

Action Items 05/02/2025

REMEMBER: When you call,

- 1. Be Specific state what you are calling about and why you are concerned
- 2. Request a response tell the staffer you want a response
- 3. Ask for Action Items tell me what the representative's plans are regarding this issue
- ➤ If you leave a voicemail message: Please leave your full street address to ensure your call is tallied.
- Also, it has been recommended that you call both the Congress members' DC and District offices.

Senator Chris Murphy 202-224-4041; 860-549-8463 (CT office)

Senator Richard Blumenthal 202-224-2823; 860-258-6940 (CT Office)

Call BLUE Senators:

Issue #1: Funding for Head Start

Head Start is an <u>essential social safety net program</u> that fosters healthy child development and provides other services from food assistance to developmental screenings. Despite early childhood programs' clear benefits to child health, the Trump administration has issued budget guidance <u>proposing the complete elimination of federal funding for Head Start</u> and cuts to federal funding for state preschool programming.

Hi, my name is [name] and I'm a constituent from [zip code],

I'm calling to urge Senator [name] to strongly oppose any budget cuts to Head Start and other early childhood education programs. These programs have been proven to have clear long-term health and economic benefits, and there is no better investment than the wellbeing and education of our children.



Issue #2: Block Budget Increases for ICE and Mass Deportations:

Trump's "border czar" Tom Homan <u>wants to add billions more</u> to the budget for ICE deportations, and Republican lawmakers are prepared to give it to him. House and Senate Republicans are working on a budget reconciliation bill that proposes <u>between \$90 and \$175 billion in spending increases</u> over the next decade, providing, essentially, a blank check for the Trump administration to move forward with mass deportations.

Hi, my name is [name] and I'm a constituent from [zip code],

I'm calling to urge Senator [name] to vote against any budget plan that increases funding for ICE and Trump's mass deportation operation. ICE has been unlawfully detaining immigrants around the country without cause or due process. We should be stopping them from violating people's constitutional rights, not enabling them to do more.

Please ensure the Senator understands my position. Thank you.

Hi, I'm a constituent calling from [zip]. My name is _____

Issue #3: Restriction on Federal Judges to Issue Nationwide Injunctions:

The Hous	e recently	passed	a bill	I want t	the S	Senator to	oppose.	It is t	he H.R.	1526,	the	NORRA

Act and it would <u>severely restrict federal judges' ability to issue nationwide injunctions</u>—a crucial tool courts use to block illegal or unconstitutional executive actions.

Also, Chuck Schumer needs to go! He is not providing the leadership this party needs and it is time for a change. Please speak up for demand Schumer step down.



Call BLUE House of Representatives:

CT Representatives (call whomever represents your district):

Jim Himes - 203-333-6600

Rosa DeLauro - 202- 225-3661 or 203-562-3718

Johana Hayes - 202-225-4476 or 860-223-8412

Joe Courtney – 202-225-2076 or 860-886-0139

John Larson – 202-225-2265 or 860-278-8888

Issue #1: AOC for Oversight Committee:

Rep. Gerry Connolly, the top Democrat on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, will step down from his leadership post on the panel and not run for reelection (due to his battle with cancer). We had originally advocated that AOC be appointed to this role and are trying again.

Hi, my name is [name] and I'm a constituent from [zip code],

I'm calling to ask the Congressmember to urge Speaker Jeffries to appoint Alexandria Ocasio Cortez to the ranking position on the Oversight Committee being vacated by Rep. Connolly. She's the right person for the job and the messenger we need. Voters like me will be very disappointed if she doesn't receive it.



Issue #2: Oppose Cuts to Critical Social Programs:

Hi,	I'm a	a constituent	calling from	[zip]. M	y name is	
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I'm calling to urge the Congressmember to oppose any budget reconciliation bill that cuts Medicaid, reduces Medicaid expansion, or imposes Medicaid work requirements. Medicaid is a lifeline for millions of Americans and rural health systems. Reducing its federal budget would cut off millions of people from needed health care and destroy lives and local economies. This is a program that works. Don't mess with it! Especially not to give tax cuts to rich people. Thanks.

