

Sen. Bill Nelson

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- **voted against [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.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

23.3% live in poverty

32.5% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

14.8% live in households receiving SNAP

22.7% are facing food insecurity

6.2% lack health insurance

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

Additional Member Info

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Aging

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Finance

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

Nelson 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 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.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.1112**, the Maternal Health Accountability Act, which would support states in improving outcomes for mothers during pregnancy.
- **co-sponsored S.1354**, the Individual Health Insurance Marketplace Improvement Act, which would establish a fund to provide for state individual market stabilization reinsurance programs.
- **co-sponsored S.1545**, the SAME Act, which would provide enhanced federal funding to every state that expands Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act, regardless of when the expansion takes place.
- **co-sponsored S.1827**, the KIDS Act, which would extend CHIP funding for five years.
- **co-sponsored S.1835**, the Lower Premiums Through Reinsurance Act, which would support states in creating individual health care reinsurance programs.
- **co-sponsored S.2456**, the CARA 2.0 Act, which would reauthorize the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act and introduce new efforts to fight the opioid crisis.

Nelson 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.

Nelson on Child Welfare

- **co-sponsored S.774**, the Trauma-Informed Care for Children and Families Act, which would create a task force to report on best practices for trauma-informed care and modify a number of grant programs to incorporate trauma-informed care.
- **co-sponsored S.1091**, the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act, which would establish a federal task force to support grandparents raising grandchildren.

Nelson 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.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.

Nelson 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.

Nelson 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.
- **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.
- **co-sponsored [S.2470](#)**, the Age 21 Act, which would prohibit the purchase of certain firearms by individuals under 21 years of age.
- **co-sponsored [S.2492](#)**, the NICS Denial Notification Act, which would increase criminal enforcement of attempted gun purchases by prohibited individuals.
- **co-sponsored [S.2607](#)**, the Extreme Risk Protection Order and Violence Prevention 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.

Nelson on Nutrition

- **co-sponsored [S.1707](#)**, 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.

Nelson on Early Childhood

- **co-sponsored [S.1151](#)**, the Credit for Caring Act, which would provide a nonrefundable credit for working family caregivers.

Nelson on Housing

- **sponsored [S.73](#)**, the Housing Accountability Act, which would provide standards for the physical condition and management of housing receiving federal subsidies under Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

- **co-sponsored S.548**, the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act, which would increase state credit allocations and make several adjustments to the low-income housing tax credit.