



Dear Neighbor,

This week, the Appropriations Committee continued its annual markup process, during which we debate, offer amendments, and draft funding bills for federal programs, agencies, and other projects. Republicans made further cuts to crucial life-saving public health funding and access to surveys to monitor the level of food insecurity in our communities.

The Supreme Court gutted a crucial component of the Voting Rights Act, opening the door to redistricting that threatens to curtail the representation of minorities. Congress voted to extend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) without reforms (I voted no). I introduced two pieces of legislation focused on making life better for our communities: one raising the federal minimum wage to \$25 per hour, and another to help formerly incarcerated Americans more successfully re-enter society.

As the week progressed, we learned more about the situation surrounding the shooting at the White House Correspondents' Dinner. Part of the beauty of our democracy is the freedom we have to express our opinions despite our differences. When there are those who resort to political violence, it is a symptom of a democracy in crisis. We must return to a place where people can have confidence in, and respect for, the political process.

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Government Funding

Republicans Cut Life-Saving Health Funding

On Tuesday, in the Appropriations Committee, Congressional Republicans [proposed a 6% cut](#) to the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs (SFOPS) funding package, which provides security assistance to our allies and critical life-saving global health programs around the world. This includes over \$180 million in crucial funding slashed from family planning and programs meant to improve maternal and child

Service Academy Info Session

Are you interested in attending one of our nation's service academies? Join our info session **May 5th at 4pm**. RSVP [HERE](#). See more info below.

Hybrid Office Hours

Hybrid Office Hours

health and fight infectious diseases globally. Mothers and children will suffer from these drawbacks. Some may die.

America is supposed to be the beacon of hope to the world. What this nation chooses to fund reflects what we view as our priorities. This bill tells our allies that we are no longer willing to lead by example, making us look like an unreliable global partner. It tells our adversaries that there is an opening for them to exert their influence. It tells the world that the United States does not prioritize protecting the vulnerable. At every opportunity, Republicans have displayed their unwillingness to make life better for women and children.

Amendment Addressing the West Bank and Gaza

Tuesday, in the Appropriations Committee, Congressman Quigley introduced an Amendment to prevent US funds from being used "for any activity that facilitates the expansion of outposts or settlements or the damage or demolition of homes, schools, farms, orchards, or other civilian property in the West Bank or Gaza."



I believe in the safety and security of Israelis and Palestinians. What's happening in the West Bank, in which Israeli settlers are leveling whole Palestinian communities, is not about Israel's security. The United States blindly allow Israel to do that is wrong.

Fighting Food Insecurity

On Wednesday, I offered an amendment to reinstate the USDA Household Food Security Survey, which the Republican FY27 funding bill under consideration eliminates for the second year in a row. This is the same party that already cut \$187 million from SNAP benefits.

The survey has existed for 30 years, through both Republican and Democratic administrations, allowing us to know which areas of the country are in need. Yet, it was the Trump administration that cut funding, for being "redundant, costly, politicized, and ... does nothing more than fear monger."

Stop by my Hybrid Office Hours on Thursday, May 7, from 11 am to 2 pm, at the Old Bridge Public Library or [online](#). If you're having issues with a federal agency, my office is happy to assist you.

Passport Clinic

On Wednesday, May 20th, my office will be hosting a passport clinic to help applying for and renewing your passport and even getting your passport photo. RSVP [HERE](#).



Many of my colleagues across the aisle represent states with food insecurity that are above the national average. This is not a Democrat or Republican problem— it’s an American problem. That’s why I urged my colleagues to consider the harms occurring nationwide from the lack of data collection on food insecurity. Republicans voted it down anyway.

The Living Wage for All Act

On Tuesday, I joined Representatives Delia Ramirez, Analilia Mejía, and Chuy Garcia to introduce the [Living Wage for All Act](#). This bill would raise the federal minimum wage to \$25 per hour.

Adults entering the labor market are confronting a minimum wage that is the same as it was when they were in diapers.



Whether you're Black, white, Hispanic, or Asian; an urban service worker, a suburban waiter, or a rural factory worker; what unites every American is the belief that if you work hard, you should be able to support yourself and your family.

But for decades, a handful of billionaires and their well-funded corporate lobbyists have stood in the way of the American dream for millions.

But by coming together, we can build that floor beneath which no family will fall, build an economy that works for working people, and give everyone a real shot at a better life for themselves and their families.

