OPPORTUNITY & JUSTICE FOR *all*

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CONGRESSWOMAN ANNIE KUSTER
NEW HAMPSHIRE'S SECOND DISTRICT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND POLICE REFORMS

4 HR 7120, HR 1636

5 HR 4141, HR 3496

ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES

6 HEALTH ENTERPRISE ZONE ACT

7 HR 1897, HR 4995

8 HR 6141, HR 6142, HR 7104

9 ANTI LUNCH SHAMING ACT

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR ALL AMERICANS

10 HR 6699

11 HR 7, HR 5599

12 THE ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE INTERNET FOR ALL ACT, H.CON RES. 100

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

13 HR 1315, HR 4007

14 HR 7024

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AMERICANS

15 PACT ACT

16 REBUILD AMERICA'S SCHOOLS ACT, GET LEAD OUT OF SCHOOLS ACT, END CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN SCHOOLS ACT

SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

17 HR 3977, HR 1351

18 HR 1694

PROTECTING FAIR ELECTIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS TO THE POLLS

19 HR 4

20 HR 1, NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING RIGHTS ACT

21 HR 51

RECOGNIZING HISTORY & COMMEMORATING AMERICANS

22 HR 7232

RESOURCES

PG. 23

OPPORTUNITY & JUSTICE FOR ALL AGENDA

Dear Friend,

The United States of America has a long and painful history of racial inequality and injustice that touches on nearly every aspect of our society. From health disparities that result in lower life expectancy and higher risk of chronic illness, to lack of access to affordable housing and a criminal justice system that disproportionately incarcerates people of color and low-income Americans, inequality is pervasive throughout ourcountry and we must act without delay to right these wrongs.

While our country currently engages in a national dialogue around police brutality and reforms that will keep all our communities safe, it is imperative that Congress takes action to advance policies that promote economic opportunity for communities of color, enact reforms that strengthen our public education system, expand access to homeownership and put a stop to the voter suppression tactics that make it more difficult for Black and Latino Americans to vote.

No single piece of legislation can erase these injustices or our nation's complicated history surrounding race, but Congress must address these structural and societal reforms and that's why I am cosponsoring and prioritizing these bills within my Opportunity and Justice For All Agenda. I believe that the bills included in this agenda can help address many of the inequalities that permeate our culture. Whether they are present in rural communities that lack access to health care, our urban schools that are perpetually underfunded, or our tribal communities that experience extreme poverty, these injustices must be resolved. By making this country more equitable, we can build an America that is better for everyone. Thank you for taking an interest in these issues, and by working together to solve our nation's most pressing issues, we can form a more perfect union that establishes opportunity and justice for all.

Sincerely,

Congresswoman Annie Kuster
New Hampshire's Second District

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND POLICE REFORMS

***There is overwhelming evidence** of racial bias within our criminal justice system that leads to disparities in how police use force, and how people of color are sentenced in court. As America grieves for those killed by police brutality and racial injustice, we must reform and bring accountability to our public institutions to ensure public safety and equal treatment of every American. By implementing these reforms, we will take a step towards ensuring all Americans are treated equally before the law.*

H.R. 7120, Justice in Policing Act (Rep. Bass, D-CA): This landmark legislation makes significant reforms to the way we approach policing in the United States. This legislation will make it easier for communities to hold bad cops accountable by ending Qualified Immunity and lowering the threshold to bring forward criminal prosecutions of police officers who abuse their power. The bill will strengthen oversight of police departments through the Department of Justice, Office of Civil Rights. It will also empower police departments to improve from within by creating uniform best practices for officers to keep their communities safer.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. James E. Clyburn, Rep. Val Butler Demings (D-FL), Rep. Robin L. Kelly (D-IL), Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy III (D-MA), Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA), Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), Rep. Terri A. Sewell (D-AL)

H.R. 1636 Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys Act (Rep. Wilson, D-FL): This bill creates a commission to recommend policies to improve current government programs for Black men and boys. The bipartisan Commission will investigate potential civil rights violations affecting Black males and study the disparities they experience in criminal justice, education, health, employment, fatherhood, mentorship and violence.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. David N. Cicilline (D-RI), Rep. Katherine M. Clark (D-MA), Rep. Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY), Rep. Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH), Rep. Brenda L. Lawrence, (D-MI), Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA), Rep. Lori Trahan (D-MA), Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND POLICE REFORMS

H.R. 4141 The Humane Correctional Health Care Act (Rep. Kuster, D-NH):
This legislation will repeal the prohibition of Medicaid coverage for incarcerated individuals, which strips health coverage from Medicaid enrollees who are involved in the criminal justice system. This will increase the justice-involved population's access to quality coverage and care needed to help them successfully return to their communities - including treatment for mental health and substance use disorder.

