



2015

ANNUAL REPORT

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD L. HANNA

PROUDLY SERVING NEW YORK'S 22ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



In the Report

In the Report and 2015 “By-The-Numbers”	1
Welcome Message	2
About Representative Hanna	3
Office Mission Statement	4
District Map	5
About the 22nd Congressional District	6
Committee Assignments and Caucus Memberships	7
Legislative Work	8
Transparency and Recognition	20
Constituent Services	21
Events and District Outreach	22
Rep. Hanna in the Press	23

2015 Snapshot: “By-The-Numbers”

- ◆ 189 Public Vote Explanations Posted on Facebook, Twitter and Hanna.House.Gov
- ◆ 63 Days of Travel Around New York’s 22nd Congressional District
- ◆ 34 Trips Back Home to New York from Washington, D.C.
- ◆ Sponsored 10 Bills and Resolutions
- ◆ Cosponsored 253 Bills and Resolutions
- ◆ Supported 66 Grant Applications
- ◆ Responded to 31,167 Constituent Letters, Emails, Calls and Faxes
- ◆ Provided 176 Tours of the U.S. Capitol for Constituents
- ◆ Hosted 24 Interns in Washington and New York Offices

Welcome Message



Dear Friend,

As another year comes to a close, I would like to update you on the responsive constituent services and meaningful legislative initiatives we have focused on in 2015. Washington may be broken, but your office is not. We are making good progress in Congress and across upstate New York to support working families, veterans, seniors, small businesses, and local farms.

However, our local communities, state and nation still face many pressing challenges. As the New Year begins, we must continue to move in the right direction and work together to find real solutions to address these important issues. From Lake Ontario to the Southern Tier, New York's 22nd Congressional District is filled with the motivated individuals, enterprising small businesses and forward-looking schools and universities that we need to overcome adversity and continue leading our communities on the path to prosperity.

We are all fortunate to have the opportunity to live, work and raise our families in Central New York and the Southern Tier. I will continue to work to ensure that families and businesses can flourish here, so that our children and grandchildren have the opportunity to live, learn, work and ultimately raise their families here in our historic and beautiful villages, towns and cities.

It is a privilege to represent the hardworking men and women of New York's 22nd Congressional District, and I will continue to strive each and every day to make the most of this opportunity and live up to your rightfully high expectations.

Thank you for taking the time to review this year's report. Our Annual Reports are part of our ongoing commitment to transparency and accessibility and they detail a sampling of our work on issues important to a broad cross section of individuals in our community. I am proud of the work that we have done on your behalf and look forward to building upon those efforts in the New Year.

Though we may not always agree on the issues, you will always know where I stand. Whether you agree or disagree, however, I want to know your thoughts on how we can serve you better. Feel free to email me through www.hanna.house.gov, call my offices or connect with me on Facebook or Twitter. I wish you a safe and prosperous New Year. Please keep in touch – we work for you.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard L. Hanna".

Richard L. Hanna
U.S. Representative

About Representative Richard Hanna

Representative Richard Hanna was re-elected to his third term in the United States House of Representatives on November 4, 2014 and represents the 22nd Congressional District of New York.

Rep. Hanna brings real life experiences to our nation's capital and a history of creating jobs, growing a business and understanding how both the federal and state governments affect decisions of business owners. He uses his three decades of experience as a business leader to help turn around both the national economy and that of upstate New York.

Rep. Hanna is no stranger to facing tough challenges and finding solutions through hard work. At the age of 20, Rep. Hanna became the primary supporter of his mother and four sisters after his father died suddenly. He put school on hold to work and pay off a substantial family debt. Over the next eight years, and without any outside assistance, Congressman Hanna and his sister Katrina worked together to support their family.

He put himself through college and graduated in 1976. After graduating with honors in Economics and Political Science from Reed College in Portland, Oregon, he started Hanna Construction and worked on small residential projects. Over the next 27 years Hanna Construction grew to employ more than 450 people – many from the construction trades – and successfully complete a myriad of multi-million dollar commercial and municipal projects in upstate New York. Hanna is a 25-year member of the Operating Engineers Local 545.



Rep. Hanna is a successful businessman who has maintained a lifelong interest in public policy and economics. He is a member of the Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce and a member of the National Rifle Association. He is a licensed pilot with high performance and sea plane certifications.



He has also donated his time, leadership and personal resources to numerous civic, charitable, religious and philanthropic causes to compassionately address needs in our society. In cooperation with The Women's Fund of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc., Rep. Hanna in 2004 founded "Annie's Fund." The fund was created to help women make positive changes at critical points in their lives through one-time grants. Hundreds of grants have been awarded since the inception of Annie's Fund. The YWCA of the Mohawk Valley has also honored Rep. Hanna as a "Champion of Women" for nearly three decades.

Rep. Hanna also served for 10 years from 1994 to 2004 on the board of The Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc., including two years as the board chairman. In 2007, the foundation awarded Rep. Hanna the

Rosamond Childs Award for Community Philanthropy. The award honors the memory of the foundation's first and largest benefactor and is presented to a donor who exemplifies her philanthropic spirit. Rep. Hanna was the first living person to receive the award.

Rep. Hanna and his wife, Kim, live in Barneveld and have two children.

Office Mission Statement

The Office of U.S. Representative Richard Hanna is devoted to serving the best interests of all citizens of New York's 22nd Congressional District.

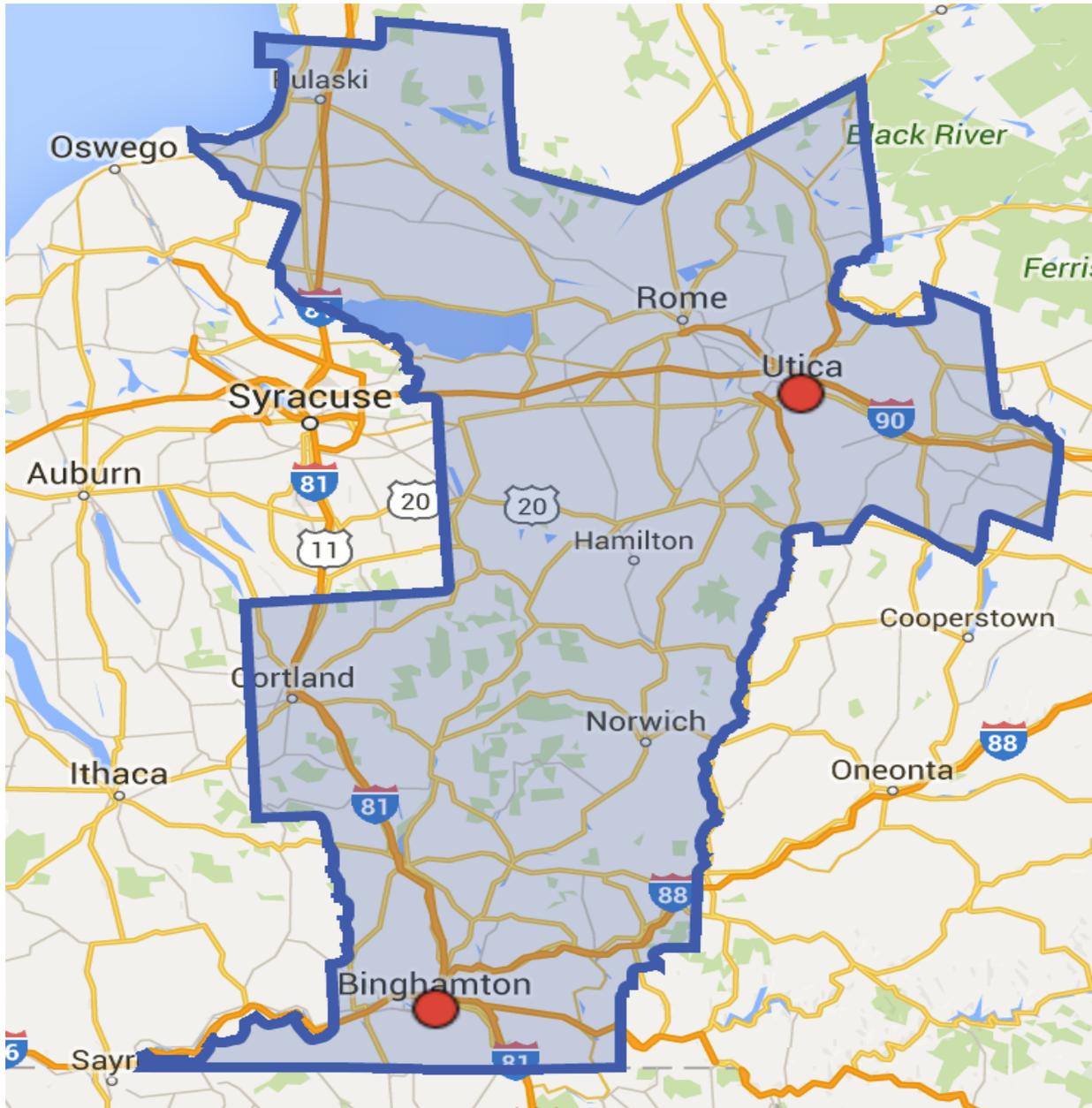
Through transparent decision making and increased accessibility, we are committed to the basic belief that this office works for you.

