COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & LABOR

117 CONGRESS IN REVIEW

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Committee on Education and Labor's 117th Congress

HIGHLIGHTS

16
Bills signed by President Biden

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25
Bills advanced through Committee

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EDUCATION

- ★ Delivered the largest one-time investment in K-12 education to help schools reopen school safely and make up for lost time in the classroom.
- ★ Rescued the child care system from collapse by securing urgent relief for child care providers and families.
- ★ Provided relief to struggling institutions of higher education and their students to prevent hunger, homelessness, and other hardships.

LABOR

- ★ Created the most jobs in U.S. history and brought the unemployment rate to record lows.
- ★ Saved more than 1 million retirees' pensions and rescued tens of thousands of businesses.
- ★ Passed the most signifcant upgrade to America's labor laws in more than 80 years.

HEALTH

- ★ Brought the number of uninsured Americans to the lowest level in U.S. history.
- ★ Invested in child nutrition programs, helped families put food on the table, and reduced food insecurity for millions of children.
- ★ Capped the cost of insulin at $35 per month for Medicare recipients.

Chairman Bobby Scott (VA-03)

Vice Chair Jamaal Bowman (NY-16)

Committee on Education and Labor's 117th Congress

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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, and protected the health of families and communities. This included the largest, one-time federal investment in K-12 education in U.S. history and a solution to the multiemployer pension crisis.

Congressional Review Act Resolution of Disapproval of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's Conciliation Rule (S.J. Res 13) Repealed a Trump-era rule that undermined civil rights enforcement.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)
Provided flexibility to allow families to use their WIC benefits to purchase safe and available infant formula products in response to the infant formula shortage.

Keep Kids Fed Act (S. 2089)
Provided children with healthy meals over the summer and ensured that schools and daycares can respond to supply chain challenges and high food costs during the school year.

Inflation Reduction Act (H.R. 5376)
Lowered the cost of health care, prescription drugs, and energy for millions of American families. (Reported out of Committee as Build Back Better Act)

Joint Consolidation Loan Separation Act (S. 1098)
Allowed borrowers with uncommunicative or abusive spouses or former spouses to escape a financial connection by severing joint consolidation federal loans into two separate federal direct loans.

Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act (S. 3157)
Commissions a study to help the Department of Labor better assist refugees and immigrants in finding a rewarding career.

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. (Passed as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023)

Committee on Education and Labor's 117th Congress

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

continued:

BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW

Federal Firefighters Fairness Act of 2022 (H.R. 2499)
Improves access to injury and illness benefits for federal firefighters. (Passed as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023)

21st Century Assistive Technology Act (H.R. 9028)
Provides grants for statewide programs that help disabled people access assistive technology. (Passed as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023)

Food Donation Improvement Act of 2021 (H.R. 6251)
Expands liability protections to encourage food donations.

Native American Languages Resource Center Act (S. 989)
Creates a national Native American Language Resource Center to protect and promote Native American languages.

Durbin Feelings Native American Languages Act of 2021 (S. 1402)
Directs the president to review federal agencies' compliance with the Native American Language Act requirements and makes recommendations to improve interagency coordination in support of Native American languages.

Retirement Improvement and Savings Enhancement (RISE) Act (H.R. 5891)
Makes bipartisan, commonsense improvements to ensure that the retirement system better serves workers, retirees, and employers. (Passed as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023)

Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (H.R. 1065)
Establishes a pregnant worker's clear-cut right to reasonable workplace accommodations, provided they do not impose an undue burden on their employer. (Passed as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023)

BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE (AND NOT BY THE SENATE!)

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

Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act (H.R. 842)
Protects workers' right to organize and bargain for higher pay, better benefits, and safer working conditions.

Committee on Education and Labor's 117th Congress

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

continued:

BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE (AND NOT BY THE SENATE!)

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.

Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act (H.R. 2062)
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.

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

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.

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.

Enhancing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention through Campus Planning Act (H.R. 5407)
Requires the U.S. Department of Education to encourage institutions of higher education to develop and implement comprehensive campus mental health and suicide prevention plans.
Campus Prevention and Recovery Services for Students Act of 2022 (H.R. 6493)
Updates and improves efforts to prevent substance misuse on campuses.

Susan Muffley Act of 2022 (H.R. 6929)
Fully restores Delphi pension plan benefits for thousands of retirees.

Helen Keller National Center Reauthorization Act (H.R. 1433)
Supports the Helen Keller National Center—the only comprehensive national program that provides information, referrals, support, and training exclusively to Americans who have combined vision and hearing loss.

