



118TH CONGRESS

CONGRESS IN REVIEW

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LEADING THE CHARGE

In the 118th Congress, under the leadership of Ranking Member Scott and Subcommittee Ranking Members Adams, Bonamici, DeSaulnier, and Wilson, Committee Democrats have countered harmful, baseless claims while tirelessly advocating for high-quality education, safeguarding workers' rights, and ensuring access to quality health care for all Americans.



Full Committee

Ranking Member Robert C. "Bobby" Scott



Full Committee

Vice Ranking Member Jahana Hayes



Early Childhood, Elementary and
Secondary Education Subcommittee

Ranking Member Suzanne Bonamici



Higher Education and
Workforce Development Subcommittee

Ranking Member Frederica Wilson



Health, Employment, Labor
and Pensions Subcommittee

Ranking Member Mark DeSaulnier



Workforce Protections
Subcommittee

Ranking Member Alma Adams

118TH CONGRESS BY THE NUMBERS

Education and Workforce Committee Democrats delivered real results for students, families, workers, and our economy — despite historic Republican chaos and dysfunction.

40

**Key Bill
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CONTRASTING VISIONS

A side-by-side comparison of two visions for America's future. Committee Democrats champion hope and opportunity for all. In stark contrast, Republicans' Project 2025 seeks to pull us back to a past of limited access and opportunity.

DEMOCRATS' VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Invest \$100 billion in schools physical and digital infrastructure and create nearly two million jobs through the *Rebuild America's Schools Act*.

Protect workers' right to join together and bargain for higher wages, better benefits, and safer workplaces with the *Protecting the Right to Organize Act*.

Lower prescription drug prices for 164 million workers and their families and rein in pharmaceutical price gouging by passing the *Lowering Drug Costs for American Families Act*.

Expand the Community Eligibility Provision feeding an additional 9 million children, in the President's Budget.

EDUCATION

REPUBLICANS' "PROJECT 2025"

Eliminate the Department of Education.

LABOR

Weaken the the National Labor Relations Board and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

HEALTH

Repeal the \$35 per month insulin cap and the \$2,000 out-of-pocket cap for Medicare beneficiaries—increasing costs for as many as 18.5 million seniors.

SCHOOL MEALS

Eliminate the Community Eligibility Provision, risking food insecurity for nearly 20 million children.

118TH BIPARTISAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Throughout the 118th Congress, Education and the Workforce Committee Democrats put people over politics and worked in a bipartisan manner to advance legislation to address the needs of students, families, workers, and our economy.

BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW

Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act, S. 2051

Renews funding for the *Missing Children's Assistance Act* and updates the statute concerning the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

Protecting Hunting Heritage and Education Act, H.R. 5110

Clarifies that students can use items considered dangerous weapons for educational activities, like archery and hunting. By supporting hands-on learning, it ensures students can develop important skills and knowledge related to outdoor education.

BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE

A Stronger Workforce for America Act, H.R. 6655

Makes critical improvements to the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* that will expand the skills development provided under the law, strengthen the relationship between employers and the workforce system, and put more Americans on the pathway to successful careers.

Enhancing Detection of Human Trafficking Act, H.R. 443

Ensures that the Department of Labor continues to provide training for employees on how to detect and report human trafficking.

Lower Costs, More Transparency Act, H.R. 5378

Helps improve health care transparency by codifying ACA price transparency regulations and ensuring middlemen such as pharmacy benefit managers and third-party administrators disclose their compensation to group health plan fiduciaries.

Stop Campus Hazing Act, H.R. 5646

Aimed at combating hazing and enhancing student safety across college campuses nationwide.

Think Differently About Education Act, H.R. 4259

Requires schools to inform parents of their rights under the *Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act*, allowing them to invite experts to IEP meetings. Empowering parents to advocate effectively for their children's educational needs, ensuring they receive the support necessary for success.

118TH BIPARTISAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Throughout the 118th Congress, Education and the Workforce Committee Democrats have put people over politics and worked in a bipartisan manner to advance legislation to address the needs of students, families, workers, and our economy.

BIPARTISAN BILLS REPORTED OUT OF THE COMMITTEE

Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act, H.R. 6585

Provides opportunities for students and workers looking to gain skills in high-demand fields by allowing Pell Grants to support students enrolled in high-quality, short-term workforce programs that will lead to career advancement.

Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act, H.R. 618

Amends the *Federal Employees Compensation Act* to improve care for injured federal workers, especially in rural areas. Expands access to qualified healthcare providers and ensures that injured employees receive the timely treatment they need.

Hidden Fee Disclosure Act, H.R. 4508

Strengthens the requirements that Pharmacy Benefit Managers and Third-Party Administrators disclose compensation to plan fiduciaries. (Passed the House as part of H.R. 5378, the *Lower Costs, More Transparency Act*)

Health Data, Access, Transparency, and Affordability (DATA) Act, H.R. 4527

Ensures health plan fiduciaries are not contractually restricted from receiving cost or quality of care information about their plan. (Passed the House as part of H.R. 5378, the *Lower Costs, More Transparency Act*)

Never Again Education Reauthorization and Study Act, H.R. 8606

Extends the *Never Again Education Act* until 2030, providing essential resources for educators to teach students about the Holocaust. Fostering understanding and awareness, this legislation helps combat antisemitism and creates safer, more inclusive school environments.

Opening Doors for Youth Act, H.R. 5511

Helps address the challenges facing youth who become disconnected from school and work. (Reported out as part of H.R. 6655, *A Stronger Workforce for America Act*)

Transparency in Billing Act, H.R. 4509

Requires accurate billing practices by hospitals, ensuring that group health plans pay for appropriately billed services.

Transparency in Coverage Act, H.R. 4507

Codifies the "Transparency in Coverage" final rule to provide consumers with price transparency for medical services and prescription drugs. (Passed the House as part of H.R. 5378, the *Lower Costs, More Transparency Act*)

118TH DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS



EDUCATION

America's College Promise Act, H.R. 5998

Makes community colleges and two-year Tribal Colleges and Universities more accessible by waiving tuition fees for eligible students.

Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act, H.R. 6585

Provides opportunities for students and workers looking to gain skills in high-demand fields by allowing Pell Grants to support students enrolled in high-quality, short-term workforce programs that will lead to career advancement.

Child Care for Working Families Act, H.R. 2976

Helps to comprehensively tackle the child care crisis and ensure families across America can find and afford the high-quality child care they need.

Child Care Stabilization Act, H.R. 5433

Addresses the child care funding cliff by providing \$16 billion in mandatory funding each year for the next five years to continue the successful Child Care Stabilization Grant program.

Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act, H.R. 3445

Holds federally funded programs, including schools, accountable for providing students with equal access to education by restoring the private right of action for students and parents to bring disparate impact claims under *Title VI of the Civil Rights Act*.

Jobs to Compete Act, H.R. 1655

Expands Pell Grant eligibility to adults in high-quality, short-term training programs.

Keeping All Students Safe Act, H.R. 3470

Prohibits schools receiving federal taxpayer money from secluding children and bans dangerous restraint practices that restrict children's breathing, such as prone or supine restraint.

Lowering Obstacles to Achievement Now (LOAN) Act, H.R. 1731

Lowers the cost of college for current and future student borrowers and their families.

Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act, H.R. 5224

Renews the *Missing Children's Assistance Act* and makes critical updates to help the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children better support youth who are missing, reduce child sexual exploitation, and prevent child victimization.

Pell Grant Preservation and Expansion Act, H.R. 8807

Double the Pell Grant maximum award, index the maximum award for inflation, and make other changes to expand the award for working students and families.

118TH DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Protecting Hunting Heritage and Education Act, H.R. 5110

Clarifies that students can use items considered dangerous weapons for educational activities, like archery and hunting. By supporting hands-on learning, it ensures students can develop important skills and knowledge related to outdoor education.

Rebuild America's Schools Act, H.R. 5049

Invests more than \$130 billion in our schools' physical and digital infrastructure. The resources are targeted at high-poverty schools with facilities that pose health and safety risks to students and staff.

Strength in Diversity Act, H.R. 3444

Supports school districts developing, implementing, or expanding school desegregation initiatives by establishing a federal grant program to support voluntary, local efforts to increase school diversity.

HEALTH

Direct Creation, Advancement, and Retention of Employment Opportunity Act, H.R. 4720

Invests in training and increasing opportunities for our nation's direct care workers.

Do No Harm Act, H.R. 2725

Addresses the increasing use of religious freedom to undermine civil rights protections by restoring the *Religious Freedom Restoration Act* to its original purpose: to protect religious exercise while ensuring religious freedom is not used to erode our civil rights.

