

CONGRESSMAN

Jimmy Panetta

PROUDLY REPRESENTING THE 20TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Dear Neighbor,

The United States Congress recently passed the 100th day in its 116th term. During that time, the House of Representatives fulfilled its responsibilities under the United States Constitution to not only act as a necessary check in our system of checks and balances, but also to keep our legislative promises for the American people. As your United States Representative, I have continued to work hard to help fulfill those obligations by authoring, supporting, and passing many pieces of legislation, taking part in numerous committee hearings, fighting for our values in Washington, D.C., and serving the people of the central coast of California.

The following is just a short summary of the many things that we accomplished during the first 100 days of the 116th Congress.

Major Legislation Passed by the House Of Representatives in the First 100 Days of the 116th Congress:

NATO Support Act ([H.R. 676](#)) – I authored legislation to reaffirm the strong commitment by the United States to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) alliance and the responsibility for all of its members to invest in this pillar of international peace, stability, and security. I am proud that the bill passed the House of Representatives on an overwhelmingly bipartisan basis.



Speaking on the House floor about my bipartisan legislation, the [NATO Support Act](#).

Transparency for the Report by Special Counsel Resolution ([H. Con. Res. 24](#)) – This is

a resolution that calls for the Department of Justice to make any report submitted by Special Counsel Robert Mueller to the Attorney General available to the public and to Congress upon the conclusion of the Special Counsel's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 Presidential Election. This resolution passed unanimously and reflects the bipartisan desire to ensure that government remains transparent and accountable to the people.

For the People Act ([H.R. 1](#)) – This is a bill that protects our access to the ballot box, invests in improvements to our nation's election infrastructure, creates national redistricting reform, strengthens ethics and accountability laws for public officials, and increases transparency on campaign finance system.

Paycheck Fairness Act ([H.R. 7](#)) – This is a bill that seeks to end gender-based wage discrimination and ensure women receive equal pay for equal work.

Violence Against Women Act ([H.R. 1585](#)) – Congress reauthorized this bill that provides essential resources and protections for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Universal Background Checks Act of 2019 ([H.R. 8](#)) – This is a bill that requires background checks on the purchases of all firearms.

Enhanced Background Checks Act ([H.R. 1112](#)) – This is a bill that closes a loophole that allows firearms to be sold to individuals if an FBI background check is not completed within three business days.

Save the Internet Act ([H.R. 1644](#)) – This is a bill that restores popular, bipartisan net neutrality protections, prevents the consolidation of internet services and providers, and promotes a free and open internet.

John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act ([S. 47](#)) – This is a bill that permanently reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund and protects millions of acres of lands.

Yemen War Powers Resolution ([H.J. Res.37](#)) – This is a resolution that directs the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Yemen that have not been authorized by Congress.

End the Ban on Transgender Service Members Resolution ([H. Res. 124](#)) – This is a resolution that calls for the end to the ban on transgender service members in the military. It also opposes discrimination against these servicemembers.

Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act ([H.R. 425](#)) – This is a bill that encourages veterans to study and pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields and directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop a comprehensive outreach plan to increase veteran participation in its STEM education and research programs.

Innovators to Entrepreneurs Act of 2019 ([H.R. 539](#)) – This is a bill that directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to expand eligibility for participation in the Innovation

Corps (I-Corps) Program to grantees of the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program and other entities and directs the NSF to develop a course targeted to commercialization-ready I-Corps participants.

My Authored Legislation in the First 100 Days of the 116th Congress:

NATO Support Act ([H.R. 676](#)) – This bipartisan legislation reaffirms the strong commitment by the United States to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) alliance and the responsibility by all of its members to invest in this pillar of international peace, stability, and security. I am proud to report that the bill passed the House of Representatives on an overwhelmingly bipartisan basis.



Speaking with Andrea Mitchell about my legislation, the [NATO Support Act](#)

Agricultural Worker Program Act – “Blue Card Bill” ([H.R. 641](#)) – This legislation protects existing agriculture employees from deportation by ensuring that they can remain in this country if they continue to work in agriculture and eventually earn legal permanent status.

Keep Families Together Act ([H.R. 541](#)) – This legislation prohibits the separation of families that are seeking asylum and institute safeguards to protect and promote the legal rights, health and wellness of asylum seeking children and their families.

Clear Creek National Recreation Area and Conservation Act ([H.R. 403](#)) – This bipartisan legislation directs the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to protect 21,000 acres of BLM land adjacent to Clear Creek by designating the area the Joaquin Rocks Wilderness. It would also reopen the 63,000-acre Clear Creek National Recreation Area in San Benito and Fresno counties for public outdoor recreation, including off-road vehicles.

