

JOE DONNELLY

UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR INDIANA

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



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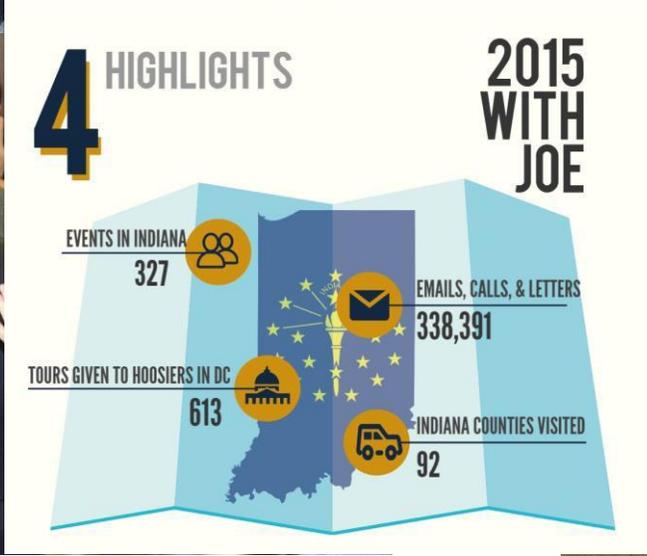
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December 1, 2015



Indy Star: Donnelly fights the tragedy of military suicide

December 1, 2015

Donnelly was the **fourth-most-bipartisan U.S. senator** from 1993 through 2014, according to rankings released Tuesday by the Lugar Center and the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University.

"My responsibility is to do what is right for Hoosiers no matter which party an idea may come from. I believe we are stronger and more effective when we work together, and when we prioritize bipartisan efforts we can get things done that will help Indiana and our country," Donnelly said Tuesday in a statement about the ratings.
-Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette, 12.15.15

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2015, Joe worked to grow the economy, expand opportunity, improve mental health care for servicemembers and veterans, and address crime and drug epidemics impacting Hoosier families and communities. Joe partnered with Republicans and Democrats to get things done and was recognized as the fourth-most bipartisan U.S. Senator between 1993-2014, according to an analysis by The Lugar Center and the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University, and its new Bipartisan Index.

Joe led and supported bipartisan legislative efforts — many of which were passed and enacted into law — and pursued every avenue to advance priorities important to Hoosiers. He and his staff also worked to provide Hoosiers across the state with top-notch customer service and assistance in resolving issues such as obtaining Social Security, Medicare, or veterans' benefits, or requesting passports or visas.

Among Joe's accomplishments in 2015:

- Joe visited 92 counties, and hosted or participated in 327 events in 107 cities and towns over 165 days in Indiana.
- Joe's office responded on average in less than two weeks to constituents' calls, emails, letters and faxes.
- His staff worked with Hoosiers seeking assistance with a federal agency on 2,000 cases of which 1,964 have been closed, resulting in more than \$2.2 million in federal benefits being returned to constituents.
- Joe partnered on legislative efforts with 21 different Republican senators in 2015. These efforts included:
 - **Improved Military Mental Health:** Introduced and got signed into law provisions from his "Servicemember and Veteran Mental Health Care Package" that will improve access to mental health care for servicemembers and their families;
 - **Reauthorized the Export-Import Bank:** Helped author a bill to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank — which is important to small businesses and for expanding exports — and helped secure its inclusion in legislation that was signed into law; and
 - **Suspended the Medical Device Tax:** Pushed to reduce the impact of the medical device tax and helped pass a two-year suspension of the tax, which was signed into law. Joe has been a longtime supporter of bipartisan efforts to repeal the medical device tax and reintroduced bipartisan legislation that would eliminate the device tax.
- Joe played a leadership role in significant accomplishments across Indiana, including:
 - **Army Land Transfer to River Ridge:** Helped resolve a longstanding dispute with the Army that resulted in River Ridge Commerce Center acquiring high-value property that is expected to create more jobs and opportunity;
 - **Gary Airport Runway Expansion:** Brought together key stakeholders to resolve issues that had stalled and threatened to derail the Gary/Chicago International Airport runway expansion, and helped ensure the project's completion.
 - **St. Joseph County VA Health Care Center:** Worked to expand health care for veterans and participated in the ground breaking of the St. Joseph County VA Health Care Center. He has worked since 2007 to make this center a reality and helped secure congressional authorization and funding for the new facility;

- **Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant for Indianapolis:** Worked to help make our communities safer by supporting the City of Indianapolis' successful application for a federal grant that that will provide federal resources to support crime reduction and prevention efforts in the city's Northwest district; and
- **Major Federal Grant for Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville:** Supported and helped secure the Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville's \$10 million federal grant that will spur economic development and create more opportunities in southeast Indiana.

BIPARTISANSHIP: BEST IDEAS FROM BOTH PARTIES

Joe ranked as one of the most bipartisan U.S. Senators. The Lugar Center and the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University rated Joe the fourth-most bipartisan U.S. Senator and most bipartisan Democrat, according to a new Bipartisan Index released in December.

The Lugar Center and the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown announced earlier in 2015 that Joe ranked as the third-most bipartisan U.S. Senator during the 113th Congress (2013-2014).

Joe has worked continuously with colleagues Republican and Democratic on a range of issues.

During 2015, Joe worked with 21 Republicans on dozens of bipartisan efforts and worked with colleagues including Senators Dan Coats (R-IN), Leader Mitch McConnell (R- KY), Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), and Senator John McCain (R- AZ).



IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR SERVICEMEMBERS

Preventing Military Suicide: Provisions from “Care Package” Now Law

Over the last three years, Joe has been working non-stop to find bipartisan solutions to combat military suicide and make sure we take better care of our servicemembers through his role on the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The “Servicemember and Veteran Care Package” builds on the progress made by Joe’s legislation, the Jacob Sexton Military Suicide Prevention Act, that was signed into law in late 2014 and for the first time requires an annual mental health assessment for all servicemembers including Active, Guard, and Reserve members.

Joe’s “Care Package” is designed to ensure that our servicemembers have access to quality mental health care whether they seek private sector care through specially-trained community mental health providers or through the Department of Defense (DoD) or the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). It creates a regularly-updated online registry, so veterans and servicemembers can search for specially-designated community providers and will require up-to-date training for DoD primary care and mental health providers in recognizing signs of suicide risk and other mental health care best practices. The “Care Package” also calls on DoD to train physician assistants to specialize in psychiatric care as a way to address the shortage of trained mental health providers.



“Donnelly talked about recently passed legislation — known as The Care Package — that seeks to ensure service members and veterans have more access to high-quality mental health care, and that the care is provided by professionals trained to deal with their specific needs...At a time when so little is being done in Washington to address big problems, and when partisanship is polluting just about every area of policy, domestic and international, Donnelly’s news conference was a hopeful reminder that Congress can still tackle important issues. And it doesn’t get much more important than this.” -Indy Star, 12.1.15

The demand for care has never been greater, and Joe has focused on ensuring there are enough mental health care professionals to treat servicemembers and veterans and worked to make it easier for servicemembers and veterans to find providers who can best understand their military experience and the treatments that are most effective.

At DoD, health care professionals are on the front lines of preventing suicide and strengthening the resilience of our Armed Forces, so we must make sure they have the most up-to-date knowledge, training, and tools to recognize and manage mental health conditions. To meet the increasing demand for mental health services among our military personnel, we also need private mental health care providers who understand military culture and the challenges facing servicemembers. We can further increase the number of professionals available to treat our servicemembers and reduce wait times by expanding the use of physician assistants as specialized mental health providers.

It is clear that the mental health of servicemen and women and their families is of utmost concern. War is hell, and the Americans transitioning from war to peace need our support. Donnelly's Care Package seems like the least we can do for those who have served their country under extremely difficult conditions.

-NWI Times Editorial, 6.15.15

On November 25, 2015, legislation from Joe's "Care Package" to improve mental health care for servicemembers was signed into law as part of the national defense bill. In the coming months, Joe will be fighting to expand his "Care Package" legislation to better meet the needs of veterans.

Joe said, "Seeing the 'Care Package' signed into law is another important step forward as we continue the fight to bring military suicide numbers down to zero. Getting these provisions implemented in communities across Indiana and throughout the country will improve the quality of mental health care provided to our servicemembers. It will expand their options, helping connect Hoosiers with local providers who are specially trained to deal with challenges unique to the military. It will also help our Department of Defense providers better recognize the signs of suicide risk in their patients and connect them with the resources and support they need. We owe it to our servicemembers and their families to help them get access to the best quality mental health care."



Expanding Health Care for Veterans: St. Joseph County Health Care Center

Joe has worked to provide quality and convenient access to health care to our veterans across our state, including St. Joseph County. In October, Joe joined officials from the VA to break ground on the new St. Joseph County Health Care Center. The St. Joseph County Health Care Center is the product of years of Joe's hard work and will expand health care options for Hoosier veterans in north central Indiana, meaning many of our local veterans will be a short ride away from important health services, including primary care and mental health providers.

Joe said, "Ensuring ready access to health care when and where they need it is the least we can do for those who have done so much for our country. The St. Joseph County Health Care Center is critical to fulfilling our promise to the men and women who have served us...I am proud this new health care center will call St. Joseph County home, and I will continue working nonstop with our federal, state, and local partners to make sure Hoosier veterans receive the care they deserve."



U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly... recounted how, starting in 2007, when he was a U.S. representative, he pushed for a new clinic and then for its funding, which Congress appropriated in 2012. "We made a promise that we'd protect you," the senator said to the veterans.
South Bend Tribune, 10.3.15

Joe has worked to help make the St. Joseph County Health Center a reality since he started serving in the House of Representatives in 2007. That is when he first asked the VA to evaluate the services provided to South Bend area veterans and requested from the Northern Indiana VA

utilization statistics to better understand how often, how far, and for what services local Hoosier veterans must travel to receive health care. Joe held roundtables and meetings to speak with veterans, veterans' advocates, and community leaders to discuss expanding veterans' services in St. Joseph County. In 2009, Joe and then VA- Secretary Eric Shinseki announced approval of the St. Joseph County Health Care Center. In the years that followed, Joe worked with his colleagues, Republican and Democratic, to secure congressional authorization and funding and then with the VA to open an interim health care center in South Bend in 2012. The new permanent facility, the St. Joseph County Health Care Center is projected to be larger and serve veterans in several counties.

BOOSTING THE ECONOMY

Creating Jobs

Joe is working to ensure that every Hoosier who wants a job has a job and to encourage economic growth and development. He played a key role in two major efforts that will strengthen the economy in southeast Indiana by helping to facilitate the Army's major land transfer to the River Ridge Commerce Center and supporting the successful federal grant application of the Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville.

River Ridge

Joe and his staff worked closely with the River Ridge Development Authority for more than a year to resolve a longstanding dispute with the Army and allow River Ridge to acquire hundreds of acres of high-value property that will help create more jobs and opportunities in Clark County.

With negotiations to resolve community concerns about an old Army landfill stalled for years, Joe began working in September 2014 with the River Ridge Development Authority on a new round of talks with the Army. With Joe's help, River Ridge had an opportunity for the first time to share their concerns with the defense oversight committees in Congress, and in the following months Joe continued to facilitate meetings among key stakeholders to narrow down issues and address each side's concerns.

Joe convened a meeting in April 2015 at the River Ridge Commerce Center with federal, state, and local stakeholders to discuss the status and future of the River Ridge Commerce Center. Following this meeting, he facilitated talks among River Ridge, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to address concerns about potential public health and environmental risks associated with the landfill.



Donnelly said the land transfer "will help bring more jobs and opportunity to Clark County, spurring continued economic growth in a way that protects the health and safety of Hoosiers." Donnelly worked with the River Ridge officials for more than a year to pave the way for the latest land transfer.

Louisville Courier-Journal, 10.12.15

Joe believes that government works best when we get all the right people in a room together talking through problems and solutions directly. Day after day, week after week, he worked with the Army and River Ridge to put the best interests of our community first and reach a resolution.

