

VETERANS

As the Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Committee on Readiness, I worked hard to help pass legislation worthy of those who have and continue to sacrifice so much to preserve our freedoms.

Signed into law a bill I cosponsored, the [*Servicemember Safety and Security Improvement Act*](#) , to require the Department of Defense to review policies and procedures for determining and reporting on service members that are missing, AWOL, absent unknown, or whereabouts unknown.

Signed into law a bill I cosponsored, [*Global War on Terrorism Memorial Location Act*](#) , to honor the brave service members who have fought and continue to fight in the Global War on Terrorism by authorizing the establishment of a National Global War on Terrorism Memorial in the area of the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Signed into law in this year's defense bill legislation I cosponsored, the [*Wounded Warrior Bill of Rights*](#) , to ensure veterans are able to effectively appeal decisions made regarding their medical separation from service and entitlement to disability benefits.

Signed into law the **SBP Open Season for Post-Widow's Tax Repeal** amendment to allow widows of veterans that withdrew from the Survivor Benefit Program due to the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation offset to re-enroll and catch-up on missed payments.

Cosponsored the [*Security Clearance Portability for Departing Servicemembers Act*](#) to require the Defense Department to treat previously held security clearances as active for the purposes of future employment for one year after a servicemember leaves military service.

Co-led **letter** to the Department of Interior to urge the U.S. Park Police to escort veterans on Honor Flights through the National Mall for quick movement for the elderly veterans. Interior had suspended these escorts. Interior relented and resumed the escorts.

Signed **letter** to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to explore ways mortgage loans can compete in today's marketplace and ensure veterans have negotiating power throughout the home buying process.

Signed **letter** to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to ask VA employees to be exempt from COVID vaccine mandate.

Signed **letter** to the National Record Center to request full staffing of office so veteran records can be accessed to clear the backlog of claims.

NATIONAL SECURITY

Provided resources to the U.S. military, first responders, and allies to ensure our freedoms and liberties remain unbridled.

Signed into law the [*Fiscal Year 2022 National Defense Authorization Act*](#) (NDAA), including many of my provisions and policy goals to:

- Require American contractors operating in China to certify that their supply chains do not use forced labor from the Xinjiang region
- Notify Congress if and when the number of Chinese intercontinental ballistic missiles exceeds those of the U.S.
- Notify Congress prior to allowing Russia or China tour a missile defense site
- Assess how domestic response missions are affecting the National Guard's ability to recruit and retain qualified personnel
- Study how the criteria factors in apportionment of personnel to States consider a State's demands for its domestic response missions and how those missions affect its readiness of those units for the Federal mission
- Reform fuel procurement for overseas contingency operations, using "best value" criteria, ensuring cost savings for the Defense Department
- Retain, standardize, and access operational data from Afghanistan across the joint force
- Prioritize the acquisition of certain critical materials from the national technology and industrial base
- Assess Over the Horizon capabilities for Afghanistan
- Prohibit acquiring certain printed circuit boards from China, Russia, Iran, or North Korea
- Assess excess and surplus federal real properties, and their adequacy to provide affordable housing on and off base to military personnel and federal civilian employees supporting the Defense Department's mission
- Analyze the ability of commercial parachute management solutions to meet Army requirements.
- Examine pay discrepancies for Naval Special Warfare sailors, and those onboard ship, and how this may affect readiness
- Review how the Pentagon is leveraging new and emerging technologies to understand the needs and readiness of its workforce
- Assess the technical aspects, costs, schedule, risks, policy, and benefits of on-orbit servicing of current communications satellites and evaluate the merits in providing a transition path for future capabilities
- Require a report on the Army's progress in ensuring all units have access to contracted data fabric integration capabilities when necessary to meet operational requirements

- Develop a strategy for a Universal Robotics Controller, including an assessment of viable commercially available alternatives for the program
- Report on the challenges to recruiting STEM talent in the Defense Department
- Assess the effectiveness of the cyber institutes program
- Develop a strategy leveraging commercial space-based radio frequency capabilities, explicitly data, products, and services, to appropriate components through planning and programming guidance

Voted in favor of the Fiscal Year 2023 national security funding package, which repeals the vaccine mandate for our troops that has crippled military readiness, increases pay for our warfighters, supports American troops, and provides resources to the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, NASA, and related agencies to invest in modern defense systems, support American troops, defend assets in space, and strengthen border security.

The [*Fiscal Year 2023 NDAA*](#) included many of my provisions and policy goals to:

- Authorize joint, commander level, multi-domain, interoperable military exercises with Taiwan to help prepare and protect the island from potential Chinese military aggression
- Permanently prohibit purchases of goods by the Defense Department from the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region in China
- Require the universities in China that support the Chinese Communist Party's military to be identified and listed by the Defense Department and intelligence agencies
- Allocate funding for new construction projects at Florida military bases, including Patrick Space Force Base, Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, MacDill Air Force Base, and Eglin Air Force Base
- Set gender-neutral fitness standards for combat military occupational specialties in the U.S. Army
- Ensure critically injured members of the Armed Forces are afforded protections, privileges, and rights to due process through the Wounded Warrior Bill of Rights
- Expand the Defense Department's stockpile of rare-earth elements and critical minerals and require country of origin disclosures,
- Prohibit abandonment of K9s on the battlefield and accountability requirements for K9s
- Require annual reporting and accountability requirements for military working dogs and a prohibition on abandonment of military working dogs outside of the U.S.
- Require comprehensive Inspectors General oversight of U.S. aid to Ukraine, including end-user monitoring
- Require a plan to direct military construction funding to the Baltic states and Eastern Europe from Germany
- Increase funding for Space Force's rapid and responsive launch program

