

# **Bills Submissions**

Bill	Endorsed	Declined
H.R. 1030		x
H.R. 1752	x	
H.R. 1809	x	
H.R. 1065	x	
H.R. 2116	x	
H.R. 842	x	
H.R. 1620	x	
H.R. 959	x	
S.346	x	
H.R. 7848		x
H.R. 516	x	
H.R. 1522	x	
H.R. 51	x	



**Submission Date:** 03/24/21 **Submitter:** Solomon Steen

State Chapter: MA

Which Chamber: House

Bill Number: H.R. 1030

## **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Rep. Rashida Tlaib MI-13

**Topic:** Economic Justice

Other topic?:

# A brief summary of the bill:

This bill creates the Boost Communities Program to provide monthly aid during and after the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) emergency. Specifically, the bill provides \$2,000 a month to individuals until the COVID-19 emergency declaration is terminated, or the national unemployment rate meets specified criteria, whichever is later. Furthermore, the bill provides \$1,000 a month to individuals during the following year. The program also provides targeted supplemental assistance for at-risk populations.

# **How does this bill impact young Democrats?** High **Briefing Comments:**

In order to pay for it — and get around rules regarding how congressional analysts calculate the nation's debt — the legislation calls for the U.S. Mint to create two trillion-dollar coins that would then be purchased by the Federal Reserve, which helps manage the nation's money supply. The money would then be moved into the U.S. Treasury to cover the cost of the payments — with more coins being minted if needed.

Workgroup Vote: Decline to Endorse

Committee Response: 3 Yes/14 No/2 Abstain



Submission Date: 03/25/2021 Submitter: Stephanie Casella State Chapter: New Jersey Which Chamber: House

Bill Number: H.R. 1752

#### **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (IL-08)

**Topic:** Criminal Justice **Other topic?:** N/A

A brief summary of the bill: No text has been submitted for the bill yet as of 4/3/21. This

bill would institute a 3-day waiting period before a person may obtain a handgun.

How does this bill impact young Democrats? High impact

Briefing Comments: Introduced in the House on 3/10/21.

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-15/No-0/Abstain-6



Submission Date: 3/25/2021 Submitter: Stephanie Casella State Chapter: New Jersey

Which Chamber: House of Representatives

Bill Number: H.R. 1809

**Bill Link** 

The introducer, including district: Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]

**Topic:** Voting Rights

Other topic?: Transportation

A brief summary of the bill: To designate a portion of United States Route 80 in Alabama as the "John R. Lewis Voting Rights Highway", and for other purposes.

# How does this bill impact young Democrats?

Young Democrats are able to mobilize other millennials to the polls and galvanize young people to run for office at the local, state, and federal levels of government. John Lewis serves, even in his death, as a pioneer for young people across America in standing up against institutions that oppress minority groups with their hatred and bigotry. We, as Young Democrats, should honor those who fought the fight before us. Remembering the contributions of those who fought the good fight is the least we can do to honor them. The late Rep. John Lewis is someone we should honor and keep his legacy of "Good Trouble" alive.

**Briefing Comments:** As of 03/29/2021 text has not been received for H.R.1809 - To designate a portion of United States Route 80 in Alabama as the "John R. Lewis Voting Rights Highway", and for other purposes. H.R. 1809 was co-sponsored by 39 Democrats and 2 Republicans.

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-21/No-0/Abstain-0



**Submission Date:** 3/22 **Submitter:** Robert Cohen

State Chapter: Massachusetts

Which Chamber: House

Bill Number: H.R. 1065

#### **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Jerrold Nadler NY-10

**Topic:** Other

Other topic?: Labor, Education, and Welfare

A brief summary of the bill: Requires employers to make reasonable workplace accommodations to pregnant employees and employees who have given birth. It would also make it an unlawful business practice to refuse employment opportunities to qualified employees or job applicants on the basis of their pregnancy or potential related medical conditions. Workers denied a reasonable accommodation by an employer will have the same rights and remedies as those established under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including back wages, compensatory damages, and reasonable attorneys' fees.

How does this bill impact young Democrats? Many of the workers who will benefit from these protections are young people, especially those in physically demanding jobs. Young expectant parents should be able to receive accommodations, such as limits on the weights they are required to lift or permission to take more frequent bathroom breaks. These important anti-discrimination protections provided under this bill extend into all workplaces, including white-collar fields where an employee may be passed over for a promotion or forced to take early leave due to their pregnancy.

