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## **AMASH TOPS 2,500 STRAIGHT VOTES, 25,000 FACEBOOK FANS** *REPRESENTATIVE CONTINUES PERFECT VOTE RECORD FROM STATE HOUSE*

Washington, D.C. – Rep. Justin Amash (R-MI) cast his 2,500th consecutive vote Wednesday, extending a more than three year streak that he began in Michigan’s state House. On the same day, he hit another milestone when the 25,000th Facebook user “liked” Amash’s congressional page.

“I am proud to represent West Michigan in Congress. I think my perfect vote record reflects the culture of West Michigan: hard work, determination, and consistency,” said Amash.

Not only has Amash made every vote as a Representative in the state Legislature and Congress, but Amash also is the only Member of Congress who personally explains every vote on his Facebook page:

<http://facebook.com/repjustinamash>

Amash created his official Facebook page shortly after coming to Congress in January 2011. The page’s most popular week—when the most online commenters discussed the page—was last week. Grand Rapids continues to be the most popular hometown among commenters.

“Explaining my votes on Facebook is an investment worth making if it keeps the public informed about Congress’s work,” said Amash. “I believe it’s vital that Representatives interact with their constituents one-on-one. The Internet makes that possible. I look forward to continuing my efforts to make Congress more accountable to the people.”

The 2,500th vote was on an amendment to an appropriations bill. His Facebook explanation was:

I voted “yes” on the Garrett of NJ Amendment to H R 5326, the FY 2013 appropriations bill for the Departments of Commerce and Justice and programs related to science.

The amendment prohibits the Department of Justice from tapping mortgage-backed securitization trusts in future mortgage fraud settlements. State attorneys general and the federal government settled with banks for fraud committed during mortgage foreclosures. The banks were supposed to pay \$25 billion, but they could receive credit against the penalty by writing down underwater home loans.

Instead of taking a loss on the loans they own, the banks often wrote down loans that they service but do not own—loans in securitization trusts owned by pension funds and other investors. This essentially forced outside parties that had nothing to do with the banks’ fraud to be penalized for what the banks did. It passed 238-185.

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