Our office strives to be highly responsive to constituent inquiries and needs, while focusing on delivering services effectively.

We are dedicated to assisting constituents and working hard on your behalf to promote fiscally responsible policies that help make upstate New York a place of opportunity and prosperity.

We welcome your feedback at all times.

NY-22 District Map



● Rep. Hanna maintains Constituent Service Centers in Utica and Binghamton



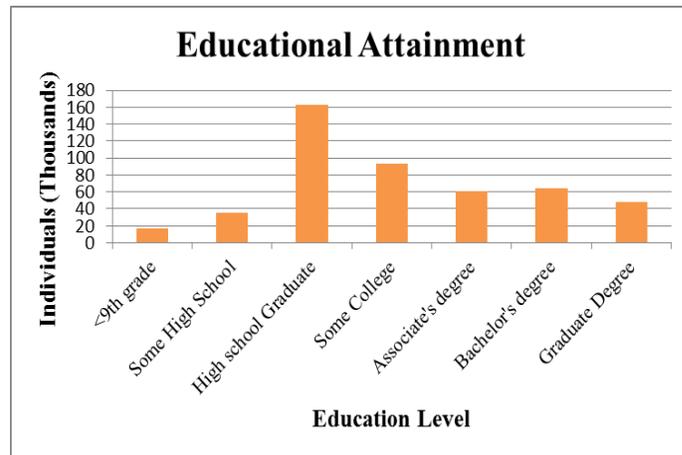
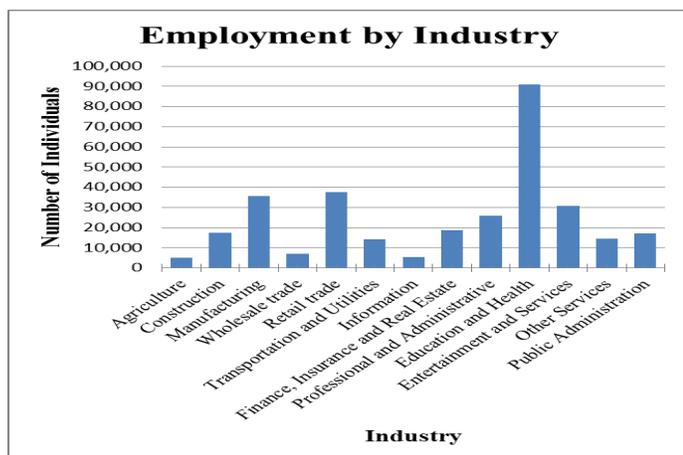
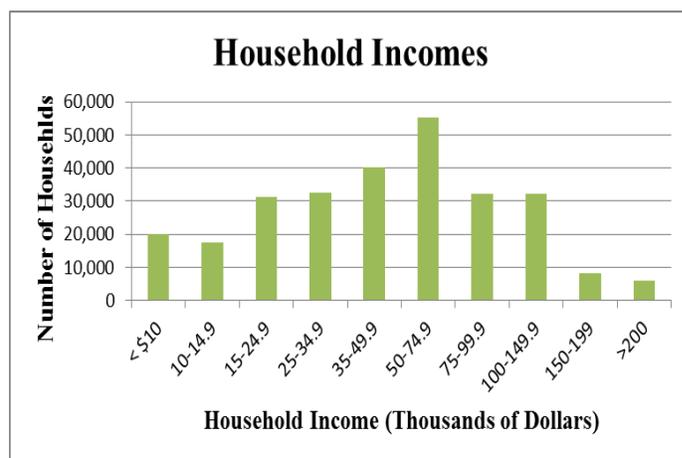
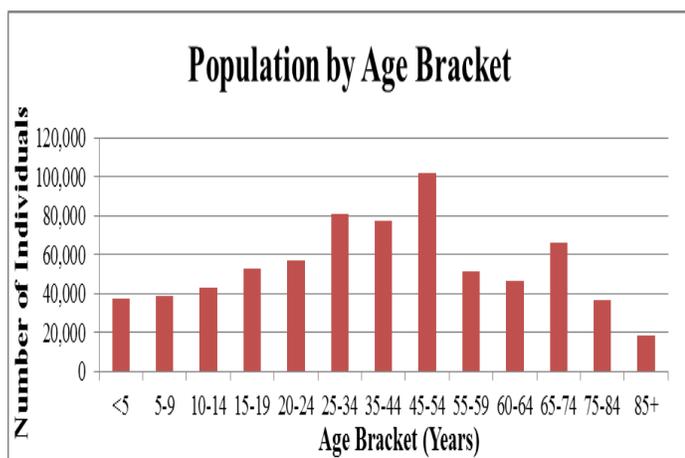
About the 22nd Congressional District

New York's 22nd Congressional District stretches from the Pennsylvania border to Lake Ontario, covering large portions of the Mohawk Valley, Central New York and the Southern Tier. Roughly 710,000 individuals, including almost 50,000 veterans, call the 22nd District home. The median age is 41 years.

The 22nd District includes all of Chenango, Cortland, Madison and Oneida counties as well as parts of Broome, Herkimer, Oswego and Tioga counties. It boasts more than 700 companies and approximately 320,000 job holders. Major industries include agriculture, education, finance, manufacturing and construction. The median household income is approximately \$48,500.

There are 17 colleges and universities in the 22nd District, including Binghamton University, Colgate University, Hamilton College, Utica College, SUNY Cortland and SUNY Polytechnic Institute.

The district is largely rural but larger population centers include the cities of Binghamton, Utica, Rome, Oneida, Cortland and Norwich.



Committee Assignments and Caucus Memberships

Representative Hanna served on three key committees in 2015. Rep. Hanna's committee assignments reflect his background as a businessman and focus on his top priority: revitalizing and growing the Upstate economy.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has jurisdiction over all modes of transportation: aviation, maritime transportation, roads, bridges, mass transit and railroads. Rep. Hanna utilizes his position on the Committee to advocate for fiscally-responsible, long-term investment in transportation and infrastructure - to improve safety and create jobs in upstate New York. He is the senior member from New York in the majority on the Committee.

- ◆ Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials (*Vice Chair*): Rep. Hanna is Vice Chair of this Subcommittee which has jurisdiction over the economic and safety regulation of railroads. The Subcommittee oversees efforts to increase efficiency and accountability in Amtrak's operations. The transportation of hazardous materials and the issue of pipeline safety also fall under the scope of this Subcommittee.

- ◆ Subcommittee on Highways and Transit: Highways and Transit is charged with the construction of roads and transit facilities and the development of national surface transportation policy. The Subcommittee has jurisdiction over many programs of the Department of Transportation. The foremost duty of the Subcommittee is the reauthorization of the federal highway, transit and highway safety programs. This legislation represents an investment in the nation's infrastructure that translates into safer travel, more efficient commerce and the creation of thousands of jobs.

- ◆ Subcommittee on Aviation: The Subcommittee has jurisdiction over all aspects of civil aviation, safety, labor, commerce, and international issues. It oversees all programs, except for research activities, of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), including unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) programs. Rep. Hanna, a pilot himself, uses the position to support the interests of the more than 20 airports in the 22nd District, including Griffiss International and the Greater Binghamton Airport. The post also allows Rep. Hanna to advocate for the Central New York UAS test site operated by the NUAIR Alliance in Rome.