**Briefing Comments:** Wide support among public and advocates. Previous iteration had over 250 organizations in support, including unions, faith groups, social justice organizations, and business groups. 208 Dem cosponsors, 20 GOP. Passed the House in 2020 by 329 - 73 vote.



Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-21/No-0/Abstain-0



Submission Date: 3/25/2021 Submitter: Fatima Hayward State Chapter: New Jersey

Which Chamber: House of Representatives

Bill Number: H.R.2116

#### **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Bonnie Coleman-Watson NJ-12

**Topic:** Other

Other topic?: Labor, Education, and Welfare

A brief summary of the bill: To prohibit discrimination based on an individual's texture or

style of hair.

**How does this bill impact young Democrats?** Aimed to level inequities, this bill will positively affect job opportunities and other areas of life for women and men of color, including young women and men trying to make their way in the world.

# **Briefing Comments:**

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-21/No-0/Abstain-0



Submission Date: 3/25/2021 Submitter: Rob Sembarski State Chapter: Michigan

Which Chamber: House of Representatives

Bill Number: H.R. 842

#### **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Rep. Robert Scott VA-3

Topic: Other

Other topic?: Labor, Education, and Welfare

A brief summary of the bill: "This bill expands various labor protections related to

employees' rights to organize and collectively bargain in the workplace.

Among other things, it (1) revises the definitions of employee, supervisor, and employer to broaden the scope of individuals covered by the fair labor standards; (2) permits labor organizations to encourage participation of union members in strikes initiated by employees represented by a different labor organization (i.e., secondary strikes); and (3) prohibits employers from bringing claims against unions that conduct such secondary strikes.

The bill also allows collective bargaining agreements to require all employees represented by the bargaining unit to contribute fees to the labor organization for the cost of such representation, notwithstanding a state law to the contrary; and expands unfair labor practices to include prohibitions against replacement of, or discrimination against, workers who participate in strikes.

The bill makes it an unfair labor practice to require or coerce employees to attend employer meetings designed to discourage union membership and prohibits employers from entering into agreements with employees under which employees waive the right to pursue or a join collective or class-action litigation.



The bill further prohibits employers from taking adverse actions against an employee, including employees with management responsibilities, in response to that employee participating in protected activities related to the enforcement of the prohibitions against unfair labor practices (i.e., whistleblower protections). Such protected activities include providing information about a potential violation to an enforcement agency, participating in an enforcement proceeding, initiating a proceeding concerning an alleged violation or assisting in such a proceeding, or refusing to participate in an activity the employee reasonably believes is a violation of labor laws.

Finally, the bill addresses the procedures for union representation elections, provides employees with the ability to vote in such elections remotely by telephone or the internet, modifies the protections against unfair labor practices that result in serious economic harm, and establishes penalties and permits injunctive relief against entities that fail to comply with National Labor Relations Board orders. (Copied from https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/842) "

How does this bill impact young Democrats? "One of the primary functions of the PRO Act is revising the term employee, supervisor and employer to broaden the scope of people covered by national labor laws. This would include workers in the gig economy. According to a poll done by the Edison Research center 18-34 years olds make up 53% of the gig economy who rely on these jobs as their sole source of income. Allowing the classification from "independent contractor" to employee will mean that companies like Uber and DoorDash pay into programs like unemployment and workers compensation. This revision will also allow workers in the gig economy to access overtime pay and other benefits of being classified as an employee.

Under current labor laws companies are allowed to delay negotiations and hire permanent replacement workers for workers that are striking. This bill changes that. It streamlines the processes of Union Recognition in the work place, forcing employers to sit down with bargaining units from newly elected Unions and banning the hiring of permanent replacement workers.



Recent polling shows that public support of Unions is sky high and if we want to shrink the ever widening wealth gap, we need to make it easier for workers to organize a Union in their workplace and the Protect the Right to Organize (PRO) Act does just that!"

**Briefing Comments:** Important priority for Congressional Democrats and the labor movement as a whole. Provides labor unions with new tools to grow and protections to support existing members. Given the critically important role the labor movement plays in combating economic inequality, this bill should be a priority. - RJC

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-21/No-0/Abstain-0



Submission Date: 03/25/2021 Submitter: Stephanie Casella State Chapter: New Jersey Which Chamber: House

Bill Number: H.R.1620

#### **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (TX-18)

**Topic:** Criminal Justice

Other topic?: N/A

A brief summary of the bill: This bill reauthorizes the Violence Against Women Act, originally signed by President Bill Clinton in 1994, and expired in 2019. This version includes provisions regarding female genital mutilation, elder abuse, online harassment, and other updates.

