

## Week ending 01/21/18 - PA-08 MoCTrack Report

### Tracking Congress in the Age of Trump

The lower the number, the more the legislator is in opposition to the Trump agenda.

Senator Bob Casey — **28.8%** (+0.7% from last report)

Representative Brian Fitzpatrick — **82.5%** (+0.5% from last report)

Senator Pat Toomey — **91.2%** (+0.3% from last report)

Nate Silver's FiveThirtyEight website assesses the voting records of our MoCs to provide this index. Four votes were scored this week:

- Senate vote on FISA reauthorization
- House vote on tabling impeachment proceedings
- House and Senate votes on the failed attempt to avoid a government shutdown

Each of these votes is recapped under "Votes of Interest."

### Votes of Interest

#### H.R. 195: Continuing appropriations through February 16, 2018

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/votes/115-2018/h33>

The Republican-controlled Congress has been unable to create, negotiate and pass a budget since the last one ran out in September. They have passed short-term 'continuing resolutions' (CRs) three times since then. The latest CR legislation, passed right before the holiday recess, was due to run out on 01/19/18. Any bill created to fund the government past that deadline would need to have some level of Democratic support, as it would need to achieve the filibuster-proof 60 votes in the Senate. Democrats have made clear that to gain their support, any funding legislation would need to include a solution for the Dreamers as well as reauthorization for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). The infamous 01/11/18 immigration meeting, at which the president uttered the now-notorious racist profanity, was an attempt to negotiate a part of the solution to this situation.

As the deadline approached, the House Leadership decided to set aside any attempt to pass a long-term fix, but instead pushed yet another short-term CR (this one through mid February). To entice Democrats to support it, the GOP leadership included six years of funding for CHIP. In a devious move, they conspicuously left the Dreamers out of the CR, forcing a difficult choice on the Democrats. This bill passed the House on 01/18/18, 230-197. **Fitzpatrick voted YES**. The vote did not split along purely party lines, as 6 Democrats voted YES, and 11 Republicans voted NO.

The bill then moved to the Senate on 01/19/18, the last day for which the government was funded. Before the Senate could vote on the actual bill, it had to pass a [cloture](#) vote. Cloture is the process the Senate uses to close out debate on legislation, and it requires 60 votes. If that threshold is not met, the bill is considered filibustered (without the Senators actually having to get up and speak on the floor for hours at a time). In this situation, a YES vote would be to proceed to a vote for the bill itself. The cloture vote failed, 50-49. **Casey voted NO** and **Toomey voted YES**. With that, the government ran out of money at midnight on 01/19/18.

"If there is a shutdown I think it would be a tremendously negative mark on the president of the United States." - [Donald Trump, 2011](#)

#### S. 139: FISA Amendments Reauthorization Act of 2017

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/votes/115-2018/s12>

This bill passed the House last week. FISA stands for Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. These rules allow our intelligence agencies to collect information from foreign sources, but also permit them to collect (without warrants) and keep some information on Americans as well. This program is highly controversial, and the support breakdown does not fall along party lines. If you would like to read a quick explainer on the program, [CNN Politics](#) compiled one last week. In a vote taken on 01/18/18, the bill passed the

Senate, 65-34. **Casey voted YES** and **Toomey voted YES**. This controversial program that some refer to as “warrantless wiretapping” and a “secretive spy program” now moves to the President’s desk.

### **H.Res. 705: Impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States, for high misdemeanors**

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/votes/115-2018/h35>

This resolution was introduced by Rep. Al Green (D-TX), who also introduced the previous set of articles of impeachment that were voted upon last fall ([H. Res. 646](#)). Both of these bills cited the President’s racism and bigotry as the main reason for the need for impeachment. From the newer version:

“In his capacity as President of the United States, unmindful of the high duties of his high office, of the dignity and proprieties thereof, and of the harmony, and respect necessary for stability within the society of the United States, Donald John Trump has with his bigoted statements done more than simply insult individuals and groups of Americans, he has harmed the American society by attempting to convert his bigoted statements into United States policy and by associating the presidency and the people of the United States with bigotry...”