New Pathways Act

On Thursday, I reintroduced the [New Pathways Act](#). This bill would help formerly incarcerated Americans to more successfully re-enter society by requiring the Bureau of Prisons to help these individuals obtain government-issued identification.

When incarcerated people are released, they are left on their own to create new lives for themselves while simultaneously facing obstacles that are almost insurmountable. These individuals return to society having paid their dues, yet many reenter the world with no access to basic resources required to obtain work or a place to live.

Our criminal justice system as it exists now seemingly encourages recidivism. By passing the New Pathways Act, we can reduce the number of repeat offenders and bring us one step closer to ending mass incarceration.”

Supreme Court Guts the Voting Rights Act, Again

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court once again cut down key provisions of the Voting Rights Act.

This ruling, decided on ideological lines, further erodes the progress our country has made on racial equality and representation and adds uncertainty to our election system.



The Supreme Court's relentless attacks on the Voting Rights Act and the rights of minority voters make it clear that Congress must pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to overcome recent decisions by this reactionary court and restore confidence in the fairness of our elections.

Congressional Art Competition Winners

This past Saturday, my team held the Congressional Art Competition Commemoration and Awards and I had the pleasure of meeting many young artists in the district. Over 70 local students who submitted art were able to celebrate and display their art at Artworks Trenton. Congratulations to our winners whose art will be displayed in the US Capitol Building, my DC office, and my District Office in Ewing.



Check out the winning artwork [on our website](#).

RSVP: Service Academy Info Session


The application period for the 2026–2027 Service Academy nomination cycle is now open. This year's submission period has been accelerated to ensure all nominations are completed and submitted on time during this transition period. **The deadline to apply is Monday, June 25 at 5:00 PM**, and applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis due to the shortened window.

If you're interested in applying, I encourage you to attend our virtual information session to learn more about the process and what's required. Our next and last session will be held on **Tuesday, May 5 from 4:00–5:00 PM**.

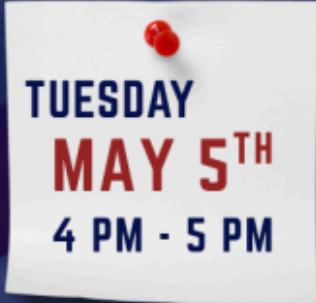
OFFICE OF CONGRESSWOMAN BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

SERVING NEW JERSEY'S 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

US MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATION PROCESS VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSIONS








Student applicants can register using the link in the caption to attend a staff-led virtual discussion about how to apply for a nomination to a Military Service Academy from the Congresswoman's office



**TUESDAY
MAY 5TH
4 PM - 5 PM**

**** 2026 EXPEDITED **
APPLICATION DEADLINE:
MONDAY JUNE 22ND @ 5 PM**

Parents, Guidance Counselors, Educators and School Administrators are encouraged to RSVP to attend!

For more information about the NJ-12 nomination process, and to apply, please visit:
watsoncoleman.house.gov/services/service-academy-nominations

RSVP [HERE](#)

All application materials must be submitted digitally as individual PDF documents and sent together in a single email by the deadline. Completed applications should be emailed to AcademyNominationsNJ12@gmail.com.

For more information about the Service Academy nomination process, please visit, <https://watsoncoleman.house.gov/services/service-academy-nominations>.

Middlesex County Passport Clinic

[RSVP](#) for our next Passport Clinic on Wednesday, May 20th, from 1PM to 5PM. Sign up now to renew or apply for a passport and get passport photos taken. Last time we had over 100 people join us. Don't delay!

MIDDLESEX COUNTY PASSPORT CLINIC

CONGRESSWOMAN BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

JOINED BY
THE OFFICE OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY CLERK, NANCY PINKIN

TRAVELING INTERNATIONALLY?

- RENEW AN EXPIRED PASSPORT
- APPLY FOR A NEW PASSPORT
- TAKE PASSPORT PHOTO



MONROE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

1 Municipal Plaza,
Monroe Twp, NJ 08831



WEDNESDAY
MAY 20, 2026
1:00PM - 5:00PM



FOLLOW US
@REPBONNIE

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

A CURRENT DRIVER'S LICENSE AND A GOVERNMENT-ISSUED
BIRTH CERTIFICATE W/ A RAISED SEAL, OR AN OLD PASSPORT.
PAY WITH TWO CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS. NO CASH ACCEPTED.
BOTH PARENTS OF A MINOR SEEKING A PASSPORT MUST BE PRESENT.

DISTRICT OFFICE
EWING, NJ
(609) 883-0026



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