- Require a federal government strategy for research and development efforts on blockchain, or distributed ledger technologies
- Fully fund the Armed Overwatch program for the U.S. Special Forces
- Require the Defense Department to provide Congress with a plan to improve defense cooperation with Caribbean nations to combat Chinese influence in the country
- Restrict the sale of certain Chinese products in U.S. military base exchanges or commissaries
- Mandate a review of all members of the Armed Forces identified in criminal investigations from the Guard Recruiting Assistance Program and giving them an opportunity to appeal their designation
- Authorize the Defense Department to acquire flexible workspace services, to include spaced configured for classified information use, to attract and retain top technology personnel
- Repeal the Post-Widow's Tax, allowing veterans that withdrew from the Survivor Benefit Program due to the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation offset, to re-enroll and catch-up on missed payments
- Allocate additional funding for procurement of Florida-made Sonobuoys for the U.S. Navy
- Prohibit Joint Use Authorization for civil aviation at the Homestead Air Reserve Base

Signed into law the *Joint Exercises with Taiwan* amendment I introduced to call on joint military exercises with Taiwan to improve military readiness and joint operability.

Signed into law the [*REEShore Act*](#) to provide authority for the National Defense Stockpile to gather enough strategic rare earth elements and critical minerals to sustain three years of major conflict.

Cosponsored the bicameral [*Preserving the Gulf Test Range to Ensure Military Readiness Act*](#) to prevent energy exploration and development that would jeopardize the Gulf Test Range.

Cosponsored the [*Military Housing Affordability Act*](#) to grant a two-year extension of the Secretary of Defense's authority to temporarily adjust the basic allowance for housing (BAH) rates to help service members and their families find affordable housing.

Cosponsored the [*Independent and Objective Oversight of Ukrainian Assistance Act*](#) to establish a Special Inspector General to oversee the humanitarian, economic, and security assistance funding that the U.S. Congress provided to Ukraine to ensure the funds are appropriately spent and to prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse in such programs and operations.

Cosponsored the [*Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act*](#) to authorize lending or leasing defense articles if the defense articles are intended for Ukraine's government or the governments of other Eastern European countries affected by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Cosponsored the [*Task Force Pineapple Congressional Gold Medal Act*](#) to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Americans who helped evacuate fellow Americans and Special Immigrant Visa (SIVs) holders out of Afghanistan after the Biden administration's disastrous withdrawal.

Cosponsored the **Over the Horizon Counterterrorism Operations** amendment to call on the Defense Department to provide a definition of what "Over the Horizon counterterrorism operation" and what operational and strategic concepts are incorporated.

Led [*letter*](#) to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin to urge reconsideration of the COVID-19 vaccine mandate for members of the National Guard and Reserves, especially as retention and recruitment for our military drastically declines.

Led [*letter*](#) to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin to urge consideration of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) August 11, 2022 COVID-19 vaccine guidance in Defense Department's policy requirements on members of the armed services.

Led [*letter*](#) to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin to request a House Armed Services Committee briefing on how the Defense Department has secured, archived, and standardized operational data and intelligence gathered over the past two decades in Afghanistan as required by last year's defense bill.

Co-led **letter** to the National Guard Bureau to urge additional force structure allocation for the Florida National Guard.

Co-led **letter** to the Defense Department to request keeping the U.S. Security Coordinator for Israel and the Palestinian Authority in the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem at the 3-star rank. The Defense Department has since said they will retain the position.

Co-led **letter** to Draper Labs to request consideration of building their new hypersonic weapons research facility in Florida.

Signed **letter** to the U.S. Air Force to urge the selection of Patrick Space Force Base as the permanent location for STARCOM.

Signed **letter** to urge the Defense Department to suspend involuntary separation from the military over the COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

Signed **letter** to the Defense Department to urge the expedited delivery of KC-46A aerial refuelers to Israel.

FOREIGN POLICY

Introduced the [*KREMLIN Act*](#) to prohibit the U.S. government from contracting with any company that has business with the Putin regime, or any natural gas, oil, and coal company operating in Russia.

Cosponsored the [*No Energy Revenues for Russian Hostilities Act*](#) to prohibit banks and financial institutions from processing Russian energy transactions unless the Secretary of Treasury grants a waiver.

Cosponsored the [*NYET Act*](#) to impose sanctions on the Russian economy pre and post invasion of Ukraine by sanctioning Russian banks and secondary sanctions on any bank that continues operations with Russian banks, among other sanctions.

Cosponsored the [*Putin Accountability Act*](#) to impose sanctions on Putin, his family members, mistress and network of kleptocratic oligarchs. In addition, it would designate Russia as a State Sponsor of Terrorism, place sanctions on Russian sovereign debt in the secondary market, immediately shut down the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, kick Russia out of the international SWIFT Code system, and impose sanctions on Russia's financial sector.

Cosponsored the [*Guaranteeing Ukrainian Autonomy by Reinforcing its Defense Act*](#) to provide defense articles for Ukraine and imposes sanctions related to Nord Stream 2, the pipeline constructed to increase exports of natural gas from Russia.

Cosponsored the [*To suspend normal trade relations treatment for the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, and for other purposes*](#) resolution.

Cosponsored the [*Protecting American Sovereignty Act*](#) to prohibit any federal department or agency from implementing any obligations under the World Health Organization's Global Pandemic Treaty.

