

# Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse

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- **voted against [H.R.1628](#)**, the American Health Care Act, which would have repealed Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act, repealed the individual and employer health care mandates, and otherwise modified the private health insurance market.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

19.4% live in poverty

26.6% live in households below 185% of the poverty line

16.1% live in households receiving SNAP

18.1% are facing food insecurity

1.9% lack health insurance

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

## Additional Member Info

Phone: 202-224-2921

Twitter: [@SenWhitehouse](#)

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### Committees:

Aging

Budget

Environment and Public Works

Finance

Health, Education, Labor, and

Pensions

## Sen. Whitehouse's Actions in CDF's Core Policy Areas

### Whitehouse on Health Care

- **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.
- **sponsored S.194**, the CHOICE Act, which would provide for a public health insurance option.
- **co-sponsored S.337**, the FAMILY Act, which would establish the Office of Paid Family and Medical Leave and entitle individuals to a family and medical leave insurance payment for extended caregiving periods.
- **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.1227**, the Stabilize Medicaid and CHIP Coverage Act, which would stabilize health coverage for children whose eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP fluctuates along with their family income.
- **co-sponsored S.1462**, the Marketplace Certainty Act, which would amend the Affordable Care Act to gradually reduce subsidy payments to insurance companies.
- **co-sponsored S.1804**, the Medicare for All Act, which would establish a universal Medicare program.
- **co-sponsored S.2001**, the State Public Option Act, which would establish a public health care option through Medicaid.
- **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.

### Whitehouse 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.

### Whitehouse on Child Welfare

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Child Welfare. To learn more visit [www.whitehouse.senate.gov](http://www.whitehouse.senate.gov) or call this member's office at 202-224-2921.

### Whitehouse 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.1370](#)**, the Mental Health in Schools Act, which would expand grants and other programs relating to children and violence to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs.
- **co-sponsored [S.1674](#)**, the School Building Improvement Act, which would provide grants for the repair, renovation, and construction of public elementary schools and secondary schools.
- **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.
- **co-sponsored [S.2584](#)**, 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.

#### **Whitehouse 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.860](#)**, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Reauthorization Act, which would reauthorize the JJDPA and provide for incentive grants for local delinquency prevention programs.
- **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.
- **co-sponsored [S.2423](#)**, the REAL Act, which would reinstate Pell Grant eligibility for incarcerated individuals.

#### **Whitehouse 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.2627](#)**, the Ammunition Background Check Act, which would extend background check requirements to the transfer of ammunition at gun shows or over the Internet.

#### **Whitehouse on Nutrition**

- We couldn't find any action this member has taken on Nutrition. To learn more visit [www.whitehouse.senate.gov](http://www.whitehouse.senate.gov) or call this member's office at 202-224-2921.

#### **Whitehouse on Early Childhood**

- **co-sponsored [S.1806](#)**, 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.

## Whitehouse on Housing

- **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.