

## Rush Holt

*U.S. House of Representatives, 12th District, New Jersey*

U.S. Rep. Rush Holt is a resident of Hopewell Township, N.J. He has held positions as a teacher, Congressional Science Fellow, and arms control expert at the U.S. State Department where he monitored the nuclear programs of countries such as Iraq, Iran, North Korea and the former Soviet Union. From 1989 until he launched his 1998 congressional campaign, Holt was Assistant Director of the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, the largest research facility of Princeton University and the largest center for research in alternative energy in New Jersey. He has conducted extensive research on alternative energy and has his own patent for a solar energy device. Holt also was a five-time winner of the game show “Jeopardy.”

An active member of the U.S. Congress and a strong voice for his constituents, Holt serves on the Committee on Education and Labor, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He is the only scientist and only member from the New Jersey delegation to sit on the Intelligence Committee. Holt is also the Chairman of the Select Intelligence Oversight Panel. Created at the start of the 110th Congress in January 2007, the panel is working to strengthen oversight of the intelligence community by ensuring that policymakers receive accurate assessments, civil liberties are safeguarded, and the intelligence community is protecting Americans.

Holt was honored to serve on the National Commission on Mathematics and Science Teaching for the 21st Century, chaired by former Senator and astronaut John Glenn. He is co-chair of the Research and Development Caucus.

In Congress, Holt has been a leader fighting for college accessibility, investment in science innovation, sustainable energy, the preservation of open spaces, election fairness and the protection of American liberties. He helped secure more than \$700 million in new federal funding for science and technology research. As a member of the House Committee on Education and Labor, Holt helped write the College Cost Reduction Act — the largest college aid expansion since the GI Bill — which cuts student loan interest rates in half, increases individual Pell Grant amounts by \$1,090 over five years, and forgives loans for graduates who provide 10 years of public service. The bill also includes Holt’s provision to provide upfront tuition assistance — up to \$16,000 per year — for math, science and foreign-language teachers, supporting Holt’s effort to strengthen such education in the United States.

Holt has received numerous awards and citations for his work, including the Planned Parenthood Community Service Award, the Biotech Legislator of the Year award, and the Science Coalition’s Champion of Science award. The magazine *Scientific American* has also named Holt one of the 50 national “visionaries” contributing to “a brighter technological future.” The American Association of University Women awarded Holt a 100 percent score for his work on behalf of women throughout the 110th Congress, and he received an A+ from Americans for the Arts.

Holt earned his B.A. in physics from Carleton College in Minnesota and completed his master’s degree and Ph.D. at New York University.