Cosponsored the [*INVESTIGAR Act*](#) to require a report from the Biden administration on possible benefits accruing to the regime of Nicolás Maduro as a result of an agreement with Iran relating to the nuclear program of Iran.

Cosponsored the [*Prohibiting Oil Trade with Venezuela's Tyrant Act*](#) to prohibit the Biden administration from importing petroleum products from Venezuela.

Cosponsored the [*Israel Anti-Boycott Act*](#) to protect American companies from being coerced to provide information to international organizations for the purpose of furthering boycotts against Israel and holds individuals who attempt to violate this protection accountable.

Cosponsored the [*COI Elimination Act*](#) to suspend U.S. contributions to the UN Human Rights Council until it eliminates the Commission of Inquiry against Israel over its self-defense against Palestinian violence.

Cosponsored the [*No Oil From Terrorists Act*](#) to prohibit the Administration from importing petroleum products from Iran.

Led **letter** to State Department to enhance the Integrated Air and Missile Defense systems currently protecting the Kurdistan region of Iraq, following the missile attack on Erbil on March 13th by Iranian forces.

Led **letter** to the Biden administration to urge the appointment of a special Presidential Representative to negotiate the renewal of the Compacts of Free Association between the US, Micronesia, Palau, and the Marshall Islands.

Co-led **letter** to Commerce Department to call on greater enforcement of regulations to prevent China from accessing the personal information of Americans (TikTok, WeChat, Huawei, etc).

Co-led **letter** to President Biden to urge maximum pressure against the Iranian regime.

Co-led **letter** to the President Biden to urge the designation of the Houthis as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

Co-led **letter** to President Biden to urge him to not allow the dictatorships of Cuba, Nicaragua, and Venezuela to participate in the Summit of the Americas.

Signed **letter** to the Biden administration to urge Russia's suspension from the UN Human Rights Commission following its invasion of Ukraine.

Signed **letter** to the Biden administration to urge Stinger missiles, manned and unmanned aircraft, humanitarian assistance for Ukraine and sanctions against Russia.

Signed **letter** to the United Nations to call for the disbanding of the Commission of Inquiry against Israel.

Signed **letter** to the Biden administration to call for additional sanctions against Russia.

Signed **letter** to the Biden administration to urge them to impose sanctions on North Korea for their ballistic missile tests.

Signed **letter** to U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations (UN) to urge Israel's removal from the UN Human Rights Commission's agenda.

Signed **letter** to the Department of State to urge withdrawal of negotiations of the JCPOA with Iran.

Signed **letter** to President Biden before his trip to Saudi Arabia to request opening up domestic energy resources before asking the Saudis to increase their petroleum production.

CHINA

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) poses a political, economic, and military threat to our country's national security. I remain committed to ensuring our country and our military are equipped and prepared to address the growing threats America, our allies, and the world faces from the CCP.

Served on the [House China Task Force](#) with 15 Republican lawmakers representing 14 committees of jurisdiction to coordinate policy on China.

Signed into law a bill I cosponsored, the [Taiwan Defense Act](#), to ensure the United States has a strategy to defend Taiwan should China invade or launch an attack.

Signed into law in the FY23 NDAA legislation I introduced to call for joint military exercises with Taiwan to improve military readiness and joint operability.

Signed into law in the FY23 NDAA legislation I introduced to require a report listing Chinese universities that provide support to the People's Liberation Army as part of China's military-civil fusion strategy.

As part of the amendment process of this year's defense bill, I offered and passed an amendment prohibiting military assets and personnel from being used to transport American government officials to the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, China, including Air Force One. Following passage by the House of Representatives, President Biden announced an American diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympics. Other countries soon followed.

Introduced the [IOC Act](#) to repeal the tax-exempt status of the International Olympic Committee.

Cosponsored the [Countering Chinese Espionage Reporting Act](#) to require the Attorney General to prepare a report on the Department of Justice activities related to countering Chinese national security threats.

Cosponsored the [Stop Higher Education Espionage and Theft Act of 2021](#) to counter espionage and influence operations at American colleges and universities by allowing the designation and removal of hostile actors that are deemed a foreign intelligence threat to higher education by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It would also require foreign gifts and contracts at institutions of higher education to be disclosed.

Cosponsored the [Sanctioning Supporters of Slave Labor Act](#) to expand the reporting requirement in the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 to include "each foreign person that knowingly provides significant goods, services, or technology to or for a person identified in such report; and each foreign person that knowingly engages in a significant transaction relating to any of the acts described".

Cosponsored the [GENOCIDE Games Act](#) to impose sanctions pursuant to the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act to certain members of the International Olympic Committee who are complicit in the perpetuation of human rights abuses in the People's Republic of China.

Cosponsored the [Prohibition of Agricultural Land for the People's Republic of China Act](#) to authorize the President's prohibition of the purchase of public or private agricultural real estate located in the U.S. by nonresident aliens, foreign businesses, an agent, trustee, or a fiduciary associated with the government of the People's Republic of China. It would also prohibit the same associations from participating in any USDA programs except food safety inspections.

Cosponsored the [*Save America's Valuable Energy Act*](#) to prohibit the sale of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to China.

Led [letter](#) to the SEC and Treasury to request review of the acquisition of Forbes Global Media Holdings by a Chinese firm controlled by the Chinese Communist Party.

Led [letter](#) to Secretary of State Blinken, Secretary of Defense Austin, Secretary of Interior Haaland, Secretary of Commerce Raimondo, and Secretary of Energy Granholm to press the Biden administration on its knowledge and involvement in the Chinese state-owned acquisition of Neo Lithium Corp. and the results of the U.S.-Canada Joint Action Plan for Critical Minerals Cooperation.

