

Rep. Al Lawson

Democrat • Florida, 5th District • lawson.house.gov



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- **voted against [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.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

35% live in poverty

41.7% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

12.5% live in households receiving SNAP

28.2% are facing food insecurity

5.1% lack health insurance

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

Additional Member Info

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Committees:

Agriculture

Small Business

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

Lawson 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.
- **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 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.
- **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.2745**, the Healthy Maternity and Obstetric Medicine Act, which would provide for special enrollment periods for pregnant women seeking health coverage.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3325**, the ACE Kids Act, which would amend Medicaid to provide states with the option of providing coordinated care for children with complex medical conditions through a health home.
- **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.
- **co-sponsored H.R.4541**, the CHAMPION KIDS Act, which would extend funding for a number of health programs, including CHIP and community health centers.

Lawson 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.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.

Lawson on Child Welfare

- **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.

- **voted for [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 [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.
- **co-sponsored [H.R.3742](#)**, the Fostering Success in Higher Education Act, which would amend the Higher Education Act to provide grants to increase educational opportunities for foster youth and homeless youth.

Lawson 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 for and co-sponsored [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.

Lawson on Juvenile Justice

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Juvenile Justice. To learn more visit lawson.house.gov or call this member's office at 202-225-0123.

Lawson 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.1612](#)**, the Gun Show Loophole Closing Act, which would require criminal background checks on all firearms transactions at gun shows.
- **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.

Lawson 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.
- **co-sponsored [H.R.2401](#)**, 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.
- **co-sponsored [H.R.2684](#)**, the SNAP Work Opportunities Act, which would exempt individuals from SNAP work requirements if they are not offered a position in a state job training or workfare program.

- **sponsored H.R.3749**, the SNAP Standard Medical Expense Deduction Act, which would provide for a standard medical expense deduction for the purpose of calculating monthly income to determine eligibility for SNAP.
- **co-sponsored H.R.4855**, the SNAP Healthy Incentives Act, which would provide financial incentives for SNAP participants to purchase fruits and vegetables.

Lawson 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.

Lawson on Housing

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Housing. To learn more visit lawson.house.gov or call this member's office at 202-225-0123.