- **Notable Bipartisan Cosponsors:** Rep. David McKinley (R-WV), Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA), Rep. Robin L.Kelly (D-IL), Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA), Rep. Marc A. Veasey (D-TX), Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT-At)

H.R.3496 - Community Re-Entry through Addiction Treatment to Enhance Opportunities Act (Rep. Kuster, D-NH): This legislation will create a new grant program within the Department of Justice for state and local governments to provide medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in their correctional facilities. The program will require grantees to provide more than one MAT option and to develop a plan for connecting individuals to continued treatment upon release into the community.

- **Notable Bipartisan Cosponsors:** Michael R. Turner (R-OH), Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-IN), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA), Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH), Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO), Rep. Harley Rouda (D-CA), Rep. Elise M. Stefanik (R-NY), Rep. David J. Trone (D-MD)

ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES

The COVID-19 Pandemic *is disproportionately impacting minority populations and underserved communities, highlighting health disparities that have been entrenched in our system for far too long. Today in the United States, Black Americans continue to receive less health care, and worse health care, than white Americans. Research has shown that this is in large part to social determinants of health, factors such as economic stability and income, quality neighborhoods and stable housing, transportation, and access to health care coverage, all of which contribute to disparate health outcomes in communities of color.*

While there are clear, verifiable inequities outside of our health care system that contribute to worse health outcomes for people of color, there also are the lived personal experiences of racism within our health care system. As a member of the Energy & Commerce Committee, Kuster and her colleagues have heard testimony outlining the reality of medical providers not listening and adequately addressing the needs of their Black patients.

According to the CDC, Black mothers in the U.S. die at three to four times the rate of white mothers. The tragedy of the incredibly high maternal mortality rates among Black mothers is that they are largely preventable, if not for the implicit bias and discrimination in how medical care is provided.

Policymakers can do more to address the inequities both inside and outside the delivery of health care that are driving health disparities in communities of color.

The Health Enterprise Zone Act of 2020 (Rep. Brown, D-MD): Requires the Health and Human Services Secretary to accept applications for and designate Health Enterprise Zones based on measurable and documented health disparities and areas with poor health outcomes. Once a Zone is designated, health providers will then be eligible for a variety of federal incentives to provide a range of health services in that Zone.

ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES

As a member of the Black Maternal Caucus, *Rep. Kuster has cosponsored and supported the following bills to work towards high quality care and coverage before, during, and after their pregnancy:*

H.R. 1897 Mothers and Offspring Mortality and Morbidity Awareness (MOMMA's) Act (Rep. Kelly, D-IL): will establish a national obstetric emergency protocols through a federal expert committee, ensure dissemination of best shared practices and coordination amongst maternal mortality review committees, standardizing data collection and reporting,improve access to culturally competent care throughout the care continuum, and expand Medicaid coverage to new mom's entire post-partum period (1 year).

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-CA), Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-OH), Rep. Ami Bera (D -CA), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. Anthony G. Brown (D-MD), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), Rep. Lucy McBath (D-GA), Rep. A. Donald McEachin (D-VA), Rep. James P. McGovern (D-MA), Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME)

H.R. 4995 the Maternal Health Quality Improvement Act of 2019 (Rep. Kelly, D-IL): Creates new programs to strengthen maternal health quality and access to care in rural areas, programs to address racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes, and grants to implement best practices in maternal health care and strengthen training programs.

- **Notable Bipartisan Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Alma S. Adams (D-NC), Rep. Larry Bucshon (R-IN), Rep. Michael C.Burgess (R-TX), Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN-7), Rep. Sean Casten (D-IL), Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN), Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ), Rep. Janice D. Schakowsky (D-IL)

ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES

H.R.6141 - Protecting Moms Who Served Act (Rep. Underwood, D-IL): Commissions a comprehensive study of the unique maternal health risks facing women veterans and invests in VA maternity care coordination.