This new version includes the profane statements the President made at the 01/11/18 immigration meeting. Like the last impeachment motion introduced by Rep. Green, this one was also defeated. The House voted to table the motion on 01/19/18; in this situation a YES vote means that the Representative does NOT want the bill to go forward. The motion to table the bill passed 355-66, and **Fitzpatrick voted YES**. Nine more people supported this impeachment motion than the prior one.

### **MoC Twitter Action**

**Senator Bob Casey hot topics:** The senator produced several tweetstorms this week about the then-pending government shutdown. He criticized the GOP for their sudden concern for the Children’s Health Insurance Program, after they put off a CHIP reauthorization vote for over 100 days. He also tweeted on various people and issues affected by the passage of a spending bill who have received less media coverage: seniors, rural health centers, miners’ pensions and the opioid crisis. In addition, he sent a long series of tweets and retweets on the importance of fully funding Social Security, and the damage that the lack of funding and accompanying claim processing delays have caused to the most vulnerable Americans.

**Casey tweet of the week, 01/19/18:** “I was not elected to genuflect to the demands of extreme House Republicans. I have an obligation to fight for the millions of families left out of this bill.”

**Representative Fitzpatrick hot topics:** The representative shared a 2017-by-the-numbers meme of his actions. He also shared a link to an image from a Problem Solvers meeting dealing with border security and immigration reform. He provided a link promoting his Right to Try Act.

**Fitzpatrick tweet of the week, 01/20/18:** “On my 1st day, I introduced a gov’t reform package that included #NoBudgetNoPay. I’ll be abiding by that common sense legislation. We need to fix the broken system & send a message to the extreme partisans on both sides.” (Tweeted with a link to his statement on the government shutdown, which can be read in full in the next section.)

**Senator Pat Toomey hot topics:** The senator continues to participate in the GOP initiative to raise the popularity of the tax plan they passed in December. To that end, Toomey shared several corporate- and industry-friendly memes and articles claiming beneficial aspects of tax reform. He also shared a video of an appearance on Fox News promoting the the tax reform package. And he tweeted out a shortened version of his shutdown statement (which can be read in full in the next section) where he referred to the then-looming government shutdown by the hashtag “#SchumerShutdown.”

**Toomey tweet of the week, 01/19/18:** “Thank you to all the folks from Pennsylvania and across America who have traveled to DC to attend today’s #MarchForLife. Your commitment to protecting the sanctity of life epitomizes the idea that love saves lives. #WhyWeMarch”

**Honorable mention, lawmaker**

From @SenDuckworth, Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), 01/20/18: “I will not be lectured on what our military needs by a five-deferment draft dodger.” (in response to a tweet from @realDonaldTrump that read “Democrats are holding our Military hostage over their desire to have unchecked illegal immigration. Can’t let that happen!”)

**Honorable mention, journalist**

From @DanRather, 01/20/18: “This shutdown was born out of a cynical calculus from those who seek to maximize their own advantage, achieve their own ends, the rest of the country be damned.”

**Honorable mention, constituent account**

From @Cuddlefudge, 01/15/18: “If you support trump, you're not colorblind. You're racist. Do you support trump? I'm pretty sure you support trump. #toomey #TrumpRacist #MLKDay #racism”

**The Government Shutdown, our MoCs respond**

As of 12:01 AM on 01/20/18 the government entered a partial shutdown because of the failure of negotiations to ensure government funding, a solution for the Dreamers, border security and a reauthorization of the Children’s Health Insurance Program. Last week, Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) had negotiated a bipartisan solution that they attempted to present to the President. That process imploded when members of the President’s staff, who did not want this moderate solution to proceed, disrupted the process by bringing several GOP hardline anti-immigration lawmakers into the presentation, which ended with the president’s incendiary, profane and racist comments. Abandoning any pretence at bipartisanship, on Thursday, 01/18/18, the House GOP passed a bill that they knew would not pass the Senate, where at least 9 Democrat votes would be needed. They did so in an attempt to blame those Democrats for the shutdown, despite the undeniable fact that it is the responsibility of the party in power to create, negotiate, pass and get signed a bill that they know will make it through all of the required steps for funding the government. Each of our MoCs used this failure of the GOP to perform the most basic of its responsibilities to reiterate their personal political philosophy.

