

# Texas' 25th Congressional District



## 2013 Year End Annual Report

Congressman Roger Williams

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## Snapshot of 2013 Accomplishments

- Participated in 9 hearings, 23 committee meetings, and 1 markup in the House Budget Committee
- Participated in 30 hearings and 8 markups in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- Cast 641 votes, 99% vote attendance record
- Authored and introduced 3 bills
- Co-sponsored 71 bills
- Closed 222 cases with federal agencies on behalf of constituents
- Received and responded to 30,247 pieces of correspondence
- Held or attended over 166 events in the 25th District
- Requested over 77 Capitol tours on behalf of constituents
- Hosted 10 interns in my Washington, D.C. and Texas offices

# About Me



Prior to serving the 25th District of Texas in the United States Congress, I served Texas in a variety of ways and bring a unique background to Congress.

I was raised in the Fort Worth area where I graduated from Arlington Heights High School and went on to attend Texas Christian University where I played baseball. Upon my college graduation, I was drafted by the Atlanta Braves to play in their farm system until an injury ended my athletic pursuits and changed my career path. I began working in my father's car business and went on to own and operate the business for 40 years and counting.

Along the way, I became very involved civically and politically. I served as Regional Finance Chairman for Governor Bush in 1994 and 1998 before, going on to later serve as the North Texas Chairman for the Bush/Cheney 2000 campaign.

Additionally, as well as the North Texas Finance Chairman and National Grassroots Fundraising Chairman for Bush/Cheney '04, Inc. I was appointed by President George W. Bush in 2001 as the Chairman of the Republican National Finance Committee's Eagles Program. I have also served as State Finance Chair for John Cornyn for U.S. Senate, Inc., in 2002 and as the National Director of the "Patriots" program for Senator Cornyn.

In 2005, Governor Rick Perry appointed me to serve as Texas Secretary of State. As Chief Election Officer for Texas, I worked to ensure the uniform application and interpretation of election laws throughout the state. My focus was to promote economic development, investment and job creation in Texas. I also served as the state's Chief Liaison for Texas Border and Mexican Affairs as well as Chair of the state's 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Response Strike Force.

I was elected to the U.S. Congress on November 6th, 2012 and was selected to serve on the House Committee on the Budget, along with the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. In August 2013, I was named Chairman of the National Finance Committee at the National Republican Congressional Committee.

# About the 25th District of Texas

Texas' 25<sup>th</sup> Congressional District is one of the most unique, diverse districts in America. It goes all the way from Hays County in the South to Tarrant County in the North. Among countless notable sites, we've got the University of Texas, the Texas State Capitol and the Texas State Cemetery, the Comanche Peak nuclear plant, the largest population of dairy farmers anywhere in Texas, Fort Hood – the largest military installation in America, thousands of small businesses, the world famous Bluebonnet Café and the home of Billy the Kid.

I represent all, or part, of the following counties: Burnet, Travis, Hays, Lampasas, Coryell, Hamilton, Bosque, Hill, Erath, Somervell, Johnson, Bell and Tarrant.





## My Platform

1. Lower Taxes
2. Less Government
3. Cut the Spending
4. Protect Our Borders
5. Listen to Your Generals
6. Understand the 10th Amendment

## My Memberships

[Republican Study Committee](#) (RSC) - The Republican Study Committee is a group of House Republicans organized for the purpose of advancing a conservative social and economic agenda in the House of Representatives. The Republican Study Committee is dedicated to a limited and Constitutional role for the federal government, a strong national defense, the protection of individual and property rights, and the preservation of traditional family values. The group has played a major role in key policy areas including budget, appropriations, taxes, education, Social Security reform, defense, deregulation, and general government reform. The Republican Study Committee is an independent research arm for Republicans.

[Republican Whip Team](#)—The Republican Whip, Rep. Kevin McCarthy, is the third highest Republican leader in the House of Representatives. The Whip selects and leads a team of Deputy and Assistant Whips.

[House Energy Action Team](#) (HEAT) - The purpose of the House Energy Action Team is to supplement ongoing leadership, committee and conference efforts by providing a committed, talented and well-organized group of House members to serve as messengers of House GOP energy policy.

# Legislative Priorities

When I first decided to run for Congress, I did it because I didn't think enough people were fighting for small businesses. As a business owner of 42 years, I have skin in the game, and I know what it takes to spur the economy and allow business owners to grow and thrive. My family's business, passed down for three generations, is affected daily by Washington's policies. I knew we needed more business people in Washington, and when I got up here I realized I was right.