Issue #3: Oppose Cuts to Public Broadcasting:

The Trump administration is calling to starve local National Public Radio (NPR) and Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) stations by demanding \$1.1 billion in cuts to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the entity that disburses funding to public media organizations and local stations throughout the U.S. While this amount is a small percentage of the overall budgets of NPR and PBS, most of the federal funding goes to local member stations to keep news departments afloat and able to produce local programming.

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I'm calling to demand that Representative [name] oppose any cuts to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, including Trump's demand to cut funding to NPR and PBS.

Money for NPR and PBS is well spent on valuable news, information and educational programming for the American public, especially in rural and underserved areas.



For those of you with RED Senator:

> Find your Senator's phone number here

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!!!EXTRAS!!!

CT State Legislature Actions

Ther are only 5 weeks left of the Session. We want to ensure,

- The Child Tax Credit remains strong and included in budget negotiations,
- That the budget includes raising Medicaid rates and nonprofit provider rates,
- Funding for school meals,
- More support for Special Ed,
- Strengthening of mental health parity (SB 10)

Call your local legislator and urge strong support for these to be brought to a vote. Let them know there is strong public support for all of this, as we face catastrophic federal funding losses.

Find your local rep here.



Democratic Votes for Trumps Ambassador to China

Seems unbelievable that any Democratic Senators would support a Trump nominee, but that's exactly what happened this week. Here are the 16. If you find one of your Senators on the list – let them know this is NOT OK!

Cory Booker—New Jersey, Chris Coons—Delaware, Tammy Duckworth— Illinois, John Fetterman—Pennsylvania, Ruben Gallego—Arizona, Maggie Hassan—New Hampshire, Tim Kaine—Virginia, Andy Kim—New Jersey, Angus King—Maine, Amy Klobuchar—Minnesota, Gary Peters—Michigan, Jack Reed— Rhode Island, Jacky Rosen—Nevada, Jeanne Shaheen—New Hampshire, Elissa Slotkin—Michigan, Mark Warner—Virginia

Sample script:

I hear the Senator voted for David Purdue this week. I cannot begin to describe how angry and disappointed I am. What exactly, does the Senator not understand about the moment we're in? We have a President who is breaking the law and violating the Constitution daily. Voting for his nominees normalizes him. It tacitly says "he's not that bad." Except he IS, and the Senator knows it. Do better.

➤ Hit El Salvador Where it Counts: In Their Wallet

The Trump administration has <u>paid \$6 million dollars to El Salvador</u> to house hundreds of people deported from the U.S. to that country's high-security mega-prison. Here's two ways to fight back.

- Boycott all products made in El Salvador. Such products include clothing,
 mattresses, food and more, so check tags and packages and avoid buying those
 marked "Made in El Salvador." Companies that manufacture in El Salvador include
 Hanes, Fruit of the Loom, Gildan, Diana, Capri, Indufoam, Bon Appetit, and many
 more.
- 2. Contact the heads of companies manufacturing in El Salvador, such as Hanes and Fruit of the Loom, to voice your dismay at their silence.



- Hanes email: <u>contact_us@hanes.com</u> or 336-519-8080; brands include Maidenform, Bali, Playtex, Hanes, Bonds, and more
- Fruit of the Loom <u>contact form</u> or 1-855-253-4534; brands include Spalding, Russell Athletic, Vanity Fair, Jerzees, Dudley, Fruit of the Loom, BVD, and American Athletic

Sample script (please personalize):

As a company that manufactures in El Salvador, you should be speaking out loudly and publicly against President Bukele's refusal to send Kilmar Abrego Garcia home. Your company has influence to reinforce U.S. constitutional rights and democratic values. Until you have done all you can to pressure president Bukele to return Abrego Garcia, I will boycott your brands.

Ask Target Corporation (or Tesla) how boycotts are working out for them.