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

continued:

BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSE (AND NOT BY THE SENATE!)

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.

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

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

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.

Condemning threats of violence against HBCUs and reaffirming support for HBCUs and their students (H. Con. Res. 70)
Condemns violence and threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and reaffirms the federal government's commitment to combating violence against HBCU students, faculty, and staff.

ADDITIONAL BILLS ADVANCED OUT OF COMMITTEE

Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act (H.R. 730)
Restores the right of students and parents to hold schools accountable for discrimination in education.

Strength in Diversity Act (H.R. 729)
Supports school districts in developing, implementing, or expanding voluntary initiatives to increase diversity in schools.

Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act (H.R. 8450)
Helps address and prevent child hunger by delivering a comprehensive, science-driven reauthorization of federal child nutrition programs that meets the needs of children and families.

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.

Committee on Education and Labor's 117th Congress

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

continued:

ADDITIONAL BILLS ADVANCED OUT OF COMMITTEE

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.

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.

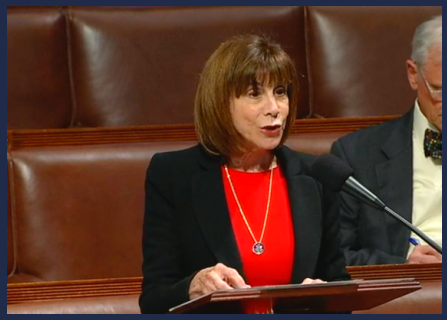
Wage Theft Prevention and Wage Recovery Act (H.R. 7701)
Ensures a worker's right to be paid all legally owed wages and holds unscrupulous employers accountable for violating the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Asuncion Valdivia Heat Illness and Fatality Prevention Act of 2022 (H.R. 2193)
Helps protect indoor and outdoor workers against occupational exposure to excessive heat by requiring employers to provide paid breaks in cool spaces, access to water, limitations on time exposed to heat, and other life-saving measures.

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

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.

Rep. Sherrill (NJ-11)



Rep. Manning (NC-06)

Rep. Jones (NY-17)

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

AMERICANS NEEDED URGENT RELIEF DURING THE PANDEMIC. DEMOCRATS DELIVERED.

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:

- Delivered 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
- Helped struggling institutions of higher education and prevented hunger, homelessness, and other hardships for students
- Rescued the child care system from the brink of collapse
- Fully subsidized health care coverage for workers and families who lost their jobs
- Provided funding for OSHA to better protect health care workers exposed to COVID-19
- Expanded child nutrition programs to address the tragic pandemic-fueled surge in child hunger
- Funded 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 saved over 1 million pensions and prevented thousands of businesses from closing
- Provided workers' compensation benefits for federal workers who contracted COVID-19 in connection with their jobs

Rep. Andy Levin (MI-09)

Rep. Jahana Hayes (CT-05)

Rep. Susan Wild (PA-07)

In the 117th Congress, the Committee on Education and Labor has held

60 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

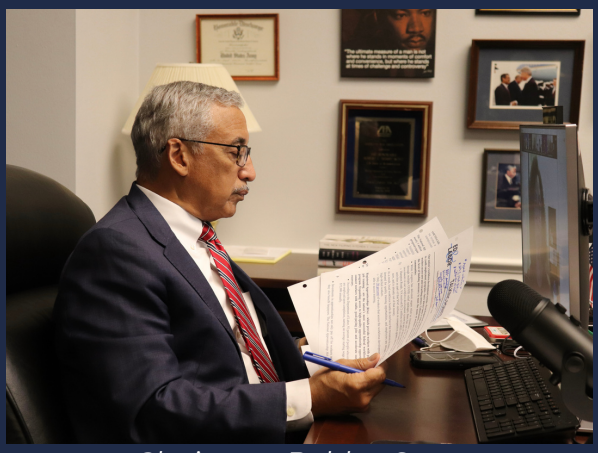
OVERSIGHT HIGHLIGHTS

Since the beginning of this Congress, the Committee conducted rigorous oversight on behalf of students, families, and workers.

Protecting American Rescue Plan funds from fraud, abuse, and waste:
During Committee hearings, Members have illustrated how the American Rescue Plan helped reopen schools safely, provide a lifeline for institutions of higher education, and put money back into workers' pockets through expanded Unemployment Insurance programs.

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 advocated for the Biden-Harris 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.



Chairman Bobby Scott (VA-03)

Subcommittee Chair Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01)

Examining Agency Priorities and Policies:
The Committee held hearings with Biden- Harris 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: Tony Dearman, Director of the Bureau of Indian Education

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