Today's economy is the hardest economy our country has seen from a small business standpoint. Everything from healthcare to taxes to regulations are killing businesses and forcing job creators to play defense. Business owners are finding it hard to manage with this level of uncertainty, so rather than generating profits, they are saving profits. That's not what America is all about.

I'm fighting daily in Washington for real solutions to get our nation's economy back on track, and it starts with open markets and competition. The Obama Administration doesn't believe in that. Their "government knows best" mentality is a fight I'll continue to fight because I believe individuals know better than the government.

In order for our country to remain competitive in the global economy, we have to truly reform our broken tax code. That means we lower the corporate tax rate and the personal income tax, cut the payroll tax and dividends tax, cut the capital gains tax, and do away completely with the inheritance tax – a tax that is unfair for anyone who owns a business and wants to pass it along to their children and family.

Another huge burden placed on business owners is complying with, and navigating through, the monstrosity of Obamacare. With the addition of government-run healthcare, the government now comprises 1/6 of the nation's economy. Not only is this law disastrous for our national economy, it's devastating for small businesses that employ 50 or more people. We need to get the government out of healthcare and turn it back over to the private sector.

I will continue fighting for small businesses, open markets, competition, getting the government out of healthcare, and letting our entrepreneurialism grow and allow businesses to build and hire. We cannot accept 7.6% unemployment and 15% poverty rate as the norm, and it will be small businesses owners who get us out of this problem by hiring, taking risks and getting rewarded. But first we have to untangle the mess of red tape preventing job creators from being able to do this.

These are real solutions that will allow businesses big and small to invest, to take risks and get rewarded. They show that the federal government believes in the private sector, believes in entrepreneurship and believes in people getting checks.

# Committee Assignments

I am a member of the [House Budget Committee](#) and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. These committee assignments give me a great opportunity to represent the people of Texas' 25<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. This year, I had a 100% attendance record for each of my committees – both for hearings, mark-ups and meetings.

The [Transportation and Infrastructure Committee](#) currently has jurisdiction over all modes of transportation: aviation, maritime and waterborne transportation, roads, bridges, mass transit, and railroads. The Committee also has jurisdiction over other aspects of our nation infrastructure, such as clean water and waste water management, the transport of resources by pipeline, flood damage reduction, the economic development of depressed rural and urban areas, disaster preparedness and response, activities of the Army Corps of Engineers and the various missions of the Coast Guard.

The Budget Committee has jurisdiction over the federal budget process established under the Budget Act. The Committee oversees all bills, resolutions, amendments, motions, or conference reports dealing with the budget process. Perhaps most importantly, the Budget Committee is responsible for developing the annual budget resolution. The budget resolution is a mechanism for setting forth aggregate levels of spending, revenue, the deficit or surplus, and public debt. Its purpose is to create enforceable parameters within which Congress can consider legislation dealing with spending and revenue.

## Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittees

Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials

Highways and Transit

Aviation

## Snapshot of Constituent Services

### Number of cases opened with federal agencies:

- Veterans Affairs—51
- Social Security Administration—43
- Citizenship and Immigration Services—18
- State Department—13
- IRS—12
- Various other agencies—85

### Constituent Correspondence:

- Over 30,000 pieces of correspondence received

### Events and Meetings:

- Held or attended over 166 events in the 25th District
- Held 3 County Forums and 2 Telephone town halls

### Tours requested for constituents:

- White House— 57 families
- U.S. Capitol—77 families

### Other Services Provided:

- Hosted 10 interns in my Washington, D.C. and Texas offices
- Assisted in having 46 flags flown over the U.S. Capitol

*Please visit my website  
[Williams.house.gov](http://Williams.house.gov)  
for more information on constituent  
services and how my office can assist  
you.*

## Tours, Internships, and Assistance

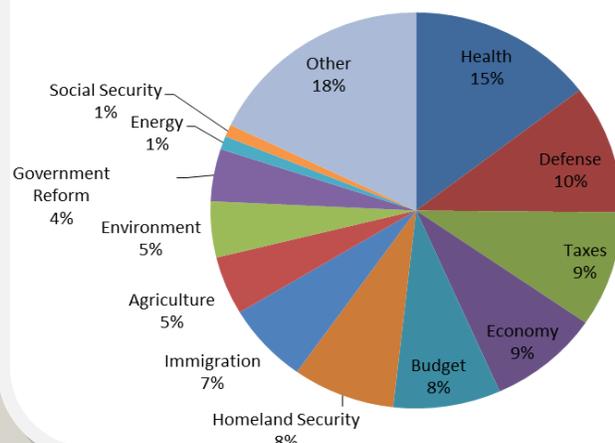
As a U.S. Representative, one of the most important things I do is to assist you with the federal government. The federal government is an enormous bureaucracy that is complex, confusing and sometimes unresponsive. Many people dealing with the federal government find themselves wound up in conflicting rules and regulations.

