

Hello Neighbors,

It was great to be back in New Jersey this past week where I was able to meet many of you around town and at our Town Hall in Montgomery. May was a busy month, with House Republicans passing a cruel budget reconciliation bill, the Department of Justice targeting Members of Congress while cutting public safety grants, and a rapidly devolving crisis in Gaza. Read about these events and legislation I've introduced below:

In this month's E-Newsletter

1. The Republican's Cruel Budget Proposal
2. DOJ cuts to Public Safety
3. Legislation I've Introduced This Month
4. Town Hall in Montgomery
5. Trump Admin Charges Congresswoman McIver
6. Shooting at Capital Jewish Museum
7. Edan Alexander Returns Home
8. Prevention of Aid from Reaching Gaza
9. District Office News

Republican's Cruel Budget

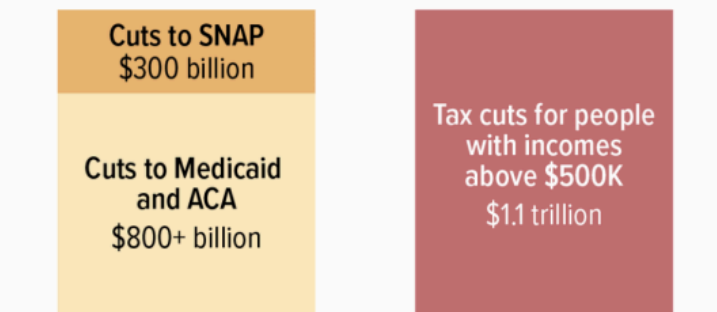
On May 22nd, Republicans voted to [advance a budget proposal](#) that would strip 13.7 million Americans of their healthcare to pay for \$3.8 trillion in tax cuts predominately for the rich and large corporations - while still adding \$2.5 trillion to the deficit.

This is the most harmful budget I have ever seen advanced during my time in Congress. It makes unprecedented cuts to basic needs programs, like food assistance and Medicaid, that support vulnerable populations for the express purpose of paying for tax cuts that overwhelmingly benefit the very richest Americans; taking from the most vulnerable to profit the most comfortable.

This bill would increase health insurance premiums for folks who get their coverage through the Affordable Care Act, making healthcare more expensive for over 32,000 New Jerseyans in the 12th District. This budget is shameful and cruel. It's exactly the kind of policy we can expect from a Republican Congress that is beholden not to the people they represent, but to the billionaire donors that bankroll their campaigns.

House Republican Bill Would Take Health Care and Food Assistance Away from People to Pay for Tax Cuts for Wealthy

Bill would cut health coverage by at least \$800 billion and likely much more, and SNAP by nearly \$300 billion, while giving the wealthy \$1.1 trillion in tax cuts



Note: ACA (Affordable Care Act). All estimates are through 2034. Households with incomes over \$500K make up 2% of total households in 2027.

Source: CBPP calculations using JCT tables JCX-22-25R and JCX-23-25 and Congressional Budget Office cost estimate of the House reconciliation bill (May 20, 2025).

Department Of Justice Cuts to Public Safety Programs

Earlier this month, I [held a press conference](#) at the House Triangle to discuss the impacts of recent federal funding cuts to community safety programs.

The Department of Justice recently announced that it was blocking \$810 million in community safety funding across more than 360 grant programs. The funding of these programs supports public health and safety projects run by nonprofits that work with state and local governments.

The programs at risk include those that combat opioid abuse and addiction, reduce hate crimes, halt human trafficking, prevent violence in rural communities, offer mental health intervention services, and much more.

I call on this administration to release this funding and allow these organizations to continue the good work they do keeping us all safe.



Legislation I've Introduced

PAID Act

Yesterday, I reintroduced a bill to ensure insurance companies use only driving-related factors in determining car insurance rates and eligibility. The [Prohibiting Auto Insurance Discrimination Act](#) would end the use of income, credit score, education levels, and other racial proxies unrelated to driving history and ability, preventing insurance companies from using these details to raise rates for low-income individuals, non-homeowners, and others who otherwise have good driving records. Using factors like where you work or whether you have a college degree doesn't weed out bad drivers — it just creates a two-tier system where those who make less get charged more. Working families deserve better than a system that is fundamentally unfair.

ICE Visibility Act

During the first 100 days of the second Trump Administration, the President has used Immigration and Customs Enforcement to establish an atmosphere of hostility and fear while ignoring the Constitutional right of due process for lawful residents of the United States. ICE's tactic of wearing regular street clothes to misrepresent themselves to the public while executing raids, patrolling, detaining, and arresting individuals is dangerous and should be ended for everyone's safety.

So this month, I introduced the [ICE Visibility Act of 2025](#) which would amend Section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to require Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and all other Immigration officers, including those deputized, to wear visible and distinct uniforms at all times of action.

WATER Act

Earlier this month, Senator Bernie Sanders and I reintroduced [the WATER Act](#), a comprehensive bill to expand access to clean, safe, and affordable drinking water. As the Trump Administration eliminates safety regulations and weather-related disasters, such as droughts, become more frequent and severe due to climate change, safe drinking water has become increasingly scarce and unaffordable.

Access to safe and clean water is a fundamental 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.

The WATER Act takes steps to remove contaminants like lead and PFAS "forever chemicals," directs grants to low-income communities to prevent water shutoffs due to unaffordable bills, and invests \$35 billion into an annual trust fund for water and sewer

infrastructure modernization. The legislation would also create well-paying jobs every year that would hire and train from the communities where the projects are located.