Through the negotiations, Joe secured assurances from the Army that it would stand by a commitment to protect the local community from risks posed by the landfill, now and for decades to come. Then, in late September, Joe participated in the River Ridge board meeting to go over outstanding issues as the board neared agreement on approving the land transfer. The River Ridge Development Authority board ultimately passed a resolution approving the land transfer.

Joe said, “I’m the hired help and was pleased I could help facilitate negotiations and play a role in making sure River Ridge could attract new business and proceed with projects that will fuel economic growth. Over the past year, I have been grateful to work with extraordinary partners, including River Ridge, Army headquarters, the Army Corps, and IDEM, who all worked tirelessly to ensure a positive outcome.”

Jerry Acy, River Ridge Development Authority, Executive Director, said October 12, “Today marks a major milestone in the transfer of Army property to the River Ridge Development Authority (RRDA) for the purpose of replacing the loss of economic activity as a result of the shutdown of the Indiana Army Ammunition Plant. We are grateful for all the efforts by Senator Joe Donnelly.”



Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville

Joe believes that investing in infrastructure helps fuel economic development and job creation. Joe supported and helped secure the Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville's \$10 million federal grant that will spur development and create more job opportunities in southeast Indiana. The Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will allow the Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville to improve its freight services by funding the Truck-to-Rail and Rail-to-Water Improvements Project. This project will extend the port's rail track to help increase freight handling capacity, and more efficiently transfer bulk commodities from trucks and rail to barges for waterborne transport.

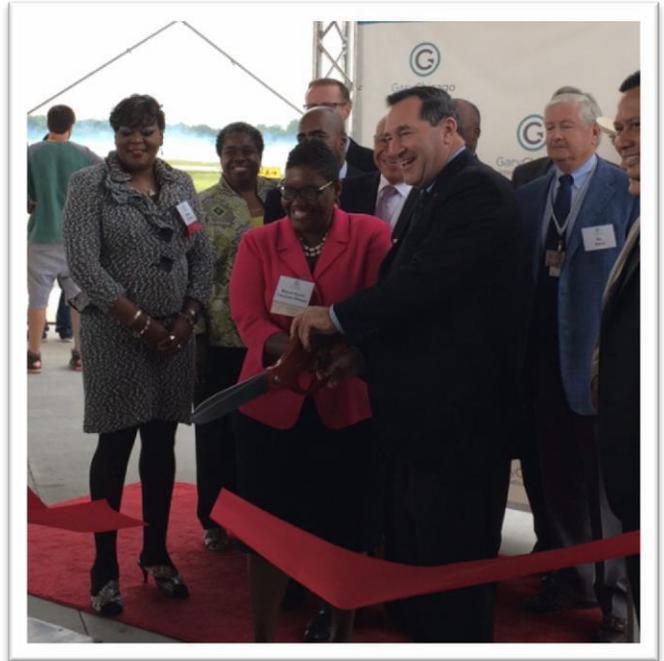
Joe said, "Transportation plays an important role in growing Indiana's economy and this investment in our infrastructure should mean more jobs and opportunity for Hoosiers. Extending the Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville's rail track will double its freight-handling capacity and reduce congestion on rail and roadways, while creating additional jobs throughout the supply chain. This federal grant should benefit the port and the surrounding communities as they continue efforts to improve the area's infrastructure.

Jerry Acy, River Ridge Development Authority, Executive Director, said, "This federal grant will allow the Port to extend and improve rail services and help to create the future transportation corridor link between our economic development hubs...Anything we can do to strengthen our infrastructure for the region will make us more attractive to companies looking to expand and entice them to grow their business here. The more companies we bring to the region, the more jobs we can help create for Hoosiers."

Gary Airport Runway Expansion

Joe has worked to improve infrastructure and grow Indiana's economy, including in northwest Indiana. For more than 18 months, Joe and his staff worked closely with key stakeholders to resolve issues that had stalled the completion of the Gary/Chicago International Airport runway expansion project. He helped play a critical role in ensuring the project's completion and participated in the official opening of the newly expanded runway in July. The runway now is equipped to land larger cargo and passenger planes, meaning the airport can accommodate an increase in the volume of passengers and cargo traveling to and from northwest Indiana. Joe is hopeful the expansion will have a positive economic impact on Gary Airport, Gary, and northwest Indiana.

Joe's involvement in the project began during a meeting in 2013 when Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson expressed concern about looming deadlines and agreements with multiple railroads to remove and relocate railroad tracks. Without agreements by June 25, 2015, the runway would have been shortened due to safety requirements outlined by the FAA. Shortening the runway would have significantly limited the types of cargo and passenger planes that could land at Gary Airport and reduced the volume of passengers and cargo traveling in and out of the airport.



Joe pledged to work with stakeholders, resolve unsettled issues, and see the project to the finish line. He reached out to each of the railroads separately, and then convened a meeting with representatives from all three railroad companies in Washington. During that meeting Joe vowed to work with the railroad companies to get agreements in place and to ensure the project moved forward and would get completed in time.



Joe's office then facilitated weekly calls with the railroad companies to work through outstanding issues. With significant hurdles remaining, Joe called for and helped arrange two additional meetings to work directly with the railroad companies at the Gary/Chicago airport. Throughout the process, Joe worked with all parties involved: Mayor Freeman-Wilson;

Congressman Pete Visclosky; Indiana Regional Development Authority; Gary/Chicago International Airport Authority; federal agencies including Department of Transportation and its Surface Transportation Board, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); state agencies including Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM); and the railroad companies: Canadian National, CSX, and Norfolk Southern. In October 2014, all the parties reached an agreement, and on June 25, 2015, the first plane landed on the Gary Airport's new runway.

"The person who really helped and used his convening power to get everyone to meetings in Washington was really the presence of (U.S.) Sen. Joe Donnelly. He said that this is important to the city of Gary and we need to make this a priority. "It was like going to school with your big brother. He said 'this is my sister.' It changed their whole willingness to move on the project."

-Post-Tribune, Mayor Freeman-Wilson on Donnelly's efforts, 6.22.15

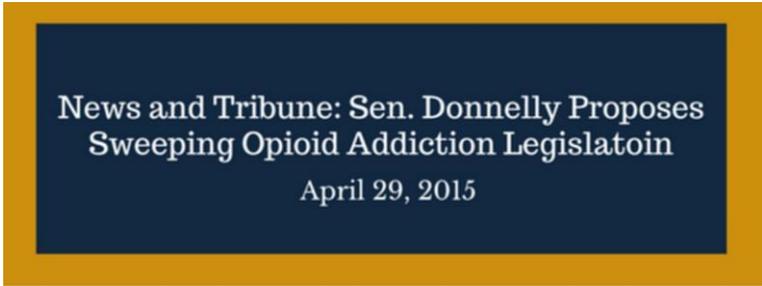
ADDRESSING THE OPIOID ABUSE AND HEROIN EPIDEMICS

As too many Hoosiers have come to know first-hand, opioid abuse and heroin use together have created a public health crisis. These epidemics have impacted communities across Indiana—large and small, urban and rural, working-class and wealthy. Joe has helped lead the charge to address opioid addiction in Indiana and nationwide. For nearly two years, he has been working on efforts to improve prescriber practices and prescriber engagement, raise public awareness, expand access to treatment and bring together leaders at the federal, state, and local levels. He has listened to Hoosiers—including families, prescribers, public health professionals, and community stakeholders and worked in a bipartisan manner to ensure we stem the tide of this epidemic.

Donnelly-Ayotte Bipartisan Legislation

As part of his ongoing effort to combat the opioid abuse and heroin use epidemics, in April, Joe reintroduced the bipartisan *Heroin and Prescription Opioid Abuse Prevention, Education, and Enforcement Act* along with Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH), which focuses on several key areas:

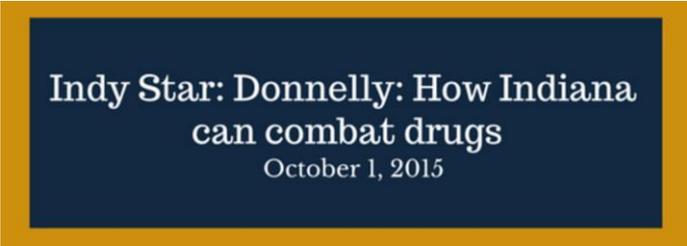
development of best practices for prescribing pain medication and related pain management; supporting state development of prescription drug monitoring programs; ensuring adequate funding for law enforcement; expanding access to naloxone; and raising awareness of the dangers of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use. Joe and Ayotte first introduced this bill in June 2014.



News and Tribune: Sen. Donnelly Proposes Sweeping Opioid Addiction Legislation
April 29, 2015

Joe worked on a range of strategies to advance the principles included in this bill, engaging with federal officials, and encouraging state and local leaders to work towards change in these areas.

Federal and State Anti-Drug Initiatives Take Joe's Recommendations



Indy Star: Donnelly: How Indiana can combat drugs
October 1, 2015

Joe made recommendations to the Governor's Drug Task Force, providing suggestions for short- and long-term responses to Indiana's addiction problems. In addition to offering specific suggestions to the Task Force, Joe emphasized that any strategy to address addiction in Indiana will require the State to not only identify necessary policy changes, but also

make a commitment to implementing and funding those changes moving forward. The Governor asked state agencies to act on some of the recommendations Joe made, including:

- Increasing focus on INSPECT, Indiana's prescription drug monitoring program;
- Enhancing prescribing practices and prescriber engagement; and
- Expanding and improving access to physical and behavioral health care for people with substance abuse disorders by using existing federal Medicaid funds.

Joe has urged the state to commit to implementing and funding these initiatives.

In addition, Joe has engaged with other stakeholders in Indiana, and believes that health care providers can play a role in curbing the opioid epidemic. He co-hosted a roundtable discussion with Congresswoman Susan Brooks (IN-05) in September in Indianapolis, and heard from state and federal officials, as well as doctors and pharmacists about how prescribers can engage in the fight to address prescription drug abuse.



At the federal level, Joe welcomed the Obama Administration’s announcement that it is acting to improve prescriber training and practices in addition to raising public awareness to bring attention to this crisis—both principles included in the Donnelly-Ayotte legislation. He also met with U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Tom Frieden to discuss federal efforts to address the opioid epidemic and drug addiction.

Protecting Our Infants Act Signed into Law

Prescription drug abuse and heroin use have touched everyone from mothers and fathers to our children. One tragic consequence of the prescription drug abuse and heroin use epidemic has been the increase in infants diagnosed with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS), which occurs when an infant suffers withdrawal symptoms after birth as the result of exposure to addictive drugs while in the mother’s womb. Joe co-sponsored and helped the Senate pass the Protecting Our Infants Act, which was signed into law in November. This important law directs the Department of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the prevention and treatment of NAS, address gaps in research efforts, and continue working with each state to collect data on NAS cases and provide technical support to improve public awareness. In the long-term, this legislation seeks to reduce the number of babies born addicted to opioids.

Strengthening Access to and Investing in Substance Abuse and Addiction Treatment Programs

As part of the larger effort to find solutions, Joe also believes we need to work to expand access to substance abuse and mental health treatment. To help increase access to treatment, Joe joined a bipartisan coalition of Senators in writing to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Department of Labor (DOL) to press them to better enforce the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. This law was passed in 2008 to ensure that health insurance plans cover behavioral health treatment — including substance abuse treatment — and physical health treatment equally. However, many people report that they are being denied substance abuse and mental health care or have difficulty accessing those services. The Senators’ letter asked that HHS and DOL report back with specific details on how the agencies are implementing and enforcing the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equality Act.

Joe also advocated for increased investment in efforts to prevent and treat substance abuse, including through the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant program. The block grant program provides valuable resources and support for state substance abuse treatment and prevention programs across the country, including in Indiana. Joe helped pass the bipartisan funding bill that was signed into law and includes an increase in funding for the block grant program.

