

Trump and Republicans who seem determined to make the livelihoods of the American people worse, not better. Again, they have no plan to help them.

Across the country, stripping healthcare access from millions of Americans and driving up costs for everyone else. This is especially prevalent in minority and rural communities. So I ask my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: Why do you want people to suffer?

The ACA tax credits ensure that families, seniors, young adults, and workers have access to quality healthcare. These tax credits provide critical financial relief for millions who rely on health insurance coverage.

Affordability remains a top concern for Americans, and it baffles me that Republicans would cause such unnecessary harm to low- and middle-income households.

I will continue fighting to protect your pocketbooks as we defend your right to affordable healthcare. We cannot claim to be the greatest country on earth when one side is willing to watch millions suffer or be kicked off plans they have relied on for years. Our Nation is already facing challenging times, and stripping away healthcare for political gimmicks only causes further harm. Therefore, we must continue working to extend the ACA tax credits to ensure Americans have access to affordable, reliable healthcare.

OPPOSITION LETTER LED BY FREE DC ON THE COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107) AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5214)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives debated the Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025 (H.R. 5107) and the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 5214). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing these bills led by Free DC.

FREE DC,

November 17, 2025.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: There are currently six bills queued up for floor votes in the House attacking the District of Columbia. These bills would severely erode DC's already limited control over its criminal justice system and leave individuals and organizations in DC at the mercy of this administration as they continue implementing an authoritarian agenda. These bills would roll back evidence-based criminal justice reforms passed by the duly elected DC Council, introduce new punitive measures that would harm DC residents, and grant the president even more direct control over DC government. We, the undersigned national organizations, urge you and all House members to be strong allies to DC and oppose all these bills.

We have seen what the Trump administration's interference in local law enforcement has done so far. Communities have been terrorized by federal agents' race-based targeting of residents and National Guard soldiers carrying weapons of war in DC streets.

Trump's appointee for U.S. Attorney for DC, Jeanine Pirro, has repeatedly had frivolous

charges rejected by grand and petit juries. Now Trump and his allies in Congress will attempt to remove DC's locally elected Attorney General and appoint a lackey in his place. This would give Trump power over not only DC's juvenile justice system, but also civil prosecution against perceived enemies. These bills would enable the Trump administration to attack any and all entities in DC, from individuals to advocacy organizations to labor unions and more. We therefore call on the House to reject all six bills:

OPPOSE H.R. 5214, the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act, introduced by Rep. STEFANK, that would increase pre-trial detention and require cash bail for a range of alleged offenses. Calendar No. 269.

OPPOSE H.R. 5179, the District of Columbia Attorney General Appointment Reform Act, introduced by Rep. FALLON, that would remove DC's elected Attorney General and grant the President sole authority to nominate a replacement. Calendar No. 270.

OPPOSE H.R. 5107/S. 2687, the CLEAN DC Act, introduced by Rep. CLYDE and Sen. CRUZ, that would repeal the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022. Calendar No. 271.

OPPOSE H.R. 5172, the Strong Sentences for Safer D.C. Streets Act, introduced by Rep. BIGGS, that would increase or establish mandatory minimum sentences for a number of offenses, and remove the exception for minors. Calendar No. 279.

OPPOSE H.R. 5242/S. 2815, to repeal D.C.'s Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act of 2016 and the Second Chance Amendment Act of 2022, introduced by Rep. KUSTOFF and Sen. CORNYN. An amendment was added to this bill in committee that would prohibit automated traffic enforcement in DC and undo the no-right-on-red traffic safety law. Calendar No. 293.

OPPOSE H.R. 5163, the Clean and Managed Public Spaces Act, that would prohibit camping on public property in DC and effectively criminalize homelessness, introduced by Rep. TIMMONS. Calendar No. 294.

These six bills are only the most imminent threats facing DC in the House. Many more bills and appropriations riders are in the pipeline. In solidarity with the people of the District of Columbia and our national democracy, we, the undersigned, call on you to side with DC and oppose every bill and rider that seeks to prohibit, restrict, or undo DC's laws, and co-sponsor and support all bills that seek to expand DC's local power.

DC needs more local power—not more attacks. The 700,000 people who live in DC deserve the same rights and dignity as the people in your home district. No democracy will be able to function in the United States if the capital city is under military control, cannot pass or enact its own basic laws, and is subject to anti-democratic interference against the will of the people.

Thank you for your attention and swift action on this matter.

Sincerely,

Free DC and, American Federation of Teachers, Bend the Arc: Jewish Action, Black Voters Matter Fund, DC Vote, Friends of the Earth U.S., Greenpeace USA, Indivisible, Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, More Than Our Crimes, Movement for Black Lives, Movement for Freedom.