Joint Economic Committee: Rep. Hanna is a member of the exclusive Joint Economic Committee (JEC), serving by appointment of the House Speaker. The JEC is an economic advisory body of Congress. JEC members are selected directly by the top party leaders of the House and Senate. The JEC's primary tasks are to review economic conditions and to recommend improvements in economic policy.

Rep. Hanna utilizes his position on JEC to further his goals in Congress - growing the economy and reducing the national debt. Specifically, Rep. Hanna advocates on the committee for an American competitiveness agenda to ensure that we can create jobs here and thrive in the 21st century. He works with JEC members on both sides of the aisle to review the problems that ail our economy and propose solutions to make the United States more competitive and put New Yorkers back to work. In 2015, Rep. Hanna questioned Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen about inflation and monetary policy, and also used hearings to explore topics such as student debt and the government's method of scoring legislative proposals.

Rep. Hanna was the only majority party member from New York to serve on the Joint Economic Committee in 2015.

Committee on Small Business: The House Small Business Committee was established to protect and assist small businesses. The Committee has jurisdiction over matters related to small business financial aid, regulatory flexibility and paperwork reduction. Additionally, the Committee has oversight and legislative authority over the Small Business Administration (SBA) and its programs. A successful small business owner for almost 30 years in Upstate, Rep. Hanna advocates on the Committee for New York small businesses. Hanna promotes policies that reduce burdens on small businesses and allow these economic engines to retain and create jobs.

- ◆ **Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce (Chairman):** As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, Rep. Hanna oversees the federal procurement system, including programs to enhance small business participation in providing goods and services to the government. The Subcommittee has jurisdiction over contracting programs and technical assistance provided to federal contractors and perspective contractors through the Small Business Administration. Contracting and Workforce also oversees federal policies that affect small businesses and the workforce, including oversight of the Department of Labor and the National Labor Relations Board. The 22nd District is home to thousands of small businesses, many of which provide goods and services to the federal government – including several defense contractors in the Utica, Rome and Binghamton areas.



In 2015, Rep. Hanna was able to include a Surety Bonding amendment in the National Defense Authorization Act, which became law on November 25, 2015. This Amendment, which was based on legislation Hanna introduced earlier in the year, the Security in Bonding Act (H.R. 838), protects taxpayers and subcontractors by ensuring that individual sureties have the assets necessary to fulfill bonds by requiring assets be secured so that they can only be pledged once and cannot be sold until the work is completed. This makes it easier for small businesses to obtain compliant bonds and protects taxpayers in the event of non-payment.

Under Rep. Hanna's leadership, the Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce was among the most productive of all Small Business Subcommittees, having held nine hearings in 2015.

- ◆ **Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy and Trade:** The Subcommittee addresses policies that enhance rural economic growth, increase America's energy independence and ensure that our small businesses can compete in a global marketplace. The Subcommittee's jurisdiction includes oversight of agricultural policies, environmental regulations and energy issues. The subcommittee also oversees international trade policy and infringement of intellectual property rights by foreign competition.

Caucus Memberships: In addition to his standing committee assignments, Rep. Hanna is a member of several Congressional Caucuses which allow him to advocate for issues important to Upstate. In addition to serving on numerous caucuses, in 2015 Rep. Hanna co- chaired the Northeast Agriculture Caucus, the Congressional Organic Caucus, the New York Defense Working Group, and the STEM Education Caucus.

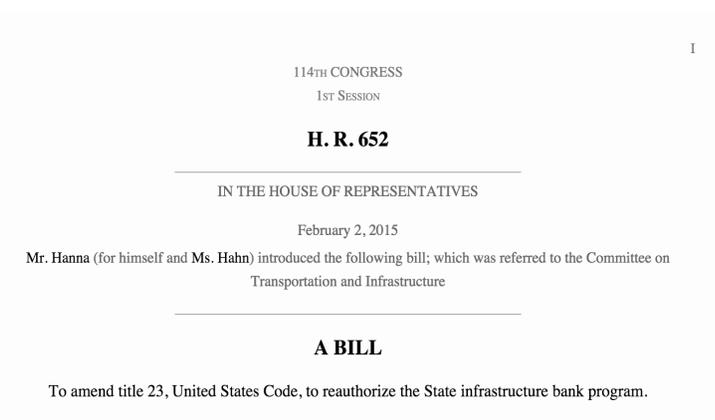
Rep. Hanna also participates in several other caucuses. Among them: the Congressional Caucus on Prescription Drug Abuse, Congressional Dairy Farmers Caucus, the House Manufacturing Caucus, Congressional Pilot's Caucus, Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, Northern Border Caucus and the Congressional Anti-Bullying Caucus.

Legislative Work

Rep. Hanna and his office had a productive legislative year in 2015. Several pieces of legislation initiated by Rep. Hanna made progress this year and two were signed into law. He also played a lead role in drafting the surface transportation reauthorization bill and his office is responsible for a number of important provisions included in the new law.

Rep. Hanna's Legislation Signed into Law in 2015

H.R. 652, State Transportation and Infrastructure Financing Innovation Act (STIFIA): In 2005, Congress established a State Infrastructure Bank program which authorized states to use up to 10 percent of their federal transportation dollars to establish an infrastructure bank for the purpose of financing local road or transit projects. State infrastructure banks pool public and private resources to finance these projects. Unfortunately, the program expired in 2009, thus denying states the ability to use federal dollars to help capitalize their infrastructure banks. *Rep. Hanna's bill, which was included as Section 2001 of the long-term surface transportation reauthorization bill known as the FAST Act, revives state infrastructure banks in an effort to provide loans, short- or long-term construction debt financing, or lines of credit to highway or transit projects in local communities. States and localities know how best to spend money and finance projects, and STIFIA allows municipalities the opportunity to do so like they have in the past. The President signed the FAST Act on December 4, 2015, making the provisions of H.R. 652 law.*



H.R. 838, Security in Bonding Act: The bill would help ensure subcontractors and suppliers who provide services to the federal government are paid for their work. The Security in Bonding Act would protect small businesses and

taxpayers by strengthening the bonding process and removing opportunities for fraud and abuse. Specifically, it requires non-corporate sureties to pledge specific and secure assets as required from others providing collateral to the federal government, and requires those assets be held by a government entity to ensure payments can be made in the event they are needed. **Through Rep. Hanna's strong leadership on the House Small Business Committee, this legislation was incorporated into the National Defense Authorization Act for 2016, which became law on November 25, 2015.**



Rep. Hanna's 2015 Legislative Initiatives

H.R. 2411, the Strong Start for America's Children Act. This innovative legislation is aimed at expanding prekindergarten enrollment for low- to moderate-income four year olds across the country. The legislation would establish a federal-state partnership aimed at implementing high-quality prekindergarten programs for children from lower income families who currently have limited access. Grants would be allotted to states based on their proportion of children who are age four and from families with incomes at or below 200 percent of the poverty level. The evidence is clear that early investments in childhood education reap important gains long into the future by reducing remedial education costs and creating a stronger foundation for a workforce that is able to compete globally.

H.R. 2535, the SERVE Act. This bill would allow volunteer firefighters or emergency responder to receive a \$1,000 refundable tax credit. Individuals must: (1) have served as a bona fide volunteer performing firefighting and prevention services, emergency medical services, and ambulance services for more than six months in a taxable year; (2) have provided more than 40 hours of such services actively engaged in the prevention, control, or extinguishment of fires or response to emergency situations where life, property, or the environment is at risk; or (3) have been stationed on the premises of an emergency response organization in anticipation of being actively engaged in providing such services. This bill would be a helpful retention tool for local fire departments, particularly in rural areas that have faced trouble in recent years retaining existing volunteers because of issues associated with time commitments, increased call volume, and training requirements.

H.R. 1444, Commonsense Construction Contracting Act: Currently, some federal agencies are using a "reverse auction" process to award contracts. For this method, bidders are allowed to offer multiple, consecutively lower bids on a rapid basis, until the lowest price wins. Often conducted electronically, this method is best suited to buying well-defined commodities but not necessarily skilled services. This bill would ban the use of "reverse auctions" for the procurement of subjective services such as construction and design, as well as personal safety and security equipment, such as body armor. For such purchases, the Agency would be required to use one of the other approved contracting processes, such as a sealed bid procurement or a negotiated procurement, when a contract is suitable for award to a small business, or when the procurement is made using a small business program.