PREVENTING CRIME AND IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY

Every Hoosier deserves the right to live in peace. But sadly, crime continues to be a serious concern for a number of communities, and many Hoosiers have lost loved ones to crime or live in neighborhoods that they feel are not safe to raise their families. While the solutions to these problems are not simple, Joe has worked to help make our communities safer and sought to do so in a collaborative manner by engaging community members, law enforcement, educators, business leaders, and local leaders. Together with community partners, he has led efforts to combat drug epidemics, supported commonsense efforts that address the many other underlying factors that contribute to crime, and worked to ensure our state and local law enforcement have the resources they need to protect Hoosier families.

Federal Support for Local Efforts to Prevent Crime and Build Opportunity

BCJI Grant for Indianapolis Northwest District

Joe supported the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program (BCJI), which is a Department of Justice pilot program that provides planning and implementation grants to community coalitions consisting of law enforcement, residents,

school districts, housing authorities, and other community groups to develop long-term plans for addressing crime in certain neighborhoods.

He backed the City of Indianapolis' successful BCJI application, which will provide federal resources to support crime reduction and prevention efforts in the city's Northwest District. Joe has met with coalition members to discuss the early stages of planning, including development of crime prevention strategies for the neighborhood that draw on the input of residents, community groups, and law enforcement, among others. Joe believes that the people living in local communities know the challenges they face, and therefore

local partners and residents should be involved in developing solutions.

Tedd Grain, Deputy Director of Local Initiatives Support Corporation, said, "The Byrne Criminal Justice Grant will address the public safety challenges identified in the Northwest Area Quality of Life Plan, increasing strategic coordination among residents, public safety officials, and other key stakeholders, in order to make this neighborhood an even safer place to live, work and play. Senator Donnelly's support for this grant has been invaluable."



In addition to supporting Indianapolis' successful application for a BCJI grant, Joe requested an increase in funding for the overall BCJI program so that additional communities in Indiana and across the country can benefit from its innovative problem-solving approach.

Through the bipartisan funding bill that Joe supported and the President signed into law, the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program received \$15 million for Fiscal Year 2016, an increase from last year.

Federal Promise Zone Designation for Indianapolis Eastside

In addition, Joe supported and helped to secure a federal Promise Zone designation for the Near Eastside of Indianapolis (IndyEast). This designation through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will help support efforts aimed at creating affordable housing and job opportunities, improving education, and reducing violent crime while enabling new pathways to the middle class for those living in the area.

"This designation should help offer a brighter future to thousands of residents and to this area, which was once home to good-paying manufacturing jobs before hitting hard economic times," **Joe said.** "With this formal partnership between the federal government, local community, and a consortium of concerned local organizations and residents, I am hopeful the Near Eastside of Indianapolis can combat poverty, create new economic opportunities, and thrive again."

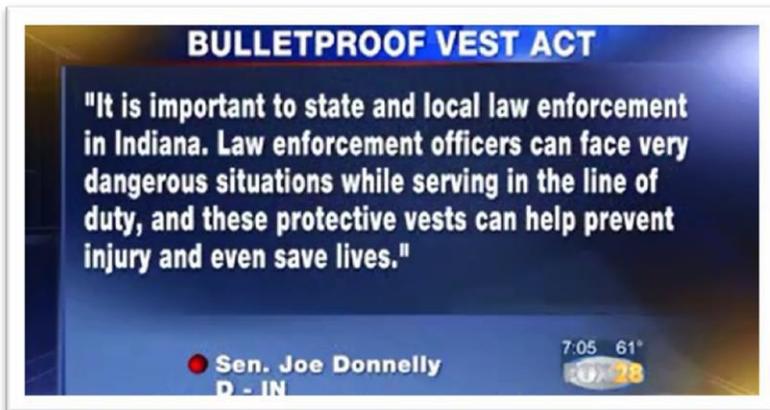
The Promise Zone designation commits the federal government to an intensive partnership with local leaders, businesses, and residents, who are addressing multiple community revitalization challenges in a collaborative way and have demonstrated a commitment to invest in what works. As a Promise Zone designee, IndyEast will have dedicated federal staff on the ground to help the community implement their plans, as well as five full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members to recruit and manage volunteers for the effort. In addition, IndyEast will receive priority access to federal investments that advance their plan. Promise Zone designations last for 10 years.

Choice Neighborhood Designation for Gary

Finally, Joe also announced in early 2015 that the City of Gary was one of seven applicants across the country to receive a Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Gary received \$500,000 to help develop a revitalization plan for the University Park East neighborhood—an area that experiences high rates of poverty, crime, and housing vacancies.

Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants are designed to support struggling neighborhoods by facilitating the development of comprehensive revitalization plans, called Transformation Plans, through an emphasis on housing, education, transportation, and jobs. These plans bring together public and private agencies, philanthropy groups, and community leaders to carefully target resources to support the plan's financial goals.

Bulletproof Vests Partnership Program



State and local law enforcement can encounter dangerous situations in the line of duty. Joe co-sponsored and helped the Senate pass the bipartisan *Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program Reauthorization Act*. This legislation would extend through 2020 a program that helps local law enforcement agencies purchase bulletproof vests, which can prevent injury and save lives.

Since 1999, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant program—which is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice and awards matching funds to local law enforcement for protective vests—has helped more than 13,000 local law enforcement agencies around the country purchase more than 1.1 million vests. In Fiscal Year 2014, Indiana law enforcement agencies received \$482,083 through the program, which helped 108 communities to purchase vests.

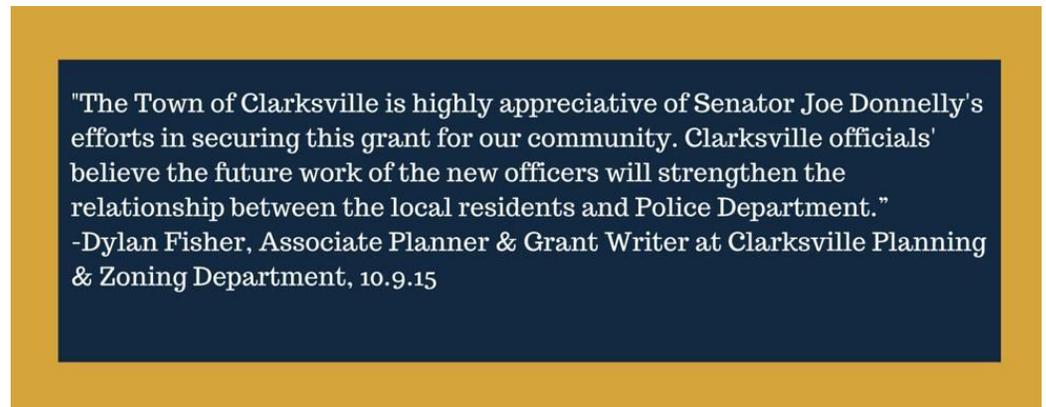
Despite Senate passage, the House did not act to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program. However, due to strong support, the program secured funding for Fiscal Year 2016 in the bipartisan budget bill that was signed into law in December.

COPS Hiring Grants

While long-term strategies to prevent crime will require everyone from law enforcement to public officials, educators and employers to work together, ensuring law enforcement has the resources needed to keep our communities safe is a critical step. To

that end, Joe supported the successful grant applications of Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD), Clarksville Police Department, and Scott County Sheriff's Office. Each department was awarded a federal grant to hire new police officers through the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program. IMPD received funding to hire 15 new officers; Clarksville Police Department received funding to hire two officers; and Scott County Sheriff's Office received funding to hire an additional officer.

The COPS Hiring Program is designed to advance public safety through community policing by addressing the full-time sworn officer needs of state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies nationwide. The program provides funds directly to law enforcement agencies to hire new or rehire career law enforcement officers and to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts.



Byrne JAG

Joe also supported the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program, which helps state and local law enforcement agencies combat crime and develop policing and criminal justice strategies. This program was included in the bipartisan budget bill signed into law in December.

Other Efforts to Support First Responders and Improve Public Safety

After supporting the Evansville Fire Department's federal grant application, Joe welcomed the news that the department received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) award from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The \$314,349 grant will be used to implement a wellness and fitness program to create a healthier response force for the Evansville Fire Department, which has 273 career firefighters. With the AFG award, the Evansville Fire Department will develop and implement a mandatory program to improve overall health and reduce injury and illness. This grant will help ensure Evansville firefighters are physically prepared to protect approximately 117,000 residents in and around the City of Evansville.

Joe said, "A critical component of readiness is the health and wellness of the first responders whom we rely on to protect our families, homes, and businesses. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant from FEMA will provide the Evansville Fire Department with the resources it needs to put in place a comprehensive wellness and fitness program to help build and maintain a healthier response force and result in safer, more efficient, and more effective responses to local emergencies."

Supporting the Children of Fallen First Responders

In an effort to ease the financial burden of a college education for families who have lost a parent in the line of duty, Joe helped to introduce the *Children of Fallen Heroes Scholarship Act*. The bipartisan legislation would allow the child of a fallen first responder who qualifies for a federal Pell Grant to be eligible for the maximum Pell Grant award.

Crime Reduction and Prevention Workshop

Joe's office also hosted a Crime Reduction and Prevention Funding workshop that provided local law enforcement officials and Indiana communities with information about crime reduction resources and funding opportunities with the Department of Justice and State of Indiana.

STANDING UP FOR INDIANA AND EVERY HOOSIER

An Economy that Works for Hoosiers

While the nation's and Indiana's economic recovery continues, too many Hoosiers are out of work and families are still struggling to make ends meet. Joe has long said he will not stop working until every Hoosier who wants a job has a job. Joe has helped lead the charge to keep jobs in Indiana, expand exports and innovation, and promote workforce development and training for jobs available now.

Expanding Exports and Reauthorizing the Ex-Im Bank

Joe knows that we strengthen our economy when we expand the export of goods and services, allowing for more Hoosier and American companies to sell their products both at home and overseas. That is why Joe fought to reauthorize the Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank, the official export credit agency of the United States. Joe joined with a bipartisan group of Senators in March to introduce legislation to reform and reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, whose authority expired June 30, 2015. After the Senate failed to act, Joe gave a speech on the Senate floor emphasizing the importance of the Export-Import Bank to small businesses and job creation, both in Indiana and across the country.



Despite strong bipartisan support for the Ex-Im Bank, in both the House and the Senate, the Bank's charter lapsed for nearly six months. Throughout that time, Joe continued pushing for its reauthorization. In December, Joe helped secure its inclusion in a larger transportation and infrastructure funding bill, and the Senate passed a four-year reauthorization of the Ex-Im Bank, extending the Ex-Im Bank's charter through 2019. The Ex-Im Bank helps level the playing field for Indiana small businesses and manufacturers, doesn't cost taxpayers a dime—in fact it turns a profit—and protects and creates jobs across the state. This will help businesses across Indiana, particularly small businesses and manufacturers, which employ thousands of Hoosiers and are looking for ways to sell their products to markets overseas.

Closing the Skills Gap

Building off the passage of his AMERICA Works Act in 2014, Joe sought to ensure that Hoosiers have the skills and training for open and in-demand jobs, and that employers and businesses can find the skilled employees they need to compete in today's economy.

“Those who oppose Ex-Im for ideological reasons may make their case in the abstract but I operate in the real world where I'm the hired help for Indiana,” he (Donnelly) says. “I've heard over and over again from Indiana small businesses about the importance of Ex-Im Bank.”

-Indiana Public Media, 6.17.15



Closing the so-called skills gap continued to be a focal point of Joe's work to promote workforce training opportunities.

Joe reintroduced bipartisan legislation with Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) that would require a biennial skills gap report to assess the effectiveness of ongoing efforts to close the skills gap along with recommendations on how to improve these efforts. This legislation could help boost apprenticeships and on-the-job training programs by determining how these programs can be better utilized.

Expanding Access to Capital for Small Businesses

For Indiana's small businesses, access to the capital necessary to expand and grow is critical to their success. As a member of the Senate Banking Committee, Joe led bipartisan legislation that would reduce the regulatory burden on small business lenders in Hoosier communities. Joe also helped the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce achieve designation as an official microlending intermediary through the U.S. Small Business Administration – allowing the Indy Chamber to expand lending opportunities to small businesses across the Indianapolis region.

