

Rep. Karen Bass

Democrat • California, 37th District • bass.house.gov



Rep. Bass's Key Votes for Children

- **voted against [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market. This bill, which ultimately failed, would have led to 23 million more Americans without health insurance by 2026.
- **voted against [H.R.1](#)**, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which provided for tax cuts that disproportionately favor wealthy individuals and corporations. The bill is projected to add \$1.5 trillion to the national debt over ten years, which could lead to future cuts to important social safety net programs. The bill also repeals the individual health insurance mandate established under the Affordable Care Act, jeopardizing health insurance coverage for millions of people.
- **voted against [H.R.1892](#)**, the Bipartisan Budget Act, which extended CHIP for four additional years, funded a home visiting program for new mothers, funded community health centers, and modified funding and eligibility requirements for foster care prevention services.
- **voted against [H.R.1370](#)**, the Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act, which extended funding for the government by four weeks and retroactively funded CHIP for the first half of fiscal year 2018.
- **voted against [H.R.195](#)**, the HEALTHY KIDS Act, which extended funding for the federal government by three weeks and extended CHIP for six years.
- **voted against [H.J.RES.57](#)**, the resolution that nullified a Department of Education rule providing for federal standards for states implementing plans to meet the needs of historically marginalized groups under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

NOTE

Bills rated positive appear in **GREEN**, while negative bills appear in **RED**.

District Snapshot

28.6% live in poverty

29.9% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

7.6% live in households receiving SNAP

21.7% are facing food insecurity

3.7% lack health insurance

Sources: 2016 Annual Community Survey; US Dept. of Agriculture

Additional Member Info

Phone: 202-225-7084

Twitter: [@RepKarenBass](#)

Facebook: [RepKarenBass](#)

Committees:

Foreign Affairs

Judiciary

Rep. Bass's Actions in CDF's Core Policy Areas

Bass on Health Care

- **voted against H.R.195**, the HEALTHY KIDS Act, which extended funding for the federal government by three weeks and extended CHIP for six years.
- **voted for H.R.315**, the Improving Access to Maternity Care Act, which would provide for the identification of areas of need with respect to maternity care health professionals.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1318**, the Preventing Maternal Deaths Act, which would create a committee to review maternal and infant mortality and fund demonstration programs to study potential interventions.
- **voted against H.R.1370**, the Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act, which extended funding for the government by four weeks and retroactively funded CHIP for the first half of fiscal year 2018.
- **voted against H.R.1628**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.
- **voted against H.R.1892**, the Bipartisan Budget Act, which extended CHIP for four additional years, funded a home visiting program for new mothers, funded community health centers, and modified funding and eligibility requirements for foster care prevention services.
- **voted for H.R.2422**, the Action for Dental Health Act, which would establish a CDC grant program to improve access to dental care for underserved communities.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3059**, the Community Health Center and Primary Care Workforce Expansion Act, which would amend the Affordable Care Act to indefinitely extend community health centers and grants for qualified health centers.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3770**, the Community Health Investment, Modernization, and Excellence Act, which would reauthorize and extend funding for community health centers.
- **voted against H.R.3922**, the CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS Act, which would extend CHIP and Community Health Centers funding. CHIP and Community Health Centers were eventually funded through a series of budget bills.

Bass on Fighting Poverty

- **voted against H.CON.RES.71**, the 2018 congressional budget resolution, which established the budget for fiscal year 2018. This resolution included reconciliation instructions which allowed for the eventual passage of H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, with a simple majority in the Senate.
- **voted against H.R.1**, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which provided for tax cuts that disproportionately favor wealthy individuals and corporations. The bill is projected to add \$1.5 trillion to the national debt over ten years, which could lead to future cuts to important social safety net programs. The bill also repeals the individual health insurance mandate established under the Affordable Care Act, jeopardizing health insurance coverage for millions of people.
- **co-sponsored H.R.15**, the Raise the Wage Act, which would increase the minimum wage to fifteen dollars an hour over a period of seven years.
- **co-sponsored H.R.821**, the Child Tax Credit Improvement Act, which would increase the Child Tax Credit from \$1,000 per child to \$3,600 per child for children under the age of 6.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1748**, the Opening Doors for Youth Act, which would provide at-risk and disconnected youth with subsidized summer and year-round employment and assist local community partnerships in improving high school graduation and youth employment rates.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2208**, the Creating Pathways for Youth Employment Act, which would fund job programs for youths between the ages of 14 and 24.

- **co-sponsored H.R.2209**, the Helping to Encourage Real Opportunities (HERO) for At-Risk Youth Act, which would modify the work opportunity tax credit to include at-risk youth and increase the amount of the credit for youth employees.