- **Notable Bipartisan Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL), Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon (D-PA), Rep. Terri A. Sewell (D-AL)

HR 6142 – Black Maternal Momnibus (Rep. Underwood, D-IL): Is composed of nine individual bills sponsored by Black Maternal Health Caucus Members. The legislation will make critical investments in social determinants of health that influence maternal health outcomes, like housing, transportation, and nutrition, provide funding to community-based organizations that are working to improve maternal health outcomes for Black women. This legislation will also grow and diversify the perinatal workforce to ensure that every mom in America receives maternity care and support.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Debra A. Haaland (D-NM), Rep. Alcee L. Hastings (D-FL), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Rep. Cedric L. Richmond (D-LA), Rep. Donna E. Shalala (D-FL), Rep. Darren Soto (D-FL), Rep. Abigail Davis Spanberger (D-VA), Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ)

H.R. 7104 Coronavirus Vaccine Development Act (Rep. Kuster, D-NH): This bill will require the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to, as appropriate, award contracts and grants to expand and enhance manufacturing capacity for COVID-19 vaccines. It also requires the Administration to provide a report assessing the current and future vaccine supply chain and manufacturing capacity, and what activities have been, or will be undertaken to be prepared for when a COVID-19 vaccine is approved so there is equitable access to a vaccine.

- **Notable Cosponsor:** Rep. Hakeem S. Jeffries (D-NY)

Anti-Lunch Shaming Act (Haaland, D-NM), which prohibits schools from meal shaming children who can't afford to buy lunch. The bill also requires all communications about meal payment to be made directly to a student's parents or guardians. Legislation also expresses the sense of Congress that additional steps should be taken to make it easier for needy children to receive lunches and for parents to pay their bills.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. Danny K. Davis (D-IL), Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro (D-CT), Rep. Suzan K. DelBene (D-WA), Rep. Kathleen M. Rice (D-NY), Rep. Bobby L. Rush (D-IL), Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT)

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR ALL AMERICANS

If economic conditions do not change, *it will take Black families 228 years to amass the wealth white families have today. This fundamental inequality demands immediate action. Congress must enact policies to help all Americans -- but especially communities of color -- build wealth.*

Owning a home is viewed as an indicator of economic success and independence in the United States. To help Americans achieve this status, the federal government has set up programs to make it easier for some Americans to buy homes. Unfortunately, discriminatory practices, like red lining, made it virtually impossible for Black and brown Americans to experience the benefits of home ownership. Congress must reverse course and support policies to make quality housing available to all Americans.

The federal government can also do more to ensure that workers receive a fair wage for their work. For every dollar a man earned in 2020, women only earned 80 cents. When race is taken into account, this pay gap grows larger, with Black Americans earning less 75 cents for every dollar earned by whites. If Black Americans are unable to earn as much as their white peers due to discrimination in the workplace, the wealth gap will persist. Enacting economic change is difficult, but it must be done.

All communities will benefit if people of color are able to build wealth. With greater resources at their disposal, people of color will be better positioned to leverage their experiences and perspectives into entrepreneurial actives that help all Americans. A rising tide lifts all ships, and I vehemently believe that when communities of color succeed, we all succeed.

H.R. 6699, Opportunities for Heroes Act (Rep. Kuster, D-NH): Essential workers are the heroes of the COVID-19 crisis. These brave Americans have put their lives on the lines to keep our society functioning through this challenging crisis. This legislation will recognize the important work done by these workers by providing $25,000 in either education credits or student loan debt relief to essential workers and their family members

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-OH), Rep. Tony Cardenas (D-CA), Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN), Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL), Rep. David N. Cicilline (D-RI), Rep. Katherine M. Clark (D-MA), Rep. Brian K. Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH), Rep. Terri A. Sewell (D-AL), Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL)

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR ALL AMERICANS

PASSED HOUSE - H.R. 7, Paycheck Fairness Act (Rep. DeLauro, D-CT): Achieving paycheck parity is the first step to reducing wealth inequality. All Americans should be paid the same wage for the same work. This bill requires employers to prove that pay disparities exist for legitimate, job-related reasons. In doing so, it ensures that employers who try to justify paying a man more than a woman for the same job must show the disparity is not sex-based, but job-related and necessary. It bans retaliation against workers who discuss their wages. It removes obstacles in the Equal Pay Act to facilitate a wronged worker's participation in class action lawsuits that challenge systemic pay discrimination. It improves DOL's tools for enforcing the Equal Pay Act.