Honoring Veterans Families Act ([H.R.1126](#)) – This bipartisan legislation allows the spouse and dependent children of a veteran to be included on the veteran’s grave marker upon his or her death. Due to a flaw in current law, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) cannot include almost any information about the spouse or dependent children of a veteran on a VA-provided tombstone. It is important that our veterans receive respect and

dignity after passing, and that their grave stone honors the extraordinary lives that these men and women have led.

Veterans Access to Child Care Act ([H.R. 840](#)) – I led an amendment to this bipartisan legislation that expands eligibility for child care assistance to certain instances in which the veteran receiving covered health services is not the primary caretaker. The underlying legislation makes permanent the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Child Care Pilot Program and expand it so that veterans across the nation who are parents, grandparents, or other caretakers of young children have a convenient, cost-free child care option when they have VA medical appointments. The Veterans Access to Child Care Act with my amendment overwhelmingly passed with bipartisan support.

Full Military Honors Act ([H.R.1019](#)) – This bipartisan legislation provides a full military honors ceremony, including funeral escort honor platoon, military band, firing party, and horse-drawn caisson, to Medal of Honor recipients and Prisoners Of War eligible for burial at Arlington National Cemetery. Currently, full military honors are reserved for senior officers, noncommissioned officers, and servicemembers killed in combat.

Protecting United States Military from Malaria Resolution ([H.Res.214](#)) – This bipartisan resolution recognizes the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) and its leadership in researching and protecting servicemembers from infectious diseases such as malaria.

Clean Energy Production Parity Act ([H.R. 2040](#)) – This bipartisan legislation will spur investment in high efficiency, low emissions linear generators. This next-generation, green technology creates reliable and low-cost energy with applications across many sectors.

Restoring Investment in Improvements Act ([H.R. 1869](#)) – This bipartisan legislation ensures that restaurants and retailers are able to properly benefit from a tax provision meant to aid renovations and spur investment in their businesses.

KITTEN Act ([H.R. 1622](#)) – This bipartisan Kittens In Traumatic Testing Ends Now (KITTEN) Act requires that the Secretary of Agriculture end the use of kittens and cats in any United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) experiment that unnecessarily hurts the animals. Due to the introduction of my legislation and our urging, the USDA announced the end to testing on all cats.

Cosponsorship of Major Legislation in the First 100 Days of the 116th Congress:

Voting Rights Advancement Act ([H.R. 4](#)) – This legislation provides the necessary tools to address discriminatory voting practices and protect our access to the ballot box.

Equality Act ([H.R. 5](#)) – This legislation prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

Dream and Promise Act ([H.R. 6](#)) – This legislation allows qualified Dreamers and individuals with Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to remain in the United States and earn legal permanent status.



Standing with my colleagues at the introduction of the Dream and Promise Act.

Climate Action Now Act ([H.R. 9](#)) – This legislation keeps the U.S. in the Paris Agreement on climate change by demanding a plan from the Administration and laying the foundation for further innovative and effective action from Congress.

FAMILY Act ([H.R. 1185](#)) – The Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act, or FAMILY Act, creates a national paid family and medical leave program. The FAMILY Act is the gold standard for paid leave legislation in Congress, ensuring that workers can take up to 12 weeks of paid leave for a pregnancy, the birth or adoption of a child, to recover from a serious illness, or to care for a seriously ill family member.

To see more of the legislation that I have cosponsored in the 116th Congress, please [click here](#).

Committee Assignments in the 116th Congress:

Congressional leadership appointed me to [serve on three committees](#) during the 116th Congress. I serve on the House Ways and Means Committee and its Trade Subcommittee. In addition, I was selected as one of the few Ways and Means Committee members to serve on the Budget Committee. I requested and was granted the opportunity to continue serving on the House Agriculture Committee and will serve on three of its subcommittees, including Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research, Foreign Agriculture and Livestock, and Nutrition.



Participating in an Agriculture Committee [hearing on nutrition programs](#) that benefit the Central Coast and our nation.

In the past months, I have participated in over 20 committee hearings on such topics as infrastructure, taxes, social security, pre-existing conditions, food security, immigration, nutrition, a president's tax returns, the federal budget, and many more. It is an honor to serve on the Ways and Means Committee, the oldest, most prestigious, and most influential committee in Congress. The Ways and Means and the Budget Committees are at the center of our work in Congress to create an economic environment that fosters prosperity for all of our communities. Combined with my reappointment to the Agriculture Committee, I will be in a unique position to help advance trade policies that benefit the district, including those that expand exports for our Central Coast agriculture. Over the last two years, I have been working for long-term, bipartisan solutions to tackle the challenges that we face at home. With these committee assignments, I believe that I am even better positioned to lead responsible and effective legislation that improves the lives of those on the Central Coast.

