



REPRESENTATIVE SEAN PATRICK MALONEY

# 2013 YEAR-END REPORT



Getting Results for the Hudson Valley

A Message from Representative Sean Patrick Maloney  
New York's 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

December 20, 2013

Dear Friend,

It has been an honor and privilege to represent you in the Congress over the past year. Despite dysfunction and gridlock in Washington, my office and I have delivered results for thousands of our neighbors in the Hudson Valley. The most important work I do is right here in the Hudson Valley, whether it's helping businesses and individuals navigate government red tape, getting our economy going by supporting economic development projects, or just listening to folks' concerns and working to address them.

I'm proud of the work we have done to help veterans receive their earned compensation, deliver Social Security checks back to Hudson Valley seniors, and assist homeowners and businesses with disaster aid following the destruction of Irene, Sandy and Lee.

By listening to folks at home, I get great advice on what we should work on back in Washington. So far, I have passed legislation in the House that has a real impact on families in the Hudson Valley, including some legislative successes with issues like dam safety, reducing the veterans' disability backlog, and helping our farmers get the insurance they need when they're hit with disasters.

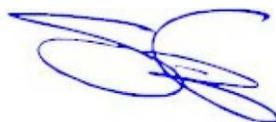
In 2013, I have:

- Introduced **seven bipartisan bills**, including **three that have passed the House of Representatives**, and **1 that will be signed into law before the end of the year**.
- Returned **\$1,231,873** to taxpayers who were owed Social Security checks, veterans' compensation, tax refunds, or other payments from the government.
- Advocated for over **1,188 constituents with casework issues**
- Hosted **21 "Speak with Sean"** events in the Hudson Valley
- Co-sponsored **165 bills, including the comprehensive immigration reform bill**
- Worked with more than **40 communities and local leaders** on disaster assistance
- Secured over **25 service medals** including 1 Congressional Gold Medal, 2 Bronze Stars, and 2 Purple Hearts for veterans from the Hudson Valley
- Helped **dozens of small businesses** navigate regulation, cut through red tape, and lower their taxes
- Launched and convened **three advisory boards on Veterans, Small Business, and Agriculture**
- Answered more than **37,000** of your letters
- Led more than **400 tours** on behalf of constituents
- Nominated dozens of Hudson Valley students to the military service academies

Next year, I will continue to work across the aisle to get results for the Hudson Valley, make the Affordable Care Act work for families and businesses in the Hudson Valley, and work to pass comprehensive immigration reform. I'll also focus on passing my newest legislation, the Commuter Rail Passenger Safety Act, and other critical safety measures to improve rail safety.

I'm here to work for you. Please don't hesitate to contact my office to let me know how we can best serve you, either in Washington or at home in the Hudson Valley.

Sincerely,



Sean Patrick Maloney

# KEY INVESTMENTS

A few highlights of federal investments in the Hudson Valley that Rep. Maloney has successfully fought for include:

- \$1.9 billion loan for the new Tappan Zee bridge
- \$155 million for homeowners, business and communities to help them recover and rebuild after Irene, Lee and Sandy
- \$10.9 million to improve Stewart International Airport
- \$2.4 million to hire 15 new firefighters in Newburgh
- \$1.3 million for Head Start projects in Orange County
- \$3.4 million to the Culinary Institute of America for a workforce development center in Poughkeepsie
- \$2.5 million for Orange County's Lead Safe Program
- \$626,000 for Centerlink Information Services in Putnam Valley
- \$237,800 for the Arlington Fire District
- \$180,000 to Green Chimneys Children's Services for transitional living
- \$160,000 for the Fairview Fire Department
- \$100,000 to connect Orange County schools with Hudson Valley farmers
- \$625,000 for five community youth anti-substance abuse initiatives
- \$2.9 million for a new runway at Orange County airport
- \$2.4 million to help 700 homeless veterans and their families
- \$60,000 for the Hudson Valley Regional Council to develop a comprehensive economic plan