"(Indy Chamber President and CEO Michael) lauded the leadership of U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly, who championed BOI's inclusion in the SBA program. Serving on the Senate Banking Committee, Senator Donnelly has pushed bipartisan legislation to ease regulatory burdens on small business lending, and sees microloans as another top entrepreneurial priority.
-Indy Chamber Press Release, 10.30.15

Balancing the Budget Responsibly

Joe believes there are commonsense steps we can take to balance the budget responsibly, and is a longtime supporter of efforts to reduce the deficit and debt in order to leave a more fiscally stable future for the next generation. Just as Hoosier families must make tough decisions about how to manage their budgets, Joe thinks that Congress should make choices about where to invest and where to cut in order to reduce the deficit and balance the budget. With that in mind, Joe introduced a Balanced Budget Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in July that would require the federal government to eliminate deficits. Like previous versions of balanced budget amendments, Joe's measure would require that annual federal spending not exceed federal revenue.

Strengthening the Enforcement of Trade Laws

As our country works to expand export opportunities for American businesses, Joe has fought to ensure that Indiana's workers can compete on a level playing field and are protected from other countries' unfair trade practices. In May, Joe helped the Senate pass bipartisan trade enforcement legislation that would cut down on currency manipulation and strengthen U.S. trade enforcement, which is particularly important to steelworkers and their families across Indiana.

Encouraging Financial Investments in Hoosier Communities

Since joining the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee in January 2015, Joe has worked to make sure that Indiana families can invest with confidence and security, and Hoosier businesses have access to the credit and capital necessary to start a small business or finance new farm or business equipment. Joe successfully worked to have several of his bipartisan bills enacted into law over the last year.

Reducing Burdens on Highly-Rated Community Banks

Joe worked to reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens for the Main Street financial institutions that have been pillars of Hoosier communities through good times and economic recessions. He introduced bipartisan



legislation, S. 970, with Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA) to allow more highly-rated community banks to qualify for an 18-month examination cycle, instead of a 12-month cycle. The bill has been enacted into law and will encourage community banks to spend more time and resources serving their communities and less time on paperwork.

Preserving More Access to Credit for Credit Unions

Similarly, tens of thousands of Hoosiers will benefit from their credit unions having newfound access to the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) system. Joe introduced, and got enacted into law bipartisan legislation with Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) that permits privately-insured credit unions to apply for FHLB membership, which in turn will allow these credit unions to provide more home loans to families and loans to small businesses.

Boosting Small Business Lending

Small businesses continue to help drive Indiana's economy, particularly in small cities and towns across the state. Joe joined with Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) to introduce and enact into law the SBIC Advisers Relief Act, bipartisan legislation intended to boost small business lending. The legislation removes duplicative and unnecessary reporting requirements for Small Business Investment Companies (SBICs), which works through the U.S. Small Business Administration to provide financing to small businesses aiming to expand and hire more workers. This bill was signed into law in December.

Preserving Access to Manufactured Housing

In many Indiana communities, manufactured housing is an important option for Hoosier families. In order to ensure this source of affordable housing continues to be available, while maintaining high-quality consumer protections, Joe reintroduced bipartisan legislation that would protect the ability of manufactured home customers to buy, sell, and refinance these homes. Senators Pat Toomey (R-PA), Joe Manchin (D-WV), and Tom Cotton (R-AR) joined Joe in the effort.

Investing in Infrastructure

Addressing Pressing Infrastructure Needs and Providing Long-Term Certainty

Joe knows that safe, efficient, and modern transportation and infrastructure is critical to keep Indiana competitive in the global economy. Indiana families need and deserve safe roads to get to work and school, and our manufacturers and small businesses need a functioning freight rail system to move their products around the country and across the world.

For the first time in more than a decade, Congress worked in a bipartisan manner to pass a long-term transportation funding bill. The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, which Joe supported, provides five years of planning certainty to states, counties, cities, and municipalities as they work on infrastructure construction and maintenance projects. While the bill was not perfect, a long-term reauthorization of federal highway and transit programs will address the pressing need to repair Indiana's crumbling roads and bridges, and make sure that transit systems run safely and efficiently.

Ensuring Continued Safety and Efficiency of Bus Transit

In communities across Indiana, buses provide Hoosiers with a vital transportation option. Joe worked with Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS) to introduce bipartisan legislation to establish a grant program that would ensure that



buses used for public transit are safe and meet the needs of communities across the country. The grant program would assist with the replacement and repair of buses, including the purchase of buses and related equipment and would provide states with greater flexibility in how to use the funding for buses and bus-related facilities. These efforts contributed to Congress increasing bus funding for Fiscal Year 2016 in the FAST Act.

Helping Hoosier Businesses Transport Products More Easily

As part of his effort to make it easier for Hoosier companies to get their products to market, Joe introduced a bipartisan bill with Senators Jerry Moran (R-KS) and Pat Roberts (R-KS) that would allow drivers taking light- and medium-duty trailers from a manufacturer to a retailer to tow two trailers at once, cutting down on inefficiency. Across the country, a patchwork of regulations makes it difficult for manufacturers to do businesses and create jobs. This legislation was included in the FAST Act and signed into law.

Cutting Red Tape, Reforming Federal Permitting for Infrastructure Projects

While working to provide long-term funding certainty to our nation’s transportation and infrastructure system, Joe also focused on making it easier for major infrastructure projects to move toward completion. Cutting unnecessary red tape and reforming the permitting process are helpful to growing our economy.

Included in the five-year transportation and infrastructure bill signed into law was the Federal Permitting Improvement Act, which will modernize the regulatory process for major infrastructure projects. Joe was a cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation, introduced by Senators Rob Portman (R-OH) and Claire McCaskill (D-MO). Among other reforms, the Permitting Improvement Act provisions will improve the federal permitting process by enhancing coordination among agencies and requiring them to set deadlines for completion of their reviews. It will also increase transparency by requiring agencies to track the progress of their reviews for major projects using an online dashboard.

Supporting Other Efforts to Improve Indiana’s Infrastructure Projects

Joe also continued to advocate for Indiana’s transportation and infrastructure projects as they competed for federal grant funding. In August, the Federal Aviation Administration announced that it had awarded \$2.6 million to the Indianapolis Airport Authority to make improvements to the runway and taxiway at the Indianapolis Metropolitan Airport in Fishers. Joe supported the airport’s grant application. This grant will help rehabilitate a runway and install taxiway lighting at the airport, which is a key reliever for Indianapolis International Airport. According to the Indianapolis Airport Authority, the rehabilitation and airport improvement project is expected to create new jobs. In addition, the project is expected to help the airport meet transportation needs in Indianapolis.

Supporting Veterans

From passing his mental health “Care Package” into law to fighting for more choice in veterans’ health care options, Joe worked to ensure health care is delivered effectively and in a way that meets the needs of our servicemembers and veterans. Joe believes we owe our support and dedication to the individuals who have selflessly served our country. In order to fulfill our responsibility to servicemembers and veterans, excellent health care and mental health care support should be accessible to those who served and their families.



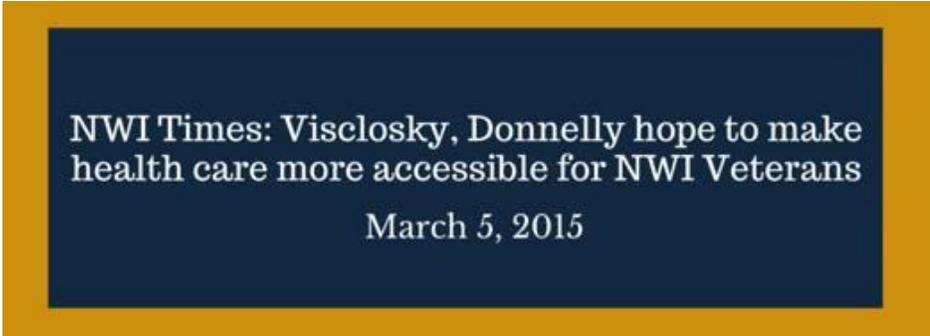
Expanding Access to Non-VA Care for Veterans

Joe fought to help veterans access non-VA care when their nearest VA clinics are not within a reasonable drive or cannot offer a timely appointment. Joe succeeded in pushing the VA to expand veterans’ access to non-VA care under the Veterans Choice Program.

The VA announced a change to the formula used to determine the required 40-mile distance between where a veteran lives and the nearest VA medical facility from the straight-line geographic distance to a more realistic measure of the driving distance.

Along with Congressman Pete Visclosky (IN-01), Joe urged the VA Secretary to consider travel times and the distance from appropriate care, rather than simply the straight-line distance from a veteran’s home to the nearest VA facility.

Joe pointed to the travel burdens faced by some northwest Indiana veterans served by the Adam Benjamin, Jr. Crown Point Outpatient Clinic, who must often travel to the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago for specialty or inpatient care. He continued pressing the VA to take additional steps to relieve the travel burden, by considering factors like traffic congestion and transportation to and from shuttle stops.



NWI Times: Visclosky, Donnelly hope to make
health care more accessible for NWI Veterans
March 5, 2015

Clay Hunt SAV Act

Building on Joe's efforts to combat military suicide, the Senate passed the Clay Hunt SAV Act with Joe's support by a vote of 99 – 0. The bill was signed into law by President Obama in February. The legislation improves mental health care and suicide prevention services for veterans and requires the VA Secretary to conduct regular evaluations of existing mental health care suicide prevention programs at the VA. Joe said, "With an estimated 22 veterans taking their lives every day, we must do more to prevent veteran suicide and improve mental health care services available to our heroes. This bipartisan bill is a step forward in addressing veteran suicide, and I am committed to continuing to work with my colleagues on this critical issue."

Federal Grants to Assist Hoosier Veterans

Adjusting from military to civilian life can be difficult. Joe believes that every veteran who wants a job should have a job, and job training and placement programs can help end veteran homelessness. After advocating for programs that provide veterans with job training for in-demand jobs and transition services to assist homeless veterans, Joe welcomed federal grants for four Indiana organizations. With Joe's support for their federal grant applications, Volunteers of America-Indiana, Inc., which serves Allen County; Crossroads Rehabilitation Center and HealthNet, Inc.—both serving Indianapolis; and Housing Corporation, serving Evansville, together received more than \$850,000.

Joe also supported a federal grant for a program that provides mental health services and housing placement assistance to homeless veterans and other individuals. In August, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced \$1.2 million in grant funding to support a recovery-oriented, integrated system of care for individuals living in eastern and south central Indiana. This federal grant is for services such as behavioral health treatment and treatment for substance abuse, recovery support, and placement in permanent housing that supports veterans facing challenges.

Supporting Reserve and Guard Members

Indiana is home to the fourth largest National Guard contingent in the country, and Hoosier members of our National Guard and Reserves serve our country honorably, whether overseas or here at home.

Despite their service, many members of the National Guard and Reserves do not qualify for federal veterans' hiring preferences, and Joe has worked to include them. Partnering with Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX), Joe introduced the Military Reserve Jobs Act that would give qualified members of the National Guard and Reserves a tiered preference in hiring for federal civil service jobs. This would promote hiring of Reserve Component members into the federal workforce, while respecting the service and sacrifice of our overseas combat veterans.

Working with Senator John Boozman (R-AR), Joe introduced the *Honor America's Guard-Reserve Retirees Act of 2015*, a bipartisan bill to recognize as veterans National Guard and Reserve retirees who served honorably for a minimum of 20

years. This legislation would provide honorary veteran status to hundreds, if not thousands, of Hoosiers who have served in the National Guard and Reserves. Due to the fact that no additional benefits beyond the title of veteran are extended to these retirees, there is no cost associated with this legislation. The bill passed the Senate unanimously in November, and has not yet been considered by the House.