H.R. 1125, Start Saving Sooner Act of 2015: Rep. Hanna re-introduced legislation to establish tax-exempt young savers accounts (YSAs) for individuals under the age of 18. These accounts would be treated similarly to Roth individual retirement accounts (IRAs) but would be tailored toward individuals younger than 18. As a result, YSAs would not be subject to "earned income" requirements like Roth IRAs. In addition, contributions to YSAs would be eligible for the Retirement Savings Contributions Tax Credit for individual filers with an annual income of less than \$30,000 and for married couples with an income of \$60,000 or less. As the average life expectancy continues to rise, it is more important than ever that young people begin planning for retirement as early as possible. However, under current federal law individuals from zero to 18 are prevented from opening a Roth IRA because of earned income requirements. Roth IRA retirement accounts are one of the most beneficial retirement planning options available and would greatly benefit individuals under 18 that have little to no earned income. YSAs would enable them to begin saving early and acquire substantially more tax-free assets by retirement. H.R. 1125 is a commonsense change government can make to encourage savings from a young age and increase personal financial security and responsibility. *In 2015, this legislation gained additional bipartisan cosponsors and is expected to be part of comprehensive tax reform.*

H.R. 3533, Water System Cost Savings Act. Rep. Hanna introduced this bill to prevent government waste and help small, rural communities finance major drinking water infrastructure projects. Today, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provide technical assistance to local communities interested in pursuing water infrastructure projects with information specific to large-scale municipal water projects. While valuable, this does not include information on well water systems, which are often a far more cost-effective alternative. In certain communities, a well-based system could save local taxpayers millions of dollars in construction costs. Drinking water infrastructure throughout the U.S. is rapidly decaying, and nowhere is that more apparent than in Central New York. According to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2011 Drinking Water Needs Survey, the shortfall in drinking water infrastructure funding for small communities is more than \$64 billion. Unfortunately, limited federal resources and constrained state and local budgets have only made it more challenging to finance these vital, but expensive, projects. H.R. 3533, the Water System Cost Savings Act, ensures that USDA and EPA technical assistance includes information on well water systems, and it requires small communities to self-certify that they have assessed well systems as an infrastructure option. There is no one-size-fits-all solution, but this bill ensures small rural communities are aware of cost-effective alternatives that will save taxpayer dollars and free up resources to reduce the growing backlog of clean water infrastructure needs. *In 2015, this legislation was referred to the House Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy and identical companion legislation was introduced in the U.S. Senate.*

Rep. Hanna's Legislative Work: On the Issues

Strengthening New York's Transportation and Infrastructure

In 2015, Rep. Hanna worked as the senior member from New York in the majority on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to develop and pass a long-term surface transportation reauthorization that protects and grows New York's share of these important federal programs.

As a pilot, he spent much of 2015 working closely with Committee leadership to draft a long-term reauthorization of Federal Aviation Administration programs that is expected to be considered early in 2016. Based on his personal and professional experience, Rep. Hanna continues to advocate for a transformative bill that will reform and modernize our outdated air traffic control system, improve safety, and reduce delays.



In December, Rep. Hanna supported the Conference Report to H.R. 22, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, which he helped develop as the senior member from New York in the majority. The Committee held more than a dozen public hearings and considered hundreds of amendments in an hours-long Committee mark-up and on the House floor over several days. The process by which the bill was developed has been lauded as among the most open and transparent in years.



The first long-term transportation bill in more than a decade, the FAST Act will help improve the nation's surface transportation infrastructure, refocus programs on addressing national priorities, provide more flexibility and certainty for states and local governments, accelerate project delivery, and maintain a strong commitment to safety.

The \$305 billion FAST Act reauthorizes federal surface transportation programs for 5 years and increases funding 10 percent higher than current levels. It provides \$8.9 billion to New York state, or approximately \$1.8 billion annually.

The bill also included improvements in passenger rail as laid out in the 2014 Passenger Rail Reform and Investment Act. These reforms include separating Amtrak into business lines (state-supported routes, Northeast Corridor, and long-distance) to provide for more transparent accounting of Amtrak services and, importantly for our region, requiring any profits generated by the Northeast Corridor routes to be reinvested in that corridor rather than used to subsidize money losing routes.



Rep. Hanna included four provisions in the bill on the following issues: state infrastructure banks, milk hauling weights, young commercial drivers and private sector engineering.

AMONG THE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Milk Hauling Weights:** Rep. Hanna’s amendment allows states to issue special permits so that milk is shipped as quickly and as efficiently as possible. Hauling milk is a unique process as the product is extremely perishable and comes with strict requirements that sometimes conflict with a state patchwork of limits on truck weights. This is especially problematic for New York farmers who cannot fully load their tankers due to drastically lower weight restrictions in Connecticut and Pennsylvania. To solve this problem, Rep. Hanna’s provision gives states the option to issue permits allowing milk haulers to match New York’s higher weight standards. Because of the way dairy farmers pay for transportation, more efficient hauling is estimated to save the industry approximately \$5.4 million per year, translating to \$5,000 in annual savings for New York dairy farmers.
- **Restores High Density Funding:** Rep. Hanna rallied more than 60 of his Northeast colleagues to save funding for local transit agencies in seven Northeast states like local agencies Centro and Broome County Transit. Both were set to lose millions in federal transit aid over the next five years, which would have devastated the already struggling urban transportation systems. It has been fully restored.
- **Young Commercial Drivers:** Rep. Hanna’s amendment allows Veterans and Reserve members between ages 18 and 21 with military truck training to obtain an interstate Commercial Drivers’ License (CDL.) This is especially important in the trucking and hauling industry and in areas like Binghamton, N.Y., which is in the Southern Tier of New York state and on the border of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In every state except Hawaii, 18-year-olds are eligible to obtain a CDL, and in New York, are allowed to drive within the state as far as 491 miles from Buffalo to Long Island. Yet, they are prohibited from driving 15 miles from Binghamton to Pennsylvania. Although Rep. Hanna’s original proposal would have been more effective, this provision reflects a bipartisan compromise that will help returning Veterans transition to the civilian workforce, help alleviate the growing truck driver shortage, and make incremental progress in reversing this state-federal conflict in law.
- **State Infrastructure Banks:** Rep. Hanna’s amendment reinstates a 2005 law allowing states to use up to 10 percent of a state’s existing federal transportation dollars to establish an infrastructure bank for the purpose of leveraging private sector resources to finance local road or transit projects.
- **Private Sector Engineering:** Rep. Hanna’s amendment expresses a Sense of Congress recognizing the value of private sector engineering services in delivering road, bridge, and public transportation projects. Rep. Hanna’s provision makes it clear that collaboration between public and private engineers is essential to delivering the highest quality and most cost-effective projects, and that each state should strive to strike the most appropriate balance relative to each state’s unique circumstances.

Also in December, Rep. Hanna supported the Consolidated Appropriations Act, which funded government operations for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2016. Importantly to our region, it provided \$1.285 million for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fully dredge the Port of Oswego to maintain access and facilitate future growth in waterborne commerce.

Advocating for Upstate’s Defense Infrastructure

Rep. Hanna continues to advocate strongly for upstate New York’s defense facilities and area contractors. From the Mohawk Valley to the Southern Tier, New York’s 22nd Congressional District is home to a range of diverse installations and facilities that contribute to our country’s national defense.

Throughout 2015, Rep. Hanna continued to prioritize Upstate defense assets, all of which provide valuable assistance to our warfighters. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (NDAA), which Rep. Hanna supported, prohibited a base realignment or closure round from being authorized or carried out in 2017, provided a 1.3 percent pay increase for active-duty service members, and authorized the Department of Defense to transition to a 401 (k)-style retirement program that will allow the more than 80 percent of service members serving for less than 20 years to more effectively contribute to and plan for their retirement. Rep. Hanna also included two amendments in the final NDAA that will help small businesses compete for public contracts and ensure our restricted airspace is adequately protected against unidentified remotely piloted aircraft.



MOHAWK VALLEY

Because the Mohawk Valley’s defense installations are anchors of our community, Rep. Hanna worked to strengthen Rome Lab and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). Rep. Hanna helped to secure an 18 percent increase in research funding for Rome Lab, which amounts to \$32 million more than the Lab received in 2015. In December 2015, Rep. Hanna also announced that the Army National Guard will establish a Cyber Protection Team in New York, which will utilize Rome Lab’s Joint Reserve Intelligence Center. This will offer new and exciting prospects for Rome Lab and Rep. Hanna was proud to lead efforts in the House of Representatives to ensure New York was selected for this selective opportunity.

