

Underwood Brings Resources to the 14th District

“Our community is strongest when we are armed with the resources needed to build successful businesses, grow families, and live healthy lives. From day one, I have fought to bring the voices of the 14th District to Congress and have worked hard to bring the federal government’s resources to our community. I’m pleased to see that so many priorities of our community were supported and passed by the House of Representatives.”

Health Care

- **Protecting Coverage for Pre-Existing Conditions:** Protected patients with pre-existing conditions by passing an amendment to prevent the Department of Justice from spending federal funds on litigation that undermines the Affordable Care Act, including Texas v. United States.
- **Banning “Junk” Health Plans:** Prevented the expansion of "junk" health care plans that don't have to cover pre-existing conditions, maternity care, or prescription drugs.

Agriculture and Rural Broadband

- **Protecting Farmers Access to Climate Information:** Secured legislation to protect farmers' access to information and research on the impacts of extreme weather and climate change on agriculture.
- **Expanding Mental Health Resources:** Invested in the Farmers and Ranch Stress Assistance Network to provide vital mental health resources for farmers.
- **Improving Rural Broadband Access:** Increased funding for USDA's Rural E-Connectivity program, which makes loans and grants for broadband deployment in rural communities.

Education

- **Investing in Special Olympics Programs:** Secured \$21 million for Special Olympics education programs, an increase of \$3.5 million.
- **Investing in Community Colleges:** Secured a \$150 million investment in community colleges that will help meet local and regional labor market demand for a skilled workforce by providing training to workers in in-demand industries.
- **Investing in TRIO Programs:** Secured \$1.2 billion for TRIO programs, an increase of \$100 million above the 2019 enacted level and \$210 million above the President's budget request. Waubonsee Community College and McHenry County College receive TRIO funding.

Homeland Security

- **Protecting U.S. Elections:** Passed legislation to protect elections which provides a \$600 million investment for Election Security Grants and \$16.2 million for Election Assistance Commission operations.

Veterans

- **Investing in the Veterans Health Administration:** Secured resources to modernize the medical transport programs, and \$3 million for the Veterans Transportation Program to assist veterans in attending all their medical appointments.
- **Addressing VA Shortages:** Secured resources to address shortages across the board at VA and a \$5 million investment in additional resources to hire and retain mental health professional.
- **Improving Access Health Care Resources:** Secured resources to reduce wait times for veterans on the phone and will provide more timely health services by routing calls to Community Based Outpatient Centers.

Gun Violence Prevention

- **Studying the Gun Violence Epidemic:** Secured a \$50 million investment for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to support gun violence prevention research. Centers

Disaster Relief

- **Expanding Disaster Relief Funds:** Secured a \$753,480 million investment in Pre-Disaster Mitigation grants to carry out the changes made by the Disaster Recovery Reform Act, which invests 6 percent of the funds expended annually through the Disaster Relief Fund.

Opioid Epidemic

- **Responding to the Opioid Epidemic:** Secured a \$3.8 billion investment in substance abuse treatment and ensured continued investments in opioid prevention and treatment, and three new behavioral health programs to enhance treatment efforts.

Maternal Health

- **Initiating Maternal Mortality Research:** Secured a \$50 million investment to initiate research on maternal mortality and in disparities in maternal mortality rates.
- **Investing in Maternal and Child Health:** Secured a \$705 million investment in Maternal and Child Health Block Grants.
- **Investigating Black Maternal Health Disparities:** Secured a \$1.5 billion investment to support research that investigates the causes and interventions for maternal health disparities among Black women.

Environment

- **Addressing Ethylene Oxide:** Provided \$5.6 million to the Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA) Compliance Monitoring Program, which includes Ethylene Oxide Monitoring in Lake County, and additional funds to strengthen EPA's for public outreach on ethylene oxide to communities identified in National Air Toxics Assessment.
- **Great Lakes Asian Carp Control:** Provided an additional \$500,000 for the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission to address Asian carp.