

Dear Friend,

I firmly believe that it is time for the House of Representatives to take back our Constitutional power of the purse and the way we do that is through the annual appropriations process. Last year, I led the House in total appropriations amendments successfully passed which resulted in cutting millions of dollars in federal waste, fraud and abuse. This week, the House began the process for fiscal year 2016. I'm off to a good start with 9 of my amendments successfully passing the House with 4 of them targeted at providing better services and accountability at the Department of Veterans Affairs.



While much attention has been given over the last year to the widespread corruption uncovered at the VA, especially the Phoenix VA hospital which was ground zero for this malfeasance, there has not been nearly enough progress to fix the glaring failures in the department. As a result, many of our veterans are simply giving up. They are either giving up on trying to obtain the benefits they deserve, or worse, some of them are giving up on life altogether. It is a travesty, and this appalling trend must be reversed. Congress can do more for our veterans and should focus on prioritizing funding for efforts that will lead to timelier care for our nation's heroes as opposed to administrative expenses. Click HERE to read more the action I'm taking to fix this problem.

Additionally, given the historic drought and other water challenges facing our nation, Congress owes the American people the highest level of oversight ensuring that neither energy resources or tax dollars are wasted. That is why I was proud to pass 5 amendments to the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill including one that cuts almost \$19 million from a wasteful and duplicative Climate Change study at the Department of Energy. Folks, this is how we rein in big government.

We have 10 more appropriations bills to go, and I am just getting started... Click <u>HERE</u> to read more about the amendments I passed this week.



The Next Big Thing in Big Government...

Last Wednesday, the House Republican Conference featured my blog post on GOP.gov titled "The Next Big Thing in Big Government: EPA's Proposed Water Grab". Republicans know that growing an opportunity economy means empowering individuals to control their own lives... Because when it comes to controlling YOUR life, this administration has proven that it does NOT know best. Click HERE or the picture below to read more about how the House is taking action this month to put states, local governments and private water rights holders back in the driver's seat for managing our water.



Introducing the Coach Only Airfare for Capitol Hill Act

Currently, there exists a loophole that allows members of Congress to fly first-class at the expense of hardworking taxpayers. Our elected leaders are public servants of the people and should not be considered a privileged status. Furthermore, if current regulations prevent men and women serving in the U.S. military from flying first-class, there is absolutely no reason members of Congress should be given a special exemption not offered to our nation's heroes. It's time to end the double standard and rein in this abuse. That is why I introduced a bill today prohibiting members of Congress from using official funds to purchase first-class airline tickets while traveling for Congressional duties. Click HERE or the picture below to learn more.



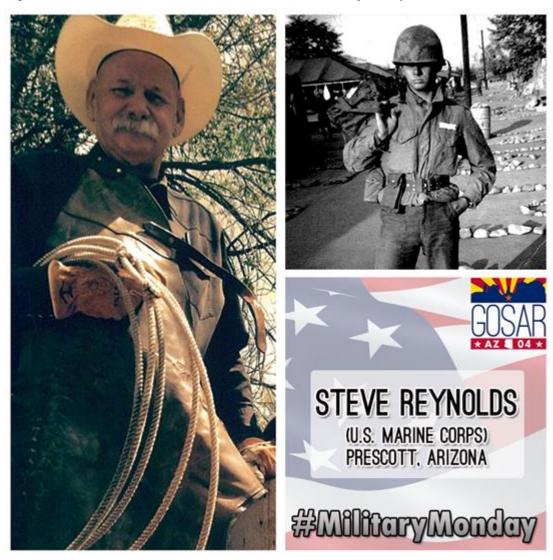
Payson Student Takes Flight at Air Force Academy

I want to wish my sincerest congratulations to Zoe Wright of Payson, Arizona on accepting her appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy! Zoe is an incredibly accomplished young woman and I am confident that she will do great things in her career with the Air Force.



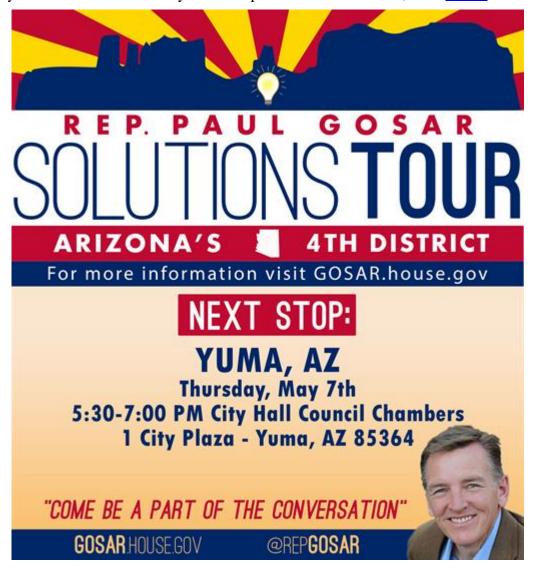
Military Monday

This week's <u>#MilitaryMonday</u> features Steve Reynolds of Prescott, Arizona who served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. Steve has sacrificed for our country more than most Americans could ever imagine. Yet his patriotism and enthusiasm for helping others in unending. Click <u>HERE</u> to read more about Steve's incredible journey.



Come Join Me on my Solutions Tour this Thursday

The next stop on my <u>Solutions Tour</u> is in Yuma, Arizona on Thursday May 7th. To learn more about my Solutions Tour and how you can be part of the conversation, click <u>HERE</u>.



As always, you can follow everything I am working on in Arizona and Washington, D.C. through my website (http://gosar.house.gov) on Twitter @RepGosar, or through Facebook at Representative Paul Gosar.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S Member of Congress





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