

From: Congressman Mike Rogers
Sent: Friday, December 17, 2010 1:55 PM
To: EMAILUPDATE-MI08@LS1.HOUSE.GOV
Subject: Legislative Email Update: Intelligence Committee Chairmanship



Intelligence Committee Chairmanship

This week I was honored to be appointed by Speaker-designate John Boehner to serve as chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence in the 112th Congress. The Intelligence Committee is responsible for providing oversight of all 16 federal agencies that conduct intelligence work, including the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), National Security Agency (NSA), and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

It will be an incredible responsibility to serve as chairman as we work to keep America safe from terrorists and foreign nations who seek to harm America and her interests. It is a great honor to serve with the brave men and women of the intelligence community who work every day around the globe to protect our nation.

If you are interested in learning more about this appointment, please read these news reports from the [Livingston Daily](#) and the [Lansing State Journal](#).

Congress Prevents January 1 Tax Increase

Tax rates for all American families were scheduled to go up dramatically on January 1, 2011 absent action in Congress. This would constitute the largest tax increase in the history of our nation. With Michigan's unemployment rate still above 12 percent and our economy struggling to recover, the last thing workers and their families need is more of their hard-earned money being sent to Washington, D.C.

This week I voted in favor of a tax package that would extend current income tax rates for two more years. While the legislation

was not perfect, failing to stop all the January 1 tax hikes would have destroyed more jobs and deepened the uncertainty in our economy. I am pleased this legislation will now soon be signed into law.

To learn more about the tax legislation that just passed Congress, please [click here](#).

Health Care Law Ruled Unconstitutional

On December 13, U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson ruled that parts of President Obama's health care law, including the mandate that all Americans must purchase government-approved insurance, are unconstitutional.

The health law signed into law by President Obama is already making insurance premiums more expensive and medical care harder to access. The law dramatically expands the role of government in American health care and forces all private health insurance plans to comply with new federal mandates, allowing Washington, D.C. to micro-manage health coverage for all Americans. I believe we can and must do better in the 112th Congress to provide Americans with real solutions that will lower costs and increase access to care.

To read a *Wall Street Journal* article on this ruling, please [click here](#). You can read more about my ideas for health care reform by visiting my health care blog at healthcare.mikerogers.house.gov

House Leaders Enact New Transparency Reforms for 112th Congress

I was pleased to be asked to join the House Majority Transition team this November and I believe we have made important changes to House rules which will increase transparency in the legislative process and curb wasteful government spending.

Among the changes is a new rule which will require legislation to be available on the internet 72 hours before consideration by the House of Representatives. I believe Members of Congress should be given enough time to properly read and evaluate legislation before voting on it. Over the last few years, Congress has rushed through and passed flawed legislation which has drastically increased spending and expanded the federal government's role in our daily lives. You can read more about these changes to House rules by [clicking here](#).

Thank you again for the opportunity to contact you. I appreciate your continued interest in the legislative activities of your U.S. Congress. You can email me through my website at www.mikerogers.house.gov or follow my efforts on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#). As always, should you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to you and your family.

Sincerely,



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



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