# KEY PROJECTS

**Rep. Maloney has fought to bring New York taxpayer dollars back to the Hudson Valley by:**

- **Delivering Disaster Relief:** With Rep. Maloney's support, the disaster relief package passed this year is delivering additional relief for communities, businesses and individuals. Projects held up for years, like the restoration of Butternut Drive in New Windsor, have finally moved forward with Rep. Maloney's help. In addition, Rep. Maloney's office has worked with more than 40 communities, officials, and stakeholders on disaster relief grant applications to ensure that any unmet needs from Hurricane Irene, Tropical Storm Lee, and Superstorm Sandy receive the investments needed to repair previous damage and mitigate the damage of future storms.
- **Assisting Small Businesses with a New Storm Recovery Center:** Partnering with organizations like the Orange County Chamber of Commerce and the NYS Small Business Development Center, Rep. Maloney has worked to ensure all businesses can apply for assistance if they were directly damaged or experienced economic hardship as a result of one of the recent storms.
- **Bringing the FBI Next Door to Newburgh:** Since taking office, Rep. Maloney has been in close contact with the New Windsor Supervisor and federal agencies to expedite the relocation of the FBI office, bringing it closer to Newburgh and creating new jobs in the area. This project is expected to be completed by the end of 2014.
- **Helping Small Businesses:** Rep. Maloney has worked with local businesses like Taylor Biomass to cut through Washington red tape and support public-private partnerships like the Department of Energy's loan guarantee program. Rep. Maloney has connected many small businesses with the federal government, and also brought together business experts while hosting a free workshop for small business owners.
- **Reducing flooding around the Wallkill River:** Rep. Maloney has worked closely with local and state partners, including the Orange County Soil and Water Conservation District, to advocate for multiple solutions to relieve the impact of flooding along the Wallkill.
- **Renovation of the O&W Train Station by the Middletown Community Health Center:** Rep. Maloney has supported the project's request for a New Market Tax Credit allocation from the Low Income Investment Fund and continues to work with project leaders to identify and develop additional funding opportunities such as the \$500,000 award from the Consolidated Funding Application announced in December 2013.
- **Construction and renovation of barracks at U.S. Military Academy at West Point:** Rep. Maloney supported a \$42 million investment for construction and renovations of barracks at the United States Military Academy at West Point.
- **Fighting for jobs at the USPS Mid-Hudson Distribution Center:** The Newburgh facility was designated for consolidation in 2012, but since being elected, Rep. Maloney has been working to minimize consolidation's impact on local jobs, even taking the fight to the Postal Regulatory Commission. He continues to advocate for USPS six-day delivery.

# GETTING RESULTS FOR CONSTITUENTS AND BUSINESSES

Representative Maloney promised to fight for folks in the Hudson Valley when he took office, making it his top priority to hold the federal government accountable. He directed his staff to work hard for constituents and to get results.

Representative Maloney's office has fought for **1,188 cases for constituents** in his first year in Congress. Rep. Maloney's office has been contacted to help resolve concerns with veterans' benefits, Social Security and Medicare benefits, FEMA assistance after Hurricane Sandy, and the IRS. So far, Rep. Maloney has helped return **\$1,231,873** to Hudson Valley taxpayers who were owed Social Security checks, veterans' compensation, tax refunds, and other payments from the federal government.

A few highlights with individual constituents include:

- Ed Kackos, a Vietnam veteran from Sparrowbush, filed for disability in February 2011. After two years of red tape, he finally was awarded more than \$50,000 in retroactive benefits and full disability payments, which allowed him to keep his home.
- 95 years and 28 days after World War I veteran Corporal William Tiebout was wounded in battle, his family was awarded his posthumous Purple Heart medal.
- After years of appealing the Veteran Benefits Administration, a veteran from Newburgh received retroactive compensation of \$280,000 and is receiving disability payments.
- A Korean War veteran at the VA in Montrose received a complete medal set for his distinguished service in the US Navy including a Purple Heart.
- Dr. Coleman Briggs, a Montford Point Marine and Korean War veteran, was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.
- When an octogenarian from Wallkill retired in January, she discovered that she was only signed up for Medicare Part A. While trying to enroll in Medicare Part B, she was told she would have to wait a year to qualify. Within weeks of contacting our office, she was able to enroll in Medicare Part B.
- After initially receiving a 10% disability rating, a veteran from Pine Island was able to quickly receive an additional 10% for tinnitus and hearing aids.
- After struggling to receive a Social Security card for her adopted son, a mother from Poughkeepsie was able to secure both a passport and a social security card for her son.

A few highlights with businesses or non-profits include:

- Assisted a small business in Orange County to apply for SBA disaster recovery funds following Irene, Sandy, and Lee.
- Aided a Putnam County doctor in obtaining a federal tax id number.
- Helped a medical provider in Orange County receive a retroactive payment for claims that were originally denied.
- Assisted a Poughkeepsie salon with an IRS payment arrangement to keep their doors open.
- Assisted four small businesses with visa and immigration matters.
- Provided guidance to a non-profit in Newburgh with a foreclosure concern.
- Assisted a small business insurance company in Orange County with multiple FEMA related issues

# GETTING RESULTS IN WASHINGTON

Since joining Congress in January, Rep. Maloney has authored seven bipartisan bills, offered eight amendments and co-sponsored 165 bills. He has cast 632 votes with a 98.8% vote attendance record. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney was selected to serve on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and House Agriculture Committee – critical committees to economic development and job creation in the Hudson Valley.