End For-Profit Prisons Act

Last week, I reintroduced the End For-Profit Prisons Act, which would phase out contracts between for-profit prison facilities and the Bureau of Prisons or the U.S. Marshals Service and would require federal employees to perform core correctional services.

Averaging over \$300 million in profits each year, private, for-profit prisons have a [long history of abuse and poor conditions](#) as they seek to maximize profits. In 2024, it was reported that the private prison company GEO Group was the first company to [max-out donations](#) to then-presidential candidate Donald Trump's SuperPAC to the tune of \$500,000.

Private Prison companies like Core Civic and GEO Group create a perverse incentive to increase incarceration to increase corporate profits. The use of private prisons erodes the public's faith in the integrity of American sentencing policy, leaving them to wonder if the impetus for lengthy mandatory minimums or forcibly detaining immigrant children is an evidence-based solution or just submission to the will of private prison companies donating to campaigns and profiting from imprisonment.

WIC Collaboration Study Act

At the beginning of May, I introduced the [WIC Collaboration Study Act](#), legislation directing the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on interagency data sharing and collaboration between the state agencies that administer WIC (the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and Medicaid.

Every family in this country deserves efficient access to the support systems that keep them healthy and secure. This legislation is about ensuring that our state agencies are working together so that when those most vulnerable qualify for SNAP or Medicaid, they're not being left behind by WIC because of bureaucratic hurdles. Inter-agency coordination can mean more children receiving nutritious food and families getting the resources and care that they need.

Town Hall in Montgomery

On Tuesday, I held a [town hall](#) and health & wellness resources fair in Montgomery, New Jersey.

Almost 100 residents attended to discuss attacks on Medicare and Medicaid, LIHEAP, and the impact of tariffs. I was able to hear and address constituents' concerns over the spread of misinformation, funding for education, assaults on the federal workforce, the war in Gaza, and cuts to Medicaid and public services that communities rely on.



What I hear from folks is that they are concerned and angry about the Trump Administration and Congressional Republicans gutting funding for critical public services, medical research initiatives, mental health programs, and the Department of Education, and shredding the Constitution to ignore court orders.

I'm grateful so many folks showed up to make their voices heard and share their concerns directly with me.

Trump Admin Charges Congresswoman McIver

This month, the Trump administration decided to [press charges](#) against my colleague, Rep. LaMonica McIver.

This case is an assault on civil liberties and an attempt to silence political opposition. I was with Congresswoman LaMonica McIver and Congressman Rob Menendez at Delaney Hall and I saw [what happened](#). These allegations are simply incorrect and inconsistent with the facts.

We were present to exercise our oversight responsibilities and in my view, the ICE agents needlessly chose to create a tense and dangerous situation by arresting Mayor Baraka. This prosecution is wrong and alarming, as it is just one more example of the Trump administration ignoring the rule of law and attempting to run roughshod over the other branches of government.

Shooting at Capital Jewish Museum

Last Wednesday night, Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim were murdered outside the Capital Jewish Museum in a vile and egregious act of antisemitic violence. Let me be clear: cold-blooded murder does not advance the cause of Palestinian liberation. Murdering innocent people protects no one. This is pure hatred. It is despicable. I am praying for Yaron and Sarah, their families, their friends, and their communities. This is unconscionable, and I hope that the perpetrator is brought to justice.

Edan Alexander Returns Home

On May 12th, Edan Alexander, the last living US citizen held by Hamas terrorists and a native of Tenafly, New Jersey, [was returned to his family](#).

I thank God that Edan is safely back home. I commend those involved in the yearslong effort to secure his release and hope the other hostages still held captive, and the remains of those who have tragically been killed, will soon be returned to their families and loved ones. I pray this is a sign that soon a ceasefire can be re-established, the violence will finally end, and we can begin to build a lasting peace.

Prevention of Aid from Reaching Gaza

After completely blocking humanitarian aid from entering the Gaza Strip for months, with the backing of the Trump Administration, the Israeli government has nominally lifted their blockade only to replace it with a deadly, chaotic, cruel, and wholly insufficient process that fails to meet the dire needs of the civilian population of Gaza.

Since the siege was said to have ended, [11 people have been killed](#) trying to access the aid, and dozens have been injured. Palestinians have been pushed to the brink of famine, drawing [widespread international condemnation](#) of the Israeli government's inhumane tactics.

As I have said for months, Netanyahu does not have the best interests of the Israeli people or the region at heart. He is motivated by self-interest and a desire to avoid facing corruption charges for his conduct in office. More and more leaders, both [in Israel](#) and [throughout the world](#), are recognizing the egregious inhumanity of his policies, and I pray that the pressure mounting against his abuse of power will soon reach a breaking point.

I continue to pray for all the innocent civilians, including thousands of children, who are suffering in Gaza as a result of Netanyahu's actions, as well as all those who are suffering throughout the region.

District Office News

So far this year, Constituent Service Representatives in my District Office have helped recovered over \$2.2 million for 12th District constituents.

Some recent comments from constituents who have worked with our office:

"They kept me informed of every step they took." - **Dana** from Monroe

"My favorite feature was how quickly the office helped me resolve an issue with my passport. I had to get my passport photo redone on short notice and the office was very efficient with resolving my issue." - **Camryn** from Princeton

If you need assistance with a federal agency - IRS, Veterans Affairs, immigration, passports, etc - please don't hesitate to reach out to my District Office at (609) 883-0026 or [online here](#).



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