

Sen. Joni Ernst

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Sen. Ernst's Key Votes for Children

- **voted for [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.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 for [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 for [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 for 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 for 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 for [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

15.3% live in poverty

25.3% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

11.7% live in households receiving SNAP

16.7% are facing food insecurity

2.5% lack health insurance

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

Additional Member Info

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Committees:

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Environment and Public Works
Small Business and
Entrepreneurship

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

Ernst on Health Care

- **voted for [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 for [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.

Ernst on Fighting Poverty

- **voted for [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 for [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.

Ernst on Child Welfare

- **co-sponsored [S.811](#)**, the Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act, which would protect child welfare service providers that decline to provide services that conflict with sincerely held religious beliefs or moral convictions.

Ernst on PreK-12 Education

- **voted for [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 for 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.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.

Ernst on Juvenile Justice

- **voted for 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.860](#)**, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act, which would reauthorize the JJDPA and provide for incentive grants for local delinquency prevention programs.
- **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.

Ernst on Gun Reform

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Guns. To learn more visit www.ernst.senate.govpublic/ or call this member's office at 202-224-3254.

Ernst on Nutrition

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Nutrition. To learn more visit www.ernst.senate.govpublic/ or call this member's office at 202-224-3254.

Ernst on Early Childhood

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

Ernst on Housing

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Housing. To learn more visit www.ernst.senate.govpublic/ or call this member's office at 202-224-3254.