Co-led [letter](#) to the Defense Department on China's efforts to infiltrate American Universities and the U.S. research and development enterprise.

Co-led [letter](#) to the Department of Energy and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to express concern with the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) Thousand Talents Program and to highlight Republican efforts to prevent further Chinese exploitation of American research and technology sectors.

Signed [letter](#) to NBC to urge coverage of China's human rights abuses during the 2022 Winter Olympics.

WOMEN, PEACE & SECURITY

Served as the Co-Chair of the bipartisan [Women, Peace and Security \(WPS\) Caucus](#) with Rep. Lois Frankel (D-Fla.).

The WPS Caucus aims to ensure women have active, meaningful roles in all aspects of their societies and communities to promote women's inclusion to advance democracy and stability worldwide, as provided in the ***Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017***. The WPS Caucus currently has 26 bipartisan members.

Co-led the [*Keeping Girls in School Act*](#) to direct the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to address the barriers adolescent girls face in accessing a quality secondary education in countries where dropout rates for female students are much higher than that of their male peers. The bill also requires an updated strategy to strengthen U.S. investment in the skills, capacities, and futures of adolescent girls globally.

Co-led the [*Affirming the role of the United States in eliminating sexual violence in conflict*](#) resolution to call for strengthened legal reforms and justice for all survivors of conflict-related sexual violence and emphasize the need for the full participation of women in peace processes in accordance with the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017.

Helped raise awareness for and discussed the importance of global women, peace, and security:

- Hosted a virtual briefing with International Organization for Migration (IOM) Deputy Director General for Operations, Ugochi Daniels, and local NGOs from Ukraine, Poland, and Moldova to discuss the situation on the ground and ongoing human trafficking protection and response efforts in light of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine
- Participated in the Afghans Helping Afghans Through Education event hosted by the Friends of the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF) to highlight how AUAF has impacted the lives of its graduates and how AUAF alumni are inspiring their friends, families, and neighbors back home in Afghanistan to pursue an education despite the obstacles put in place by the Taliban

BORDER SECURITY & IMMIGRATION

Our Southern border poses a real national security threat not only to our border states, but the whole country. This year, I worked to secure our borders and reform immigration policy.

Cosponsored the [*Maritime Border Security Technology Improvement Act*](#) to require the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to conduct an assessment of technologies needed to secure the U.S. maritime border and require DHS to develop a plan to address the needs identified in the analysis.

Cosponsored the [*Protecting America from IRGC Terrorists Act*](#) to add more scrutiny to visa applications forms to ensure Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps are unable to enter the U.S.

Cosponsored the [*Temporary Family Visitation Act*](#) to establish a new nonimmigrant visa classification for an alien temporarily entering the United States to visit a relative who is a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.

Cosponsored the [*Syrian Partner Protection Act*](#) to provide Special Immigration Visa (SIV) status to Syrians who helped American forces fight ISIS militants.

Cosponsored the [*Illegal Immigrant Payoff Prohibition Act*](#) to prohibit any legal settlements brought against the U.S. in connection with an alien's inadmissibility or unlawful presence in the U.S.

Cosponsored the [*Canadian Snowbird Visa Act*](#) to allow older citizens of Canada owning a residence in the US to be eligible as long-term nonimmigrant visitors.

Signed **letter** to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to demand they secure the southern border with the funds Congress has authorized, and urging enforcement of the Trump Migrant Protection Protocols (Remain in Mexico Policy).

Signed **letter** to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to oppose their decision to rescind the expedited removal policy which hastened the deportation process for aliens unlawfully present in the United States by removing court oversight in many circumstances.

Signed **letter** to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to urge an extension of Temporary Protected Status for Venezuelans.

Signed **letter** to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to object to flights carrying migrants from the Southern border to Florida without consent, nor informing state and local officials.

Signed **letter** to the Biden administration to raise concerns how their border policies are facilitating the spread of COVID-19.

Signed **letter** to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to ask how many undocumented aliens caught and released have neglected to check-in for their deportation hearings.

LAW ENFORCEMENT & HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Our law enforcement officers put their lives on the line each and every day to protect and serve our communities. They have our backs and it is important we have theirs, which includes spreading awareness of human trafficking.

Cosponsored the [*Human Trafficking Awareness Training Act*](#) to authorize a human trafficking awareness training for State, local, tribal, territorial, and educational institution law enforcement officers through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC). Additionally, the bill would authorize dedicated funding specifically for State and local officer human trafficking awareness trainings. This funding would provide training to an estimated 10,400 state and local law enforcement officers each year.

Sponsored the [*STOP Human Trafficking Act*](#) to direct the Department of Justice to study and report on the prevalence and instances of human trafficking at adult entertainment clubs in the United States.

Cosponsored the [*Original National Domestic Violence Awareness Month Resolution of 2022*](#) to support the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Further, it expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should continue to raise awareness of and support programs to end domestic violence.

Cosponsored the [*Thin Blue Line Act*](#) to make the murder or attempted murder of a police officer or other first responders an “aggravating” factor in death penalty determinations.

Signed **letter** to House Speaker Pelosi to urge bringing the Thin Blue Line Act to the House floor for a vote in order to show solidarity with law enforcement officers and make it clear that there are consequences for those who choose to harm our men and women in blue.

Signed **letter** to President Biden to urge the Administration to secure the Southern border in order to effectively combat human trafficking.

SCIENCE & SPACE

Served on the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and worked to promote research and development across our country and in our district, as well as promoting science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education to help meet our nation and military’s growing demands for a skilled, STEM workforce.