My staff and I work with federal government agencies on a daily basis, and in many cases we are able to cut through some of the red tape, expedite certain processes and resolve problems with the federal government. While we can't fix every problem you have with the government, we can help you explore all your options and provide assistance through reliable and timely information.

## Correspondence with TX-25

Since I took office in January 2013, over 30,000 residents of Texas' 25th District have contacted me through email, letters, phone calls and faxes to express their concerns and share their opinions to me about numerous topics. Healthcare reform was by far the most common topic with over 13,000 pieces of mail received. Defense, taxes and the immigration were also common topics brought up.

**Top Issues for Correspondence**



# Legislative Work



## Snapshot of Legislative Accomplishments

- Participated in 9 hearings and 2 markups in the House Budget Committee
- Participated in 30 hearings and 8 markups in the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
- Cast 641 votes, 99% vote attendance record



## Sponsored Legislation

- H.R. 2445 – CAFE Standards Repeal Act. This would repeal the EPA’s corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards imposed on car manufacturers. These regulations limit consumer choice and restrict Americans’ freedom to choose by allowing the federal government to dictate the market.
- H.R. 3168 – the Medicare Established Provider Act. Medicare Administrative Contractors process 1.2 billion claims per year and suffers from a backlog that prevents established, reliable Medicare providers from being reimbursed in a timely manner. This bill would speed up reimbursements to dependable providers by creating a trusted provider system.
- H.R. 3060 – a bill to designate the U.S. Post Office in Burleson, TX, as the “Sergeant William Moody Post Office Building.” Sgt. Moody, born and raised in Burleson, served two tours of duty in Iraq with the U.S. Marine Corps and was nearing the end of his second tour with the U.S. Army in June 2013 when he was killed by enemy fire in Afghanistan.

## Co-sponsored Legislation

- H.R. 3111 – the Honoring the Fort Hood Heroes Act. In November 2009, a terrorist opened fire on our troops at Fort Hood, killing 13 and injuring dozens. The victims and families of those affected are denied the treatment, awards, and benefits granted to combat troops because the White House refuses to designate the massacre a “terrorist attack,” calling it “workplace violence” instead.
- H.R. 3 – The Northern Route Approval Act would clear Obama’s roadblocks preventing construction of the Keystone XL pipeline. Keystone is a \$7 billion private-sector infrastructure project that will bring thousands of jobs and greater energy security to America. The project has been tied up in regulatory review for almost five years.
- H.R. 45 – repeals Obamacare in its entirety. With its higher costs, increased taxes, government expansion, decreased access and weakened safety net, it should be the number one priority of Congress to repeal Obamacare.
- H.R. 850 – The Nuclear Iran Prevention Act would impose additional human rights and economic and financial sanctions on Iran. Until the Iranians are willing to stop all development of their nuclear program, there’s no reason for us to lift these sanctions.

# Co-sponsored Legislation Continued

- H.R. 35 – to impeach Attorney General Eric Holder. Holder has failed to carry out the mission of the Justice Department which is to enforce the law and defend the interests of the United States according to the law, to seek punishment for those found guilty, and to ensure fair and impartial administration of justice for all Americans.
- H.R. 2429 – the Death Tax Repeal Act. The burdensome estate tax unfairly penalizes family-owned businesses.



# Sample of Letters Sent to Government Officials

- On January 23, 2013, I sent a letter to President Obama to voice my disapproval of his gun control legislative package that undermined the rights of millions of law-abiding Americans who support the Second Amendment.
- On March 7, 2013, I sent a letter to President Obama regarding his decision to suspend all public White House tours while still taking meetings with large donors inside the most popular public building in Washington, D.C.
- On May 10, 2013, I sent a letter to Secretary of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki after reports revealed the director of the VA Waco regional office received more than \$53,000 in performance bonuses while the average wait time for veterans whole file a claim there averages 440 days, or 150 days longer than the national average.
- On May 16, 2013, I sent a letter to Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius to express concern that she was making phone calls soliciting financial donations for non-profits that were working to enroll individuals in the President's healthcare law. Federal regulations prohibit federal employees from fundraising in their official capacity.
- On May 17, 2013, I sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Jack Lew to express concern with the IRS's admission that it singled out conservative political groups for additional scrutiny during the 2012 election cycle.
- On September 9, 2013, I sent a letter to Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius to object the Department of Health and Human Services spending at least \$12 million of taxpayer money for airtime campaigns to promote Obamacare.