How does this bill impact young Democrats? High impact

**Briefing Comments:** Originally signed into law in 1994, the VAWA provided \$1.6b for investigation/prosecution of violent crimes against women. The bill was reauthorized in 2000, 2005 and 2012 with bipartisan support, but expired during the 2018 - 2019 government shutdown. While the House passed the bill in 2019, it was defeated in the Senate.

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-20/No-0/Abstain-0



Submission Date: 4/10/21 Submitter: Fatima Hayward State Chapter: New Jersey Which Chamber: House

Bill Number: H.R. 959

#### Bill Link

The introducer, including district: Rep. Lauren Underwood (IL-14)

**Topic:** Black Maternal Health

Other topic?:

A brief summary of the bill: To end preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the United States and close disparities in maternal health outcomes, and for other purposes.

**How does this bill impact young Democrats?** This bill seeks to address disparities in the U.S. healthcare system that result in a disproportionately higher rate of maternal mortality among pregnant people of color, particularly those who are Black. This is an issue that directly endangers many Young Democrats and their loved ones.

Briefing Comments: This bill is the latest version of the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Bill, which was introduced by Representative Underwood in 2020 as well. This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and other agencies to address maternal health outcomes among minority populations. HHS must (1) establish task forces to address social determinants of health, maternal mental and behavioral health, and other topics; and (2) award grants for maternal mortality review committees, innovative maternity care models, and other purposes. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services must establish a perinatal payment demonstration project. The Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Transportation must report on the impact of housing and transportation during prenatal and postpartum periods, respectively. The Department of Veterans Affairs must submit a plan for maternity care coordination for women veterans, and the Bureau of Prisons must establish programs and award grants to certain prisons and jails to improve maternal health outcomes among incarcerated individuals.



In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it additionally directs the Department of Health and Human Services to gather data specifically regarding minority maternal health outcomes during the pandemic. A task force is to be created to develop recommendations on respectful maternity care during this and other public health emergencies. A campaign shall be carried out to increase the awareness of the importance of maternal vaccinations and to increase maternal vaccination rates, particularly in communities with historically high rates of unvaccinated individuals.

Finally, there is to be a grant program to protect vulnerable individuals and babies from the risks associated with climate change and to train healthcare professionals to identify and address those risks.

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-19/No-0/Abstain-0



Submission Date: 4/10/21 Submitter: Fatima Hayward State Chapter: New Jersey Which Chamber: Senate

Bill Number: S.346

## **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Senator Cory Booker (NJ)

**Topic:** Black Maternal Health

Other topic?:

A brief summary of the bill: To end preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the United States and close disparities in maternal health outcomes, and for other purposes.

**How does this bill impact young Democrats?** This bill seeks to address disparities in the U.S. healthcare system that result in a disproportionately higher rate of maternal mortality among pregnant people of color, particularly those who are Black. This is an issue that directly endangers many Young Democrats and their loved ones.

Briefing Comments: This bill is the Senate counterpart to Representative Underwood's H.R. 959, also titled the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021. This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and other agencies to address maternal health outcomes among minority populations. HHS must (1) establish task forces to address social determinants of health, maternal mental and behavioral health, and other topics; and (2) award grants for maternal mortality review committees, innovative maternity care models, and other purposes. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services must establish a perinatal payment demonstration project. The Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Transportation must report on the impact of housing and transportation during prenatal and postpartum periods, respectively. The Department of Veterans Affairs must submit a plan for maternity care coordination for women veterans, and the Bureau of Prisons must establish programs and award grants to certain prisons and jails to improve maternal health outcomes among incarcerated individuals.



In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it additionally directs the Department of Health and Human Services to gather data specifically regarding minority maternal health outcomes during the pandemic. A task force is to be created to develop recommendations on respectful maternity care during this and other public health emergencies. A campaign shall be carried out to increase the awareness of the importance of maternal vaccinations and to increase maternal vaccination rates, particularly in communities with historically high rates of unvaccinated individuals.

Finally, there is to be a grant program to protect vulnerable individuals and babies from the risks associated with climate change and to train healthcare professionals to identify and address those risks.

