

Sen. Richard Blumenthal

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Sen. Blumenthal'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- **voted against [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.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 for [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 the [confirmation of Betsy DeVos](#)** as Secretary of Education, which CDF opposed due to concerns about DeVos's experience and her demonstrated opposition to robust enforcement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Title IX.
- **voted against the [confirmation of Jeff Sessions](#)** as Attorney General, which CDF opposed due to concerns about Sessions's poor record on civil rights and criminal justice.
- **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

14.1% live in poverty

20.7% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

12.4% live in households receiving SNAP

16.7% are facing food insecurity

2.8% lack health insurance

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

Additional Member Info

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Sen. Blumenthal's Actions in CDF's Core Policy Areas

Blumenthal on Health Care

- **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 for 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.
- **co-sponsored S.337**, the FAMILY Act, which would establish the Office of Paid Family and Medical Leave and entitle individuals to a family and medical leave insurance payment for extended caregiving periods.
- **co-sponsored S.428**, the ACE Kids Act, which would authorize states to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through enhanced pediatric health homes.
- **co-sponsored S.783**, the Improving Access to Maternity Care Act, which would provides for the identification of areas of need with respect to maternity care health professionals.
- **co-sponsored S.1112**, the Maternal Health Accountability Act, which would support states in improving outcomes for mothers during pregnancy.
- **co-sponsored S.1462**, the Marketplace Certainty Act, which would amend the Affordable Care Act to gradually reduce subsidy payments to insurance companies.
- **co-sponsored S.1650**, the Youth Access to Sexual Health Services Act, which would authorize grants to support access of marginalized youth to sexual health services.
- **co-sponsored S.1653**, the Real Education for Healthy Youth Act, which would authorize grants for comprehensive sex education.
- **co-sponsored S.1804**, the Medicare for All Act, which would establish a universal Medicare program.
- **co-sponsored S.2637**, the Quality Care for Moms and Babies Act, which would provide for grants to establish maternity and infant care initiatives and develop a set of measures for evaluating maternal and infant health.
- **co-sponsored S.2708**, the Choose Medicare Act, which would create a public health care option through Medicare that would be available for purchase on the health care exchanges.

Blumenthal 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 S.1242**, the Raise the Wage Act, which would increase the minimum wage to fifteen dollars an hour over a period of seven years.
- **co-sponsored S.1371**, the Working Families Tax Relief Act, which would increase the amount of the child tax credit and the portion of the credit that is refundable.

Blumenthal on Child Welfare

- **co-sponsored S.1257**, the Modernizing the Interstate Placement of Children in Foster Care Act, which would require states to develop an electronic system to expedite the placement of children in foster care or guardianship, or for adoption.
- **co-sponsored S.1268**, the Child Protection and Family Support Act, which would allow states to provide foster care maintenance payments for children with parents in a licensed residential family-based treatment facility for substance abuse and to reauthorize grants to improve the well-being of families affected by substance abuse.
- **co-sponsored S.1303**, 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 S.1797**, the Health Insurance for Former Foster Youth Act, which would ensure health care continuity for children aging out of the foster care system.

Blumenthal 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.
- **voted against the confirmation of Betsy DeVos** as Secretary of Education, which CDF opposed due to concerns about DeVos's experience and her demonstrated opposition to robust enforcement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Title IX.
- **co-sponsored S.1421**, the Patsy T. Mink Gender Equity in Education Act, which would require the Department of Education to establish a new office to ensure compliance with anti-sex-discrimination laws.
- **co-sponsored S.1674**, the School Building Improvement Act, which would provide grants for the repair, renovation, and construction of public elementary schools and secondary schools.
- **co-sponsored S.2495**, 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 S.2572**, the Safe Schools Improvement Act, which would require local educational agencies to establish anti-bullying policies and prohibit bullying based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or religion.
- **co-sponsored S.2584**, 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.

Blumenthal on Juvenile Justice

- **voted against the confirmation of Jeff Sessions** as Attorney General, which CDF opposed due to concerns about Sessions's poor record on civil rights and criminal justice.
- **co-sponsored S.1917**, the National Criminal Justice Commission Act, which would reform sentencing laws and corrections and include provisions on parole for juveniles, sealing of juvenile records, and juvenile solitary confinement.
- **co-sponsored S.2423**, the REAL Act, which would reinstate Pell Grant eligibility for incarcerated individuals.

Blumenthal on Gun Reform

- **co-sponsored S.1945**, the Keep Americans Safe Act, which would regulate large capacity ammunition feeding devices.
- **co-sponsored S.2009**, the Background Check Expansion Act, which would require background checks for every firearm sale.
- **sponsored S.2044**, the Lori Jackson Domestic Violence Survivor Protection Act, which would prevent domestic abusers subject to a protective court order from purchasing or possessing guns.

- **co-sponsored S.2095**, the Assault Weapons Ban, which would criminalize the sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of a semiautomatic assault weapon or large capacity ammunition feeding device.
- **sponsored S.2627**, the Ammunition Background Check Act, which would extend background check requirements to the transfer of ammunition at gun shows or over the Internet.
- **co-sponsored S.2662**, the Handgun Purchaser Licensing Act, which would provide for grants to encourage states and local governments to establish handgun purchaser licensing requirements.

Blumenthal on Nutrition

- **co-sponsored S.1064**, the Anti-Lunch Shaming Act, which would prohibit public identification or stigmatization of children who lack funds to pay for a meal or have outstanding credit.
- **sponsored S.2477**, the SNAP Work Opportunities and Veteran Protection Act, which would exempt SNAP recipients from the program's work requirements if they aren't first offered a position in a state job training or workfare program.

Blumenthal on Early Childhood

- **co-sponsored S.1151**, the Credit for Caring Act, which would provide a nonrefundable credit for working family caregivers.
- **co-sponsored S.1806**, 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.

Blumenthal on Housing

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Housing. To learn more visit www.blumenthal.senate.gov or call this member's office at 202-224-2823.