Honoring Hoosier Veterans

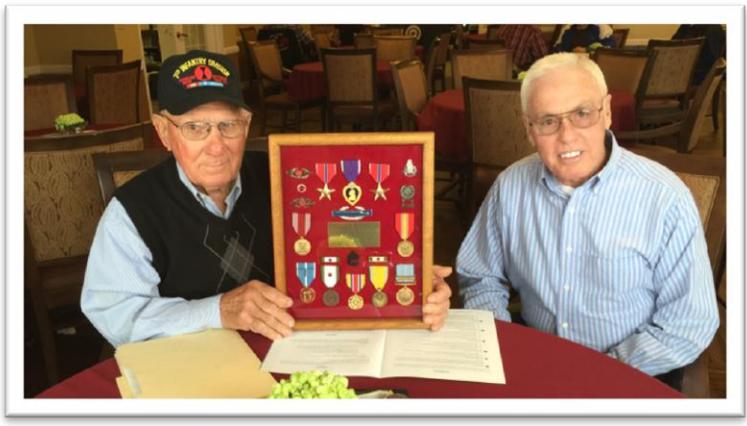
Joe honors and recognizes veterans for their service at every opportunity, whether in Indiana or Washington. This past year, he greeted and thanked Hoosier veterans from across Indiana during 11 Honor Flight Trips. The Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created to honor America's military heroes by sponsoring veterans' trips to Washington, D.C., where they can visit and reflect at their memorials. Notably, Donnelly spent time with the first ever all-female Honor Flight at the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. More than 140 female veterans attended from Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio who served in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.



Donnelly also welcomed veterans from Lafayette, Elkhart, Fort Wayne, South Bend, as well as Lake and Porter counties, and other areas across the state.



As part of his commitment to paying tribute to our veterans, Joe's office has hosted Veterans History Project events in collaboration with the Library of Congress. The effort aims to preserve the historic experiences of those who served in the United States military by recording their personal narratives and archiving them for use by historians, teachers, and the public. Joe's office held 11 Veteran History Project events across Indiana, recording 102 interviews that will be included in the Library of Congress archives.



70th Anniversary USS Indianapolis

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the sinking of the USS Indianapolis during World War II in July 2015, Joe honored the survivors and paid tribute to those we lost. The USS Indianapolis was commissioned in 1932. It operated from Pearl Harbor and throughout the Pacific, escorting convoys and attacking enemy submarines during World War II. After midnight on July 30, 1945, a Japanese submarine attacked the USS Indianapolis, and within minutes the vessel sank. Approximately 1,200 U.S. servicemembers were on board. After five days afloat in the Pacific Ocean, just more than 300 sailors survived.

Paying Tribute to Hoosier Vietnam Veterans

Joe recognized the service and sacrifice of Indiana servicemembers during the Vietnam War to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the end of the war. More than 1,200 Hoosiers gave their lives in service to our country during the Vietnam War. Nearly 150,000 Vietnam War veterans currently live in Indiana.



Joe said, during a speech on the U.S. Senate floor, “At the end of the war, many of our Vietnam veterans didn’t receive the welcome home or the recognition they deserved...Our Vietnam vets deserve to be held, and are held, in the same high regard as those who fought in World War I, World War II, Korea, Afghanistan, Iraq...Our Vietnam veterans support and lead our communities as public servants, teachers, lawyers, nurses, business owners, factory workers, bankers, just about anything you can imagine – that’s what our Vietnam vets are doing to make our country a greater place...They are a generation of veterans who have taught us about love of country and service and who deserve to be honored for their selflessness and sacrifice.”

More Affordable and Cleaner Domestic Energy

Joe has championed an all-in approach to our nation’s energy policy that utilizes the resources we have here at home to increase our energy independence, while also respecting the environment.

Pushing for a Continued Growth of Domestic Biofuels

Indiana is a leader in the production of biofuels, which are a critical component of our nation’s domestic supply of energy. Joe has been a leader in the Senate in the fight for maintaining the use of biofuels and for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). Joe joined a bipartisan group of Senators in April urging the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set RFS levels that meet demand as determined by Congress. As Indiana’s biofuels industry grows and creates jobs for Hoosiers, we should be incentivizing growth not undermining it. Joe was disappointed that the EPA announced in November a rule that would lower the volume of renewable fuels required in our fuel supply. However, he will continue advocating for a strong RFS and supporting domestic energy production because it is important to Indiana’s economy and lessens our country’s need for foreign oil.

Joe also continued his bipartisan work to promote biofuels, including ethanol, by introducing bipartisan legislation with Senators Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Deb Fischer (R-NE) that would allow retailers to sell E15 gasoline/ethanol blended fuel year-round. This legislation would help expand the ethanol market for growers across Indiana, give consumers more options at the gas pump, and improve air quality. The effort to reform this inefficient EPA regulation will continue in 2016 so that more consumers can access E15 all year.

Promoting Economic Competitiveness and Energy Security

In order to maintain affordable energy prices and keep more of our hard-earned dollars here at home, Joe believes part of our nation's energy policy should include expanding domestic production of oil and natural gas, and building the infrastructure to support getting that increased supply to consumers across the country, rather than relying on exports from overseas.

The Keystone XL Pipeline was among the projects that Joe has supported as part of a larger, comprehensive strategy to increase American-produced energy, strengthen our energy security, and boost the economy in Indiana and across the country. In January, Joe helped the Senate pass bipartisan legislation that would have authorized construction of the Keystone XL pipeline. He was disappointed that President Obama rejected the pipeline after the months of delays on a decision.

As a way to avert lengthy and unnecessary permitting delays to important energy infrastructure projects in the future, Joe worked with Senator John Hoeven (R-ND) to introduce the *North American Energy Infrastructure Act*. The bill would streamline decision-making by establishing reasonable timelines on how long federal regulators can take to make a decision about a project, helping speed up the process for major energy infrastructure projects across the country.

Joe also pushed to ensure that our energy policies are promoting clean technologies like wind and solar by pursuing ways to extend important, renewable energy tax credits. These clean technologies help drive investment and spur innovation that also improve the reliability and reduce the costs of renewable energies. During Senate consideration of the *Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act*, Joe helped introduce an amendment that would have extended the clean energy credits five years through 2020. While that amendment failed to receive sufficient support for adoption in January 2015, Joe worked to ensure that by the end of the year, Congress passed a five-year extension of those clean energy credits as part of the bipartisan budget bill that became law in December. That extension will help spur the construction of enough wind and solar to power 30 million more homes in the coming years.

Keeping Energy Affordable for Families and Businesses

Strong communities and competitive businesses are built on affordable energy prices. Recent reforms to our nation's financial and commodities markets created different rules governing how public and private utility companies can sell energy, putting consumers at risk for increased prices. In 2014, Joe worked successfully with Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK), chairman of the Committee on Environment and Public Works, to call on the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) to treat public and private utilities the same. In April, Joe and Senator Inhofe reintroduced the *Public Power Risk Management Act* to bring a permanent fix to the CFTC's changes.

Education

From early childhood education and pre-K to job training and college, Joe wants to ensure that every Hoosier child has access to a quality education that will prepare them to enter an increasingly global and competitive economy. In order to make that happen, schools and teachers must be well-positioned to educate the next-generation workforce.



Joe supported and helped lead bipartisan efforts to increase local control of education, expand access to Pre- K, improve financial literacy, and ease the financial burden of a college education.

Ending the Flawed No Child Left Behind Law

Joe helped the Senate pass the Every Student Succeeds Act, legislation that President Obama signed into law that reforms our country's elementary and secondary education programs and ends the flawed one-size-fits-all No Child Left Behind.

The law allows states to design systems that identify and support schools that need improvement. The new law also authorizes Preschool Development Grants, allowing states to compete to increase access, improve, and coordinate their pre-K programs. In addition, it includes provisions similar to those authored by Joe that promote parent and family engagement in early childhood learning.

Expanding Access to an Early Childhood Education

Joe believes an investment in pre-K education is an investment in Indiana's future, and he supported several efforts to increase access to early childhood education.

Joe helped pass the bipartisan budget bill, signed into law that will provide robust funding for early childhood education programs. He also co-sponsored the *Providing Resources Early for Kids Act* (PRE-K Act), legislation that would incentivize states to both improve the quality of state preschool programs and expand those programs to serve more children in need.



Improving Financial Literacy and Easing Financial Burden of a College Education

A college education is important for many Hoosiers to secure good-paying jobs in today's economy, and student loans help thousands of these Hoosiers access a quality college education that would otherwise be out of reach. Joe believes we need to take steps to better empower student borrowers.

Joe and Senator Tim Scott (R-SC) introduced the *Empowering Student Borrowers Act*, bipartisan legislation that aims to ensure that student borrowers have access to the best tools and information to make responsible decisions.

Sen. Joe Donnelly has introduced a bill along with Sen. Tim Scott (R, South Carolina) that would have the U.S. Department of Education compile a list of "best practices" for colleges and universities to promote financial literacy among students, particularly when it comes to student loans and debt...Donnelly said, "This is a first step in improving the financial literacy of student borrowers."
-WIBC, 3.19.15

The legislation would require the Department of Education to establish and maintain best practices for colleges and universities on useful methods to teach financial literacy skills and provide information to assist students when making financial decisions related to student borrowing. For example, Indiana

University began sending letters to student borrowers at each of its seven campuses during the 2012-2013 academic year. Following the letters, the number of IU undergraduates who took out federal loans the following year dropped by 11 percent—outpacing the national average of two percent — and the amount they borrowed decreased by \$31 million.

James Kennedy, Associate Vice President for University Student Services and Systems at Indiana University (IU), said, "As our recent experience at Indiana University has shown, knowledge truly is power when it comes to financial literacy and providing even basic information to students can have a dramatically positive effect on the level of student borrowing, as we have seen at IU."

Advocating for Agriculture and Conservation Efforts

Indiana's agriculture community is at the heart of our state's economy. From corn, soybeans, and tomatoes, to pork and cattle, Hoosier farmers are growing the food and fiber that drive our economy, strengthen our local communities, and help feed the world. As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Joe is proud to support Hoosier farmers and producers to make sure policies made in Washington address the challenges faced in Indiana. Joe worked to address troublesome regulations, support conservation efforts, provide tax certainty, and reduce childhood hunger.

Country of Origin Labeling

In December, Canada and Mexico were set to implement over a billion dollars a year in retaliatory tariffs against U.S. manufactured products because our mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) requirements for pork and beef products failed to comply with our trade obligations. Joe heard from numerous farmers and manufacturers about the negative impact the tariffs would have had on our economy and worked to ensure that Congress passed a fix of the COOL requirement before the end of the year. Joe helped pass a bipartisan bill that was signed into law that included a COOL fix. As a result, Hoosier producers will not be hit with trade penalties and their products will remain competitive on the global market.

Tax Certainty

Based on the feedback from Hoosier farmers and manufacturers, Joe has long been committed to securing a permanent extension of the Section 179 tax deduction. The provision allows farmers and small businesses to deduct up to \$500,000 per year for eligible equipment, including tractors, combines, barns and sheds and storage tanks, as well as investments in livestock, like horses, cattle, hogs, and sheep.



With Joe's support, Congress made the tax deduction permanent, ending the past uncertainty of constantly expiring tax provisions and enabling Hoosiers to invest in equipment and infrastructure to grow their businesses and better plan for the future.

Waters of the United States Rule

Water is a shared resource and Joe believes to ensure that our clean water protections are effective, we need to work together and use feedback from the people who work with the land every day. Unfortunately, based on the extensive feedback Joe heard from stakeholders in Indiana, the EPA's "Waters of the U.S." (WOTUS) rule was written without sufficient collaboration with some of the people who care about this rule the most—our farmers, small business owners, and our communities.



In response to Hoosiers concerned with the rule, Joe helped author and introduce bipartisan legislation with Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) that would address the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers' attempt to define WOTUS, by requiring the agencies to listen to the agriculture community, and collaborate with federal, state, and local partners. Joe's legislation, the Federal Water Quality Protection Act, would provide agriculture producers, conservationists, and county and local governments with the regulatory certainty they need to continue efforts to improve water quality.

Joe pushed for Senate consideration of his legislation and in November, he joined a bipartisan majority of Senators in voting to move forward with the bill. The legislation was supported by 57 Senators from both sides of the aisle, though the bill failed to meet the 60-vote threshold required to proceed. Joe will continue to push for Congress to pass a constructive, permanent solution to the WOTUS rule.

