



This week, I returned to DC to continue fighting for our communities. This included introducing three pieces of legislation, including a bill to ensure the oversight of ICE. In the Appropriations Committee, Republicans continued to follow Trump's lead in cutting crucial programs that are known to make life better and safer for you. Keep reading to see what else happened this week, including my latest episode on the [Trump Corruption World Tour](#).

1. Turning the Tide Against Data Centers
2. Trump Corruption: The Postal Service
3. No Delay for Immigrant Oversight Act
4. Traumatic Birth Research Act
5. Resolution to Address Inequities Facing Black Women and Girls
6. Addressing More Misguided Budget Cuts from the GOP
7. North Brunswick Resiliency Grand Opening

Turning the Tide Against Data Centers

Communities around the country are dealing with catastrophic impacts of data centers built in their towns. Some people have [lost access to town water](#). Others have seen their local power utilities threaten to [cut them off](#). In addition, recent studies have shown that temperatures in neighborhoods near AI datacenters can be 4-16 degrees warmer.

It's no wonder [7 in 10 Americans](#) oppose a data center being built near them.

AI, if distributed fairly, could mean great things for everyday people, but what concerns me is that a few billionaires own much of this tech, will reap the rewards, and leave the rest of us to clean up the mess. And right now, communities around the country are making decisions about their futures without the information they need.

In March, I introduced the [Data Center Community Impact Act](#), which would mandate a study on the health, environmental, and economic impacts of data centers on communities they touch. If we don't have that information, we may be flying blind into a catastrophe.

Trump Corruption: The Postal Service

On this week's episode of the [Trump Corruption World Tour](#), I discussed the United

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](#).

States Postal Service and its warning that it could face a major financial shortfall within the next year.

Millions of Americans rely on USPS every single day for medications, Social Security information, veterans' services, voting ballots, bills, paychecks, and basic communication.

For many rural communities, seniors, veterans, and Americans living on fixed incomes, there is no equivalent alternative. Private carriers are often more expensive, less reliable, or simply unavailable.

And the person now leading USPS, Postmaster General David Steiner, previously served on the board of FedEx — one of the Postal Service's largest private competitors.

FedEx benefits when public mail service becomes weaker, more expensive, or less reliable. Now a former FedEx board member is overseeing the future of the institution it competes against during one of the most financially unstable periods in its modern history.



No Delay for Immigrant Oversight Act

On Tuesday, Reps. LaMonica McIver (NJ-10), Rob Menendez (NJ-08), and I [introduced the No Delay for Immigration Oversight Act](#). We hosted a press conference to announce the legislation and call out both ICE's illegal operations in our communities and their attempts to cover up their treatment of detainees.

The bill would protect the necessary congressional oversight Trump's administration has worked to criminalize by tightening regulations on ICE and DHS. Specifically, the bill demands that members of Congress be granted immediate access to detention facilities, without having to give prior notice, in order to carry out their oversight responsibilities and places liability on private contractors for noncompliance.

ICE is not the private army of any president or administration. They are federal law

enforcement; they are supposed to be accountable to the American people.

Nothing should be happening inside an ICE facility that would require secrecy or concealment from the American people. The feigned ignorance of the law by private prison contractors and their employees must no longer be an impediment to Congress conducting its constitutionally mandated oversight responsibilities.



Traumatic Birth Research Act

Another bill I [introduced](#) this week is the [Traumatic Births Research Act](#), legislation that would authorize research on the impacts of traumatic birth experiences and post-traumatic stress disorder on mothers, infants, and their families, as well as evaluate how midwife-driven care can improve maternal health outcomes.

Maternal mental health (MMH) disorders—such as postpartum depression and PTSD—are the most common complication of childbirth, affecting about [one in five U.S. women](#), and have worsened significantly in recent years. Many of these challenges stem from the birth experience itself. Women of color face a higher rate of complications and substandard care, contributing to poorer mental health outcomes. Up to [40% of Black and Latina mothers](#) experience postpartum depressive symptoms—about twice the rate of white mothers—and are significantly less likely to receive treatment.

In 2025, two Black women faced traumatic birthing experiences at opposite ends of the country that raised the issue of how women, and especially women of color, are treated in hospitals. Traumatic births lead to higher rates of complications. Through this bill, we will finally get mothers the much-needed answer to questions surrounding trauma, birth, and mental health. With sufficient research, we can implement practices that can save lives.

Resolution to Address Inequities Facing Black Women and Girls

Finally, along with my Caucus on Black Women and Girls co-chairs Yvette Clarke (NY-09), and Robin Kelly (IL-02), I introduced a resolution to address the systemic inequities faced by Black women and girls and support their inclusion in the policymaking process. It builds upon key insights from our 2022 report, [“An Economy for All: Building a ‘Black Women Best’ Legislative Agenda,”](#) to address the current state of Black women in America, across fields such as employment, housing, and healthcare.

While Black women are an integral constituency of the American economy, structural barriers and inequities continue to hinder them from full and meaningful participation. In addition to economic exclusion, Black women face discrimination and biases that impede their educational, social, and political progress. There is a dire need to reverse exploitative policies that stifle the autonomy and socioeconomic growth of Black women and similarly marginalized communities.

Addressing More Misguided Budget Cuts from the GOP

Appropriations Markup season continued this week, as the committee met to discuss the Fiscal Year 2027 budget for Commerce, Justice and Science programs and issues. Congressional Republicans continued to take a wrecking ball to programs and enforcement measures intended to make life better and safer Americans.

Yet again, we have Trump priorities increasing hardship and decreasing protections for everyday Americans. They kneecap the Department of Justice from doing what it's supposed to do. Specifically, it will be harder for law enforcement to prevent gun and drug trafficking and trans-national crime. It will also be harder for the under-served to access legal services and for workers to access living wage jobs without fear of discrimination.

Many of the programs cut have seen decades of bipartisan support. What has changed? The current occupant of the White House does not have the best interests of the American people at heart and Congressional Republicans lack either the courage or care to stand up to him.



North Brunswick Resiliency Grand Opening

The North Brunswick Resiliency Hub, a multi-hazard and multi-purpose Community Resilience Hub in the Municipal Complex, held its grand opening on Monday. It will provide immediate shelter to residents during extreme weather events and other emergencies and a venue to facilitate effective emergency decision-making by Local, County and State leaders.

I was proud to help support this construction and secure \$1 million in funding through my work on the Appropriations Committee.



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