Bass on Child Welfare

- **co-sponsored H.R.253**, the Family First Prevention Services Act, which would amend foster care laws to increase the likelihood of children remaining with their families rather than being placed in the foster care system. This bill became law as a part of H.R. 1892, the Bipartisan Budget Act.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1069**, the Timely Mental Health for Foster Youth Act, which would require states to provide mental health screenings for children within 30 days of entering the child welfare system.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1650**, the National Adoption and Foster Care Home Study Act, which would establish a national, research-based, and comprehensive home study assessment process for the evaluation of prospective foster parents and adoptive parents.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2069**, the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act, which would prioritize housing benefits for youths aging out of the foster care system.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2290**, the Family-Based Care Services Act, which would provide funding for therapeutic family care services in Medicaid. Such programs provide parents, caregivers, or foster families with training necessary to care for children with mental illness, emotional or behavioral disorders, or other conditions.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2476**, the Adoption Tax Credit Refundability Act, which would make the tax credit for adoption expenses refundable.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2640**, the Every Child Deserves a Family Act, which would prevent discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in adoption and the foster care system.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2742**, the Modernizing the Interstate Placement of Children in Foster Care Act, which would require states to develop an electronic system to expedite adoption or the placement of children in foster care or guardianship.
- **voted against H.R.2824**, the Increasing Opportunity and Success for Children and Parents through Evidence-Based Home Visiting Act, which would reauthorize the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program for five years, and require grantees to match federal funds beginning in fiscal year 2020. MIECHV was eventually reauthorized through H.R.1892, the Bipartisan Budget Act, without a state matching requirement.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2834**, the Partnership Grants to Strengthen Families Affected by Parental Substance Abuse Act, which would revise grant programs to improve outcomes for children in families affected by substance abuse.
- **voted for and co-sponsored H.R.2847**, the Improving Services for Older Youth in Foster Care Act, which would authorize states to extend foster care eligibility up to age 21 and to increase age limits on other programs for youths who have aged out of foster care.
- **voted for and co-sponsored H.R.2866**, the Reducing Unnecessary Barriers for Relative Foster Parents Act, which would require the Department of Health and Human Services to identify model standards for the licensing of foster family homes and to evaluate state plans against those standards.
- **sponsored H.R.2952**, the Foster Youth Mentoring Act, which would establish programs for the mentoring of youths in foster care.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3410**, the SIMARRA Act, which would establish a pilot program to allow incarcerated women and children born during incarceration to reside together in a separate prison housing unit.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3490**, the Supporting Adopted Children and Families Act, which would authorize grants for post-adoption mental health services for children.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3491**, the Protecting Adopted Children Act, which would impose new conditions on states with respect to adoptive parent training and mental health services for adopted children.

- **co-sponsored H.R.3740**, the Higher Education Access and Success for Homeless and Foster Youth Act, which would improve the financial aid process for homeless children and youths and foster care children and youth.
- **sponsored H.R.4998**, the Health Insurance for Former Foster Youth Act, which would amend the Social Security Act to ensure health insurance coverage continuity for former foster youth.

Bass on PreK-12 Education

- **voted against H.J.RES.57**, the resolution that nullified a Department of Education rule providing for federal standards for states implementing plans to meet the needs of historically marginalized groups under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2902**, the IDEA Full Funding Act, which would fully fund part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- **did not vote on H.R.4909**, the STOP School Violence Act, which would reauthorize a grant program for school security to train local law enforcement, school personnel, and students and to develop an anonymous reporting system for violent threats at school.
- **co-sponsored H.R.5374**, the Student Non-Discrimination Act, which would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity of a student or a person associated with that student in any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Bass on Juvenile Justice

- **co-sponsored H.R.901**, the MERCY Act, which would restrict the use of solitary confinement for juveniles in federal custody.
- **sponsored H.R.1432**, the Stopping Unfair Collateral Consequences from Ending Student Success Act, which would repeal the provision of the federal student aid program that suspends eligibility because of drug offenses.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1885**, the Prohibiting Detention of Youth Status Offenders Act, which would eliminate the use of valid court orders to secure lockup of status offenders.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1906**, the REDEEM Act, which would allow for the sealing or expungement of federal non-violent criminal offenses for adults and juveniles and would alleviate some collateral consequences of such convictions. The bill would also prohibit solitary room confinement in juvenile facilities in cases not involving substantial risk of harm.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1926**, the Protecting Youth from Solitary Confinement Act, which would prohibit the use of solitary confinement in juvenile facilities.

Bass on Gun Reform

- **voted against H.R.38**, the Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act, which would allow individuals licensed for concealed carry in one state to possess or carry a concealed weapon in another state that allows individuals to carry concealed firearms.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1478**, the Gun Violence Research Act, which would permit the Department of Health and Human Services to sponsor research on gun violence.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2598**, the Gun Violence Restraining Order Act, which would allow family members of an individual who they believe to be a danger to himself or others to seek a gun violence prevention order, which would allow for the temporary seizure of said individual's firearms.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3464**, the Background Check Completion Act, which would prohibit the sale of firearms prior to the completion of a background check.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3947**, the Automatic Gunfire Prevention Act, which would prohibit the sale of bump stocks and other mechanisms to increase the rate of fire of a semiautomatic rifle.

- **co-sponsored H.R.4268**, the Gun Safety: Not Sorry Act, which would provide for a seven-day waiting period before a semiautomatic firearm, silencer, armor piercing ammunition, or a high-capacity magazine may be transferred.
- **co-sponsored H.R.4573**, the Gun Violence Research Act, which would allow for federal funds to be used for research on mental health, gun violence, and how they intersect, and provide for reporting on the effects of gun violence.
- **co-sponsored H.R.5087**, the Assault Weapons Ban, which would prohibit the possession, sale, manufacture, importation, or transfer of a semiautomatic weapon or large capacity ammunition feeding device.
- **co-sponsored H.R.5103**, the Gun Violence Prevention and Safe Communities Act, which would increase excise taxes on firearms and ammunition and use the proceeds to fund grants for public safety programs and research on gun violence.

Bass on Nutrition

- **voted against H.R.2**, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act, which would cut SNAP benefits by \$20 billion over ten years through more stringent work requirements and elimination of other programs; the bill would also create additional barriers to receiving SNAP benefits.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1276**, the Closing the Meal Gap Act, which would increase the minimum SNAP benefit and exempt individuals from work requirements if they have not been offered a position in a federal jobs or job training program.

Bass on Early Childhood

- **voted against H.R.695**, the Child Protection Improvements Act, which would establish a background check system for individuals who care for children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3773**, the Child Care for Working Families Act, which would expand and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant and provide grants for funding high-quality preschool.

Bass on Housing

- **co-sponsored H.R.5200**, the Hardest Hit Housing Act, which would increase funding for the public housing capital fund for large public housing agencies and for foreclosure mitigation activities.