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THE McCaul Minute



January 22, 2009

Dear Friends,

This week I was privileged to personally witness history as our nation's first African-American President was sworn into office. Party affiliations and ideological differences aside, every American should take pride in this achievement. I hope all of you join me in wishing President Obama well. After all, it is our peaceful transition of power and our willingness to embrace democracy and blend our differences that make America the greatest nation.

I applaud President Obama's commitment to changing the tone of politics as usual, restoring optimism and bringing a new sense of hope and spirit for America. He brings a new politic of civility for the nation that goes beyond the old partisan rhetoric and party labels. His message that terrorists will not break our spirit, that citizens have a responsibility to their country and that the faith and determination of individuals, not government, will solve all of our problems, will begin to move America forward.

Guided by my conservative principles, I will continue to work in a bipartisan spirit and remain a strong voice for my constituents to move our country in a positive direction.



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Congressman McCaul attended the inauguration ceremony Tuesday morning to witness the swearing in of President-elect Obama. More than one million people attended the historic event.

Economic Stimulus Package Update

We still have not seen a bill containing the Democrats' economic stimulus package. However, the latest information suggests it is neither an effective nor a timely solution. One report, by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, found that only about \$136 billion of the \$355 billion that Democratic House leaders want to allocate to job creation would be spent by Oct. 1, 2010. The rest would come in future years, long after economists predict the recession will have ended.

As I have stated previously, I support an alternative stimulus package that focuses on changing the tax code to put businesses, which create jobs, in better position to grow. I believe this strategy would have a greater and more immediate impact than what we have seen so far.



Congressman McCaul visits with officers from Austin Police Department at his office in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday. Pictured are (from left to right): Cmdr. Brian Manley, Cmdr. Troy Gay, Congressman McCaul and Assistant Chief David Carter.

APD Officers Assist With Inauguration Security

It was a pleasure to welcome Assistant Chief David Carter and Cmdrs. Brian Manley and Troy Gay from the Austin Police Department to Washington this week. They led a group of 51 specially-trained APD officers to provide security at the entrance to the convention center used by the president and vice president to attend several of the presidential balls. This was the second inauguration with which APD assisted. Carter said the officers were truly honored to take part in the event.

I also received an update from Chief Carter on the Austin Metropolitan Area Fusion Center, which will allow law enforcement at the city, state and national levels to better share information in order to reduce crime and terrorism. The center should be operational by

December. Since I arrived in Congress I fought to make Austin eligible for Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grants. Those grants are being used to fund the center.

Katy H.S. Students Visit the Capitol



Congressman McCaul visits with students from Katy's Morton Ranch High School. The students and their teacher, Mrs. Susan Magill, traveled to Washington, D.C., this week to take part in the inauguration festivities.



Students from Katy's Cinco Ranch High School also stopped by the Capitol on Thursday to meet Congressman McCaul.

District 10 Listening Posts

Beginning next week, my office will resume its "Listening Posts". This is a valuable opportunity for constituents to discuss federal issues with my staff that I am able to address at the Congressional level. I encourage all of you to drop by to ask questions, voice concerns, or simply introduce yourself.

North Austin Listening Post

Thursday, January 29, 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Little Walnut Creek Library
835 W. Rundberg

Brenham Listening Post

Brenham Court House
Monday, Feb. 2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
100 E. Main, Suite 103

Bellville Listening Post

Bellville Commissioner's Courtroom
Monday, Feb. 2, 3-5 p.m.
1 E. Main, Bellville

Pflugerville Listening Post

Friday, Feb. 6, 12:30-2:30 pm
Pflugerville Public Library
102 S. 10th Street

I wish you and your family a happy and safe weekend.

With best regards,



Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress

**** If you would like to register to receive the McCaul Minute click [here](#)**