**Senator Bob Casey, 01/20/18, via his website:**

“Republicans who control Congress and President Trump have provoked a government shutdown by refusing to work in a bipartisan way on a funding agreement that protects the middle class, retiree pensioners and 800,000 people who receive health care through community health centers. The Republican funding plan shortchanges our veterans, community health centers, infants and mothers who receive home visitations, retired coal miners and other Pennsylvania workers and those dealing with the opioid crisis. There are bipartisan agreements in place that can help Pennsylvania families, but Republicans gave in to the extreme right wing of their party and walked away. I was not elected to genuflect to the demands of extreme House Republicans. I have an obligation to fight for the millions of families left out of this bill. For over 100 days, Republicans didn’t do a damn thing for kids impacted by the lapse in reauthorization of the Children’s House Insurance Program (CHIP). Instead, Republicans in Washington spent months working to pass massive tax cuts for their big corporate donors. Now all of a sudden they pretend like they care? If they truly cared for children like they cared for big corporations then the CHIP extension would be permanent.

“Republicans should immediately reopen the government so that we can stay in session until we reach a commonsense agreement.”

**Representative Brian Fitzpatrick, 01/20/18, via his website:**

“My very first day in office, I introduced a massive government reform package that included, among many other things, a constitutional amendment prohibiting Members of Congress from being paid unless a budget is passed, a common sense measure to force the extreme partisans on both sides to do what

every leader in every other aspect of society does: work together to build consensus and find common ground. FIX, NOT FIGHT.

My Legislation was the direct result of my time as an FBI Agent in the Political Corruption Unit arresting corrupt politicians, both Republican and Democrat. When you spend a career arresting corrupt politicians, you get a very clear sense for what is needed to fix the broken system. We need my reform legislation passed now more than ever.

I will be leading by example. I have notified House Administration that I will not accept any pay during any 'shutdown' period. And this is not merely 'delaying' pay, a gimmick adopted by many, but rather this will be complete forfeiture, in the spirit of my own legislation. And I am not only encouraging, but I am urging, all of my colleagues, both Republican and Democrat, to do the same. Let's send a message to the extreme partisans on both sides: do your job or don't get paid.

The brokenness in Washington DC is also Exhibit A of the need to expand the Problem Solvers Caucus in Congress, a bipartisan group who believe in building consensus and coming together for the betterment of our country, a group who rejects the tactics of the extreme partisans on both sides, a group who rejects those who put their party ahead of their country. The Problem Solvers Caucus is what will save our great nation.

We need constitutional term limits; we need a balanced budget amendment; we need no budget no pay; we need redistricting reform; we need to abolish congressional pensions; and we need campaign finance reform. AND WE NEED THEM NOW. These positions know no party lines. They are common sense American principals that address the root causes of the systemic problems in Washington. They are common sense American principals that will save our country."

**Senator Pat Toomey, 01/19/18, via his website:**

"In a transparent political ploy, Senate Democrats prioritized amnesty for select illegal immigrants over governing, supporting our military, and providing health insurance to poor and middle-income children. Tonight's vote by Senate Democrats is not rooted in principle or even ideology—they openly support every provision in the bill they voted against—rather it is a crass political calculation meant to appease the extreme left wing of their party. This is a mess that the Senate Democrats created, holding the entire country hostage because of an immigration issue that does not fully materialize until March. It is my hope that cooler heads prevail and a deal to keep the government open can be reached in short order."

**#MeToo Movement update**

Several weeks back we reported that Representative Fitzpatrick was one of the first male and first Republican cosponsors of legislation that was created in response to the #MeToo Movement — a bill to revamp the Congressional harassment complaints process ([HR 4396](#)). At the time, Rep. Fitzpatrick also released a [statement](#) asking the Ethics Committee to perform a "full and complete investigation into allegations that Members of Congress have been using taxpayer dollars to cover up sexual harassment lawsuits."