Rep. Hanna also continued to advocate on behalf of DFAS-Rome’s exceptional workforce. In 2015, he successfully ensured that his office would be party to all future meetings regarding the Army’s Financial Management Optimization process, which could potentially impact the DFAS-Rome workforce in the future. Rep. Hanna will continue to be a strong voice for DFAS-Rome’s more than 900 employees who play an integral role in the overall mission readiness of our Armed Forces.

SOUTHERN TIER

Rep. Hanna also ensured two very significant contracts for Lockheed Martin’s Owego facility would be fully funded in 2016. Lockheed’s Owego workforce is currently playing an integral role in fulfilling contracts to build both a new fleet of Presidential helicopters and a new generation of combat rescue helicopters, which will create and sustain hundreds of high-tech jobs in the Southern Tier. As a result of Rep. Hanna’s strong advocacy, both of these programs will be fully funded in 2016.

NEW YORK DEFENSE WORKING GROUP

As the founder and co-chair of the New York Defense Working Group, Rep. Hanna remains deeply engaged in issues critical to our Upstate defense assets. In 2015, his office hosted a bipartisan meeting of New York’s congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. with representatives from the New York National Guard. This meeting examined the important role the Guard plays in protecting our state and nation. In the year ahead, Rep. Hanna will continue to defend and grow our state’s critical defense infrastructure.

Serving Those Who Have Served

Rep. Hanna is standing up for upstate New York Veterans and military families and continues to support legislative measures that improve Veterans' quality of life and care.

FIXING THE VA

Following the successful passage of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act in 2014, Rep. Hanna continued his push to expand health care options for Veterans and their families and fought for commonsense reforms of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). In 2015, Rep. Hanna supported legislation to make the VA's budgeting process more transparent, expand the authority of VA officials to fire or demote underperforming employees, and cap the bonuses of VA employees. To ensure that the VA has all of the resources it needs to fulfill its mission, Rep. Hanna was proud to support the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2016, which provides the VA with its largest budget ever. With this increased budgetary authority, the VA will be able to make key upgrades to its record and appeals systems. Rep. Hanna also voted to provide ample funding for other veterans' programs that fund social support services, job training and homelessness initiatives as well as improved mental health care treatment options.



HONORING VETERANS

Rep. Hanna was proud to continue his tradition of hosting an Upstate Veteran as his guest for 2015's State of the Union. Rep. Hanna's honored guest was retired U.S. Army Sergeant Ernest "EJ" W. Weeks of New Hartford. Sgt. Weeks was enlisted from 2008 through 2012 and served in Afghanistan with 1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division based in Fort Drum. In 2014, Rep. Hanna presented Sgt. Weeks with the Purple Heart Medal for injuries sustained when his vehicle was struck by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) on January 2, 2011 in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.



In September 2015, Rep. Hanna was also pleased to announce that the VA would be constructing a new Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Binghamton to assist veterans in the Southern Tier. The new facility will be located at 203 Court Street in Binghamton and has a lease term of 20 years. The Binghamton outpatient clinic will allow the VA to provide timely access to Primary Care, Diagnostic Services, Physical Therapy, Cardiology, Gastrointestinal Services, and Behavioral Health and Group Therapy in an appropriately-sized, efficient facility.

To ensure that upstate Veterans are aware of how developments in Washington may impact them, Rep. Hanna also began sending a monthly Veterans update electronically to local Veterans. This update includes relevant news from Washington as well as information on area events important to Veterans. For more information on how to sign up for these updates in the coming year, please visit Rep. Hanna's website at www.hanna.house.gov.

Preserving our Second Amendment Rights and Upstate Heritage

Rep. Hanna continued to stand up to those who seek to erode our fundamental right to keep and bear arms in 2015. As Iliion’s Remington Arms prepares to celebrate its 200-year anniversary, we are reminded that the Second Amendment is part of the very fabric of our community.

HOLDING THE ATF ACCOUNTABLE

As a member of the Congressional Sportsmen’s Caucus with an “A” rating from the National Rifle Association, Rep. Hanna stood up to government overreach from the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms relating to arbitrary bans on common types of ammunition, attempts to submit Social Security recipients’ records to the FBI, and has co-sponsored every bill to authorize nationwide concealed carry reciprocity.



He has also continued to support the Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act, which would ensure access to federal lands for sportsmen and recreational shooters. Rep. Hanna continues to work to preserve and promote conservation efforts to ensure hunters and shooters have ample opportunity to exercise their right to bear arms for all lawful purposes.

Supporting Upstate Firefighters and First Responders

As a member of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, Rep. Hanna understands the critical services that our firefighters, police departments, and first responders provide to communities across upstate New York. In 2015, Rep. Hanna continued to push for the Assistance to Firefighter (FIRE) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant programs to be fully funded in Fiscal Year 2016. These grants allow local departments receive federal funding that assists them with training, equipment, and recruitment expenses and in 2015 Rep. Hanna helped to secure more than \$1.3 million in grant funding for New York’s 22nd Congressional District. In addition, as a result of bipartisan negotiations, the Fiscal Year 2016 federal budget includes \$10 million more for these important grant programs.

Rep. Hanna, along with several members of New York’s Congressional Delegation, also supported the permanent reauthorization of the James Zadroga Health and Compensation Act. This program provides health care services and support to men and women who suffer health effects from working at Ground Zero after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Over 50,000 New Yorkers benefit from this program, including more than 80 in the 22nd Congressional District. On December 18, 2015, with Rep. Hanna’s strong support, Congress formally reauthorized this program for a minimum of 75 years.



Increasing Access to Affordable, Quality Health Care

Rep. Hanna remains committed to improving access to quality healthcare in New York and reversing the harmful consequences of Obamacare.

OBAMACARE

Despite the ongoing challenges and failures of Obamacare, the House of Representatives, with Rep. Hanna's support, passed a number of sensible bills to reduce the burdens of this job-killing law. While still working toward a full repeal of the law, Rep. Hanna supported legislation that would eliminate some of its most onerous requirements. Specifically, Rep. Hanna voted in favor of legislation to change the number of hours an employee must work to be considered "full-time" to 40 hours from 30 hours. Obamacare's arbitrary standard of 30 hours as being "full-time" discourages businesses from expanding and actually encourages employers to keep workers at 29 hours or less while harming employee jobs and wages. The House also approved a bill to repeal Obamacare's tax on medical devices which has hurt Upstate businesses like Welch Allyn. He has also worked to eliminate the so-called Cadillac Tax, which would place a substantial increase on health plans that exceed a certain benefit ceiling.



PROMOTING HEALTHCARE INNOVATION

Rep. Hanna was pleased to support a major influx of funding to the National Institutes of Health through the 21st Century Cures Act, which was approved by a bipartisan majority in the House of Representatives. This bill increases research funds at the NIH and streamlines the process for approving new drugs and treatments for the market. At present, there are only 500 treatments for the more than 10,000 known diseases, which is unacceptable to Rep. Hanna. However, the 21st Century Cures Act takes important steps toward placing America back on the cutting edge of medical innovation and expanding treatment options for the sick.

In addition, Rep. Hanna co-sponsored the Compassionate Freedom of Choice Act. Current FDA regulations permit patient access to investigational drugs for treatment on a case-by-case basis when the patient is not eligible for a clinical trial. These "compassionate use" exemptions allow a patient to be treated with experimental drugs when no comparable alternative exists. However, the process of obtaining an exemption can be very cumbersome. This bill would better allow terminally ill patients to use non-FDA approved drugs and devices as a treatment of last resort.

Rep. Hanna is active in several healthcare Congressional caucuses, such as the Cancer Caucus, Rare Disease Caucus, Diabetes Caucus, and Down Syndrome Caucus.



Standing Up for Seniors

Seniors throughout New York's 22nd Congressional District have been particularly hard hit by rising costs of everyday goods and stagnant interest rates, particularly those living on fixed-incomes. Rep. Hanna believes government must keep its promises made to seniors. They have earned their benefits through a lifetime of hard work, and Rep. Hanna believes that the government must honor the promises that were made to them by preserving their benefits and access to affordable healthcare.