- **Notable Bipartisan Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), Rep. David N. Cicilline (D-RI), Rep. Katherine M. Clark (D-MA), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Rep. James A. Himes (D-CT), Rep. Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Rep. Steven Horsford (D-NV), Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Rep. Hakeem S. Jeffries (D-NY), Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Rep. Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr. (D-GA), Rep. Marc A. Veasey (D-TX), Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA), Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT), Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL)

H.R. 5599, Fulfilling the Promise of the Housing Trust Fund Act (Rep. Heck, D-WA): The Housing Trust Fund is an effective program for preserving and developing new low and very-low income housing for all Americans. Unfortunately, this program has been dramatically underfunded. This legislation will increase the construction of affordable housing by significantly expanding the National Housing Trust Fund by providing billions of dollars in annual funding for this important program.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay (D-MO), Rep. Bill Foster (D-IL), Rep. Jesus G. Garcia (D-IL), Rep. Al Lawson Jr. (D-FL), Rep. Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA), Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY) Rep. Stephanie N. Murphy (D-FL), Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO), Rep. Scott H. Peters (D-CA), Rep. Adam B. Schiff (D-CA), Rep. David Scott (D-GA), Rep. Norma J. Torres (D-CA)

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR ALL AMERICANS

H.R. 7302, The Accessible, Affordable Internet for All Act (Clyburn, D-SC) This legislation will allocate $80 billion in funding to deploy high-speed broadband to rural and urban communities that are currently underserved or unserved with access to internet. In our modern economy, it is imperative that all communities have equal access to broadband but too many families are being left behind, creating an uneven playing field that disadvantages rural communities and communities of color.

H. Con. Res. 100, Urging the establishment of a United States Commission on Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation (Rep. Lee, D-CA): This bill establish a commission that will examine the effects of slavery and racism against people of color, on American history, and its impact on laws and policies we have today, including the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This concept is similar to what some communities have successfully done on a local level.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Alma S. Adams (D-NC), Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA), Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-OH), Rep. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (D-GA), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. Anthony G. Brown (D-MD), Rep. David N, Cicilline (D-RI), Rep. Katherine M. Clark (D-MA), Rep. Wm Lacy Clay (D-MO), Rep. Sharice Davids (D-KS), Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro (D-CT), Rep. Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Rep. Shelia Jackson Lee (D-TX), Rep. William R. Keating (D-MA), Rep. Robin L. Kelly (D-IL), Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy III (D-MA), Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), Rep. James P. McGovern (D-MA), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Richard E. Neal (D-MA), Rep. Joe Neguse (D-CO), Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME), Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Rep. Cedric Richmond (D-LA), Rep. Bobby L. Rush (D-IL), Rep. Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT).

PASSED House – H.R. 6, American Dream and Promise Act (Rep. Roybal Allard, D-CA): This legislation will create a pathway to citizenship for DREAMERS who were brought to the United States as children. It permits them to earn full citizenship status through a variety of means. DREAMERS could achieve full legal status by completing two years of service in the military, attaining a bachelor's degree or 2 years at a community college, or 3 years of full employment.

- **232 House Democratic cosponsors**

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

Climate change *and environmental pollution impact all Americans, but it is painfully clear that communities of color are hit especially hard and suffer the corresponding health effects. The Environmental Protection Agency's National Center for Environmental Assessment released a study in 2018 that affirmed people of color, especially those in poverty, are statistically much more likely than their white counterparts to live near sites and projects that generate air pollution. The situation will only become more dire as the Trump Administration continues its reckless policy of supporting polluters and relaxing environmental regulations. As Congress works to encourage growth in the clean energy sector, it is important to note that this industry only fairs slightly better in employment diversity than oil and gas companies. It is important for all Americans, regardless of color, to be fully included in our clean energy future.*

