



### **Peter Takes on FDA Regulators: "Back Off Our Cheese"**

Good news for Vermont's cheese makers and cheese lovers: Responding to pressure from Peter, FDA deputy commissioner Mike Taylor [sent Peter a letter](#) last week officially backing down from his agency's intent to ban the use of wood in the cheese aging process. The letter follows a June 17 phone call between Peter and Commissioner Taylor. Had FDA moved forward with its misguided plan, cheese makers in Vermont and around the country would have been required to replace wood shelving at a cost of millions. You can watch WPTZ's report on the controversy [here](#).



*Peter joined with Vermont cheese makers in Waterbury to discuss how the FDA plan would harm their businesses.*

### **The House Gets It! Second Welch Energy Efficiency Bill Moving Through Congress**

The House passed Peter's bipartisan legislation to encourage schools administrators to make cost-saving energy efficiency upgrades. The bill is modeled after Vermont's school-based energy efficiency efforts. Read more about Peter's progress in Congress on energy efficiency [here](#).



*The House is catching on: energy efficiency is a win for jobs, the environment and saving money.*

### Reducing Border Crossing Delays

Peter has been working closely with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agency to reduce delays in crossing the Canadian border. The federal NEXUS program allows qualified enrollees expedited border crossing -- but Vermont applicants have to travel to Champlain, NY for a required screening interview. At Peter's request, the agency recently held four mobile enrollment centers in Montpelier, Burlington, St. Albans and Derby Line to make it convenient for Vermonters to sign-up for a program. And at Peter's urging, CBP also announced [extended hours](#) for Nexus cardholders at the Highgate Springs border crossing. Read more [here](#).



*Peter signs up for NEXUS program that allows for faster processing at the border.*

### ATTENTION HIKERS: Connecting the North Country and Appalachian Trails in Vermont

Ambitious hikers could soon journey the entire 4,600 miles from North Dakota to Vermont to as far south as Georgia, under bipartisan legislation introduced by Peter. Read more [here](#).

### House Approves Peter's Legislation Renaming Danville Post Office After Leading Opponent of Slavery

Peter's bill honors an iconic figure in the movement to abolish slavery who was born in Danville, Vermont. Read more [here](#).

### What's Your Take on "Net Neutrality"?

Peter took to Facebook to encourage Vermonters to make their voices heard on the issue of net neutrality. Click [here](#) to get Peter's take on this issue and to find out how you can weigh-in on new rules that could change how the internet works.

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