

Hi folks.

It has been a busy couple of weeks. My colleagues and I conducted an oversight visit to the Delaney Hall detention facility; the Republicans failed to pass their budget bill; several Cabinet Secretaries testified before Congress; I joined a press conference with the ACLU; Edan Alexander was finally freed; there were upsetting and disappointing acquittals in the Tyre Nichols case; we got some updates on the Newark Airport situation; I introduced the WATER Act with Senator Bernie Sanders; I stopped by and spoke with some federal workers protesting on the Capitol steps; and I joined a town hall hosted by the Princeton University College Democrats.

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Budget Hearing

This morning, in yet another display of chaos and incompetence, the GOP <u>failed to pass</u> their reconciliation bill because it wasn't cruel enough for their own members.

This proposal would have kicked 13.7 million Americans off their health insurance in order to pay for \$3.8 trillion in tax cuts predominantly for the wealthy and large corporations. And even after stripping healthcare from all those people this measure would still add at least \$2.5 trillion to the deficit.

My Democratic colleagues and I will continue to fight for a budget that meets the needs of all Americans - not just large corporations and billionaire political donors.

Montgomery Health and Wellness Services Fair and Town Hall

I will be hosting a town hall in Montgomery
Township Tuesday, May
27th at 6 PM at the
Montgomery Municipal
Center located at 100
Community Drive,
Skillman NJ 08558.

There will be a resource clinic from 4 PM to 6 PM where my office will be present alongside NJ State services including health and veterans' programs, and wellness, nutrition and mental health resources.

We hope to see you there.



Appropriations Hearings

Secretary Kennedy

On Wednesday, Health and Human Services Secretary Robert Kennedy, Jr. appeared before the Budget Committee and I asked him about his plan to cut the LIHEAP Program which provides heating and air conditioning assistance to low-income individuals. He avoided answering these questions which you can see here:



Secretary Duffy

Also on Wednesday, I discussed with Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy the problems at Newark Airport and how they can be fixed. You can find that discussion here:



Secretary Chavez-DeRemer

On Thursday, I discussed cuts to vital work training programs with Labor Secretary Lori Chavez-DeRemer. Find that discussion here:



ACLU Press Conference

Last week, I held a press conference alongside the ACLU, FWD.us and community safety advocates to oppose the Trump administration's decision to withhold nearly \$1 billion in public safety funding. This money supports programs that help domestic violence victims, treat addiction, stop human trafficking, and prevent hate crime. The administration must release these Congressionally-approved funds, and allow us to keep our communities safe.



Delaney Hall

On Friday, May 9th, my colleagues Rep. LaMonica McIver, Rep. Rob Menendez, Jr., and I arrived at the Delaney Hall ICE detention facility in Newark to exercise our oversight authority as Members of Congress.

Contrary to a press statement put out by DHS we did not "storm" the detention center. We were exercising our legal oversight function as we had done at the Elizabeth Detention Center earlier this year without incident.

Reopening Delaney Hall won't make us safer and it won't create an immigration system that is fair and secure for all families.

Private Prison companies like GEO Group create a perverse incentive to increase incarceration to increase corporate profits. It's no accident that GEO Group was the first corporation to max out donations to Trump's Super PAC, to the tune of \$500,000 dollars. And they're being rewarded with huge contracts to imprison immigrants like we're seeing here at Delaney.

New Jerseyans don't want more private prisons just to increase shareholder income at

the expense of taxpayers. They want a fair and secure immigration system that reflects our values and respects our Constitution.

Edan Alexander

On Wednesday, I participated in a press conference in Trenton hosted by Isles, Inc. a community development group. The conference was held to draw attention to the continued presence of lead pipes in some Trenton housing. We passed funding to remove and replace the outdated and dangerous piping, but the Trump Administration has decimated the federal agencies responsible for facilitating the projects, leaving millions of Americans across the country — and right here in New Jersey — at risk of lead exposure. I'll continue to fight in Washington to make sure these projects can move ahead, and our residents can be assured of their health and safety.