Since that time, Representative Fitzpatrick has gone silent on the topic of sexual harassment. Several new bills were introduced in the past weeks (see the [01/07/18 MoCTrack Report](#) on page 7 for full recaps of these excellent legislative efforts at helping women around the nation face more equitable workplace practices), and despite constituent requests, he has not cosponsored any of them. A full review of Rep. Fitzpatrick's voting record shows that he was not always an ally on this topic. Last February he voted to repeal a rule that required companies that bid for significant federal contracts to disclose labor violations, including sexual harassment. This [vote](#) to repeal the disclosure requirement once again allowed federal contractors to force workers with harassment complaints into secret arbitration. The repeal was later [passed](#) through the Senate with Senator Toomey's support and was enacted with the President's signature. To read more about H.J. Res. 37, please review this Politico [article](#).

A recent major development makes Fitzpatrick's past record and current level of inaction even more upsetting. On 01/20/18, the [New York Times](#) broke a story that a close Fitzpatrick ally, Rep. Patrick Meehan of PA-07, has paid off a sexual harassment victim out of his own congressional office fund — the very practice that Rep. Fitzpatrick denounced. To make the situation worse, Rep. Meehan is a member of the House Ethics Committee, the group tasked with dealing with these issues. There are reports in the hours after this story broke that Rep. Meehan will be removed from the Ethics Committee.

**To supporters of the #MeToo movement:** It is imperative that we contact Rep. Fitzpatrick's office and demand that he issue a response to the situation with Rep. Meehan. We must also press him on his YES vote on H.J. Res. 37, and ask him why he feels that federal workers in our district don't deserve the same critical standard of protection as everyone else. It is not acceptable for our Congressman to maintain his typical levels of silence in the face of the revelations of his past vote on this issue and such an egregious affront from one of his own allies on the Problem Solvers Caucus..

### **In the News segment changes**

We're going to try something a little different this week. Instead of comprehensive coverage of each MoC's media presence, you will see some quotes from each MoC, extracted from the most interesting articles of the week that pertain to them. You will also see a link to the source article and a short article synopsis (if the topic is not evident from the title). If you are in favor of this change, if you like the old version of media recaps, or if you have other feelings about how you would like the media portion of this MoCTrack Report to be handled, please email me at [KierstynPZ@gmail.com](mailto:KierstynPZ@gmail.com). I would really love your feedback. Thanks!

### **Casey in the News**

"Republicans, running the House and the Senate, don't seem like they could organize a one-car parade!" - from a 01/19/18 CBS Philly [article](#) titled *Casey On Potential Shutdown: GOP Don't Seem Like They Could Organize A One-Car Parade*

"I can't understand why, while [Republicans] are obsessed about getting a tax bill for big corporations and the super-rich, they're delaying action on children's health insurance. I think we should have a vote on this on the senate floor." - from a 01/18/18 WPXI CBS [article](#) titled *Pennsylvania Sen. Bob Casey calls on Congress to reauthorize CHIP funding*

"[The] FCC's decision to roll back net neutrality protections is disappointing and puts the open internet at risk. While I urge the FCC to reject this plan, we must work on a bipartisan legislative solution to ensure net neutrality principles are upheld and enforced." - from a 01/16/18 PennLive.com [article](#) titled *Pa.'s Bob Casey, 49 other Senators endorse resolution to restore net neutrality rules.*

### **Fitzpatrick in the News**

"This is not merely 'delaying' pay, a gimmick adopted by many, but rather this will be complete forfeiture, in the spirit of my own legislation. And I am not only encouraging, but I am urging, all of my colleagues, both Republican and Democrat, to do the same." - from a 01/21/18 Allentown Morning Call [article](#) titled *Brian Fitzpatrick says he won't take pay for time when government is shut down.*

"Internet gambling carries with it significant law enforcement implications, as the pervasive nature and anonymity of the internet makes it ripe for exploitation by criminals.. Other legal issues arise in preventing online casinos from targeting children and, since the internet knows no state boundaries, in protecting the rights of jurisdictions that bar the activity." - extract from a letter co-signed by Rep. Fitzpatrick, from a 01/15/18 OnlinePoker.net [article](#) titled *RAWA Advocates Send Another Letter to US Department of Justice.* Several lawmakers are pushing for all online gambling to be restricted in the United States, and are backed by Sheldon Adelson, a GOP mega-donor and CEO of the Las Vegas Sands Corporation.