Donnelly said creating effective water protection rules mean working together and using "the feedback from the people who work with the land every day." "Countless Hoosier farmers are frustrated that Washington bureaucrats are calling the shots, rather than working together to develop sensible environmental protections," he said on the Senate floor. "It's time to roll up our sleeves and provide our ag producers, conservationists, and county and local governments with the regulatory certainty they need to continue efforts to improve water quality."
-AP, 11.3.15

Strengthening Efforts for Conservation and Indiana's Recreation Economy

Joe is proud that Indiana already leads in many agriculture conservation and environmental protections efforts. Local conservation leaders in communities across Indiana are working hard to keep soils and waters clean. Their work is important to both the agriculture industry and the environment as a whole. Joe has supported conservation efforts to improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, and expand access to federal lands for outdoor recreation.

Joe hit the ground running when he announced at the beginning of January that Indiana would be participating in four conservation projects aimed at improving water quality through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program. He supported the applications to fund three of the projects. Conservation projects proposed by Indiana environmental stewards and their regional partners received more than \$26 million for initiatives seeking to: reduce farm runoff, assist farmers with implementing conservation practices to reduce harmful algae blooms; and to create wetlands in strategic locations to provide conservation acreage for many migratory bird species.

Federal programs help both agriculture businesses and conservation efforts, and Joe worked to ensure that Hoosier landowners have every opportunity to participate. Joe and a bipartisan group of Senators urged the U.S. Department of Agriculture to maximize the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and emphasized Congress' continued support of the program, which is critical to reducing soil erosion, improving water quality, and providing wildlife habitats. The group asked Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack to provide adequate enrollment periods for eligible landowners to participate, including a general signup period. And, on December 1, USDA began a new general signup for farmers and ranchers to participate in CRP.

For many Hoosiers, fishing, hunting, and outdoor recreation are more than a pastime – they are a way of life. The outdoors is vital to Indiana's economy in supporting Hoosier jobs, providing recreation, and ensuring our communities are



Donnelly said, "The outdoors is vital to Indiana's economy in supporting Hoosier jobs, providing recreation, and ensuring our communities are strong. That is why I am joining Republicans and Democrats in support of this bill to expand access to federal lands for hunting and fishing, while preserving our environment." -Donnelly Release, 3.2.15

strong. Joe supported the *Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015* to expand access to land for recreational fishing and hunting, while also advancing land and water conservation efforts. The bill would reauthorize several habitat conservation programs; boost opportunities for fishing, hunting, and outdoor recreation; and help strengthen Indiana's economy.

Joe also supported legislation to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) to continue and strengthen efforts to conserve parks, land, and wildlife habitats for outdoor recreation. Since its creation, Indiana has used LWCF funding to build or improve more than 300,000 additional acres of land for local and state parks and hundreds of public recreation facilities. With Joe's support, Congress passed a three-year extension of the LWCF program that the President signed into law.

Protecting and Revitalizing the Great Lakes

From Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore to recreational activities across northern Indiana, Lake Michigan is an important natural treasure for Hoosiers. Joe supported multiple initiatives to clean the Great Lakes basin and improve water quality. Along with a group of his bipartisan colleagues, Joe helped introduce legislation to protect and revitalize the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes Ecological and Economic Protection Act of 2015 would formally authorize the Great Lakes Restoration initiative and an EPA Great Lakes Program Office, and reauthorize the Great Lakes legacy Act.

Joe also continued his annual efforts to push for robust funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), which focuses on the most pressing environmental challenges to the region. The GLRI secured resources to help address toxic contamination, run-off pollution, and invasive species in the Great Lakes. Joe also welcomed the announcement that Michigan was awarded the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Shoreline Cities grant, and will receive \$224,823 for green infrastructure projects designated to improve Great Lakes water quality.

In addition, Joe welcomed the USDA announcement that it awarded Indiana \$1.5 million to help Hoosier farmers improve water quality in the western Lake Erie basin. The announcement followed Joe's urging USDA Secretary Thomas Vilsack to act by encouraging states, businesses, universities, and organizations to work together to help improve water quality in the western Lake Erie basin in an effort to reduce algae blooms. The USDA investments will help enable Hoosier farmers to reduce the amount of nutrients entering the watershed, which can fuel the growth of disruptive algae blooms.

Nutrition

Joe believes all children should have access to nutritious food to eat. He pushed for federal child nutrition programs to be more efficient and flexible to better reach food insecure children. He helped introduce the bipartisan Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act that would make sure that Hoosier children receive nutritious meals even when school is out for the summer. By allowing communities to decide which program will better suit their needs, the bill would provide states with additional options to choose the best course of action in each of their communities to address child hunger during the summer.



Improving Health Care

Suspending the Harmful Medical Device Tax

Throughout 2015, Joe continued his efforts to make affordable, quality health care a reality for every Hoosier. As the Affordable Care Act continues to be implemented, Joe worked with a bipartisan group of colleagues to make adjustments and improvements to the law so that it works more effectively and efficiently for Hoosiers.



Indiana is home to many innovative medical device companies, which together employ about 20,000 Hoosiers. Joe has consistently fought to repeal the medical device tax because he believes we should be encouraging innovation and research, not stifling it. Medical device products range from hospital beds and equipment, to catheters and orthopedic joint replacements, to advanced imaging equipment.

Early in 2015, Joe joined with Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) to introduce bipartisan legislation to repeal the medical device tax. Joe helped pass a two-year suspension of the medical device tax in the bipartisan funding bill that was signed into law in December.

Kathy Heuer, Executive Director of Indiana Medical Device Manufacturers Council said, “This is a win for patients worldwide. With a two-year moratorium on the medical device tax and a permanent R&D tax credit, Indiana companies will be able to re-invest in research & development and ensure that we continue to improve therapies and patient safety, help lower the cost of American healthcare and expand high-paying jobs for Hoosiers. We thank Senator Donnelly for his leadership and support on this bipartisan and bicameral issue. He has continued to be a strong supporter of our industry.”

The “Medical Innovation Agenda”

In Indiana, the life sciences industries employ 50,000 Hoosiers and have an economic impact of \$45 billion each year on the state’s economy.

In October, as part of Joe’s effort to support these hard-working Hoosiers and the patients who rely on the life-saving innovative medicines and procedures that are being developed, Joe announced his bipartisan “Medical Innovation Agenda.”

The agenda is made up of legislation that would encourage innovation and help accelerate the development of new life-saving drugs and devices. Joe introduced two bills with Senator Cory Gardner (R- CO). The *FDA Regulatory Efficiency Act* would allow the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prioritize medical

devices with the potential to revolutionize health care by authorizing third parties to approve quality systems changes that do not involve major technology changes or changes in the use of the product.

The *Rare Device Innovation Act* would incentivize the development of life-saving medical devices for those with rare diseases. In November 2015, Senator Donnelly and Congressman Fred Upton (R-MI), Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee in the House of Representatives, hosted a roundtable discussion at Indiana University Research and Technology Corporation to discuss the ideas included in the “Medical Innovation Agenda” and Upton’s 21st Century Cures Act, which passed the House in 2015.



to discuss the ideas included in the “Medical Innovation Agenda” and Upton’s 21st Century Cures Act, which passed the House in 2015.

Investing in Scientific Research

Another major avenue for medical innovation and research is from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which provides significant and important grant funding to research organizations and labs across the country each year. In 2015, Indiana received more than \$211 million in NIH grant funding. Joe has consistently advocated for NIH funding because he believe it gives us the best chance of understanding the complex medical conditions that affect people. He supported the bipartisan budget bill signed into law, which included an increase in NIH funding.

Classifying 40 Hours as Full Time

For everyday working Hoosiers, 40 hours is the definition of a full-time work week. The Affordable Care Act, however, defines a full-time worker as someone working an average of 30 hours per week.

Joe reintroduced bipartisan legislation with Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) that would change the health care law's definition of full-time back to 40 hours, allowing employers to better plan for the future.



Improving Access to Care in Rural and Underserved Communities

Access to care continues to be an issue in rural and underserved communities across Indiana. Joe has advocated for efforts to improve rural health care.

- **Lugar Center for Rural Health at Union Hospital:** In July, the Department of Health and Human Services awarded the Lugar Center at Union Hospital a \$1.037 million grant to support important training in geriatric medicine that will help improve care for Indiana's rapidly expanding senior population. Joe supported their application for a federal grant to enhance training and increase the number of primary care doctors serving seniors.



- **Indianapolis, Jeffersonville, Goshen, Merrillville, and Clinton Health Centers:** Through the New Access Point grant program, six health centers in Indiana received more than \$4 million combined, which in total, will allow them to serve 20,000 new patients.

- **HealthLinc Community Health Centers:** With a \$1.05 million New Access Point grant, HealthLinc Community Health Centers secured funds to use toward opening a new clinic in South Bend, and a \$1.19 million grant that helped Wayne County Health Department's Richmond Health Center provide primary care services to new populations in Wayne County.
- **Shalom Health Center in Indianapolis:** In August, Shalom received \$440,000 in grant funding to open a satellite health clinic in northwest Indianapolis.
- **Open Door Health Services in Muncie:** In August, Open Door received \$441,000 to open a satellite clinic in Anderson.

Supporting Seniors

Preventing Scams and Fraud

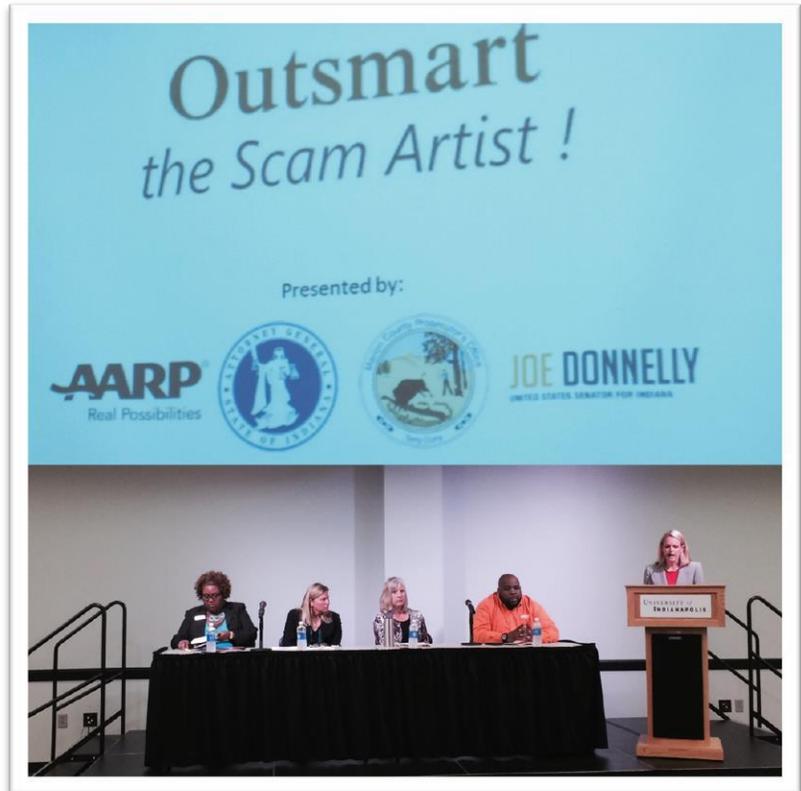
Joe believes our seniors should be able to trust that their years of hard work have earned them a safe and healthy retirement and has worked in a bipartisan manner with colleagues on the Senate Aging Committee to address issues affecting America's seniors. To that end, Joe has focused on preventing senior scams, fraud and abuse and supported efforts to secure funding to help local organizations better provide reliable services for Hoosier seniors.

Technology, such as cell phones and the Internet, have allowed scammers and identity thieves to develop clever mechanisms and complex schemes to trick and prey upon seniors. To help prevent scams and fraud targeting seniors, in July, Joe helped introduce the *Phone Scam Prevention Act*. This legislation would require the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to publish a public report on the current technology available to enable individuals to protect themselves against misleading or inaccurate caller ID information. It would also require the FCC to submit a report detailing a plan to develop reasonable caller ID authentication standards, and expand the regulations regarding caller ID information to include text messages and communications originating outside of the United States.

