

Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman



Democrat • New Jersey, 12th District • watsoncoleman.house.gov

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- **voted against [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.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

13% live in poverty

40.2% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

16% live in households receiving SNAP

14.1% are facing food insecurity

3.8% lack health insurance

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

Additional Member Info

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Committees:

Oversight and Government Reform
Homeland Security

Rep. Watson Coleman's Actions in CDF's Core Policy Areas

Watson Coleman 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 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 for and co-sponsored 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.
- **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.3059**, the Community Health Center and Primary Care Workforce Expansion Act, which would amend the Affordable Care Act to indefinitely extend community health centers and grants for qualified health centers.
- **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.4129**, the State Public Option Act, which would establish a state public option through Medicaid.
- **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.

Watson Coleman 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.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.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.
- **co-sponsored H.R.4074**, the Pathways Out of Poverty Act, which would provide for expansion and improvement of pre-K education, housing subsidies, TANF, SNAP, reemployment programs, and an increase in the minimum wage.

Watson Coleman on Child Welfare

- **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.

Watson Coleman 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.1120**, the Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act, which would promote delivery of high quality special education and related services to students with visual disabilities or who are deaf or hard of hearing or deaf-blind.
- **voted against 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.

Watson Coleman on Juvenile Justice

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Juvenile Justice. To learn more visit watsoncoleman.house.gov or call this member's office at 202-225-5801.

Watson Coleman 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.1612**, the Gun Show Loophole Closing Act, which would require criminal background checks on all firearms transactions at gun shows.
- **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.
- **sponsored H.R.3962**, the Stop Online Ammunition Sales Act, which would require face to face sales of ammunition, licensing of ammunition dealers, and reporting about bulk ammunition purchases.
- **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.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.4786**, the Protecting Communities from Lost or Stolen Law Enforcement Weapons Act, which would require state and local law enforcement to promptly report the loss or theft of any firearm to the National Tracing Center.
- **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.5162**, the Firearm Safety Act, which would allow the Consumer Product Safety Commission to issue safety standards for firearms.
- **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.

Watson Coleman 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 job 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.4855**, the SNAP Healthy Incentives Act, which would provide financial incentives for SNAP participants to purchase fruits and vegetables.

Watson Coleman 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.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.
- **co-sponsored H.R.5575**, the Pathway to Parenting Act, which would help parents in federal prisons by ensuring placement as close as possible to their children, increasing visitation opportunities, improving treatment of pregnant women in prison, providing parenting classes, and authorizing pilot programs for overnight visits for inmates with children and prenatal care for women in prison.

Watson Coleman on Housing

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Housing. To learn more visit watsoncoleman.house.gov or call this member's office at 202-225-5801.