Health Bill in Secret

Health care reform is one of the most important issues taken up by Congress in generations. Unfortunately, Democrat leaders in Congress have refused to allow the public to see the new bill they are writing behind closed doors.

Legislation recently passed by the House and Senate would impact every American family. Yet with so much at stake, secret meetings and backroom deals have now taken over for the CSPAN cameras. President Obama pledged during his campaign to "broadcast negotiations on CSPAN so that the American people can see what the choices are," and I am disappointed Democrat leaders in Congress have decided to break this pledge.

This week I have cosponsored a resolution which would require that final health reform negotiations be conducted in public. I have also sent a letter to Speaker Pelosi asking that she make the final health care reform bill available for public review at least two weeks prior to any vote. This will give Members of Congress and you time to read the bill.

On this critical issue important to every Michigan family, our nation deserves transparency. I strongly believe health care negotiations must be held under the watchful eye of the American people, not behind closed doors.

To learn more about the effort to put health negotiations on CSPAN, please read this article from *U.S. News and World Report* by [clicking here](#).

I encourage you to contact your U.S. Senators if you believe transparency is important in the health reform debate. You can contact them by [clicking here](#).

China Must End Currency Manipulation

America has the best workers in the world, but they need a fair shake, not a shakedown. The currency parasites of China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan are, in violation of international trade law, holding down the value of their currencies relative to the U.S. dollar. In effect they are able to drive up the cost of American made goods and artificially lower the cost of foreign goods.

Led by China, this currency manipulation is sucking the life blood out of our economy, and it must stop. I promise that I will continue to use every tool available to me to end currency manipulation. In order to deliver the promises of free trade, we need to guarantee fair trade. This week, I gave an interview to the *Oakland Press* detailing my efforts to fight Chinese currency manipulation. I also discussed our trade deficit with China and what we must do to get America's fiscal situation under control.

You can read my interview by [clicking here](#).

INTERPOL Exemptions Hurt U.S. Law Enforcement

Yesterday, I introduced a resolution repealing a Presidential Executive Order signed in December that exempts INTERPOL from sharing their records with U.S. law enforcement.

As you may know, President Reagan originally recognized INTERPOL in 1983 as a public international organization entitled to the privileges, exemptions and immunities conferred by the International Organizations Immunities Act. However, he excluded INTERPOL from certain exemptions, mainly the ability of U.S. law enforcement authorities to search and seize the international police agency's records held in the United States. President Obama recently signed an Executive Order rescinding President Reagan's limitations on INTERPOL.

As a former FBI agent, I believe that giving INTERPOL blanket exemptions is dangerous. This change ties the hands of American law enforcement and prevents full access to information that could be crucial for on-going U.S. investigations related to criminal or national security activity. This is no time to be weakening the ability of law enforcement to defend our nation.

To learn about this issue, please listen to interview I gave this week on the Paul W. Smith show by [clicking here](#).

Earthquake in Haiti: How to Help

My thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by this week's tragic earthquake in Haiti. Below are some online resources if you are interested in helping those in need:

- Here is the link to the [U.S. State Department](#).
- To assist with relief efforts, text "[HAITI](#)" to "90999" and \$10 will be sent the Red Cross, charged to your cell phone bill. Or visit [InterAction](#) to contribute.
- You also may contact the [American Red Cross](#) directly.
- For help finding missing U.S. citizen family members, call [1-888-407-4747](#) or you can [provide information](#) via email.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to contact you. You can follow my efforts online by visiting my [website](#). You can also keep up with me 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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