National Association of Social Workers, National Education Association, National Women's Law Center, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice, People For the American Way, People Power United, Public Citizen, Seed the Vote Action, SEIU, Stand Up America, The Workers Circle, Voices for Progress, 50501 Movement.

To learn more about Free DC, the renewed campaign for DC autonomy, visit freedcproject.org. For follow up questions or

additional information to inform your votes, contact Free DC's Congress Working Group Co-chairs, Michelle Chappell and Jacqueline Johnson.

HONORING EDDIE "ED" DRAIN WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel and Police Chief, Eddie "Ed" Drain of Plano, Texas, and to award him a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Chief Drain honorably served in the United States Army and Army Active Reserve.

At the age of 22, Ed Drain was commissioned into the United States Army, where he served as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Officer. Through exceptional dedication and courage, he earned the Master Explosive Ordnance Disposal Badge and Parachutist Badge, completing advanced training at the Naval School for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and studying the Greek language. His service took him to Greece, South Korea, and later to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he commanded explosive ordnance units with III Corps.

After eleven years of active duty, he transitioned to the U.S. Army Active Reserve, continuing to serve until his retirement in 2007 as a Lieutenant Colonel. His commendations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals, among many others.

Following his military career, Chief Drain turned his focus to public safety, joining the Plano Police Department in 1994. Rising through the ranks from patrol officer to assistant chief, he served on the SWAT team, commanded the Bomb Squad, and led all sworn operations of the department. He went on to serve as Police Chief for the Cities of Amarillo and Murphy before returning home as Chief of Police in Plano in 2020. Beyond his distinguished career in law enforcement, Chief Drain remains deeply committed to his community through his service on the Board of Trustees for Medical City Plano, the Board of Directors for Trusted World, the Office of the Texas Governor's Sexual Assault Survivors Task Force, and as a Commissioner for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

I am deeply honored to recognize Lieutenant Colonel and Police Chief, Eddie "Ed" Drain for his extraordinary courage, patriotism, and lifelong commitment to service. He represents the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING VINCENT SOLA

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Vincent Sola, as he is awarded

the title of Farmer of the Year by the Kiwanis Club of Tulare.

Mr. Sola was born in Porterville, California and developed his love of farming at two years old from his father, John Sola. As a high school student, he rented his first twenty acres of land as part of a Future Farmers of America (FFA) project, and Dave Linder from Linder Equipment financed his first tractor and disc. He later served as FFA president during his senior year and earned his FFA State Farmer Degree. Mr. Sola graduated from Tulare Union High School in 1978 and from the College of the Sequoias with a degree in agriculture in 1981.

Mr. Sola is a fourth-generation farmer who has devoted his life to nurturing the land his family has tended since it was homesteaded in 1903. Mr. Sola has extensive experience growing products including cotton, corn, wheat, tomatoes, sugar beets, broccoli, cauliflower, and watermelons, all of which are important crops to Central Valley. He also uses these skills to help his neighbors, members of the community, and landowners in the area with their commercial farming.

Mr. Sola is committed to fostering the Central Valley's next generation of farmers. He spends his time teaching his son, Vin, about the family business, emphasizing the hard work and dedication needed to run a successful farm. It is because of farmers like Mr. Sola that the Central Valley thrives, and I want to thank him for his commitment to our agricultural community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating Mr. Vincent Sola, as he is awarded the Farmer of the Year Award by the Kiwanis Club of Tulare. His contributions to the Central Valley will be felt for generations to come.

COMMEMORATING THE 12TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP DAY

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 12th Anniversary of Women's Entrepreneurship Day, celebrated globally on November 19.

In the United States alone, over 14 million of our Nation's 36.2 million small businesses are owned by women, employing around 10.7 million workers and contributing an astounding \$2.1 trillion in revenue. These women-led businesses are a cornerstone of our economy, and I extend my deepest commendation to the women behind them.

Today, I celebrate the Women's Entrepreneurship Day movement, founded by Wendy Diamond. Twelve years ago, Wendy launched the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization (WEDO) with an unyielding commitment to elevate and empower women in entrepreneurship at a time when their vital role in the global economy was still underappreciated.

Since its inception, WEDO has led transformation initiatives, including providing microloans to over 10,000 women in need and launching the WEDO Entrepreneurial Arts Education Program for disadvantaged female students. WEDO also launched a

groundbreaking AI education program with world-renowned experts, aimed at empowering 1 million disadvantaged women entrepreneurs with cutting-edge skills.

