COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & LABOR

CONGRESS IN REVIEW

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Throughout the 117th Congress, the House Education and Labor Committee has advanced legislation that meets the needs of students, families, workers, and our economy.

**BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW**

- **American Rescue Plan Act (H.R. 1319)**
  Secured urgent relief for students, schools, and child care providers protected the health of families and communities, and supported America's workers and retirees.

  Repealed a Trump-era rule that undermined civil rights enforcement.

- **Consider Teachers Act (S. 848)**
  Fixed a broken system that improperly burdened teachers with loans.

- **Access to Baby Formula Act (H.R. 7791)**
  Allows families in-need to use their WIC benefits to purchase any safe and available infant formula product that is on the shelves.

- **Keep Kids Fed Act (S. 2089)**
  Provides children with healthy meals over the summer and ensures schools and daycares can respond to supply chain challenges and high food costs for the coming school year.

**BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE**

- **National Apprenticeship Act (H.R. 447)**
  Creates nearly one million new Registered Apprenticeship, youth apprenticeship, and pre-apprenticeship positions to help Americans workers access in-demand jobs across a wide range of industries.

- **Stronger Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (H.R. 485)**
  Addresses the recent rise in child abuse and neglect by funding networks of prevention services designed to strengthen families and improve the quality of child protective services.

- **Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R. 7)**
  Addresses pay inequity by holding companies accountable for gender-based wage disparities, strengthening the Equal Pay Act of 1963, and protecting the rights of workers to challenge systemic pay discrimination.
Committee on Education and Labor’s 117th Congress

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE

Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act (H.R. 2474)
Protects workers’ right to organize and bargain for higher pay, better benefits, and safer working conditions.

Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (H.R. 2694)
Establishes a pregnant worker’s clear-cut right to reasonable accommodations, provided they do not impose an undue burden on their employer.

Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act (H.R. 1230)
Restores legal protections for older workers so they can hold employers accountable for age discrimination.

Protect Older Job Applicants Act (H.R. 3992)
Clarifies that older job applicants are protected from age discrimination under federal law.

Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 1195)
Provides health and social service workers the workplace protections they deserve.

Family Violence Prevention Services Improvement Act (H.R. 2119)
Enhances and refocuses federal investment to prevent intimate partner violence and support survivors.

Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers (H.R. 3110)
Expands and strengthens workplace protections for nursing mothers so they have the time and privacy to pump at work.

Build Back Better Act (H.R. 5376)
Lowers costs for nearly every family, creates millions of good-paying jobs, and sets a strong foundation for America’s future.

Securing a Strong Retirement Act (H.R. 2954)*
Makes bipartisan and commonsense improvements to ensure that the retirement system better serves workers, retirees, and employers.

Federal Firefighters Fairness Act of 2022 (H.R. 2499)
Improves access to injury and illness benefits for federal firefighters.

Community Services Block Grant Modernization Act of 2022 (H.R. 5129)
Strengthen the Community Services Block Grant program to help local organizations reduce poverty in their communities.

*Incorporates the Committee’s Retirement Improvement and Savings Enhancement Act (H.R. 5891)
Committee on Education and Labor’s 117th Congress

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

[✓] BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE

Improving Access to Workers’ Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (H.R. 6087)
Expands federal employees’ access to workers’ compensation by restoring their choice of medical provider.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2022 (H.R. 7309)
Invests in workforce development system to meet the needs of workers and businesses, fill job openings with qualified workers, reduce supply chain shortage, and lower costs for families.

The Enhancing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention through Campus Planning Act (H.R. 5407)
Directs the Department of Education to encourage colleges and universities to develop and implement comprehensive campus mental health programs.

The Campus Prevention and Recovery Services for Students Act of 2022 (H.R. 6493)
Supports institutions in developing evidence-based prevention and recovery programs that are aimed to prevent alcohol and substance misuse.

[✓] ADDITIONAL BILLS ADVANCED OUT OF COMMITTEE

Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act (H.R. 2574)
Restores the right of students and parents to hold schools accountable for discrimination in education.

Strength in Diversity Act (H.R. 2639)
Supports districts in developing, implementing, or expanding voluntary initiatives to increase diversity in schools.

The Black Lung Benefits Improvement Act of 2022 (H.R. 6102)
Helps disabled miners overcome barriers to the compensation and benefits for black lung disease that they are entitled to receive.

The School Shooting and Safety Preparedness Act (H.R. 5428)
Lays the groundwork necessary to provide uniform data to the public and policymakers, allowing them to better measure the impact of policy solutions on the state and federal level.

The Longshore and Harbor Workers’ COVID-19 Compensation Act of 2022 (H.R. 3114)
Makes it easier for maritime workers who were diagnosed with COVID-19 to access the workers’ compensation they deserve.

The Reopen and Rebuild America’s Schools Act (H.R. 604)
Invests in high-poverty schools with facilities that pose health and safety risks to students and staff, creates over 2 million construction jobs, and expands access to high-speed broadband.
ADDITIONAL BILLS ADVANCED THROUGH COMMITTEE

The Protecting America’s Retirement Security Act (H.R. 7310)
Makes commonsense improvements to the retirement system to protect workers’ retirement savings and support families and employers.

The Reopen and Rebuild America’s Schools Act (H.R. 604)
Invests in high-poverty schools with facilities that pose health and safety risks to students and staff, creates over 2 million construction jobs, and expands access to high-speed broadband.

The Wage Theft Prevention and Wage Recovery Act (H.R. 7701)
Ensures a workers’ right to be paid all legally owed wages and holds unscrupulous employers accountable for violating the FLSA.

The Mental Health Matters Act (H.R. 7780)
Takes wide-ranging steps to support the behavioral health of children and school staff, strengthen school-based behavioral health care, and ensure access to mental health and substance use disorder benefits for workers and families.