H.R. 1315, the Blue Collar to Green Collar Jobs Development Act (Rep. Rush, D-IL): This bill will address minority workforce shortages in the clean energy field by expanding the Department of Energy's Office of Minority Economic Impact to improve the education and training of underrepresented groups for employment in energy-related industries, including manufacturing, engineering, construction and retrofitting jobs.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. G. K. Butterfield (D-NC), Rep. John B. Larson (D-CT), Rep. A. Donald McEachin (D-VA)

H.R. 4007, the FRESHER ACT (Rep. Matt Cartwright, D-PA): This bill closes the loophole for oil and gas companies in the Clean Water Act and creates a study to better understand the effect of stormwater runoff from oil and gas operations, which are often located near communities with large minority populations.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-CA), Rep. Nanette Diaz Barragan (D-CA), Rep. Donald S. Beyer Jr. (D-VA), Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Rep. Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA), Rep. Joe Neguse (D-CO), Rep. Adam B. Schiff (D-CA), Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT), Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA)

H.R. 7024, the Climate Smart Ports Act (Rep. Barragan, D-CA): This bill will create a $1 billion-a-year zero-emissions ports infrastructure program to help with projects like replacing diesel-burning cargo handling equipment, and developing clean energy microgrids onsite at the ports to power their facilities. This will help in reducing pollution for nearby port communities, which often are home to low-income families.

- **Notable cosponsors**: Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY), Rep. Raul M. Grijalva (D-AZ), Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-FL), Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy III (D-MA), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA), Rep. Mike Levin (D-CA), Rep. Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA), Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME), Rep. Cedric Richmond (D-LA), Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI), Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AMERICANS

Formal school segregation *ended in the United States more than 50 years ago, yet our education system is still mired with deep inequalities. A study by EdBuild found that, "nonwhite [school] districts receive about $2,200 less per student than districts that are predominantly white." Due in part to having fewer resources to learn, children of color perform worse on standardized testing than their white peers. Congress cannot fix this problem on its own, but it is our responsibility to provide more funding for education. If our students and educators have the resources they need, children will learn and our society will reap the benefits.*

Keep Our Promise to America's Children and Teachers (PACT) Act (Lee, D-NV): Title I, which gives assistance to America's highest need schools, is a critical tool to ensure that every child, no matter the zip code, has access to a quality education. However, it has been deeply underfunded, shortchanging our most vulnerable students living in poverty. According to the Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools (AROS), the Title I formula was underfunded by $347 billion from 2005-2017. IDEA calls on the federal government to fund 40 percent of the average per pupil expenditure for special education, but Congress has never fully funded the law. Currently, IDEA state grants are funded at just 14.7 percent. From 2005-2017, IDEA was underfunded by $233 billion. Rep. Lee's legislation creates a mandatory glidepath to fully fund Title I and IDEA.

- **Notable Bipartisan Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Brian K. Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Rep. Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH), Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-AZ), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Rep. James A. Himes (D-CT), Rep. Elaine G. Luria (D-VA), Rep.Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY), Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ), Rep. Rep. Nydia M. Velazquez (D-NY-7)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AMERICANS

Rebuild America's Schools Act (Scott, D-VA): Children cannot learn if they do not have safe physical spaces in which to receive an education. As the heating crisis in Baltimore last winter showed, many school buildings are simply to old or broken to be conducive to a proper education. Rep. Scott's legislation will provided $100 billion in funding to rebuild schools and expand internet services to underserved communities.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. Anthony G. Brown (D-MD)], Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN), Rep. David N. Cicilline (D-RI), Rep. Katherine M. Clark (D-MA), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA), Rep. Joe Neguse (D-CO), Rep. Cedric L. Richmond (D-LA), Rep. Bobby L. Rush (D-IL), Rep. Terri A. Sewell (D-AL)

Get Lead Out of Schools Act (Rep. Lawrence, D-MI): Parents have the right to expect that their children are safe at school. Yet in many school districts, doing something as simple as drinking the water may be dangerous for children. The Government Accountability Office found that 57% of US school districts do not test their water supplies or do not know if their water has lead. Rep. Lawrence's legislation requires the EPA to establish a lead contamination testing program for all schools and creates a grant program to help school districts conduct lead testing and address results.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-IL), Rep. G. K. Butterfield (D-NC), Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN), Rep. Robin L. Kelly (D-IL), Rep. Daniel T. Kildee (D-MI), Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME), Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI), Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Rep. Abigail Spanberger (D-VA)