Supporting Services for Hoosier Seniors

Joe is committed to ensuring that Hoosier seniors can retire with dignity and the peace of mind that basic services will be available to them. That is why, for example, Joe helped secure the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities Grant for the Kosciusko Community Senior Services (KCSS) in Warsaw. With this funding, KCSS can continue uninterrupted van service in Kosciusko County for seniors who need assistance to get to their medical appointments, pick up prescriptions, and shop for groceries.

In July, on the 50th anniversary of the *Older Americans Act (OAA)*, the Senate passed a three-year reauthorization of the legislation. Joe was proud to support the reauthorization of OAA, which provides funding for a range of home and community-based services, such as meals-on-wheels and other nutrition programs, in-home services, transportation, legal services, elder abuse prevention, and caregivers support. These programs help seniors stay as independent for as long as possible in their homes and communities. While the bill passed the Senate, it has not been considered by the House of Representatives.



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Special Events and Milestones

State of the Union 2015 with Hoosier Sharon Cranfill

In January, Joe invited Sharon Cranfill, Director of the House of Ruth in Connersville, as his State of the Union guest. He brought her to highlight the important work that she and others across Indiana are doing to help Hoosiers struggling with heroin and prescription drug abuse to rebuild their lives.

Commemorating Selma's 50th Anniversary with Hoosiers

In March, Joe participated in a civil rights pilgrimage in Alabama with Hoosiers to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday. Fellow Hoosiers and Joe participated in a bipartisan congressional delegation, joining President Obama and his family, former President George W. Bush, and civil rights leaders to walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, re-enacting the historic march that occurred there a half century earlier. Joe participated in a number of events and visited Brown Chapel AME Church in Selma as well as the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

Visit to Scott County

In May, Joe visited Austin, Indiana, and Scott County to meet with local leaders, health care providers, and state and federal public health experts working to tackle the HIV and Hepatitis C outbreak caused by intravenous drug use. He also visited Austin High School and the Community Outreach Center to learn more about the effect of the outbreak on the town of Austin and Scott County.



Honoring 25th Anniversary of the Ryan White CARE ACT

In September, Joe honored Ryan White, a Kokomo native, who was one of the first children with the blood condition hemophilia to be diagnosed with AIDS at the age of 13. He and his mother fought AIDS-related discrimination and educated Hoosiers and the country about the disease.

Joe gave remarks at the White House commemorating the 25th Anniversary of Ryan White CARE Act being signed into law.



Pope Francis' Address to Congress with Sister Lawrence Ann Liston

In September, Sister Lawrence Ann Liston of Terre Haute attended Pope Francis' address to Congress as Joe's guest. He invited Sister Lawrence Ann because she has selflessly dedicated her life to assisting and serving those in need, including Hoosiers seeking access to health care.

Crispus Attucks 60th Anniversary

In October, to honor the 60th anniversary of the historic Crispus Attucks High School Basketball Team winning the state championship, Joe spoke on the floor of the U.S. Senate. The 1955 Crispus Attucks Basketball Team was the first all-black high school athletic team to win a state championship, not only in Indiana, but in the United States.

Medical Innovation Agenda Roundtable in Indianapolis

In November 2015, Joe and Congressman Fred Upton (R-MI) – Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee in the House of Representatives – hosted a roundtable discussion at Indiana University Research & Technology Corporation on bipartisan efforts to encourage medical innovation, and help accelerate development and review of new, life-saving medicines and medical devices. More than 15 organizations participated in the roundtable representing the life sciences industry, pharmaceutical companies, and medical device companies.

Highlighting Indiana’s Contributions to our National Security

Crane and Grissom Air Reserve Base



Throughout 2015, Joe continued to highlight Indiana’s contributions to our national security. In April, Joe visited Babcock & Wilcox Nuclear Operations Group Inc. in Mt. Vernon, accompanied by U.S. Navy Admiral John Richardson. Admiral Richardson was then head of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program and has since been confirmed as the Chief of Naval Operations. Joe and Admiral Richardson were able to see firsthand Hoosiers’ work on some of the Navy’s most important nuclear propulsion systems, including those that power Navy submarines and aircraft carriers.

The Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (NSWC) continues to lead Department of Defense (DoD) efforts in strategic nuclear programs, electronic warfare, counterfeit parts detection, and support of military special operations forces. In August, Joe spoke to the Crane Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association, where he gave an update on our country’s national security challenges, and Indiana’s important role in supporting the U.S. military. Joe also invited General Joseph Votel,



Commander of the U.S. Special Operations

Command (SOCOM) to visit Crane, and together they toured Crane’s facilities in early November.

In north central Indiana, Joe has been a vocal advocate for Grissom Air Reserve Base, home of the 434th Air Refueling Wing, and the critical capabilities Hoosier Airmen provide for the Air Force. Joe invited Air Force Secretary Deborah James to visit the base, and she joined Joe for a tour in December, to get a first-hand look and discuss the unit, the base, its infrastructure, and the supportive Hoosiers in neighboring communities.



Senate Armed Services Travel

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Joe has traveled to visit our servicemembers at home and overseas to see the work they are doing to keep our country safe.

In January, Joe joined a bipartisan group of Senators led by Senator John McCain (R-AZ) to Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Israel, where Joe met with leaders to discuss how to combat ISIS, al-Qaeda, and other terrorist groups; as well as addressing the flow of foreign fighters across regional borders, the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Syria, and the importance of preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

Over the 4th of July holiday, Joe met with foreign officials, U.S. military leaders, and diplomatic personnel during a Senate Armed Services Committee trip to Iraq, Kuwait, South Korea, and China. He visited Hoosier servicemembers stationed overseas. In Iraq, he met with U.S. military commanders and Iraqi partners to hear about the strategy to counter ISIS, and while in South Korea, Joe also met with the South Korean Defense Minister.

As the Ranking Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee's Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, which oversees our nation's nuclear arsenal and nuclear non-proliferation and counter-terrorism programs, Joe traveled in November to San Diego, CA, to see U.S. Navy facilities and was onboard a Navy ship during a test missile launch. He also traveled to two of our nation's top national security laboratories and a DoD installation in New Mexico to review their unique missions and discuss the important role that Indiana plays in helping our country maintain a safe, secure, and effective nuclear deterrent. Joe also discussed the new partnership between Purdue University and Sandia National Labs, and NWS Crane's work supporting DoD nuclear programs.



JUST ASK JOE

Joe maintains a high standard for customer service, which is why all Hoosiers should “Just Ask Joe” when they have a question, opinion, or problem with the federal government they need help solving. Joe makes sure his office does all that it can to help constituents, including responding to comments and questions regarding a legislative issue, assisting with a problem with a federal agency, giving tours of the U.S. Capitol, ordering a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol, or helping cities, municipalities, and other groups to identify and apply for a federal grant.

Correspondence

Joe heard from constituents from each of Indiana’s 92 counties. Overall, the office logged a total of 338,391 contacts; 93.2% of which were received via email, 4.4% by phone call, and 2.4% from mail and fax. The average turnaround time from logging a constituent’s concerns to responding was less than two weeks.



Casework

Joe’s office opened 2,000 new cases to help Hoosiers. Of that number, 1,964 cases have been closed and Joe’s assistance resulted in \$2,234,928 returned to Hoosiers. The top five most prevalent areas of casework in 2015 were with the Veterans Administration, U.S. Customs and Immigration Services, Social Security Administration, Internal Revenue Service, and Medicare. Since coming to the Senate, Joe has assisted Hoosiers from all 92 counties on issues with federal agencies. The following stories are a couple specific examples of Hoosiers “Just Asking Joe” to get the services they needed.

Examples of Casework

Marjorie O’Laughlin, Indianapolis

Marjorie O’Laughlin contacted Joe’s office for help confirming a suspicious phone call that she had received was an attempt to defraud her of money. In January, O’Laughlin received a phone call from a man identifying himself as a member of the U.S. Embassy in the Dominican Republic claiming that her step-granddaughter had been arrested and needed \$1,300 in bail posted for her release. Joe’s office contacted the embassy and discovered that no such person existed and that the call she had received was indeed a case of fraud. Later that evening, O’Laughlin was able to contact her step-granddaughter and confirm that she had not been arrested.



Luanna Warner, South Bend

Luanna contacted Joe's office requesting assistance to address an issue with renewing the insurance plan

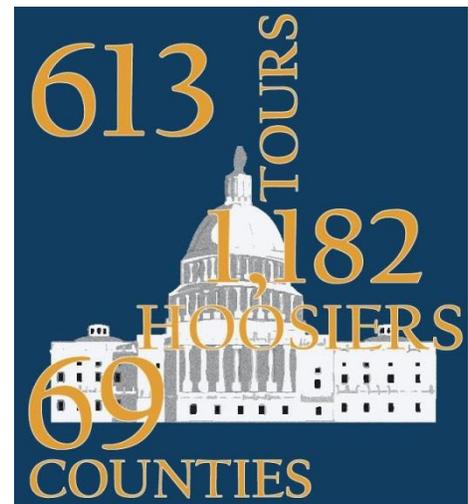


she purchased on the Health Insurance Marketplace. Without insurance, Luanna was unable to visit with her doctors and get her medications to treat her chronic illness, so she contacted Joe's office for assistance.

Within ten days of Luanna's first contact with Joe's office, staff was able to help Luanna resolve her issue with the health insurance plan and get her coverage back-dated to January of 2015. With her new insurance, Luanna was able to visit with her doctors and receive the medication she needed.

Tours

Joe believes that his office is every Hoosier's office. When Hoosier families or schools visit D.C., he and his staff try to make their experience as enjoyable as possible. In 2015, his office scheduled or had a staff member lead a total of 613 U.S. Capitol tours for 1,182 constituents from 69 counties.



Flags

Hoosiers can submit orders to Senator Donnelly for flags that have been flown over the U.S. Capitol. In 2015, Joe's office processed a total of 101 flag requests for 185 flags for Hoosiers from 57 different communities.

Library of Congress Surplus Books Program

Joe's office works with schools and libraries to participate in the Library of Congress Surplus Books Program. The Library of Congress has surplus books available for donation to eligible organizations and institutions. Joe's office is able to help Hoosier schools and public libraries build their book collections through this program. In 2015, his office helped provide 1,435 books to six schools and two libraries in eight counties from around the state.

Wayne Townsend and Frank J. Anderson Legislative Programs and Internships

After establishing the Wayne Townsend and Frank J. Anderson Legislative Programs in 2014, six individuals interested in public service have served in Joe's Washington, D.C. office to work with his legislative staff. This is in addition to the fifty-eight interns that worked in Joe's offices across Indiana and in Washington D.C.



The programs are named after two outstanding Hoosier public servants, who worked toward the betterment of our local communities, state, and nation—W. Wayne Townsend, a Hartford City, Indiana farmer who was the Democratic gubernatorial nominee in 1984 and passed away in 2015, and Frank J. Anderson, from Indianapolis, Indiana, who dedicated over 50 years to public service. Townsend served in both the Indiana House of Representatives and the Indiana State Senate for a total of 23 years. Anderson joined the United States Navy in 1956 and was honorably discharged in 1959, and following his military service, attended college, became a Marion County Sheriff Deputy, and ultimately served as a United States Marshal for the Southern District of Indiana and Marion County Sheriff.

The legislative programs aim to give the next generation of public servants an opportunity to learn about and participate in the legislative process in the U.S. Senate:

- The Wayne Townsend Legislative Program is designed for a highly motivated, outstanding undergraduate or recent graduate with an interest in public service. The individual selected for the program receives a stipend and works in Washington, D.C.
- The Frank J. Anderson Legislative Program is designed to provide a highly motivated, outstanding individual who has an interest in military and defense issues, along with an interest in a career in public service, the opportunity to serve in Joe's Washington, D.C. office. The individual selected for the program receives a stipend and works in Washington, D.C.

