

Rep. Darren Soto

Democrat • Florida, 9th District • soto.house.gov



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- **voted against [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.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

27.9% live in poverty

48.8% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

10.6% live in households receiving SNAP

21.3% are facing food insecurity

5.7% lack health insurance

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

Additional Member Info

Phone: 202-225-9889

Twitter: @RepDarrenSoto

Facebook: N/A

Committees:

Agriculture

Natural Resources

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

Soto 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 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.
- **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.3192**, the CHIP Mental Health Parity Act, which would ensure access to mental health services under CHIP.
- **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.
- **co-sponsored H.R.4820**, the ASK Act, which would permanently fund CHIP and provide temporary extensions for community health centers and MIECHV.

Soto 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.821**, the Child Tax Credit Improvement Act, which would increase the Child Tax Credit from \$1,000 per child to \$3,600 per child for children under the age of 6.
- **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.

Soto 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.
- **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.

Soto 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.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2475**, the Rebuild America's Schools Act, which would provide funds for improvements to public school facilities.
- **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.
- **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.

Soto on Juvenile Justice

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Juvenile Justice. To learn more visit soto.house.gov or call this member's office at 202-225-9889.

Soto 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.1475**, the Gun Trafficking Prevention Act, which would expand criminal penalties for trafficking in 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.1982**, the Mental Health Access and Gun Violence Prevention Act, which would increase funding for mental health treatment and reporting of mental health information to the criminal background check system.
- **co-sponsored H.R.2598**, the Gun Violence Restraining Order 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.
- **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.3613**, the Safer Neighborhoods Gun Buyback Act, which would authorize grants for states, local governments, or gun dealers to conduct gun buyback programs.
- **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.4018**, a bill to modify gun laws, which would require a three day waiting period for the purchase of a handgun.
- **co-sponsored H.R.4268**, the Gun Safety: Not Sorry Act, which would provide for a seven-day waiting period before a semiautomatic firearm, silencer, armor piercing ammunition, or a high-capacity magazine may be transferred.
- **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.

Soto 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.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.
- **co-sponsored H.R.4855**, the SNAP Healthy Incentives Act, which would provide financial incentives for SNAP participants to purchase fruits and vegetables.

Soto on Early Childhood

- **voted against and co-sponsored 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.3632**, the PACE Act, which would make the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit refundable, increase rates for the credit, and index the credit to inflation.
- **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.

Soto on Housing

- **co-sponsored H.R.948**, the Common Sense Housing Investment Act, which would phase out the tax deduction for mortgage interest, provide tax credits for cooperative housing corporations, and increase the state housing credit ceiling for the low-income housing tax credit; increased tax revenue created by these changes would be directed to the Housing Trust Fund and other affordable housing initiatives.