Signed into law two provisions I offered in the *CHIPS Plus Act*:

- National Science Foundation (NSF) competitive grant program for institutions of higher education or nonprofits to support basic research that will accelerate innovation to advance critical minerals mining strategies and technologies for the purpose of making better use of domestic resources and eliminating national reliance on minerals and mineral materials that are subject to supply disruptions (extraction, separation, alloying, and processing)
- Critical Materials Interagency Subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council to coordinate critical mineral policy across the federal government to ensure a secure and reliable supply chain. Purpose is to advise and assist the National Science and Technology Council, including the Committee on Homeland and National Security, on United States policies, procedures, and plans as it relates to critical materials R&D, international cooperation, and safe and reliable supply chains

Signed into law a bill I introduced, the [*National Science and Technology Strategy Act of 2021*](#), to require the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to develop a national science and technology strategy across federal agencies to onshore essential technologies and enhance research security.

If we want to continue growing and innovating, the American science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) workforce must meet the demands of our growing STEM industries. The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded the following **grants**:

- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University was awarded \$1,499,354 to increase undergraduate and graduate STEM degree completion of domestic, low-income, high-achieving undergraduates with demonstrated financial need in the STEM field
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University was awarded \$970,809 through the Distributed Learning for Undergraduate Program to improve undergraduate education in data science

EDUCATION

The education of our children should never be taken lightly. I advocated for parents rights because every family should have a say in how and what their child is learning at school.

Cosponsored the [*Parents Bill of Rights Act*](#) to put practices in place that facilitate meaningful dialog between a family and their child's school, and lead to more input throughout the learning process.

Cosponsored the [*Keep Kids in School Act*](#) to prohibit unspent COVID-19 federal relief funds from going to local education agencies that fail to offer in-person instruction on a full-time basis for enrolled students.

Cosponsored the [*Crucial Communism Teaching Act*](#) to make educational materials available through the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation to help educate high school students about the dangers of communism and totalitarianism, and how they are contrary to the founding principles of freedom and democracy in the United States.

Cosponsored the [*CRT Transparency Act*](#) to require local educational agencies to post on a publicly accessible website the curriculum for each grade level of its elementary and secondary schools in order to receive certain federal education grants.

Cosponsored the [*Simplified Joint Consolidation Separation Act*](#) to allow borrowers with federal Joint Consolidation Loans (JCLs) to split those loans into two separate consolidation loans if one of the borrowers is the victim of domestic or economic abuse, or if a court orders the separation of the JCL regardless of the reason.

Cosponsored the [*Access to AEDs Act*](#) to require the Department of Health and Human Services to award grants in partnership with health care entities to promote student access to defibrillation in elementary and secondary schools.

Our district has such amazing universities and colleges that not only contribute to the success of our area, but the country as a whole.

The National Science Foundation's CyberCorps, a program designed to recruit and train the next generation of information technology professionals, industrial control system security professionals, and security managers to meet the needs of the cybersecurity mission for federal, state, and local governments, awarded the following **grants** to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in our district:

- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University was awarded \$3,875,300 to develop a high-skilled workforce to cover the Nation's needs in the area of aviation and aerospace cybersecurity, focusing on the safety-critical aspects of airborne systems and the protection of associated hardware and software assets
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University was awarded \$160,000 to broaden the adoption of advanced cyberinfrastructure through training

The Department of Education awarded the following **grants** through Upward Bound, a program to provide fundamental support to students in preparation of their college entrance:

- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University was awarded \$269,061
- Daytona State College was awarded \$287,537

The Department of Education awarded \$499,672 to Daytona State College through the Child Care Access Means Parent in School Program to support the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education with campus-based child care services.

HEALTH CARE

It's the duty of our elected officials to provide for constituents and their safety, especially when facing a pandemic.

Passed in the House and cosponsored the [*Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act*](#) to require group and individual health insurance coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of congenital anomalies or birth defects.

Passed in the House and cosponsored the [*Jackie Walorski Maternal and Child Home Visiting Reauthorization Act of 2022*](#) to reauthorize, increase funding for, and add new funding eligibility requirements for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program. This program supports home visits for expectant and new parents who live in communities that are at-risk for poor maternal and child health outcomes.

Cosponsored the [*Lower Costs, More Cures Act of 2021*](#) to establish and modify several programs and requirements to address prescription drug prices, including forty bipartisan

provisions to lower out-of-pocket health care costs for patients without sacrificing innovation of new cures and treatments.

Cosponsored the [*Federal Initiative to Guarantee Health \(FIGHT\) Fentanyl Act*](#) to codify the current classification of fentanyl as a Schedule I substance in an effort to combat the opioid crisis and prohibit the application of a mandatory minimum prison term for certain drug offenses involving fentanyl-related substances.

Cosponsored the [*Halting the Use of Narcotics Through Effective Recovery \(HUNTER\) Act of 2022*](#) to prohibit the use of federal funds to purchase (or support the purchase of) pipes, syringes, or other paraphernalia that can be used to smoke, inject, or otherwise introduce into the body any controlled substance unlawfully.

Cosponsored the [*Formula Act of 2022*](#) to allow the United States to expand the supply of infant formula by directing the FDA to establish a base international standard for formula that it would deem appropriate for use.

Cosponsored [*Reese's Law*](#) to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to create a new rule requiring companies to secure button cell and coin batteries in ways that reduce the possibility of ingestion by those age six and younger. The rule would require companies to apply warning labels to these batteries and products containing them.