WEDO has also partnered with Defy Ventures to drive the Entrepreneurs in Training (EIT) program, achieving an outstanding 84 percent success rate among formerly incarcerated women by providing them with a path to opportunity and reintegration.

This year, WEDO welcomed iHeartMedia as a national partner iHeart's influential broadcast and digital network will promote Women's Entrepreneurship Day, highlight local women entrepreneurs across the country, and amplify this movement's impact in communities nationwide.

In recognition of this extraordinary milestone, the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization Pioneer Awards honor exceptional leaders who have pioneered new frontiers across various fields.

I include in the RECORD this year's honorees:

Angelina Jolie, Humanitarian, Artist, and Entrepreneur; Rachel Drori, Founder of Daily Harvest; Howard Morgan, Cofounder of Renaissance Technologies, Chairman of B Capital, and Cofounder of First Round Capital; Chloe Ting, Global Fitness and Wellness Entrepreneur, Gloria Allred, Civil Rights Attorney and Founding Partner of Allred, Maroko & Goldberg, Jesse Draper, Founder of Halogen Ventures, Sheila Lino Marcelo, Cofounder and CEO of Ohai.ai, and Founder of Proof of Learn and Care.com.

As we celebrate this profound milestone, let us be resolute in our commitment to providing the essential tools and programs that enable young women not only to survive but to truly flourish in the dynamic world of entrepreneurship.

OPPOSITION LETTER LED BY THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION ON THE COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107) AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5214)

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November 18, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND LEADER JEFFRIES: On behalf of the ACLU, ACLU DC, National Urban League, and The Bail Project we write to express our opposition to the D.C. Cash Bail Reform Act (H.R. 5214) and the Common Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability in D.C. Now Act (H.R. 5107).

We urge all Members to "Vote NO" on H.R. 5214 and H.R. 5107. The ACLU will score these votes.

THE D.C. CASH BAIL REFORM ACT

H.R. 5214, the DC Cash Bail Reform Act, requires mandatory detention on a wide range of cases and is almost certainly unconstitutional under the requirements set out by the Supreme Court in *United States v. Salerno*. This bill would reverse more than 30 years of successful, data-driven pretrial policy reforms in D.C. and replace it with a wealth based system that fuels mass incarceration, racial disparities, and benefits the 2 billion dollar bail industry.

D.C.'s pre-trial system is grounded in individual assessment, not based on wealth. The federal Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia evaluates each person's likelihood of appearing in court and assesses individualized conditions of release to support community safety. The results of D.C.'s current risk and safety based pretrial system outperform most cash-bail jurisdictions in the country. Ninety-two percent of people released pretrial in D.C. remain arrest-free before trial, 87% appear for their court dates, and 86% complete the pretrial period without any compliance violation.

H.R. 5214 would replace D.C.'s current risk and safety based system with a cash bail system that requires mandatory detention for a wide range of conduct. Cash bail would disproportionately harm Black D.C. residents. Nearly 90% of the D.C. jail population and 80% of the people released through the Pretrial Services Agency are Black, due to systemic overpolicing. Abolishing D.C.'s pretrial system which balances risk and safety and on an individualized basis, and replacing it with a cash bail system which favors release for wealthy defendants and imprisons those who cannot afford bail, would deepen existing racial disparities and disproportionately separate Black families from their communities, jobs, and housing.

The District of Columbia has operated a successful risk and safety based system for more than three decades. These policies were informed by input from local stakeholders including courts, prosecutors, police, and community members. Congress should not override the local policy making process of D.C. stakeholders and the will of D.C. residents and democratically elected leaders.

A pre-trial system that relies on regular check-ins, targeted social-service referrals, and text message reminders consistently outperforms cash bail systems at securing appearance and protecting public safety. Maintaining housing, employment, child-care, and medical care substantially reduces recidivism and promotes community safety. D.C.'s current pre-trial system is a calibrated approach to public safety that appropriately weighs public safety risks while also considering the need of individuals to maintain critical supports such as housing and employment on a case by case basis. In contrast, H.R. 5214 would implement a cash bail system that would financially ruin many of D.C.'s lower income families, force many parents, disproportionately women and Black women, out of the workforce, and expose children to the well-documented harms of parental detention, all of which increase long-term risks to public safety and community wellbeing. The D.C. Cash Bail Reform Act will harm D.C. residents and will not make D.C. safer because it ignores the evidence and data on pretrial detention and thirty years of local input and governance.

THE COMMON SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN D.C. NOW ACT

H.R. 5107, the Common Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability in D.C. Now Act, would repeal D.C.'s Comprehensive Policing