Protecting Our Democratic Process

The 116th Congress is working to uphold our responsibilities under Article I of the United States Constitution by conducting fundamental oversight in our system of checks and balances. The House of Representatives unanimously passed a resolution that calls for the Department of Justice to make any report submitted by Special Counsel Robert Mueller to the Attorney General available to the public and to Congress upon the conclusion of the Special Counsel's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 Presidential Election. By passing unanimously, this bill reflects the bipartisan desire of Congress to ensure that government remains transparent and accountable to the people. Additionally, I support the oversight role of the Judiciary Committee in subpoenaing the appropriate people to obtain the necessary evidence about obstruction of justice allegations.

The House of Representatives also exercised its powers under Article I by passing a resolution to nullify this administration's [emergency declaration](#) at our southern border and a bipartisan and bicameral resolution to end our government's support for any unauthorized involvement in the civil war in Yemen.

As a member of the Ways and Means Committee, I participated in an Oversight Subcommittee hearing on the legal justification for how and why the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee may obtain the tax returns of a U.S. president or vice-president.

The U.S. Congress is obligated to use proper oversight in order to ensure the proper checks and the appropriate balances are executed in our system of government, especially when it comes to protecting the security and interests of our nation.



Participating in a Ways and Means Committee Hearing on Legislative Proposals Related to Presidential and Vice Presidential Tax Returns. [Click here to hear questions.](#)

Continued Work in Washington, D.C. in the 116th Congress:

During the first few months of the 116th Congress, I continued to conduct meetings with representatives from government agencies and private sector stakeholders. I hosted meetings with the U.S. Trade Representative, as well as the Secretaries the Navy, Army, and Air Force. I met with hundreds of constituents, as well as many Central Coast supervisors, mayors, and assembly members in my Washington, D.C. office. I also spoke with many employees and employers from large and small businesses on the Central Coast.



Meeting in my Washington, DC office with constituents from Dientes Community Dental Care and Salud Para La Gente about supporting our community health centers and ensuring access to care for all residents of the Central Coast.

I was appointed as an Assistant Whip and have the opportunity to shape and advocate for policies that will help the Central Coast. I am grateful for this responsibility and I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance priorities that will help foster prosperity for all of our communities.

I am proud to have founded the bipartisan [For Country Caucus](#), for military veterans in Congress to work across the aisle to create a more productive government. We are working to advance bipartisan policy that supports our veterans and keeps our country safe.



Speaking with KSBW with my co-chairs of the [For Country Caucus](#), to share with constituents our bipartisan work to address an array of policy issues.

As a member of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, I continue to work with Democrats and Republicans to find bipartisan agreement on some of the toughest issues in Congress, including healthcare, immigration, and infrastructure.

I have given eight [speeches](#) on the House floor to honor constituents, mark the National Day of Silence for LGBTQ youth, and ensure an accurate count of community members for the 2020 Census. I will continue to speak out on issues that impact the Central Coast and represent the values of our community on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.



[Speaking on the House floor about the importance of an accurate 2020 Census count to the Central Coast and the nation.](#)

Continued Work on the Central Coast in the 116th Congress:

I have held several town halls in Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties, attended numerous community events, visited many businesses, and met with hundreds of constituents in the district.



Holding a town hall in Santa Cruz to hear from constituents about policy concerns and share how I can break through bureaucracy to help people access government services.



Speaking at a naturalization ceremony in Salinas, right before community members took the

oath of citizenship.

During the first 100 days of the 116th Congress, the House of Representatives has worked hard to fulfill our responsibilities to the American people. As demonstrated above, we have and will continue to work hard to provide the fundamental oversight for this administration in our system of checks and balances and the necessary legislation for the people of this country. We have done a lot, but, clearly, there is more to do, especially when it comes to advancing our agriculture through the 2018 Farm Bill, improving our government's trade policy, protecting the environment, fixing our immigration system, and funding infrastructure investment. Please know that as your United States Representative I am deeply honored and dedicated to pursuing each of these issues, fighting for our values, and serving the people of the 20th Congressional District.

If you would like to receive future updates, please sign up for newsletters by clicking [here](#). You can also find more information about legislation, votes cast in the U.S. House of Representatives, or the legislative process [here](#).

If you have any questions or issues that I or my staff can help you with, please call or contact my Congressional offices in Salinas, Santa Cruz, or Washington, D.C. or through panetta.house.gov. Please do not hesitate to reach out and let me know how I can continue to best serve you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jimmy Panetta', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

JIMMY PANETTA
Member of Congress