Cosponsored the [*Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act of 2021*](#) to provide Medicare coverage and payment for multi-cancer early detection screening tests that are approved by the Food and Drug Administration and that are used to screen for cancer across many cancer types.

Cosponsored the [*NAPA Reauthorization Act*](#) to reauthorize the National Alzheimer's Project Act through 2035 and incorporate a focus on promoting health aging and reducing risk factors associated with cognitive decline.

Cosponsored the [*Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act*](#) to expand the Alzheimer's Accountability Act, which was signed into law in 2015 by permanently requiring scientists at the NIH to submit an annual Alzheimer's research budget proposal directly to Congress, ensuring a direct funding mechanism to combat Alzheimer's.

Cosponsored the [*Comprehensive Care for Alzheimer's Act*](#) to allow the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) to test a Dementia Care Management Model that provides comprehensive care to Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia.

Signed **letter** to the White House to request an investigation of nurse-staffing agencies practices during the COVID-19 pandemic by federal agencies to determine if they are utilizing the pandemic as a way to increase profits and if such practices are a product of anticompetitive activity that violates consumer protection law.

Signed **letter** to HHS Secretary Becerra requesting the establishment of an inter-agency taskforce on the proper use and deployment of psychedelic medicine and therapy in light of news that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is likely to approve MDMA for the treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and psilocybin to treat depression.

Signed **letter** to President Biden and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Califf to express concern over the nationwide baby formula shortage, request additional information on the causes of the shortage, and question how the FDA is working to mitigate the problem and increase the baby formula supply.

Signed a **letter** to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Brooks-LaSure to express support for the Medicare Advantage program.

Signed **letter** to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Becerra to urge support of the Medicare Advantage Program.

Signed **letter** to Speaker Pelosi and Republican Leader McCarthy to urge inclusion of policies to address impending Medicare payment cuts in legislation moving through the House of Representatives before the end of the year.

Signed **letter** with the Florida Delegation to the National Cancer Institute in support of the University of Florida's application to become a National Cancer Institute designated center.

Signed **letter** with the Florida Delegation to the House and Senate Appropriation Committee Leadership to request removal of report language included in the Senate FY23 Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS) Appropriations bill encouraging the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to prioritize NCI designation of Cancer Centers only in major metropolitan statistical areas. This letter argues that this language would negatively impact cancer patients across Florida as it would prevent the University of Florida from receiving a designation as an NCI Cancer Center.

The following **grants** were awarded to our district from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS):

- Northeast Florida Health Services, Inc. was awarded \$1,659,833 through the Department's Health Center Cluster Program

- SMA Healthcare, Inc. in Daytona Beach was awarded \$1,000,000 through the Department's Rural Communities Opioid Response-Implementation Program to help reduce the morbidity and mortality of substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD), in high risk rural communities
- Northeast Florida Health Services, Inc. in Deland was awarded \$202,342 through the Department's COVID-19 Vaccination Program

COASTAL & WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Floridians know the impacts of water quality, coastal flooding and beach erosion on our communities. We must continue to protect the environment and all that makes Florida beautiful.

Led a [Florida delegation](#) request and introduced the [Clean Water Allotment Modernization Act](#) to update the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) formula, which determines the amount of money states receive for water quality projects. The current formula has not been updated since 1987, keeping Florida from receiving the funding needed to keep water clean.

Cosponsored the [South Florida Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2022](#) to reauthorize the South Florida Geographic Program to better support ecosystem restoration and monitoring efforts in the contiguous ecosystems of South Florida.

Cosponsored the [Youth Coastal Fishing Program Act of 2022](#). This bill would create a grant program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to establish youth fishing programs for urban and underserved communities.

Cosponsored the [Recognizing the 75th anniversary of Everglades National Park](#).

Worked to provide Volusia, Flagler, and St. Johns counties with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursements to help cover the cost of preparing, recovering and rebuilding after Hurricanes Matthew, Irma, Dorian, and now Ian and Nicole.

Signed [letter](#) to Office of Management and Budget Director Shalanda Young and Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Michael Connor to request funding for shore protection, or beach renourishment projects in Volusia, Flagler, and St. Johns counties and the City of Daytona Beach Stormwater and Flood Protection Project following the destruction from Hurricanes Ian and Nicole in North Central Florida.

Signed **letter** to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Administrator Spinrad to urge suspension of all considerations of area closures and other significant management decisions until the Great Red Snapper Count and other independent data is completed and integrated in the stock assessment process.

The National Science Foundation awarded \$50,000 to Stetson University for assessing the performance of green stormwater infrastructure for climate adaptation and coastal access to benefit the Indian River water quality.

AGRICULTURE

Our farmers and growers play an integral role in Florida's economy. This year, I focused on protecting Florida's agricultural industries and those who help put food on our tables.

Cosponsored the [*Defending Domestic Produce Protection Act*](#) to ease certain thresholds to allow farmers to petition the Department of Commerce and the U.S. International Trade Commission to investigate illegal subsidies and dumping of Mexican fruits and vegetables in the U.S. market.

Cosponsored the [*Defending Domestic Orange Juice Production Act*](#) to direct the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to lower the required level of sugar/solids content (Brix standard) in not-from-concentrate pasteurized orange juice from 10.5 percent weight of orange juice soluble solids to 10 percent.

Cosponsored the [*Protect Farmers from the SEC Act*](#) to prohibit the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) from requiring an issuer of securities to disclose greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from upstream and downstream activities in the issuer's value chain arising from farms and ranches.

