

Hello Neighbors,

I want to wish a Happy Passover and Happy Easter to all who celebrate. This week I had the opportunity to spend some time away from Washington and in the 12th District where I heard from many of you about your concerns for the direction of the country.

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North Plainfield Town Hall

On Saturday, April 26th I'll be holding a town hall in North Plainfield, NJ from 3PM - 4PM. I look forward to seeing you all there - RSVP HERE.

Trump Admin Defunding the Fight Against Infant and Maternal Mortality

Last week, we saw a <u>significant number of firings</u> at the Department of Health and Human Services, including at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration, and the National Institutes of Health.

This week, it was revealed that the Trump Administration is <u>defunding screenings of</u> <u>newborns for hearing loss and rare diseases.</u> In addition, they've fired the entire staff of the PRAMS - or Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System - which tracks and analyses the causes of maternal and infant mortality.

Infant and Maternal Mortality rates in the United States are far higher than in most other developed nations. For some minority communities, these rates are on par with countries like Syria and Iran. Tracking and analyzing the data is vital to ending this crisis and giving every child and mother the chance to thrive.

That's why I'll be reintroducing my <u>Healthy MOM Ac</u>t to ensure mothers have access to the prenatal and postpartum care they need.

Trump Admin Violating Supreme Court Ruling

This week, Trump openly refused to abide by a Court order to return to the United States a man his administration freely admits was sent to a Salvadoran prison based on an "administrative error."

A court order was in place to prevent Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia's deportation. Whether or not you believe the court order was flawed, it was a legal ruling. The administration never contested the ruling; they simply violated it.



By refusing to abide by a direct order from the Supreme Court, the administration has shown it will not respect our Constitution. In doing so, Trump has become, in effect, a dictator.

There is no other way to interpret the administration's deliberate choice to willfully ignore a Supreme Court order. They lie about it brazenly, joke about it publicly, and refuse it plainly. This is a constitutional crisis in every sense of the phrase.

Cranbury Town Hall



Yesterday, I had the privilege of attending a town hall meeting in Cranbury. Residents

expressed to me their concerns about tariffs, the potential impacts of Congressional Republican cuts to Medicaid, and President Donald Trump's refusal to abide by court rulings. They also made clear their frustration with some in leadership on the Democratic side.

Black Maternal Health Week

Thursday, I was proud to join my colleague Rep. Robin Kelly for an Instagram Live conversation with Dr. Regina Moss of <u>In Her Own Voice</u> to mark <u>Black Maternal Health Week</u>. This week is a time to center the voices and lived experiences of Black mothers and birthing people and to shine a light on the urgent need to eliminate the deep racial disparities in maternal health outcomes.



In America, Black women are three times more likely to die from pregnancy-related complications than white women. That is not just a statistic; it is a national disgrace. We talked about how we need culturally competent care, real investments in community-based health organizations, and policies that treat all mothers and babies with the dignity they deserve.

But while we're fighting to expand access to care, the Trump administration is doing everything it can to take it away. From gutting newborn screening programs to eliminating essential maternal health data systems, even shutting down the Office of Minority Health, they're dismantling the very tools that protect vulnerable families. These cuts impact every expectant mother and newborn child, but they will hit the most socioeconomically vulnerable among us first and hardest. The fight continues until every person has access to quality essential healthcare - no matter what.

Constituent Resources Fair

On Thursday, my office held a Constituent Resources Fair at Mercer County College in Trenton. Fourty-five residents were able to get help with federal and state agencies.



If you were unable to attend but need assistance with a federal agency please reach out to my district office by calling (609) 883-0026 or on our website here.

North Plainfield Town Hall

On Saturday, April 26th I'll be holding a town hall in North Plainfield, NJ from 3PM -4PM. I look forward to seeing you all there. RSVP here to reserve your spot. More town halls are in the works for Monroe and Montgomery. Stay tuned for updates and follow me on twitter, instagram, bluesky, and facebook.