## **Rep. Maloney's Legislation and Key Amendments Passed in the House:**

- **H.R. 1247, Creating Reliability for Our Producers (CROP) Act:** The bipartisan, budget neutral CROP Act will help specialty crop producers manage their risk by investing in the development of new and improved insurance plans for the types of underserved crops and diversified family farms that we have in the Hudson Valley. Rep. Maloney fought for its inclusion in the House passed version of the Farm Bill and is currently being conferenced with the Senate.
- **H.R. 1489, Dam Safety Act of 2013:** This bill reauthorizes the National Dam Safety Program and provides investment funds for states to use in conducting dam inspections, purchasing equipment, and developing Emergency Action Plans. Many of these critical reforms to the dam safety program passed the Water Resources and Reform and Development Act by a vote of 417-3 and are currently being conferenced with the Senate.
- **H.R. 1521, Disabled Veterans Red Tape Reduction Act:** Supported by Disabled Veterans of America, IAVA, and VFW, this bill would enable the Department of Veterans Affairs to use contracted physicians to conduct medical disability exams in order to help alleviate the current backlog at the VA. This bill passed the House and will be signed into law before the end of the year.
- **H.R. 3634, Commuter Rail Passenger Safety Act:** This bill enables railroads to make use of the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program, an existing \$35 billion loan program, in order to implement Positive Train Control (PTC) technology. It also reauthorizes the Rail Safety Technological Grants Program to provide up to \$500 million in grants for PTC improvements. Year after year, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has named PTC as one of its "most-wanted" initiatives for national transportation safety.
- **H.R. 2407, Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Reauthorization Act:** This legislation would reauthorize the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area until 2024. The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area contributes \$584,986,026 to New York's economy, supports 6,530 jobs, and generates more than \$66.6 million in tax revenue.
- **H.R. 2112, Monroe Post Office:** This legislation, which has the support of the entire New York congressional delegation, renames the Monroe Post Office after a local hero who lost his life in service to his country: "National Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency NCS Officer Gregg David Wenzel Memorial Post Office."
- **H. Res. 407, Promoting National Adoption Day and Month:** This bipartisan resolution recognizes National Adoption Day and is the first House resolution to recognize LGBT families' role in adoption.
- **Flood Protection for the Wallkill River:** This amendment requires the Secretary of Agriculture to take action to promote flood protection in the Black Dirt region and Wallkill River. Included in the Farm Bill, this passed the House and is currently being conferenced with the Senate.
- **Expanding Disaster Assistance to Include Agriculture:** After Orange County Soil & Water was deemed ineligible for a Disaster Recovery Community Development Block Grant, Rep. Maloney was able to secure language in the FEMA reauthorization to allow agricultural land projects to be eligible which would allow for increased funding for flood mitigation of the Wallkill River.

# EVENTS AND MEETINGS

In 2013, Rep. Maloney hosted or attended more than 500 meetings and events. He held 24 “Speak with Sean” Neighborhood Office Hours, forums, or town halls in neighborhoods across the district. Rep. Maloney hosted ten telephone and online town halls, interacting directly with hundreds of thousands of constituents.

Rep. Maloney also launched and convened three advisory boards on veterans, small businesses, and agriculture. These non-partisan boards contain a cross section of interests and provide counsel and information to Rep. Maloney and his staff regarding major issues, events, legislation, and initiatives affecting the Hudson Valley.

Key events that Rep. Maloney has hosted:

- Veterans, Service Members, & Military Families Awareness Fair
- Small Business Workshop
- Congressional Field Hearing on comprehensive immigration reform
- Three medal presentation ceremonies for veterans
- Disaster relief workshop
- Newburgh district office opening
- Agricultural economy workshop
- Main Street tours in Wappingers Falls, Goshen, Mahopac, and Highland Falls
- Roundtable on the Violence Against Women Act
- EPA Superfund tour with EPA Administrator Judith Enck
- Dam infrastructure tour in Carmel
- Post High School and College Workshop in Brewster
- Agriculture Forum in Warwick
- Get the Lead Out Forum in Newburgh
- National Adoption Month roundtable
- Six Congress at Your Companies
- Hosted the Congressional Art Competition