## Toomey in the News

“When we recently needed an ally in the House to pass the most sweeping tax reforms in a generation, Lou [Barletta] was there every step of the way. It's time we all unite behind Lou and support him with our time, our energy, and most of all, with our vote.” - from a 01/16/18 Allentown Morning Call [article](#) titled *Pat Toomey endorses Lou Barletta in Pa. Senate race*. Rep. Lou Barletta (R, PA-11) is one of 5 Republicans who will be competing in the primary this spring for the opportunity to face Sen. Bob Casey in the general election.

“The agreement is far from perfect, as I believe Congress should end short-term funding patches, improve the financial integrity of CHIP and repeal the medical device tax in its entirety.” - from a 01/18/18 York Dispatch [article](#) titled *House votes to avert federal shutdown, Senate chances dim*.

## Learning about Legislation - Government shutdowns

As of this writing, a government shutdown is in effect. But just what is a government shutdown? Which services are unavailable at this time, and which continue? And what is the history of such shutdowns?

The [Washington Post](#) has a detailed article on which processes are affected during a shutdown. They broke down government services and processes into five categories:

1. **Benefits** — Most benefit programs are funded outside of this kind of bill, so Social Security, unemployment, food stamps and the like will still make payments. Applying for those programs will be suspended, as the staff to process applications will not be present. Similarly, payments to Medicare and Medicaid providers may be delayed.
2. **Facilities** — Local libraries, schools and parks are funded by states and municipalities, so they are unaffected. Federal prisons remain open, as does Congress, though some low-level Congressional staffers may not be paid. The federal courts have funding to stay open for three weeks after a shutdown is initiated, so they will stay open if the shutdown is short. However, almost all federal office buildings and federal agencies will be closed. You will not be able to call up the Social Security Administration of Internal Revenue Service to ask questions or get assistance during this time.
3. **Recreation** — The *Washington Post* reports, “Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney declared the parks will stay open during a shutdown at Friday's White House news briefing. But on Saturday the Statue of Liberty and roughly a third of other NPS sites closed.” Most national museums will close as of Monday.
4. **Travel and Shipping** — The US Postal Service and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will be unaffected by the shutdown, but passport offices that are located in federal buildings will be closed. Amtrak has the funding to maintain normal operations for a “short-term” shutdown, but it is uncertain what will happen if this extends beyond a few weeks.
5. **Other** — Government research projects, including those related to climate change, will stop during the shutdown, as will disaster recovery efforts. Military operations will be affected, as some training exercises would cease, though active-duty troops will still be working. Food inspection will continue, as will federal educational financial aid. And perhaps most importantly to many of us, Special counsel Mueller's Russia investigation will continue throughout the shutdown.

The policy wonk website [Vox](#) (which I recommend highly - kpz) lists 18 government shutdowns since 1976, when the modern budgeting process commenced. Vox notes that the first 6 of those events are not similar to what we experience today, as no services actually shut down. During those first 6 events, the government continued to perform as before, but without official funding. Some [historians](#) refer to these 6 as “funding gaps” and not real shutdowns.

The first shutdown of the federal government occurred in 1981, during Reagan's presidency, when the House was under Democratic control, but the Senate was in the hands of the GOP. President Reagan wanted \$8.4 billion in domestic spending reductions. When a deal was reached that was \$2 billion short of what he wanted, he vetoed the spending bill on the table and caused a 3-day shut down. Most of the 7 other shutdowns during the Reagan era lasted between 3 – 5 days. They were caused by issues as



varied as missile funding, a crime bill, oil and gas drilling on federal wildlife refuges, and supporting the Contras in Nicaragua. The most amazing of those shutdown causes is so unbelievable that I will quote Vox directly. They report:

“...this one literally happened because Reagan and Congress had social engagements and forgot to keep funds flowing in the meantime... [excerpted from a contemporary *New York Times* article] Congressional leaders barred a late-night session because of major social events tonight by both Republicans and Democrats. President Reagan invited all members of Congress to a barbecue at the White House, while Democrats were having a \$1,000-a-plate fund-raising dinner.”