Early Childhood Nutrition Improvement Act, H.R. 6067

Updates the Child and Adult Care Food Program to allow an additional meal or snack for children in full day care programs, and streamlines the program to make it easier for early learning programs and child care providers to participate.

Hidden Fee Disclosure Act, H.R. 4508

Strengthens the requirements that Pharmacy Benefit Managers and Third-Party Administrators disclose compensation to plan fiduciaries.

Health Data, Access, Transparency, and Affordability (DATA) Act, H.R. 4527

Ensures health plan fiduciaries are not contractually restricted from receiving cost or quality of care information about their plan.

Lowering Drug Costs for American Families Act, H.R. 4895

Lowers prescription drug prices for families and reins in pharmaceutical price gouging.

Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act, H.R. 2604

Reauthorizes and expands funding for programs focused on supporting survivors and preventing family and domestic violence.

Transparency in Billing Act, H.R. 4509

Requires accurate billing practices by hospitals, ensuring that group health plans pay for appropriately billed services.

Transparency in Coverage Act, H.R. 4507

Codifies the "Transparency in Coverage" final rule to provide consumers with price transparency for medical services and prescription drugs.

118TH DEMOCRATS' LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

LABOR

Asunción Valdivia Heat Illness, Injury, and Fatality Prevention Act, H.R. 4897

Helps ensure the safety and health of workers exposed to dangerous workplace heat conditions.

Black Lung Benefits Improvement Act, H.R. 6461

Reforms and strengthens the program that provides benefits to coal miners suffering from black lung disease.

Equal Remedies Act, H.R. 8298

Seeks to ensure that workers receive full and fair compensation for employment discrimination by dismantling outdated damage caps that have long undermined justice.

Labor Enforcement to Securely (LET'S) Protect Workers Act, H.R. 9137

Bolsters protections for America's workers and ensures accountability for employers who flout labor and employment laws.

National Apprenticeship Act, H.R. 2851

Creates nearly one million new Registered Apprenticeship, youth apprenticeship, and pre-apprenticeship opportunities by investing more than \$3.8 billion over five years.

Paycheck Fairness Act, H.R. 17

Combats wage discrimination and helps close the wage gap by strengthening the *Equal Pay Act of 1963* and ensuring women can challenge pay discrimination and hold employers accountable.

Protect Older Job Applicants Act, H.R. 3491

Helps to protect older applicants from employment discrimination at the application phase.

Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act, H.R. 6581

Strengthens anti-discrimination protections for older workers.

Protecting America's Workers Act, H.R. 2998

Ensures employers promptly correct hazardous working conditions, protects whistleblowers from retaliation, and holds unscrupulous employers accountable for violations that cause illness, serious injury, or death to workers.

Protecting Children Act, H.R. 4440

Provides federal worker protection agencies with the tools and resources to deter child labor violations and prevent harm to children from intensive work in dangerous jobs.

Raise the Wage Act, H.R. 4889

Raises the federal minimum wage to \$17 by 2028 and gives up to 19 million Americans a long-overdue raise.

118th DEMOCRATS' LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

LABOR (CONTINUED)

Richard L. Trumka Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, H.R. 20

Protects workers' right to join together and bargain for higher wages, better benefits, and safer workplaces.

Transformation to Competitive Integrated Employment Act, H.R. 1263

Helps states and employers transition workers with disabilities into fully integrated and competitive jobs, which includes earning at least the minimum wage alongside individuals without disabilities while phasing out the subminimum wage for individuals with disabilities.

Wage Theft Prevention and Wage Recovery Act, H.R. 5402

Puts hard-earned wages back in workers' pockets and cracks down on employers who unfairly withhold wages from their employees.

Workers Protecting Our Wage Earners' Rights (Workers POWER) Act, H.R. 6634

Equips the Department of Labor with the resources needed to tackle federal labor law violations, including child labor, wage theft, and workplace health and safety violations.

Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act, H.R. 2663

Compels the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to quickly develop an enforceable standard to ensure that employers are providing workers with the safe workplaces they deserve.

Employee and Retiree Access to Justice Act, H.R. 9820

Prohibits unfair practices like forced arbitration and mandatory class action and help restore workers' and retirees' access to the legal system for claims involving their workplace retirement or health care plans.