End Corporal Punishment in Schools Act (Rep. Hastings, D-FL): Children in schools cannot learn if they fear going into the classroom. It is long past time we put an end to the barbaric process of using physical violence to control children. Rep. Hasting's legislation would prohibit the Department of Education from providing funding to schools that allow corporal punishment, which is still allowed in 19 states.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Steve Cohen (D-TN), Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA), Rep. Sylvia R. Garcia (D-TX), Rep. Raul M. Grijalva (D-AZ), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA), Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME), Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH), Rep. Darren Soto (D-FL), Rep. Abigail Davis Spanberger (D-VA), Rep. Jennifer Wexton (D-VA), Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL-24)

SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

In countless ways, *American Indian and Alaska Native communities are still reeling from centuries of forced relocation, subjugation, and genocide. Poverty, lack of health care, and poor education are all-too-common realities on reservations. These conditions are exacerbated by a horrific trend in crimes, including devastatingly large numbers of native women who have been sexually assaulted, murdered, or gone missing -- usually at the hands of non-native perpetrators. An important first step to addressing this national tragedy is empowering tribal courts with the authority to hold non-native perpetrators accountable for these crimes, and to ensure that survivors and their families are protected to the fullest extent of the law.*

H.R. 3977, the Justice for Native Survivors of Sexual Violence Act (Rep. Haaland, D-NM): This allows tribal prosecution of sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking against non-Tribal member offenders; and ensures all perpetrators who commit these additional crimes can be prosecuted in tribal courts (currently this can only be done in cases of domestic violence, dating violence, and protection order violations).

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA), Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), Rep. Paul Cook (R-CA), Rep. Sharice Davids (D-KS), Rep. Brian K. Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-AZ), Rep. Josh Harder (D-CA), Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA), Rep. Daniel T. Kildee (D-MI), Rep. Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ), Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI)

H.R. 1351, the Native Youth and Tribal Officer Protection Act (Rep. O'Halleran, D-AZ): This legislation extends protections to children and law enforcement officers involved in domestic violence incidents on Tribal lands, in addition to the survivors themselves—who are already protected. Currently, tribes can prosecute and convict non-Indian perpetrators of protection order violations, domestic violence, and dating violence against survivors-- but not against their children nor police officers who respond to the call.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-CA), Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-AZ), Rep. Debra A. Haaland (D-NM), Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-WA), Rep. Daniel T. Kildee (D-MI), Rep. Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI), Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV), Rep. Don Young (R-AK)

SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

H.R. 1694, the Native American Voting Rights Act (Rep. Lujan, D-NM): This bill establishes a first-of-its-kind Native American Voting Rights Task Force, which would authorize funding for tribal-state consortiums to bolster Native voter registration, education and election participation efforts in tribal communities, increases Native access to voter registration sites and polling locations, and ensures equal treatment for tribal ID cards for voting purposes.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. James A. Himes (D-CT), Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), Rep. Hakeem S. Jeffries (D-NY), Rep. Robin L. Kelly (D-IL), Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA), Rep. Brenda L. Lawrence (D-MI), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA), Rep. Gregory W. Meeks (D-NY), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Richard E. Neal (D-MA), Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN), Rep. Scott H. Peters (D-CA, Rep. Terri A. Sewell (D-AL)

PROTECTING FAIR ELECTIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS TO THE POLLS

The right to vote i*s foundational to American democracy. The 14th,15th, and 19th Amendments, along with the Voting Rights Act were supposed to protect that right for all Americans. However, in the wake of Shelby County v. Holder that gutted the voting rights act, states with a history of racially-based voter suppression have been empowered to implement discriminatory policies that prevent and discourage people of color from participating in the democratic process. Even with the Voting Rights Act in place, millions of Americans are unable to cast ballots. More than 6 million US citizens are unable to vote because of a felony conviction. These Americans have paid their debt to society and deserve the right to vote. Another 3.4 million Americans do not enjoy full representation in our government because they live in Washington, D.C. or the American Territories. These Americans pay taxes and serve in the Armed Forces, but their voices are not adequately represented in the halls of power.*

