

Support U.S. Global Leadership

Join the New Congressional Rotorcraft Caucus

A group of House and Senate members are working together to form the Congressional Rotorcraft Caucus, an informal group of legislators who will work to educate Members and staff about the American helicopter industry and its critical role in national defense, homeland security, disaster relief and transportation.

For decades, America was the unquestioned world leader in the helicopter industry. Recent years, however, have seen unprecedented changes. Consolidation at home, shrinking research budgets, unprecedented competition from Europe and Asia, and crucial roles in Iraq and Afghanistan have presented the industry with myriad challenges and opportunities.

The Congressional Rotorcraft Caucus proposes to work with the American Helicopter Society, the Center for Rotorcraft Innovation, Aerospace Industries of America, Helicopter Association International and similar organizations to educate Members and staff about the major issues facing the industry.

- What can government, industry and academia do to better focus limited U.S. research on the immediate and future real-world science and technology needs of DoD and DHS?
- What additional steps can be taken to prepare to address long-standing safety concerns, including a new initiative to reduce helicopter accidents – both non-combat military mishaps and civil aviation accidents – by 80% by 2016?
- How has the U.S. helicopter industry responded to the challenges posed by its international competitors? Are there ways that industry can cooperate with its international competitors on issues that benefit the entire rotorcraft industry worldwide?
- How can improved rotorcraft technology meet our emerging transportation needs, particularly through reducing noise and emissions, vibration, reducing costs and improving performance and fuel efficiency?
- What additional roles should improved rotorcraft play in homeland security and emergency situations?

These issues require serious, long term attention. An active and engaged Congress will play a pivotal role in ensuring that the executive branch, industry and academia work in harmony to address our critical needs at home and abroad.

Congressional Rotorcraft Caucus Membership as of July 31, 2008

Congressman Joe Sestak (D-PA) – *co-chair*
Congresswoman Kay Granger (D-TX) – *co-chair*

Congressman Joe Courtney (D-CT)
Congressman Joe Wilson (R-SC)
Congressman Randy Forbes (R-VA)
Congressman Bob Brady (D-PA)
Congressman Joe Barton (R-TX)
Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Congressman Jim Gerlach (R-PA)
Congressman Ander Crenshaw (R-FL)
Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz (D-PA)
Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY)
Congressman Patrick Murphy (D-PA)
Congressman Joe Pitts (R-PA)
Congressman Robert Aderholt (R-AL)
Congressman Phil Gingrey (R-GA)
Congressman Geoff Davis (R-KY)