Signed **letter** to Acting U.S. Trade Representative Pagan regarding trade dispute and retaliatory tariffs placed by the European Union on U.S. agriculture products and the harmful impacts specific to Florida grapefruit producers.

Signed **letter** to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Vilsack to urge reversal of USDA's decision to suspend grapefruit juice standard for imported grapefruits, which would undermine American growers' ability to compete in the American market.

Signed **letter** with the Florida Delegation to the Department of Commerce to urge the rejection of a request for a Changed Circumstances Review that would exempt certain greenhouse-grown specialty tomatoes from the 2019 Suspension Agreement on Fresh Tomatoes from Mexico.

Signed **letter** with the Florida Delegation to House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture Chair and Ranking Member to urge equitable relief in crop insurance for specialty crop farmers in the FY23 agriculture appropriations bill.

Signed **letter** with the Florida Delegation to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to urge expeditiously review the use of Vismax pesticide in Florida citrus to help treat Huanglongbing infected citrus trees.

Signed **letter** with the Florida Delegation to the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Ambassador Tai to request an investigation into the flood of imported seasonal and perishable agricultural products from Mexico.

Signed **letter** to the Department of Defense, Department of Agriculture (USDA), and Department of Treasury to express national security concerns regarding U.S. agricultural land acquisitions made by Chinese Communist Party-affiliated entities.

Signed **letter** to Government Accountability Office (GAO) to request a review of foreign investment in U.S. farmland and its impact on national security, trade, and food security, as well as U.S. government efforts to monitor these acquisitions.

Signed **letter** with the Florida Delegation to Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Vilsack in support of Florida's request for a USDA Disaster Declaration for Florida counties that were impacted by Hurricane Ian, and to make assistance available to growers whose crops were damaged or destroyed.

Signed **letter** with the Florida Delegation to the House and Senate Appropriations Committee leadership to urge the inclusion of provisions providing relief for delivery of specialty crop insurance policies in this year's final spending package.

JUSTICE

Everyday we must protect our Constitutional freedoms and rights as Americans. It is my duty in Congress to ensure the checks and balances put in place by our nation's forefathers remain strong.

Cosponsored the [*Expressing support for the enforcement of section 1507 of title 18, United States Code, with respect to protests outside of the homes of sitting Supreme Court Justices*](#) resolution to condemn the leak of the Dobbs opinion and ensuing violence, property damage, and intimidation of Supreme Court justices; express concern for the erosion of faith in our institutions; supports the notion that the judiciary must remain free from political interference and insulated from public opinion; and call upon the Department of Justice to enforce 18 USC 1507 with respect to protests outside of the homes of justices.

Cosponsored the [*Leak and Lose Act of 2022*](#) to punish leaks of Supreme Court opinions or draft opinions with a \$5,000 fine and permanent forfeiture of admission to practice before all Federal courts.

Signed **letter** to Attorney General Garland to request appointment of a Special Counsel for the ongoing investigation into Hunter Biden's business dealings and tax liabilities to preserve the integrity of the investigation and ensure exclusion of any and all bias and undue influence from the White House.

PRO-LIFE

Since coming to Congress, one of my top priorities has been protecting the lives of unborn children. I am proud to receive an "A+" rating once again from [*Susan B. Anthony pro-life scorecard*](#), organized by the Susan B. Anthony List, a national pro-life organization.

Cosponsored the [*Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives condemning the recent attacks on pro-life facilities, groups, and churches*](#) resolution to condemn recent attacks on pro-life facilities, groups, and churches and calls on the current presidential administration to use appropriate law enforcement authorities to support their safety.

Cosponsored the [*Protecting Life in Health Savings Accounts Act*](#) to prohibit distributions from health savings accounts (HSAs) or other tax-preferred savings accounts for abortions except for abortions to terminate a pregnancy that is the result of rape or incest or to protect a woman's health or life.

Cosponsored the [*Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services relating to "Ensuring Access to Equitable, Affordable, Client-Centered, Quality Family Planning Services"*](#) resolution to overturn the Biden administration's October 2021 final Title X Rule providing Title X family planning funding to clinics that perform elective abortions and required grantees to make abortion referrals. The joint resolution would also reinstate the Trump administration's 2019 Title X Rule.

Cosponsored the [*Providing for the consideration of the bill \(H.R. 1011\) to implement equal protection under the 14th article of amendment to the Constitution for the right to life of each born and preborn human person*](#) resolution to discharge the [*Life At Conception Act*](#) for immediate floor consideration.

Cosponsored the [*Taxpayers Support Life Act*](#) to block the implementation of the Department of Health and Human Services' proposed rule to replace the 2020 regulations issued during the

Trump Administration and would require health care entities that participate in federal health programs to pay for or provide abortion.

Cosponsored the [*No Federal Funds for Abortion Travel Expenses Act of 2022*](#) to prohibit the use of federal funds for abortion through financial or logistical support to individuals traveling to another state or country to receive an abortion.

Cosponsored the [*Protect the UNBORN Act*](#) to prohibit the implementation of and funding for President Biden's pro-abortion Executive Orders.

Cosponsored the resolution [*To amend title 10, United States Code, to restrict the Secretary of Defense from paying or reimbursing expenses relating to abortion services*](#) to prohibit the Department of Defense (DoD) from funding abortion services, specifically including travel.

Led **letter** to U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland to demand the Department of Justice to respond with how its National Security Division plans to investigate recent acts of domestic terrorism against U.S. Supreme Court Justices, pro-life pregnancy centers, and churches.

