



Rep. Holt talks with constituents on the Jersey Shore. He has helped lead the effort in Congress to pr

“As John F. Kennedy said in March 1961, ‘It is our task in our time and in our generation to hand down undiminished to those who come after us, as was handed down to us by those who went before, the natural wealth and beauty which is ours.’” – Rush Holt

Rep. Rush Holt supports efforts to clean up our air, land, and water, and to preserve open space. A member of the House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition, he is a leader in promoting environmentally sound alternative energy sources that do not harm our environment. For his work, Rep. Holt has earned a 100 percent lifetime rating from the League of Conservation Voters.

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Strengthening the Land and Water Conservation Fund

Throughout his career, Rep. Holt has been a strong advocate for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and its State Assistance program, which provides matching funds to states and communities to preserve open spaces. Early in his career, he helped to restore the state-side grant portion of the program, and he has since fought to retain and increase funding for it.

The LWCF State Assistance program has aided local recreation projects in over 98% of all U.S. counties, including the preservation of more than 73,000 acres of land in New Jersey alone. This program has been used to clean up playgrounds, build baseball fields, develop waterfront parks, and restore open spaces. This is land that otherwise may have been developed for private use or otherwise rendered unusable. In recognition of the crucial work done by the LWCF, Rep. Holt has fought for full LWCF funding every year.

Protecting Clean Air and Water

Rep. Holt supports New Jersey's right to lead the way on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles. He has supported legislation to allow states like New Jersey to create strong regulations regarding vehicle emissions.

Rep. Holt strongly supports efforts to protect the Clean Water Act. He has cosponsored legislation that would reestablish the original intent of Congress in the 1972 Clean Water Act, ensuring that it applies to all water of the United States. He also supports efforts to fully fund the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

Rep. Holt also is a founding member and co-chair of the Children's Environmental Health Caucus, which aims to raise awareness of environmental issues that affect health, particularly that of children, among his colleagues in Congress.

Preserving Historic Spaces

Rep. Holt has led the effort in Congress to preserve historic lands, as he believes that preserving historic spaces is essential to educating the current generations and future generations and about our rich cultural heritage. He has won U.S. House passage of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act, which would help preserve open spaces by authorizing additional funding to protect historic sites dating from these two wars.

Rep. Holt also secured \$150,000 in federal funding for the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, which he helped to create in 2006. The Crossroads of the American Revolution highlights the role of New Jersey during the American Revolution and brings protection to many historic landmarks, including battlefields, lighthouses, mills, wells and the other Revolutionary War area sites in New Jersey.

Protecting Our Beaches and Coastline

Rep. Holt has led the fight in Congress against expanded offshore drilling that would threaten New Jersey's coastal tourism and recreation industries and the state's economy. He has offered legislation to make offshore drilling safer and to prevent new offshore drilling, including off the coast of New Jersey.

Responding to the unprecedented BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf that threatened the region's ecosystem and economy, Holt introduced the Big Oil Bailout Prevention Act to hold oil companies — not taxpayers — liable for the full economic and environmental costs caused by oil spills.

Rep. Holt is a strong advocate for ensuring that the best safety practices are required for oil and gas drilling in order to prevent future damaging spills like Deepwater Horizon. He is a cosponsor of legislation to implement the recommendations of the BP Oil Spill Commission.

Fighting for Endangered Species

Rep. Holt believes that the federal government must protect critical habitats that are vital to the continued survival of endangered and threatened species. He strongly supports allowing

scientists — not politicians — to identify the steps that are needed to protect endangered species.

Rep. Holt is working to strengthen the Endangered Species Act and has supported legislation on this issue as a senior member of the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Keeping Kids Safe At School

Rep. Holt introduced the School Environment Protection Act to ensure a safe school environment through the adoption of safe and effective school pest management programs that do not rely on the use of toxic pesticides.

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