OPPOSE RAISING THE RETIREMENT AGE

Medicare and Social Security require significant reforms to ensure Seniors receive the benefits they have been promised, and that the program remains available for future generations. However, Rep. Hanna believes that asking today's retirees to shoulder the burden by accepting any reducing or delay in benefits is unacceptable. *He remains opposed to any increase in the retirement age, which would be an unfair burden to those who have planned out their retirement based on existing timelines.*

PROTECTING ACCESS TO CARE

In 2015, the House made a number of significant structural reforms to protect the solvency of Medicare, which Rep. Hanna was proud to support. Specifically, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act replaced the formula that determined physician reimbursements with a new sustainable and predictable system that focused on rewarding quality of care over volume. The bill also enacted much needed measures to prevent fraud in Medicare and modified the competitive bidding process for medical devices.

PREVENTING A 50% INCREASE IN MEDICARE PREMIUMS

In November, Rep. Hanna supported the Bipartisan Budget Act, which prevented a 50% increase in Medicare Part B premiums for certain beneficiaries stemming from the fact that there was not a Cost of Living Adjustment for 2016. In the event that there is no COLA in 2017, this provision would automatically be extended. In addition, it strengthens the solvency of the Social Security Disability Trust Fund and makes significant reforms to reduce waste, fraud and abuse that will strengthen Social Security in the long-term.



Additionally in 2015, the House passed legislation to repeal the harmful the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), which could jeopardize seniors' access to Medicare services. The Affordable Care Act granted the IPAB authority to enact Medicare cuts without transparency or accountability. Any potential changes to Medicare should be debated in the open by elected representatives—not government bureaucrats.

While ensuring that reimbursements are maintained is always a high priority, programs that help seniors reduce their expenses can also provide a great benefit to Upstate seniors. For every appropriations cycle, Rep. Hanna joined with a bipartisan coalition of New York Members to support Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and protect it from further cuts. Rep. Hanna was also recently able to vote in support of the Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), which increases home efficiency and reduces energy bills over the long-term. WAP helps

seniors reduce energy bills by making homes more energy efficient through advanced technologies and testing protocols. Since households region can spend more than 10 percent of their monthly income on heating and electricity, it is important that Congress adequately support families and seniors who are struggling to stay warm during our frigid winters.

Supporting Upstate Farmers and Protecting the Environment

Rep. Hanna closely monitored the implementation of the 2014 Farm bill and continued advocating on behalf of New York farmers.

SUPPORTING LOCAL DAIRY FARMERS

Following a successful pilot program championed by Rep. Hanna, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced in 2015 that Greek yogurt would become a permanent protein option in school lunches. Chobani yogurt of New Berlin was selected to participate in the pilot program and their products were, and will continue to be, served in schools nationwide.

Rep. Hanna was also proud to include an amendment to the Highway Bill that passed in early December 2015, which would allow states to issue special permits so that milk is shipped as quickly and as efficiently as possible. Hauling milk is a unique process as the product is extremely perishable and comes with strict requirements that sometimes conflict with a state's patchwork of limits on truck weights. This is especially problematic for New York farmers who cannot fully load their tankers due to drastically lower weight restrictions in Connecticut and Pennsylvania. To solve this problem, Rep.

Hanna's provision gives states the option of issuing permits to allow milk haulers to match New York's higher weight standards. Because of the way dairy farmers pay for transportation, more efficient hauling is estimated to save the industry approximately \$5.4 million per year, translating to \$5,000 in annual savings for New York dairy farmers.



PROTECTING FARMERS FROM FOREIGN TARIFFS

The House also included a vital provision in the spending package that was considered in mid-December. The World Trade Organization has ruled four times that rules in the United States that require the country of origin labeling for beef and pork products has a trade distorting impact by reducing the value and number of cattle and hogs shipped to U.S. markets. As a result, Canada and Mexico plan to subject certain U.S. markets to more than \$3 billion in retaliatory tariffs. These tariffs would adversely affect dairy farmers, who are considered to be a prime target for these tariffs. Dairy producers in New York estimate that 20,000 cows may be put out of production in the state, with a corresponding loss of \$65 million to New York.

Rep. Hanna was pleased to see that the yearend spending bill included a provision that amends the Agricultural Marketing Act to repeal the country of origin label requirement for meat to avoid the needless penalty of these tariffs.

In February, Rep. Hanna co-sponsored and voted for a bill to permanently repeal the death tax, which is a punitive tax on family farms and businesses upon the death of an owner. The Death Tax Repeal Act would put an end to the government taxing business owners when they die. Rep. Hanna noted that the death tax punishes entrepreneurs and farmers and prevents businesses from being passed on to a second or third generation. The bill was supported by the New York Farm Bureau and National Federation of Independent Business, among others.

DEFENDING NEW YORKERS FROM THE EPA

Rep. Hanna remains committed to efforts aimed at blocking the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers from expanding federal regulations that would negatively impact local farmers. Both agencies have been working to expand the already overly broad definition of the term 'navigable waters' in the Clean Water Act. Rep. Hanna noted that keeping a small business like a family farm operating and growing in New York is hard work and that the very last thing Upstate needs is for the EPA to come onto our farms and start regulating common irrigation ditches and puddles. The red tape and fines that come along with the EPA could push farms out of business for no good reason. In a deeply troubling development, a December 2015 Government Accountability Office (GAO) audit concluded that the EPA violated federal law by inappropriately lobbying the public through social media in favor of the proposed rule. This finding is in addition to allegations that the EPA unlawfully stacked the public comment docket with favorable comments to influence the final regulation. Rep. Hanna continued working in Congress to overturn this misguided rule, which was developed illegally and would cost us real jobs when we need them the most. In April 2015, the House passed bipartisan legislation to block the rule with Rep. Hanna's support.

Championing Small Businesses in Upstate New York

As Chairman of the Small Business Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce, Rep. Hanna actively promoted the interests of Upstate small businesses in 2015. As in years past, the Subcommittee was extremely productive in 2015, with several pieces of legislation being signed into law. In particular, Rep. Hanna included a Surety Bonding Amendment in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015, which became law on November 25, 2015. This Amendment, which was based on legislation Hanna introduced earlier in the year, protects taxpayers and subcontractors by ensuring that individual sureties have the assets necessary to fulfill bonds by requiring assets be secured so that they can only be pledged once and cannot be sold until the work is completed. This makes it easier for small businesses to obtain compliant bonds.



Rep. Hanna noted that many of our federal government procurement bidding processes are unnecessarily complex and complicated, especially for small businesses. He stated that the Amendment he passed and a range of other reforms championed by the Committee are a positive step toward giving small contractors the ability to more fairly compete for business. Rep. Hanna was particularly pleased that we are making progress in reforming reverse auctions and improving the surety bonding process.

Improving Education Policy for Upstate Students

In 2015, Rep. Hanna continued his push for commonsense education reforms that maximize flexibility for states and local educators and reduce the federal government's role in education policy. After meeting with Upstate teachers earlier this year for a roundtable discussion on education policy, Rep. Hanna was pleased to support the House-passed Every Student Succeeds Act, which was signed into law in December.

REPLACING NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND, ROLLING BACK COMMON CORE

This historic legislation replaces the flawed No Child Left Behind Act that led to the high-stakes testing environment we have seen in recent years. Under this new law, the ability of the Department of Education to engage in ad hoc and unrestrained regulation is greatly restrained. The Every Student Succeeds Act prohibits the federal government from mandating a one-size-fits-all set of standards, such as Common Core, and allows states to opt out of Common Core with no financial penalty. Additionally, the bill also prohibits the federal government from incentivizing, requiring, or conditioning the receipt of federal funds on the adoption of any particular set of assessments. It represents a significant and positive shift in the overall tone of our country's education policy, which will once again allow educators at the state and local levels to be the drivers of innovation and opportunity for our children.



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Rep. Hanna also continued advocating for expanded access to high-quality early childhood education for all children. He introduced the Strong Start for America's Children Act, which is a bipartisan initiative aimed at increasing access to high-quality early learning opportunities for young children. The bill would support state and local efforts to increase preschool slots for low-income 4-year-olds through a 10-year federal-state partnership. Rep. Hanna also successfully led efforts in the House to ensure that the federally-funded Preschool Development Grant program, which has expanded preschool access for hundreds of thousands of children nationwide, remained fully funded. High-quality early education is a powerful tool, which can break the cycle of poverty and expand access to new and exciting opportunities for children.

