

JOHN BOOZMAN

United States Senator *for* ARKANSAS

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Boozman Bulletin: Providing the Best Constituent Service in Congress

One of the mottos I live by as an elected official is “to use the power of the office for good.” I’ve used this phrase to help foster a culture among my staff that emphasizes the importance of serving Arkansans and being a resource for constituents who need assistance.

As a public servant, I aim to achieve the standard set by longtime Arkansas Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt who consistently managed to help an enormous number of people when they encountered problems involving the federal government. It’s an honor and privilege to carry on this legacy of service and I’m proud of the work my staff and I do to help Arkansans who have run into roadblocks with government agencies.



For these efforts, the Congressional Management Foundation (CMF) recently recognized the work my office does providing the best constituent service in Congress. CMF awarded my team and I with its Democracy Award in the Constituent Service category based on our consistent record of helping Natural State residents. My staff and I are proud of this recognition and pleased to offer unmatched assistance to Arkansans who reach out for help.

CMF President and CEO Bradford Fitch called the office a “model” for my fellow members of Congress and applauded our work to “restore trust and faith that our democratic institutions can work.”

Helping Natural State residents is one of my most important responsibilities. It doesn’t matter where you’re from or what candidate or party you vote for – we’re here to help you however we can.

There are a lot of ways to reach my office so I can help. The most direct and efficient way is

to visit our updated website at www.boozman.senate.gov. The website is designed to make it easier to submit requests for assistance via mobile devices and keep Arkansans updated about the work we're doing for you.

Constituent service often gets little attention, but it makes a real difference in the lives of people across the state. Please don't hesitate to reach out so we can help you.

Quick Takes:

- **Supporting Fair Trade:** Last week President Trump announced an agreement with European Union Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker to [work toward easing trade barriers](#). I congratulate the president for taking this very promising step forward for American manufacturers, innovators and agricultural producers.
- **Supreme Court Nominee:** President Trump [nominated Judge Brett Kavanaugh](#) of the District of Columbia Federal Circuit Court to serve on the United States Supreme Court. Judge Kavanaugh is a distinguished jurist whose extensive experience and respect within the legal community make him uniquely qualified to serve on the Supreme Court. He has had an impressive legal career. I look forward to a fair confirmation process and hearing more from Judge Kavanaugh about his judicial philosophy.
- **Supporting New VA Chief:** Last week the Senate [confirmed Robert Wilkie to serve as Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs](#). As a veteran himself, he understands the complexities associated with serving our nation and the importance of taking care of our veterans. It's necessary that we have strong leadership at the VA to oversee the implementation of historic reforms to improve the VA's healthcare delivery system and provide veterans with more choices and fewer barriers to care. I am confident Secretary Wilkie will provide the leadership that the VA needs to better serve our veterans.
- **Helping Combat-Injured Veterans:** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is advising veterans who have been separated from service for combat-related injuries and received a severance payment that was improperly taxed to [take advantage of the relief](#) offered to them by the *Combat-Injured Veterans Tax Fairness Act* (P.L. 114-292), a law based on a bill I authored with Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA). I will continue to monitor this process and stand ready to assist veterans in Arkansas who need assistance in filing their claim.
- **Eliminating Global Gender-Related Barriers:** Women make up the majority of the world's poor. They are often held back by gender-specific constraints to economic empowerment, such as lack of access to financial services and credit. I was pleased to introduce the bipartisan [Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act](#) that aims to address these disparities and help achieve global gender parity in economic activity.
- **Expanding Access to Military Commissaries:** I joined Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI) to [introduce legislation to open access to commissaries](#), exchanges and recreation facilities to Purple Heart recipients, Medal of Honor recipients, former prisoners of war, veterans with service-connected disabilities and their designated caregivers. Expanding the commissary privilege is a small way that we can show our appreciation to this special and deserving group of veterans
- **Recognizing Arkansas WWII Veteran:** The 'Salute to Veterans' series honors the service and sacrifice of Arkansas veterans who served our nation in uniform. In the

latest edition, I recognized WWII veteran Paul Lux, who served as a cook in the Army. The enthusiasm Lux had for his time in uniform continues to show more than seven decades after he was discharged. Hear more about his [military life in these clips](#). His interview has been submitted to the Veterans History Project.

- **Connect on Social Media:** Stay up to date with what I'm doing for Arkansans via social media. You can find me on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



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