# Media and Communications



## Opinion Columns

[A Different Kind of Giving](#), December 11, 2013

[Washington Spending - It's Not a Bad Habit, It's an Addiction](#), October 6, 2013

[Justice for Fort Hood Victims](#), August 2013

[Secure our Borders](#), July 19, 2013

[At Your Service](#), June 28, 2013

[Keystone Pipeline – Why the Wait?](#), June 27, 2013

[A Balanced Budget Should Be the Top Policy Priority](#), March 14, 2013

***Want to stay up-to-date with my statements, committee work, and legislative updates?***

Visit my website, [Williams.house.gov](http://Williams.house.gov), or find me on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).



# Media and Communications Continued

## Press Releases

In 2013, my office sent out 70 press releases. Below are a few that were sent.

[Williams Responds to POTUS' Request](#), December 12

[Williams' Statement on Obama's deal with Iran](#), November 25

[Williams on Religious Freedom in the Military](#), November 15

[Williams Creates Congressional Baseball Caucus](#), November 12

[Williams: "Now is not the time to gut essential programs for our warriors"](#), October 30

[NRCC Names Congressman Williams Chairman of the National Finance Committee](#), August 13

[Rep. Williams to Announce Sergeant William R. Moody Post Office Dedication in Burleson](#), August 2

[Rep. Williams Introduces Bill to Roll Back Government Regulations](#), June 21

[Rep. Williams Responds to the IRS's \\$70M in Employee Bonuses](#), June 19

[Rep. Williams Votes to Repeal Obamacare](#), May 16

[Rep. Williams Holds VA's Feet to the Fire on Backlog](#), May 15

[Rep. Williams Announces Winner of 2013 Congressional Art Competition](#), May 6

[Rep. Williams Commends Central Texas College](#), March 21

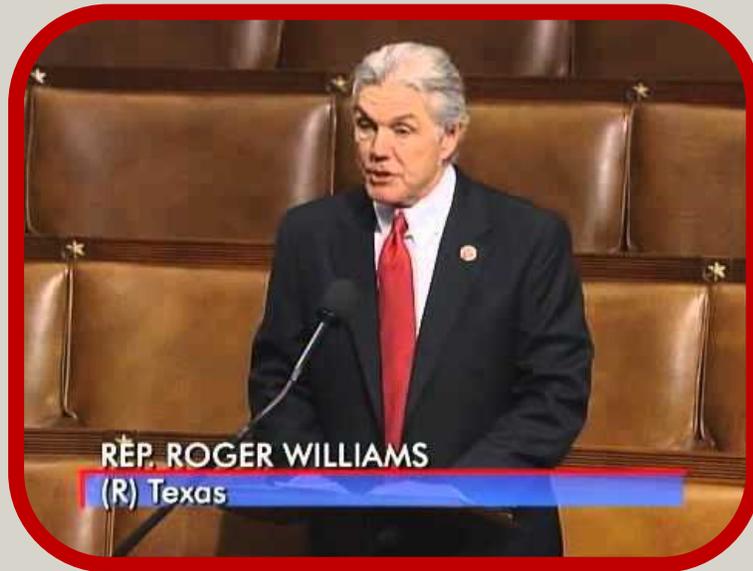
[Rep. Williams Supports the House Plan to Balance the Budget Within 10 years](#), March 12

[Rep. Williams Urges the Pentagon to Provide Needed Relief for Fort Hood Shooting Victims](#), February 22

[Rep. Williams Supports Replacing Obama's Sequester with Responsible Spending Cuts](#), February 19



# Media and Communications Continued



## Floor Statements

I spoke on the House floor 37 times in 2013. Here are a few video highlights.

[Obama won't let you Keep Your Plan](#), November 14

[Funding for Impact Aid should never be threatened](#), October 17

[Solutions to the Obama Economy](#), September 28

[Williams supports defunding Obamacare](#), September 20

[House Republicans have a jobs plan that works](#), June 6

[Keystone Pipeline: It's Time to Build](#), May 22

[Congressman Williams stands up to the IRS](#), May 17

[Congressman Williams votes to repeal Obamacare](#), May 16

[A pro-life message from Congressman Williams](#), April 12

[Congressman Williams fights for a balanced budget](#), March 21

[Stop the Sequester](#), February 27

[Congressman Williams supports bill to save taxpayers \\$11 billion](#), February 14

[Congressman Williams weighs in on debt limit debate](#), January 16

# Texas' 25th Congressional District



## 2013 Year End Annual Report



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