STEM EDUCATION

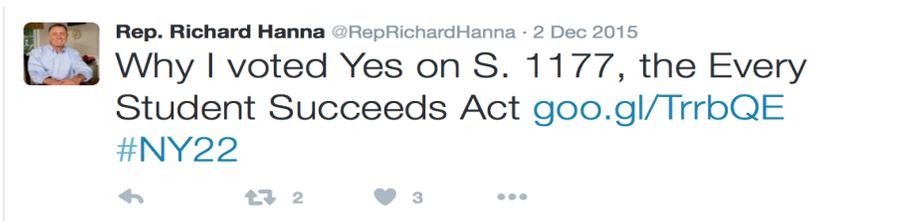
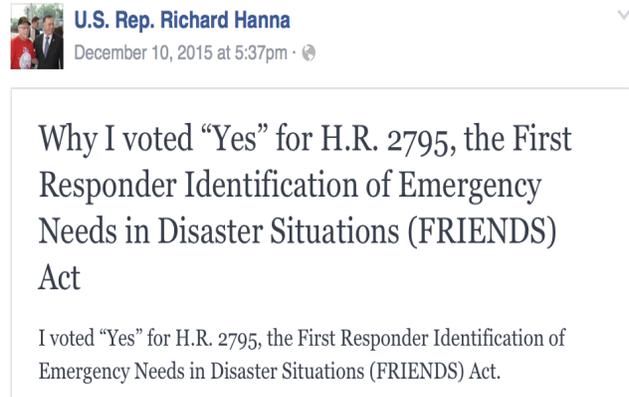
As co-chair of the STEM Education Caucus, Rep. Hanna also continued to promote the important role of STEM education in schools and industry. For these efforts, he was awarded Bayer Pharmaceutical's STEM "Thank You" Award. In addition, Rep. Hanna led a bipartisan effort to successfully include strong language in the Every Student Succeeds Act that highlights the importance of STEM education and allows states to use federal funds in support of STEM programming.

Transparency and Recognition

In 2015, Rep. Hanna continued to make transparency and accountability a hallmark of his service in Congress.

Rep. Hanna posts public explanations not only describing how he votes on final passage of legislation, but also explaining why. He believes strongly that his constituents deserve to know his thought process for the votes he casts on their behalf. Whether his constituents agree with him or not, Rep. Hanna's public vote explanations allows constituents to provide feedback directly to him and hold him accountable.

This past year, Rep. Hanna posted 189 vote explanations on his official website, Facebook and Twitter pages. Since taking office, Rep. Hanna has posted 797 vote explanations.



Rep. Hanna's voting record reflects how he always puts the interests of his constituents first. He has been recognized by Congressional watchdogs for his focus on advancing pro-growth economic policies and standing up for the priorities of the 22nd District in 2015.



- ◆ The U.S. Chamber of Commerce presented Rep. Hanna with the Spirit of Enterprise Award for his support of job-creating legislation. He maintains a 92% lifetime rating with the U.S. Chamber
- ◆ Rep. Hanna maintained a perfect "A" rating with the National Rifle Association for his support of the Second Amendment and New York Sportsmen.
- ◆ Rep. Hanna earned a 92% rating from the National Federation of Independent Business in 2015 for his voting record on behalf of small-business owners.
- ◆ Rep. Hanna earned a 94% rating from the National Association of Manufacturers for his votes to foster innovation, growth and competitiveness in the manufacturing sector.

Constituent Services

Rep. Hanna responded to more than 31,000 constituent letters, emails, phone calls and faxes in 2015. Rep. Hanna has responded to over 217,000 constituent letters and emails since taking office in 2011. Rep. Hanna strives to remain accessible and responsive to his constituents and places a priority on answering constituents' questions and concerns about federal legislation and policies. In 2015, top issues that constituents wrote in about included: environmental protection, health care, energy and natural resources and government reform.

Below is a breakdown of constituent contact activity by county.

<i>Oneida: 10,339</i>	<i>Chenango: 1,983</i>
<i>Broome: 10,713</i>	<i>Cortland: 2,367</i>
<i>Madison: 3,496</i>	<i>Oswego: 1,620</i>
<i>Herkimer: 1,943</i>	<i>Tioga: 649</i>

Representative Hanna and his staff acted as liaisons between hundreds of constituents and various federal agencies and assisted these constituents with working through unique challenges on issues including IRS refunds and Medicare, Social Security, and Veterans benefits. Rep. Hanna encourages any individual or business in need of assistance with a federal agency or program to contact his office.

Below is a breakdown of the federal agencies Rep. Hanna contacted on behalf of individual constituents.

<i>Department of Veterans Affairs: 206</i>	<i>Department of State: 74</i>
<i>Department of Defense: 170</i>	<i>Internal Revenue Service: 61</i>
<i>Social Security Administration: 93</i>	<i>U.S. Postal Service: 32</i>

Below is a breakdown of individuals by county who contacted Rep. Hanna requesting assistance with a federal agency.

<i>Oneida: 342</i>	<i>Chenango: 67</i>
<i>Broome: 210</i>	<i>Cortland: 71</i>
<i>Madison: 82</i>	<i>Oswego: 62</i>
<i>Herkimer: 165</i>	<i>Tioga: 15</i>

Events and District Outreach

In 2015, Rep. Hanna and his staff held events throughout the 22nd District to remain accessible to constituents. Below are examples of Rep. Hanna's outreach efforts this past year.

- ◆ **Rep. Hanna and his staff met with constituents throughout the eight counties of the 22nd District to hear their concerns and help find solutions to their problems.** Rep. Hanna and his staff hosted 19 public meetings with constituents, including Open Doors with Rep. Hanna, "Coffees With Your Congressman," Staff Office Hours and other public events in 2015.
- ◆ **Rep. Hanna met with dozens of constituents and local organizations in his Utica and Binghamton offices.** Rep. Hanna used these meetings to receive direct feedback from his constituents on his work in the House.
- ◆ **Rep. Hanna hosted meetings with the local elected officials of each county in the 22nd District in 2015.** He used these meetings to update the local officials on his work in Congress and to learn of each communities' priorities for 2015.
- ◆ **Rep. Hanna continued his outreach to New York Businesses in 2015.** He visited 36 businesses in the 22nd District and hosted the representatives of many more Upstate businesses in his Washington, D.C. office.
- ◆ **Rep. Hanna hosted a Military Service Academy Day at Binghamton University for high school students in the 22nd Congressional District.** This event brought representatives of the 5 U.S. military academies to Binghamton to meet with high school students and their parents and discuss the academy nomination process. Rep. Hanna nominated 13 students for appointment at a military service academy in 2015.
- ◆ **Rep. Hanna held events to honor and recognize the 22nd District's World War II veterans in Utica and Binghamton.** Rep. Hanna provided Congressional certificates and flags flown over the U.S. Capitol to over 50 WWII veterans. Rep. Hanna also participated in two "Bring Our Vets to School Day" events, which gave students the opportunity to learn from and ask questions of men and women who served our country.
- ◆ **Rep. Hanna presented 87 medals and awards to veterans who had earned medals and commendations for their service in the military, but had never received the awards they deserved.** Rep. Hanna assisted these veterans and their families in contacting the Department of Defense and the branches of the U.S. military.



Rep. Hanna In The Press

Congressman Richard Hanna was sworn in to serve a third term in Congress in January 2015. He issued a year-end report as part of his ongoing commitment to transparency and accessibility to the citizens of upstate New York.

Later that month, Congressman Hanna hosted a retired U.S. Army sergeant in Washington to hear President Barack Obama deliver his sixth State of the Union address.

Retired Army Sgt. Ernest “EJ” W. Weeks, IV, of New Hartford, N.Y. was enlisted from 2008 through 2012, serving in Afghanistan with 1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division in Fort Drum.

Congressman Hanna presented Sgt. Weeks with the Purple Heart Medal in 2014. Sgt. Weeks was injured by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) when his vehicle struck it on January 2, 2011 near Yaru Kalay, Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. The



Purple Heart Medal was awarded to him due to his injuries.



In March, Congressman Hanna joined upstate New York colleagues **John Katko** and **Elise Stefanik** for a visit to **Syracuse’s 174th Attack Wing at Hancock Field** followed by a trip to **Fort Drum** in northern New York.