Signed **letter** to President Joe Biden to demand retraction of the Executive Order on "Protecting Access to Reproductive Healthcare Services" because of its circumvention of the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*.

Signed **letter** to McConnell and McCarthy pledging to vote against any federal funding bill that would weaken or eliminate longstanding pro-life protections.

Signed **letter** to Government Accountability Office (GAO) to request reports on federal funding for organizations that provide abortions.

Signed **letter** to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Woodcock regarding efficacy concerns with non-invasive prenatal testing.

Signed **letter** to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Califf to rescind the removal of in-person dispensing requirement for the chemical abortion drug, mifepristone, and to strengthen the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) for the drug to protect women's health.

Signed **letter** to Chief Administrative Office of the House to request termination of the House's existing contracts with Citigroup, Inc. in light of Citigroup's decision to provide travel benefits to employees seeking an abortion.

Signed **letter** to DOJ to request a comprehensive investigation into allegations suggesting a preborn baby underwent a partial-birth abortion at the Washington Surgi-Clinic in Washington, DC.

Signed **letter** to President Biden to express extreme opposition to his Administration's FY23 Budget Proposal due to numerous anti-life and anti-family provisions included in the Proposal.

Signed **Amicus Brief** to request the Supreme Court take up the Kerr v. Edwards case, and to support South Carolina's decision to delist Planned Parenthood as a Medicaid provider.

Signed **letter** to the Department of Defense to oppose the recent memorandum directing the use of taxpayer dollars for travel allowances to facilitate abortions for service members and their families.

Signed **letter** to Defense Secretary Austin to oppose the memorandum entitled, "Ensuring Access to Reproductive Health Care," published on October 20, 2022. The letter argues that the memorandum violates decades-old federal law prohibiting the Department of Defense (DoD) from funding elective abortion (which includes facilitating such abortions) and urges DoD to immediately rescind it.

ANIMAL WELFARE

From police dogs, pets, and big cats, it is important we protect the welfare of animals.

Passed in the House and cosponsored the [*Big Cat Public Safety Act*](#) to revise requirements governing the trade of big cats (i.e., species of lion, tiger, leopard, cheetah, jaguar, or cougar or any hybrid of such species). Specifically, it revises restrictions on the possession and exhibition of big cats, including to restrict direct contact between the public and big cats.

Co-led the [*Paws Off Act of 2021*](#) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require foods containing xylitol to be considered mislabeled unless it includes a warning label specifying its toxic effects. Xylitol has become increasingly common in household products and is extremely toxic to pets when ingested so this bill seeks to promote safe labeling requirements for pet safety.

Cosponsored the [*Puppy Protection Act of 2021*](#). This bill would increase the regulatory standards for federally licensed commercial dog breeders such as veterinary care, housing, and breeding practices.

Cosponsored the [*Animal Freedom from Testing, Experiments, and Research \(AFTER\) Act of 2021*](#) to require federal agencies to enact policies allowing for the adoption/retirement of dogs, cats, and other animals no longer needed in government experimentation.

LOCAL PROJECTS

As your Representative, my top priority is advocating at the federal level for projects and grants directly impacting our communities. Over the last two years, I've worked to:

- Secure critical fire protection safety equipment for Lake County Fire Rescue Department from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Secure grant for the Lake County Fire Rescue Department from FEMA to increase staff by twenty-one firefighters and emergency responders
- Work with the Department of Transportation to secure funding for the Wekiva Trail Extension in Lake County
- Request federal funding for Volusia County's beach construction/renourishment projects, including the Daytona Beach Stormwater and Flood Protection Project, from the Army Corps of Engineers and the Biden administration
- Coordinate with the Federal Aviation Administration to improve and replace the Daytona Beach International Airport's (DAB) Integrated Security Management System
- Secure funding from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to build a new General Aviation terminal at the Flagler Executive Airport

OUTREACH

My office and I were honored to respond to each and every constituent and assist with federal agencies. We are always happy to help in any way we can.

Constituents Helped with Federal Agencies:

- Total Casework Completed: 2,183
- Number of Active Duty Service Members: 58
- Number of Veterans: 298
- IRS: 218
- Social Security: 167
- Passport Services: 112
- Immigration: 178
- Special Immigrant Visas: 21
- Small Business Administration: 25

Money Returned to Constituents:

- More than \$29,698,322

Tours Coordinated: 312

Flags Sent: 74

U.S. Military Service Academy Nominations: 16

Over 10,000 Constituents Responded to & Serviced:

- Phone Calls: 761
- Emails: 8,577
- Letters: 727

CAUCUSES

- For Country Caucus — Co-Chair
- Space Force Caucus — Co-Chair
- Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Caucus — Co-Chair
- Afghanistan Caucus
- ALS Caucus
- American Flood Coalition
- Army Caucus
- Congressional Human Trafficking Caucus
- Congressional Military Transition Assistance Pathway (MTAP) Caucus
- Congressional Supply Chain Caucus
- Critical Minerals Caucus
- Florida Ports Caucus
- General Aviation Caucus
- Hellenic Caucus
- India Caucus
- International Basic Education Caucus
- International Water and Sanitation Caucus
- Kurdish Caucus
- Motorsports Caucus
- Oceans Caucus
- Republican Study Committee
- Roosevelt Caucus
- Shipbuilding Caucus
- Singapore Caucus
- Special Operations Forces Caucus
- STEM Education Caucus
- Taiwan Caucus
- Venezuela Democracy Caucus
- Veterans' Education Caucus
- Women in STEM Caucus

As always, feel free to reach out to my offices in Florida or Washington, D.C. if my team or I can ever be of service.