

# Rep. Bobby Rush

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## Rep. Rush'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- **voted against [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.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.
- **did not vote on [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

27% live in poverty

39.3% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

19.7% live in households receiving SNAP

21.8% are facing food insecurity

2.3% lack health insurance

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

## Additional Member Info

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Committees:

Energy and Commerce

## Rep. Rush's Actions in CDF's Core Policy Areas

### Rush 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.
- **did not vote on 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.
- **did not vote on 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.3192**, the CHIP Mental Health Parity Act, which would ensure access to mental health services under CHIP.
- **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.
- **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.
- **co-sponsored H.R.4778**, the Behavioral Health Coverage Transparency Act, which would strengthen funding parity for mental health and substance abuse disorders.

### Rush 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.
- **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.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2633**, the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit Enhancement Act, which would raise the income level at which the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit phases out, increase the value of the credit, index the credit to inflation, and make the credit fully refundable.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3757**, the GAIN Act, which would increase the value of the Earned Income Tax Credit for every group including individuals with no children.

### Rush 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.2236**, the Foster and Homeless Youth Food Security Act, which would loosen SNAP work requirements for foster care and homeless youth who are enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher learning.
- **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.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.
- **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.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.3525**, the Home Visiting Works Act, which would reauthorize the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program for 5 years without a state-matching provision. MIECHV was eventually reauthorized for five years without a state matching requirement as a part of H.R.1892, the Bipartisan Budget Act.

### Rush on PreK-12 Education

- **did not vote on 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.2475**, the Rebuild America's Schools Act, which would provide funds for improvements to public school facilities.

- **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.5136**, the GIRLS STEM Act, which would establish a program to encourage female students to explore STEM fields and provide for grants to fund such efforts.
- **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.

### Rush on Juvenile Justice

- **co-sponsored H.R.2899**, the Second Chance Reauthorization Act, which would revise and reauthorize grant programs regarding offender reentry, substance abuse treatment, and education. The bill would also repeal some diversion programs for drug offenders.
- **co-sponsored H.R.3252**, the Second Chance for Students Act, which would make federal student aid available to students convicted of marijuana offenses while completing a drug rehabilitation program.

### Rush 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.3361**, the SECURE Firearm Storage Act, which would require federally licensed firearms importers, manufacturers, and dealers to meet certain requirements with respect to securing their inventory, business records, and business premises.
- **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.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.5383**, the Ammunition Background Check Act, which would extend background check requirements to the transfer of ammunition at gun shows or over the internet.

### Rush 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.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.

### **Rush 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.1022**, the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act, which would provide 6 weeks of paid parental leave to Federal employees.
- **co-sponsored H.R.1466**, the 21st Century Child Care Investment Act, which would provide tax breaks for employment-related expenses for services provided by high quality child care centers.
- **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.

### **Rush on Housing**

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Housing. To learn more visit [rush.house.gov](http://rush.house.gov) or call this member's office at 202-225-4372.