The Members emphasized the importance of both bases to the region and also to the security of our nation.

The Post-Standard said: *Three Republican members of Congress from Central and Northern New York say they will work together to protect Fort Drum and the 174th Attack Wing at Hancock Field from personnel losses in future Pentagon budget cuts.*

U.S. Reps. John Katko, R-Camillus, Richard Hanna, R-Barneveld, and Elise Stefanik, R-Willsboro, plan to tour both bases on Tuesday as part of their effort to show a united front in Congress against the cuts.



Congressman Hanna introduced a bill that makes it easier for young Americans to save money, build personal wealth and ensure a comfortable retirement.

The “**Start Saving Sooner Act**” was launched during **America Saves Week**, which is a national campaign the America Savings Education Council that began in 2007 as an annual opportunity to promote good savings behavior. Policy makers from both parties are interested in seeing their children enjoy a secure retirement. Yet, too many Americans reach retirement age with insufficient personal savings to maintain the quality of life to which they are accustomed.

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1125

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for tax preferred savings accounts for individuals under age 18, and for other purposes.

Congressman Hanna was in the Southern Tier to unveil new clean diesel buses for **Broome County Transit in Binghamton**, which were secured with federal grant funding. Upgrading these buses was critical for BC Transit and the safety of our traveling public.



WBNG said: *Broome County is unveiling a new fleet of clean diesel BC Transit buses, which were purchased, in large part, with a federal grant.*

The group of seven new diesel buses came with a price tag of \$2.8 million. \$2.2 million was covered by a grant from the United States Department of Transportation's State of Good Repair program. Congressman Richard Hanna worked to secure the funding.

This is very exciting,"Commissioner Greg Kilmer of the Broome County Department of Public Transportation, said. We've had a very aging fleet of buses in a time when we've had increasing demand on ridership."

Together with Broome County Sheriff David Harder, Congressman Hanna penned an op-ed in the Press & Sun Bulletin regarding the spike in heroin use in upstate New York, but also nationally.

Press & Sun Bulletin: *Broome County is in the throes of a heroin crisis.*

Like so many communities in upstate New York and across the nation, we are seeing a spike in heroin and opioid addiction — or, in other words, prescription pain pills. Heroin hit its peak use in the United States in the mid-1970s, but back then, it was a drug that mostly struck inner-city, low-income users looking to get high on the cheap.

Today, it's different. Heroin and pain pill addiction does not discriminate on age, race, gender or socioeconomic status. Your neighbor could be using heroin, or so could their high-honors high school student. The problem is very real, it is here and it is a full-blown health crisis.

In honor of the **70th anniversary of the end of World War II**, Congressman Hanna in July honored World War II veterans from throughout the 22nd Congressional District in two ceremonies – one in the Southern Tier and one in Central New York.

“This is a small way to honor these veterans for their service to the United States of America during World War II,” Hanna said. “It is a privilege to shake their hand and thank them for their personal sacrifice. They survived the Great Depression and then went to war for their country. They came home, went back to work and raised families. Thank you for being the ‘Greatest Generation’ of Americans. We are forever grateful for your service.”



In August, the Mohawk Valley received news that nanotechnology would finally arrive at SUNY Polytechnic Institute's Colleges of Nanoscale Science and Engineering in Marcy, N.Y. Congressman Hanna released the following statement:

“Today's announcement is tremendous news for the Mohawk Valley. After years of delays, we're thrilled to see this multibillion dollar investment and the promise of thousands of jobs.

“Congratulations to Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente for his unrelenting leadership on this project. I thank Governor Cuomo for his support, and I am pleased to see General Electric coming home to Utica.”

Congressman Hanna also introduced a federal initiative to attract and retain the best teachers in classrooms where they're needed the most. The **Teacher Loan Repayment Act** would eliminate the current patchwork of underutilized loan assistance programs for teachers and replace them with a streamlined federal program that provides all eligible teachers with simplified access to more significant student loan relief. Rep. Hanna announced his bill at J.D. George Elementary School in Verona.

J.D. George is a Title I school, which means it enrolls at least 40 percent of its students from low-income families, and Rep. Hanna's loan repayment bill would specifically support teachers who work at Title I schools. Rep. Hanna toured the school with **J.D. George Principal Kim LeBlanc** and **V.V.S. Schools Superintendent Martha Group**. He toured three classrooms – kindergarten, third grade and a special education class.



“Our teachers are responsible for educating America’s children and therefore our next generation,” Rep. Hanna said. “It is an admirable profession, and we should encourage our teachers to work in some of our most challenging classrooms – where their efforts are needed the most.”

Congressman Hanna was proud to announce that after working with **Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)** a new **Community Based Outpatient Clinic will be constructed in Binghamton** to assist veterans in the Southern Tier.



The new facility will be located at 203 Court Street, in Binghamton and has a lease term of 20 years. The Binghamton outpatient clinic will allow the VA to provide timely access to Primary Care, Diagnostic Services, Physical Therapy, Cardiology, Gastrointestinal Services, and Behavioral Health and Group Therapy in an appropriately-sized, efficient facility.

“This is tremendous news for our veterans in the Southern Tier,” Rep. Hanna said. “My office has been working on this closely with the VA as the current clinic has outgrown its space at 425 Robinson Street. This new, larger facility will have the capacity to serve more veterans in Binghamton and throughout the region. Congratulations to our regional VA on this outstanding announcement.”

In the fall of 2015, Congressman Hanna stood with Utica-area first responders and called on Congress to renew the health bill that cares for men and women who suffer health effects from working at Ground Zero after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. **The James Zadroga Health and Compensation Act** expired October 1, 2015 and Congress was delayed in renewing the bill. Over 50,000 New Yorkers benefit from this program, **including more than 80** in the 22nd Congressional District. Congress finally renewed the bill as part of the long-term surface transportation bill passed in December.



Congressman Hanna also played a role in working to restore critical transportation funding that would have negatively impacted upstate New York transit systems. He led a national effort to restore funding for the 5340 High Density States transit program and organized a bipartisan coalition of more than 60 Members of Congress from seven states to push back against proposed cuts that would have impacted commuters in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island.



Locally, Centro was set to lose substantial funding if the cuts weren't restored. Centro operates public bus service in Syracuse and Utica.

Rick Lee, Deputy Executive Director of Centro, said the company is pleased that the House-Senate Conference Committee agreed to preserve the High Density State funding formula. Had the formula not been preserved Centro would lose \$2 million per year for 5 years for a total of \$10 million.

“On behalf of all our customers and our communities we would like to thank Congressman Hanna for his tireless effort to ensure these drastic funding cuts would not be included in the final transportation bill,” Lee said. “Congressman Hanna has been a long-standing leader in support of public transportation in our community and our community is a better place for his effort. Mr. Hanna knows how devastating these cuts would be to the people who rely on Centro to go work to provide for their families, visit retail stores and businesses and gain access to healthcare.

“We are grateful to Mr. Hanna for working with his fellow House members to bring this issue to a close for the betterment of all Central New York,” Lee continued. “Strong local economies are built on strong public transportation systems and thanks to Mr. Hanna we are moving in the right direction.”

In the Southern Tier, Broome County Transit was expected to lose \$600,000 annually.

At the end of 2015, Congressman Hanna announced that he would not seek another term as representative of New York's 22nd Congressional District. He made the announcement at his home in Barneveld with his wife and children.

The Post-Standard penned this editorial on Congressman Hanna's retirement: [**U.S. Rep. Richard Hanna's legacy: Courage, civility and the art of compromise.**](#)

U.S. Rep. Richard Hanna provides a breath of fresh air at a time in Congress where partisanship is so rampant members can't agree on the color of the sky, let alone a budget that lasts more than a couple of months.

It later continued that:

Hanna brought a civility that is lacking lately in Congress. He listened to others, socialized with Democrats and Republicans alike and compromised when necessary to pass legislation. Isn't that what we want our representatives to do?

Hanna represents the moderate arm of the GOP that is being drowned out in the drum beat of partisan politics. Voters in the 22nd District will elect someone else in the fall to represent them in Congress. We hope they choose someone with the courage to stand up to the party bosses, who follows their own values, debates their position in a civil way and compromises when necessary to break gridlock. Someone like Richard Hanna.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD L. HANNA

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