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-19/No-0/Abstain-0



**Submission Date:** 03/23/2021 **Submitter:** Solomon Steen

**State Chapter: MA** 

Which Chamber: House

Bill Number: H.R. 7848

## **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Ayanna Pressley MA-7

**Topic:** Criminal Justice Reform

Other topic?:

A brief summary of the bill: This bill prohibits the use of federal funds for sworn law enforcement officers in schools. It also establishes a grant program to replace sworn law enforcement officers in schools with personnel and services that support mental health and trauma-informed services.

**How does this bill impact young Democrats?** Highly. It would particularly affect black and brown students.

**Briefing Comments:** Introduced on 7/29/20 and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. Has not movement since.

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

**Committee Response:** From the previous legislative session and therefore cannot be endorsed. Has not been reintroduced (Declined)

**Vote Date:** 



Submission Date: 4/3/2021 Submitter: Brandon Colligan State Chapter: Wisconsin Which Chamber: House

Bill Number: H.R.516

#### **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Cori Bush

**Topic:** Environmental justice

Other topic?: Climate impact data

A brief summary of the bill: The bill establishes an interagency Environmental Justice Mapping Committee and collects relevant data pertaining to marginalized communities. This information is subsequently available to regional, state, local, and tribal governments.

**How does this bill impact young Democrats?:** Provides additional tools for local/state governments to address minority and income based climate disparities—including young voters as a subcategory within those communities.

**Briefing Comments:** The objective of this bill is to create tools to further reporting transparency and equity within government climate data. Doing so is fundamental to understanding the needs of communities that are most-impacted by climate change and creating equitable climate policy.

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-19/No-0/Abstain-0



Submission Date: 3/25/2021

Submitter: Gabriela M. Medina Marrero

State Chapter: PR

Which Chamber: House of Representatives

Bill Number: H.R. 1522

#### Bill Link

The introducer, including district: Darren Soto (FL-09)

**Topic:** Voting Rights

Other topic?:

A brief summary of the bill: This bill provides for the mechanisms to be used in order for Puerto Rico to have Congressionally-backed, binding, Yes or No referendum on its admission as a State of the Union. This bill also lays out the process for its admission to the Union if the People of the Island vote in the affirmative.

How does this bill impact young Democrats? High Impact

**Briefing Comments:** This bill is in response to a Referendum celebrated on November 3, 2020, that resulted in 53% of the voters who participated to vote "Yes" on the question "Should Puerto Rico be admitted immediately into the Union as a State?" It should be noted that almost all voters who participated in the General Election also voted on the Referendum (99%).

YDA already has a public stance on Puerto Rico statehood. On its 2019-2021 Platform, under "Government and Electoral Reform," it states that: "Congress must act on the will of the people of Puerto Rico and approve an enabling act with terms for Puerto Rico's admission as a state of the Union."

There is a similar status bill introduced by Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez (NY-07) and Alexandria Ocasio Cortez (NY-14), HR 2070, that establishes a Constitutional Assembly in order to create a referendum to resolve PR's status. However, this bill does not make the



results of this referendum binding, having it be subject to Congress' approval and leaving an opportunity for it to reject the results of the vote.

Workgroup Vote: Endorse

Committee Response: Yes-19/No-0/Abstain-0



Submission Date: 4/10/2021 Submitter: Jovan C. Richards State Chapter: New York

Co-Sponsors: Jennifer Blemur (DC), Sam Bauman (VA), Stephanie Wheaton (NY), Seamus Campbell (NY), Sam Hudis (NY), Ruth Baranowski (CO), Tia Hopkins (MA), Maureen Coffey (VA), Carrie McFadden (CA), Gabi Medina (PR), Quentin Wathum-Ocama (MN), Becky Beaver (GA), Charles Myers (WI), Ben Cohen (KS), Tazbir Alam (NY), Scott Urbanowski (MI), Lezlie Braxton-Campbell (MA), Hannah Wroblewski (NE), Simon Carlo (PR), Elisa Munoz (PR), Luis Augusto Martinez (PR)

Which Chamber: House of Representatives

Bill Number: H.R. 51

#### **Bill Link**

The introducer, including district: Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC)

**Topic:** Voting Rights

Other topic?: Statehood

A brief summary of the bill: This bill provides for admission into the United States of the state of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth, composed of most of the territory of the District of Columbia. The commonwealth shall be admitted to the Union on an equal footing with the other states.

**How does this bill impact young Democrats?** It would allow the members of the DC Young Democrats to live and work in a state (Commonwealth), instead of a terrority, which would allow them representation in the U.S. Senate and proper voting representation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Briefing Comments: Workgroup Vote: N/A

Committee Response: Submitted directly to the National Committee. Passed by National

Committee