Committee on Education and Labor’s 117th Congress

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Rep. Wild (PA-07) leads House Passage of the Enhancing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention through Campus Planning Act

Rep. Manning (NC-06) speaks in support of Securing a Strong Retirement Act

Rep. Hayes (CT-05) leads House passage of the Access to Baby Formula Act

Chairman Scott (VA-03) helps lead House passage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
The American people needed and deserved a coordinated, fully funded, government response to keep them and their loved ones safe from the coronavirus pandemic.

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act into law. The Committee’s portion of the bill included:

- The largest one-time federal investment in K-12 education in history to help schools reopen safely, stay open safely, and make up for lost time in the classroom
- Relief funding to help struggling institutions of higher education and prevent hunger, homelessness, and other hardships
- A significant investment to rescue the child care system from the brink of collapse
- Fully subsidized health care coverage for workers and families who lost their jobs
- Expanded child nutrition programs to address the tragic pandemic-fueled surge in child hunger
- Emergency funding for vital programs that prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect, support survivors of domestic violence, and help address the needs of older Americans
- Delivered a solution to the multiemployer pension crisis that protected workers, retirees, businesses and communities
On November 19, 2021, House Democrats passed the Build Back Better Act. The investments in the Committee on Education and Labor's portion of the proposal will confront the challenges facing families across the country.

**Lower the Cost of Child Care**  
Makes a historic investment to lower the cost of child care for working families, expand the availability of high-quality child care, and raise wages for child care workers.

**Secure Universal Preschool for 3- and 4-Year-Olds**  
Provides free, universal preschool for three- and four-year olds, which will help prepare as many as 6 million children for happier, healthier, and more productive lives.

**Lower the Cost of Prescription Drugs**  
Allows the government to negotiate prescription drug prices in Medicare and protects workers and businesses from price-gouging.

**Secure Good-Paying Jobs**  
Invests $20 billion in proven job-training programs, like Registered Apprenticeships, to help workers secure good-paying jobs.

**Strengthen Penalties for Labor Violations**  
Protects workers from workplace safety, wage and hour, and labor law violations by strengthening enforcement and increasing penalties for companies that break the law.

**Help to Prevent Child Hunger**  
Allows nearly 9 million more children to receive free school meals by expanding eligibility, eliminating paperwork, and helping more children get healthy meals over the summer.

**Lower the Cost of Higher Education**  
Increases the value of Pell Grants and invests in Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions.
The success and competitiveness of the American economy depends on the strength of our nation’s workforce. The America COMPETES Act will connect our nation’s students and workers with the skills they need to succeed in high-tech industries while keeping our economy competitive in the years ahead.

On February 4, 2022, the House passed the America COMPETES Act. The Committee’s portion will:

- Support American workers and provide employers a new pipeline of talent by creating nearly 1 million additional apprenticeship opportunities over the next 5 years.

- Invest in connecting K-12 students with high-quality STEM education to help prepare the next generation for success.

- Target funding to develop job training programs at HBCUs, TCUs, and MSIs.

- Prepare students for a global economy by expanding foreign language and area studies programs.
In the 117th Congress, the Committee on Education and Labor has held **50 HEARINGS** examining important issues, such as:

- **Full Committee**
  - Chairman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
  - Building Back Better from the pandemic
  - Strengthening oversight of for-profit colleges
  - Highlighting the Biden agenda for students, workers, and families

- **Civil Rights & Human Services**
  - Chair Suzanne Bonamici
  - Preventing domestic violence and supporting survivors
  - Protecting workers' civil rights
  - Ending child hunger through proven programs

- **Workforce Protections**
  - Chairwoman Alma Adams
  - Protecting workers from COVID-19
  - Confronting workplace discrimination
  - Supporting injured workers and their families

- **Higher Education & Workforce Investment**
  - Chairwoman Frederica Wilson
  - Increasing enrollment of Pell students at public institutions
  - Helping workers secure good-paying jobs
  - Highlighting the important role of HBCUs, HSIs, and MSIs

- **Early Childhood, Elementary & Secondary Education**
  - Chairman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
  - Reopening schools safely and making up for lost classroom time
  - Distribution of COVID-19 funds
  - Supporting underserved students

- **Health, Employment, Labor & Pensions**
  - Chairman Mark DeSaulnier
  - Expanding access to mental health care
  - Lowering prescription drug costs
  - Helping workers save for a secure retirement
Committee on Education and Labor's

OVERSIGHT HIGHLIGHTS

Since the beginning of this Congress, the Committee has continued to conduct rigorous oversight on behalf of students, families, and workers.

Protecting workers from COVID-19:
Chairman Scott and Workplace Protections Subcommittee Chairwoman Adams consistently pushed the administration to adopt an enforceable emergency workplace safety standard to protect workers and their families from COVID-19.

Protecting Americans’ civil rights:
After repeated advocacy from Chairman Scott and other Committee Members, the Biden Administration reversed a Trump-era policy that gave taxpayer-funded organizations broad authority to engage in discrimination under the guise of religious liberty.

Protecting students and taxpayers from predatory for-profit colleges:
The Committee has advocated for the Administration to crackdown on for-profit colleges that defraud students and taxpayers. This includes holding for-profit executives personally liable for fraud and preventing for-profits from transitioning to non-profits in order to evade oversight.

Examining Agency Priorities and Policies:
The Committee held hearings with Administration officials to discuss their priorities and ensure they are fulfilling the Administration's duty to improve the lives of students, workers, and families.

Top left: Xavier Becerra, Secretary of Health and Human Services
Top right: Miguel Cardona, Secretary of Education
Bottom left: Marty Walsh, Secretary of Labor
Bottom right: Doug Parker, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Health and Safety