PASSED HOUSE - H.R. 4, The Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019 (Rep. Sewell, D-AL): The Voting Rights Act required areas with a history of race-based voting descrimination to have any changes to their voting laws "pre cleared" by the Department of Justice. In the misguided Shelby County v. Holder decision, the Supreme Court gutted this important framework for protecting the rights of millions of Americans. H.R. 4, which passed the House in December of 2019 and awaits consideration in the Senate, would re-establish a pre-clearance regime in states and localities with a history of discriminatory election laws to ensure voting rights are not infringed.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Colin Z. Allred (D-TX), Rep. James E. Clyburn (D-SC), Rep. Val Butler Demings (D-FL), Rep. Dwight Evans (D-PA), Rep. Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH), Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy III (D-MA), Rep. John B. Larson (D-CT), Rep. Lucy McBath (D-GA), Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL)

PROTECTING FAIR ELECTIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS TO THE POLLS

PASSED HOUSE - H.R.1, For the People Act of 2019 (Rep. Sarbanes, D-MD): This legislation addresses voting rights, election security, campaign finance and ethics reforms. For voting rights, it expands voter registration and makes election day a federal holiday. For election security, it has provisions to help improve information sharing between election officials and have states secure their election systems. Among other reforms, it would also require the President and Vice President to submit 10 years of tax returns.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. James E. Clyburn (D-SC), Rep. Hakeem S. Jeffries (D-NY), Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA), Rep. Kathleen M. Rice (D-NY), Rep. Marc A. Veasey (D-TX)

Native American Voting Rights Act (Rep. Lujan, D-NM): This bill establishes a first-of-its-kind Native American Voting Rights Task Force, which would authorize funding for tribal-state consortiums to bolster Native voter registration, education and election participation efforts in tribal communities, increases Native access to voter registration sites and polling locations, ensures equal treatment for tribal ID cards for voting purposes, addresses the devastating effects of Shelby County v. Holder by restoring tribal "preclearance," thereby prohibiting states from undertaking discriminatory actions without Department of Justice (DOJ) agreement, emphasizes the importance of government-to-government consultation by requiring DOJ to conduct annual voting consultation with Indian Tribes, requires adequate language assistance, and provides tribal leaders a direct pathway to request federal election observers.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-CA), Rep. Colin Z. Allred (D-TX), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Rep. G. K. Butterfield (D-NC), Rep. David N. Cicilline (D-RI), Rep. Katherine M. Clark (D-MA), Rep. Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY), Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay (D-MO), Rep. James E. Clyburn (D-SC), Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT), Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA), Rep. Brenda L. Lawrence (D-MI), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)

PASSED HOUSE, H.R.51, Washington, D.C. Admission Act (Rep. Holmes-Norton, D-D.C.): The more than 700,000 Americans who live in Washington, D.C. deserve full representation in Congress. The Washington, D.C. Admission Act would achieve this goal by admitting the District of Columbia as the 51st state in the union.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Antonio Delgado (D-NY), Rep. Val Butler Demings (D-FL), Rep. Dwight Evans (D-PA), Rep. Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH), Rep. Al Green (D-TX), Rep. Alcee L. Hastings (D-FL), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Rep. James A. Himes (D-CT), Rep. Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA), Rep. Richard E. Neal (D-MA), Rep. Joe Neguse (D-CO), Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN), Rep. Donald M. Payne Jr. (D-NJ), Rep. Scott H. Peters (D-CA), Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME), Rep. Stacey E. Plaskett (D-VI)

H.R. 7232, National Juneteenth Independence Day Act (Rep. Jackson Lee, D-TX): On June 19, 1865 General Gordon Granger landed in Galveston, TX and shared news of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. Texas was the most remote state in the Confederacy, so many enslaved men and women did not realize they had been set free. This moment is widely considered to be the end of slavery in the confederacy and this legislation honors that moment by declaring June 19 a federal holiday.

- **Notable Cosponsors:** Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH), Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Rep. Colin Allred (D-TX), Rep. Al Green (D-TX), Rep. Dwight Evans (D-PA), Rep. Joyce Beatty (D-TX), Rep. Pete Olson (R-TX), Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL)

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CBC.HOUSE.GOV

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS LEGISLATION CONTINUES TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.