Service Academy Nominations

Each year, Joe has the opportunity to nominate Hoosier high school students to attend one of our nation's service academies. In 2015, Joe nominated 42 young men and women for consideration for admittance in 2016 to the U.S. Naval Academy, U.S. Military Academy, U.S. Air Force Academy, and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. These Hoosiers hail from Allen, Bartholomew, Blackford, Boone, Delaware, Gibson, Hamilton, Hancock, Jefferson, Lake, LaPorte, Marion, Marshall, Monroe, St. Joseph, Vanderburgh, Vigo, and Wabash counties. There were a total of 155 applicants.

Grants

Joe is committed to helping enterprising communities, businesses, and not-for-profit organizations understand the highly competitive federal grants process, in order to improve the possibility of a positive outcome. He understands that it is critical to Indiana's continued growth that proposed projects with a good foundation in place and strong community support have an opportunity to obtain federal grant dollars. If Indiana organizations and communities are not receiving this funding then other states are given the opportunity to benefit from Hoosier taxpayer dollars.

In 2015, Joe supported over 90 grant applications for projects in more than 30 counties across the state.

For the year, more than \$24 million in grants came back to the state with Joe's support.

Applications he supported that were granted included: a \$10 million grant for the Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville to fund a major improvement project; funding for local efforts to prevent crime in Indianapolis; programs that assist Hoosier veterans with job training and seek to end veteran homelessness; and grants for the hiring of additional police officers. In addition, below are summaries of other grants awarded that Joe supported.

The Journey Home, Joe supported The Journey Home's application for a VASH (VA Supportive Housing) grant. The Journey Home is a non-profit residential program for male veterans struggling with homelessness, addiction and other challenges located in Winchester, Indiana. It received a three-year award from the VA to help end veterans homelessness. The Journey Home will receive VASH per diem vouchers to help defray the cost of housing and transitional services for the veterans they serve. Securing this grant allows The Journey Home to provide quality services to up to 15 veterans at one time as they transition to independence.

EmployIndy, Joe supported EmployIndy's application for a grant through the Department of Labor, Employment & Training Administration (ETA). EmployIndy, the non-profit workforce investment arm of the Indianapolis Private Industry Council, secured funding to help develop and operate the Marion County Specialized American Job Center. The AJC will link 100 former offenders to a range of community-based workforce services to prepare them for employment and successful reentry into Marion County. This program will address some of the major obstacles to successful reentry and help reduce recidivism. **Award Amount: \$495,660**

The Center for Community Justice (CCJ), a restorative justice practice based in Elkhart, with Joe's support, received a grant from federal block funds to implement a program in collaboration with Elkhart County Schools. The program is focused on teaching personal responsibility and conflict resolution. **Award Amount: \$46,437**

Turnstone Center, Joe supported Turnstone Center of Fort Wayne during their application process for an Adaptive Sports Program grant through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to support sports programs for disabled veterans. The grant will benefit Turnstone's HEROS with HEROS program, which includes access to adaptive sports clinics and camps, crossover training, membership in Turnstone's fitness center, and coaching and mentoring provided by a disabled veteran. **Award Amount: \$47,039**

Engaging with Hoosiers on Social Media

Whether it's sharing news about meetings with constituents or progress on his legislative priorities, letting people know when he's visited their hometown, or spreading #GoodNews that's happening around the state, Joe wants to utilize every opportunity to let Hoosiers know how he's working for them. Here's a snapshot from Joe's social media accounts over the past year:



/senatordonnelly



@SenDonnelly



sendonnelly



Senator Joe Donnelly

December 15, 2015 at 10:01am

Joe was rated the fourth-most bipartisan senator and most bipartisan Democrat based on new lifetime rankings from The Lugar Center and Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy's Bipartisan Index released today.

"My responsibility is to do what is right for Hoosiers no matter which party an idea may come from. I believe we are stronger and more effective when we work together, and when we prioritize bipartisan efforts we can get things done that will help Indiana and our country." —Joe
1.usa.gov/1ILM5Nq

16,612 people reached

Boost Post

302 Likes 49 Comments 44 Shares

Like Comment Share



Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 27 Oct 2015

Joe's staff held a Veterans History Project event in Vincennes today and interviewed local veterans.



1 3

sendonnelly

25w



17 likes

sendonnelly Today, Joe spoke at the official opening of the Gary/Chicago International Airport runway expansion. Joe and his staff worked closely with key stakeholders, such as Gary Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson [pictured], to help resolve issues that had stalled the runway expansion project.



Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 1 Oct 2015

Check out some of Joe's recommendations in his letter to the Governor's Task Force:

Summary of Joe's Recommendations to Governor's Task Force on Drug Enforcement, Treatment, and Prevention

PREVENTION
 Further engagement with the prescriber community
 Utilize INSPECT, Indiana's prescription drug monitoring program, to its full potential
 Support local drug abuse prevention efforts

ENFORCEMENT
 Expand access to innovative criminal justice programs to rehabilitate low-level offenders facing addiction

ACCESS TO TREATMENT
 Utilize federal initiatives to expand access to treatment for people with substance abuse disorders

4



Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 21 Oct 2015

Joe's staff joined @IMPD_News yesterday to honor fallen IMPD Officer Rod Bradway w/ a Fallen Officer Legacy plaque.



3 1



Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 3 Sep 2015

Joe torqued lugnuts on a tire of an Apache Sprayer in Mooresville at ag manufacturer @ApacheSprayer. #DonnellyDay.



1 4

Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 9 Apr 2015
 #GoodNews: @HondaIndiana produced its 1 millionth vehicle at the Greensburg plant yesterday bit.ly/1GtSIVO



7 10

Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 7 Oct 2015
 Joe greeted Hoosier vets who traveled to D.C. today w/ #HFNEI 1.usa.gov/1Mf5sUE



6

Senator Joe Donnelly

September 29, 2015 ·

Congratulations to all of our Indiana 2015 National Blue Ribbon Schools. – Joe, on the U.S. Department of Education today recognizing 10 Indiana schools as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2015 based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among students.

2015 Indiana National Blue Ribbon Schools

- Centerton Elementary School in Martinsville, IN
- Farmersville Elementary School in Mount Vernon, IN
- Memorial Elementary School in Valparaiso, IN
- Murdock Elementary School in Lafayette, IN
- North Elementary School in Poseyville, IN
- Oak Trace Elementary School in Westfield, IN
- Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Carmel, IN
- Prairie Vista Elementary School in Granger, IN
- Saint Pius X Catholic School in Granger, IN
- South Adams High School in Berne, IN

41,095 people reached

Boost Post

189 Likes 19 Comments 174 Shares

Like Comment Share

Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 30 Dec 2015
 #GoodNews: Tech companies are continuing to choose to start and expand in Indiana. bit.ly/1QRuEcn



Indiana Tapping Tech Pipeline

"You can't grow technology in Indiana." It's a mantra that naysayers have been repeating for years, citing the state's resistance to change and lack of oceans or mo... insideindianabusiness.com

7 6

Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 10 Feb 2015
 #GoodNews: @ThePrincetonRev ranked six Indiana colleges as "Colleges That Pay You Back" bit.ly/1KBbqpw

8 2

Senator Joe Donnelly at Kinser's Bakery.
 December 21, 2015 at 11:53am

It was great to start off the morning with the folks at Kinser's Bakery in Monticello. –Joe



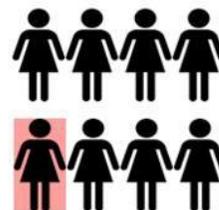
10,642 people reached

Boost Post

192 Likes 10 Comments 25 Shares

Like Comment Share

Senator Joe Donnelly @SenDonnelly · 23 Oct 2015
 During #BCAM we remember those we've lost & stand w/ loved ones fighting this disease & those who've survived it. –Joe



1 in 8 women will develop breast cancer at some point in her lifetime.

MORE WISDOM IN INDIANA

Joe believes there is more wisdom in Indiana than in Washington. He makes great effort to travel back to Indiana to spend time visiting communities all across the state at every opportunity. In fact, Joe visited all 92 counties in 2015.

Donnelly Days

“Donnelly Days” are an ongoing series of events where Joe shadows and works alongside Hoosiers in a variety of jobs and professions to gain a greater understanding of the issues most important to Hoosier workers. Since launching “Donnelly Days” in August of 2014, Joe has visited nearly two dozen businesses across Indiana, from the manufacturing line at Stanley Black & Decker and Tri-State Industries, alongside a Marine veteran who is a Starbucks barista, participating in firefighting rescue training, and standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the people who are building Indiana and America every day. Joe had 19 “Donnelly Days” across the state in 2015, including the highlights below.

Head Start Pre-School

Joe visited the Darrough Chapel Early Learning Center in Kokomo in February for a “Donnelly Day” event to spend time in a teacher’s shoes leading three- and four-year-olds in science, math, and reading lessons.



Union Hospital

Joe held a “Donnelly Day” event at Union Hospital in Terre Haute. He shadowed medical residents in the family medicine residency program and took part in training opportunities in a community-based medical education setting to better understand the health issues facing Union Hospital, the Vigo County community, and Indiana.

Tri-State Industries

Joe worked alongside employees on a metal welding assembly line at Tri-State Industries in Hammond for a “Donnelly Day” event. On the assembly line, Joe operated a robot to weld metal parts, worked to package a welding trailer, and shadowed a worker operating a high-definition plasma cutter.



South Bend Fire Department

Joe visited the South Bend Fire Department’s Fire Training Center participating in training exercises and was joined by South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg for a “Donnelly Day” event. Joe drove in a fire truck, climbed an aerial ladder into a third-floor window and helped extinguish a fire in a kitchen area of the training tower to simulate a fire-fighting experience. He also used a hose line to extinguish a car fire.



In-State Travel

In 2015, Joe spent 165 days in Indiana, during which he visited 107 cities and towns in 92 counties. He also participated in or hosted 327 events in communities across Indiana.



Hosting Hoosiers in Washington

Joe strives to have an open and accessible office for Hoosiers visiting our nation's capital. Much of his time spent in D.C. is devoted to meeting with Indiana groups of all varieties—including small business owners, labor leaders, school groups, local elected officials, and advocacy groups of all kinds—to stay attuned to how he can best be of service to Indiana.

Below is a small sampling of some of the meetings that took place in his D.C. office in 2015:

- The Association of Independent Colleges of Indiana
- The Indiana Rural Health Association
- Autism Society of Indiana
- The Indiana State Association of Letter Carriers
- The Indiana Disabled Veterans Association
- Indiana American Legion
- The Indiana State Medical Association
- The Professional Fire Fighters Union of Indiana
- Indiana Credit Unions
- The Indiana PTA

- The Purdue Council on Agriculture Research Extension and Teaching (PCARET)
- Indiana Beef Cattle Association
- The Arc of Indiana
- The Indiana State Poultry Association
- AARP Indiana
- Indiana Reserve Officers Association
- Alliance for Childhood Cancer
- The Indiana Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
- Indiana FFA
- The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
- Indiana Soybean Alliance and Indiana Corn Growers Association
- American Cancer Society



Joe values the time he is able to spend with the young people from schools across the state visiting D.C. Below is a list of middle schools, high schools, colleges, and universities that Joe was pleased to meet students from:



- The Sycamore School
- Holy Cross Lutheran School
- Notre Dame Catholic School
- Royerton Elementary School
- Brush Creek Elementary School (via Skype)
- Pendleton Elementary School (via Skype)
- Goshen Middle School
- Shelbyville Middle School
- Pope John Paul II Middle School
- Holy Spirit Middle School
- Greensburg Junior High School (via Skype)
- Carmel High School (via Skype)
- Our Lady of Providence Junior – Senior High School
- Rushville Consolidated High School
- Cathedral High School
- Kokomo High School
- Carmel High School
- Purdue Institute of Civic Communications Class
- University of Notre Dame
- Indiana University and Purdue MBA students



Throughout 2015, Joe hosted 18 constituent coffees in his Washington D.C. office. While visiting the office, families, students, and advocacy groups of all kinds had the opportunity to meet Joe's staff, visit with fellow Hoosiers, and meet and take a photo with Joe.

