



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Happy Valentine's Day. It's been another busy week in DC as we got our first glimpse of the Republican budget proposal. This Congress, I'm sitting on the Budget Committee so I got a front row seat and it's not a pretty sight.

I also had the opportunity to sit down with many of you in a tele-town hall.

TeleTown Hall

On Wednesday, I held a Tele-Town Hall with constituents from New Jersey's 12th District to address concerns over unelected billionaire Elon Musk's hostile government takeover. More than 9,000 of you participated over the phone, on our website, or on our facebook page.

This was by far the most attended town hall in my time as your Congresswoman. Many of you are understandably outraged at the ongoing hostile government takeover by unelected billionaire, Elon Musk, who receives billions of dollars in government contracts. It was great to hear from you; to speak to your concerns directly, and have a dialogue about what we all can do to fight back against this illegal powergrab.

If you were unable to join us but would like to hear what your fellow New Jersayans are feeling about what's going on in Washington and to hear how I think we can fight back you can watch the entire town hall [here](#):



A Closeup View of the Terrible Republican Budget

On Thursday, I spent [12 hours in the Budget Committee](#) room fighting against the cruel anti family budget cuts proposed by my Republican colleagues.

Under the Republican budget plan, the 32,000 people in New Jersey's 12th District who receive coverage under the Affordable Care Act would see their **average premium go up by \$1,440** per year — a 57% increase.

A 60-year-old couple with a household income of \$85,000 in NJ-12 would see their health insurance costs increase by \$15,702 per year — **a 217% increase** in premiums.

In the 12th District, the 103,196 people on **Medicaid are at risk** of losing their health care under Republican budget plans - this includes **49,722 children** under the age of 19 and **10,164 seniors** in NJ-12. Republican cuts to SNAP and WIC would also threaten the 22,942 people in NJ-12 who count on these programs to put food on the table.

I introduced [an amendment](#) to the Republicans' budget proposal that would guarantee programs like **Medicare and Medicaid would not be cut** — Republicans voted to cut them.

I also introduced [an amendment](#) to ensure the **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau** would not be the target of cuts. The CFPB has brought back over \$21 billion to Americans who were scammed by big banks and fraudulent lenders. It, too, was voted down.

The GOP budget is a rip-off of working Americans. My Democratic colleagues and I on the Budget Committee and in the House Caucus will continue to fight this every step of the way.

Mass Firings

In just the last day, we're learning that Donald Trump has started [mass firings](#) of Federal Employees. I'm tracking developments and working with my Democratic colleagues to protect the livelihoods of the over 80,000 federal employees in New Jersey. These folks care for our seniors and veterans; they develop cancer treatments and keep us safe. They are incredible public servants and I will do everything in my power to ensure they stay on the job working for the people of New Jersey.

Stay tuned as this situation develops. You can follow me at [Twitter/X](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [BlueSky](#).



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