Acquittals in Tyre Nichols Case

Two years ago, I was horrified by the video that was released of the savage beating of Memphis resident Tyre Nichols. The brutality on display in body cam footage shocked me, and the nation.

Last week, the country was again shocked to learn that three of the officers involved in Nichols's killing were acquitted of charges. The lack of justice displays for all to see the continuing failure of our justice system to value the lives of Black men and women.

The decision to move the jury pool from the majority Black city of Memphis to the majority white city of Chattanooga raised concerns that the judicial system would fail the family of Mr. Nichols. Sadly, these fears appear to have been justified.

My heart goes out to Mr. Nichols' family, especially his young child who was robbed of their father, and his parents who were denied justice for their son. Our country has a long way to go to achieve an equitable, color-blind justice system.

Newark Airport Crisis

It is clear that Newark Airport is <u>not working</u> the way it should be. Multiple reports of radar outages present dire safety concerns that are extremely alarming. Safety must be the first priority. Additionally, flyers are understandably angry that their journeys have been delayed and their trips canceled, and the implications for our regional economy are potentially severe. Let me be clear: the current state of Newark Airport is unacceptable.

Police Week Press Conference

Thursday, on Peace Officers Memorial Day I attended a <u>press conference</u> with Congressman Swalwell and others to honor police officers who gave their lives in the line of duty, including Capitol Police and Local DC Police who protected the Capitol on January 6th, like South River native <u>Brian Sicknick</u>. We also called on the Speaker of the House to finally hang the memorial plaque to those brave officers, which he has refused to do for two years now. The plaque has already been made, and currently is collecting dust in a sub-basement of the Capitol building.



The WATER Act

On Tuesday, I along with Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont <u>introduced</u> the Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity and Reliability (WATER) Act, a comprehensive bill to expand access to clean, safe, and affordable drinking water.

Due to a combination of climate change, outdated infrastructure, and systemic disinvestment in our most vulnerable communities, millions of Americans risk losing access to one of the most basic necessities for human life: water. Access to safe, clean water is a human right. I'm reintroducing the WATER Act to protect that right. The American water crisis will only get worse if we fail to act.

Federal Worker Sit-in

Last week I was able to speak with a group of federal workers sitting-in at the Capitol to protest this administration's unlawful treatment of the workers who keep our country functioning. These folks keep our water clean, our food safe, and our medicine effective. They deserve dignity and respect for all that they do - and want to continue their vital work for the good of all Americans.



Princeton College Dems Town Hall

Last week, I had the privilege of speaking with several outstanding students as part of a town hall hosted by the Princeton University College Democrats. It's inspiring to see so many young people who are engaged, thoughtful, and motivated to make a difference in the world around them.

Upcoming Events in the District: Montgomery Health and Wellness Services Fair and Town Hall

I will be hosting a town hall in Montgomery Township **Tuesday, May 27th at 6 PM** at the Montgomery Municipal Center located at 100 Community Drive, Skillman NJ 08558. There will be a resource clinic from 4 PM to 6 PM where my office will be present alongside NJ State services including health and veterans' programs, and wellness, nutrition and mental health resources.

We hope to see you there.

If you are unable to attend but have questions about your federal benefits, please don't hesitate to call my District Office at 609-883-0026 or visit my website at https://watsoncoleman.house.gov/services/help-with-a-federal-agency.

CONGRESSWOMAN BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN TOWN HALL & HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCE CLINIC MAY 27TH



BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN CONGRESSWOMAN

New Jersey's 12th Congressional District

NEENA SINGH Mayor

Montgomery Township



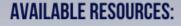








100 Community Drive Dr, Skillman, NJ 08558



- NJ STATE HEALTH SERVICES
- > VETERANS' PROGRAMS
- MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT
- WELLNESS AND NUTRITION
- HEALTHCARE RESOURCES



RESOURCE CLINIC 4:00-6:00PM TOWN HALL 6:00-7:00PM



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