ROADMAP TO COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS

The Roadmap to College Student Success is a legislative blueprint to improve our nation's higher education system for students and families. The Roadmap brings together a series of bold proposals focused on bringing down the cost of college, helping students access a quality degree, and—once students are in school—providing them with the support they need to graduate.



AFFORDABILITY

Lowering Obstacles to Achievement Now (LOAN) Act, H.R. 1731

Lowers the cost of college for current and future student borrowers and their families by making critical reforms to the student loan system. These reforms include doubling the Pell Grant, improving the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, and making loans more affordable and accessible.

America's College Promise Act, H.R. 5998

Makes community college and two-year Tribal Colleges and Universities more accessible by waiving tuition fees for eligible students.

Pell to Grad Act, H.R. 961

Extend students' lifetime Pell Grant eligibility to 16 semesters from the current 12 semesters. Allow students who have received a Pell Grant award during their undergraduate education to utilize their remaining Pell eligibility towards their first graduate degree.

Pell Grant Preservation and Expansion Act, H.R. 8807

Double the Pell Grant maximum award, index the maximum award for inflation, and make other changes to expand the award for working students and families.



ACCESS

College Transparency Act, H.R. 2957

Ensures that students and families have better information as they consider higher education opportunities. Providing accurate reporting on student outcomes such as enrollment, completion, and post-college earnings across colleges and majors, while ensuring the privacy of individual students is securely protected.

Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa College Access Act, H.R. 7260

Establishes a grant program to cover the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition costs for students from the Northern Marina Islands.

ROADMAP TO COLLEGE STUDENT SUCCESS



STUDENT SUPPORT

Respond, Innovate, Succeed, and Empower (RISE) Act, H.R. 2401

Ensures the transition from high school to college easier for students with disabilities and their families by allowing them to use a variety of existing documentation as proof of a disability when seeking accommodations on campus.

Opportunity to Address College Hunger Act, H.R. 309

Supports college students experiencing hunger by requiring institutions of higher education to inform students in the Federal Work Study (FWS) program that they may qualify for SNAP benefits.

Enhancing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Through Campus Planning Act, H.R. 5740

Ensures college students have the mental health resources they need by ensuring colleges and universities are equipped with proactive mental health and suicide prevention plans.

Closing the College Hunger Gap Act, H.R. 7416

Direct the U.S. Secretary of Education to notify college students of their eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) based on information reported through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.

Campus Prevention and Recovery Services for Students, H.R. 9214

Ensures higher education institutions implement programs to prevent alcohol and substance misuse on campus and support those with substance use disorders. If passed, the bill would fund college prevention and recovery services at \$75 million over five years.

Helping Student Parents Succeed Act, H.R. 9185

Ensures students expecting a child and student parents are made aware of child care, leave options, and other accommodations that are available to them at their schools.



LET'S PROTECT WORKERS ACT

Committee Democrats want to level the playing field and, once again, restore the balance of power between workers and their employers.

Weak civil monetary penalties undermine workers' basic protections.

Low-road employers brazenly violate workers' rights every day because they know that even if a resource-starved Department of Labor catches a violation, the penalties are a mere slap on the wrist. Some penalties are so low that they can be factored in as just a cost of doing business, and others come with no penalty at all.

The Labor Enforcement to Securely (LET'S) Protect Workers Act is a transformative legislative bill aimed at bolstering protections for America's workers and ensuring accountability for employers who flout labor and employment laws.

Responsibly strengthening civil monetary penalties will save workers' lives, prevent disabling injury, protect the welfare of children, safeguard the most vulnerable workers, and undergird the right to organize by raising the cost of noncompliance and deterring violations.

The LET'S Protect Workers Act will:

- Increase civil monetary penalties for violations of child labor, minimum wage and overtime, worker health and safety, and farmworker protection standards.
- Improve mine safety and reliable funding of black lung benefits through new and increased civil monetary penalties and the option to shut down scofflaw operators.
- Set new penalties for retaliation against workers who exercise their family and medical leave rights.
- Strengthen enforcement of mental health parity requirements for employer-sponsored health plans.
- Close a loophole that allows employers to escape penalties for failing to keep records of workplace injuries if OSHA does not detect the violation within six months.
- Create new penalties for violations of the National Labor Relations Act, consistent with the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act.



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