Almost every other President since Reagan has experienced a shutdown, with the exception of President George W. Bush. The longest shutdown occurred from 12/05/95 through 01/06/96, under President Clinton. The same Vox article explains, “This shutdown, which lasted the better part of a month, was all about whether to use economic forecasts from the Congressional Budget Office or the Office of Management and Budget to determine whether the White House’s budget plan would balance. The CBO was more cautious, and projected that Clinton would still have a \$115 billion deficit in seven years under his plan. Republicans eventually caved after 21 days, and Clinton then proposed a plan that the CBO agreed balanced the budget. Some 284,000 workers were furloughed, in the longest shutdown in history.”

History shows us that most shutdowns don’t very long, but they cause major disruptions for the country. Of course, federal workers are affected, but so are businesses that rely on the government, people who need information about government-provided services, and participants in federal programs who will receive delayed payments. Let’s hope this gets resolved quickly!

## Legislation of Interest

### **S. 2039/H.R. 4170: Disclosing Foreign Influence Act**

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4170/text>

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2039/text>

This bill was introduced in October by Rep. Mike Johnson (R-LA). It has 7 cosponsors (5R, 2D) and is pending in the House Judiciary Committee. Just this week it moved to “ordered reported” status, a stage that only a quarter of all bills achieve, so there is a chance that this bill may move forward. Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, introduced an identical version, but the bill is still languishing in committee. The bills were inspired by the misdeeds of former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort, who was indicted by Special Counsel Robert Mueller for failing to register as a foreign agent. Right now, when American citizens are paid to work on behalf of a foreign government, they must adhere to rules set out by the 1938 Foreign Agents Registration Act. GovTrack explains that, “The problem is, the law is rarely enforced. It relies on voluntary compliance, which essentially means that unregistered lobbyists would have to turn themselves in. As you may imagine, prosecution for this violation is an occurrence which happens extremely rarely. The Justice Department has only pursued criminal charges for violating FARA seven times in the past 50 years, the last time being in 2010.” This bill aims to close loopholes in the 1938 law, and change the voluntary compliance aspect. Rep. Johnson stated, “Properly enforcing our disclosure laws and ending irresponsible exemptions is critical to maintaining the integrity of our political system as well as our national security. Our bill ensures that those working with foreign nations appropriately disclose their relationships—ensuring transparency and protecting the democratic process.”

### **H.R. 4826/S. 2321: A bill to amend the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 to require the development of ethics plans for certain transition teams**

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr4826>

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/s2321>

This bill was introduced simultaneously in the House and the Senate on 01/18/18. The House version, sponsored by Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD), has 14 cosponsors, all Democrats. It is pending in the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. The Senate version was introduced by Sen.

Elizabeth Warren and it has 7 cosponsors, all Democrats. That version is pending in the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. The cosponsors released a [joint statement](#) about the bill, which explains:

“To facilitate an orderly transition of power from one presidential administration to the next, the federal government provides presidential transition teams with financial support, access to executive agencies and non-public documents, and other resources. Despite their public support and level of access, transition team members are not required to comply with federal ethics laws, including those regarding conflicts of interest, because they are not categorized as federal government employees.

“The Transition Team Ethics Improvement Act would require eligible presidential candidates to develop and release transition team ethics plans, require transition team members to sign an ethical code of conduct, enhance disclosure requirements for ‘landing team’ members, and strengthen Congressional oversight of transition team members receiving security clearances.”

If this is an issue that motivates you, please consider contacting Senator Casey, and asking him to join on to this effort as a co-sponsor. If you are feeling adventurous, you may also wish to contact Rep. Fitzpatrick, who has expressed support for other government reform initiatives in the past.

### **H.Res. 700: Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding President Donald J. Trump’s remarks about Haiti, El Salvador, and African Nations**

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hres700/text>

This bill was introduced on 01/18/18 by Rep. Cedric Richmond (D-LA). It has 157 cosponsors, all Democrats, and it is pending in the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Rep. Fitzpatrick is a member of that committee. In the form of most resolutions, it lays out a series of facts. The resolution lays out the known events of the immigration-related meeting on 01/11/18 where the President made racist and incendiary comments about a number of nations. The resolution then details the international reactions, including diplomatic protests, formal letters and statements from a number of nations. Lastly, it says:

the House of Representatives does hereby—

- (1) publicly state our support and respect for Haiti, El Salvador, and African nations;
- (2) censure and condemn President Donald Trump for his statements at the January 11, 2018, White House meeting, which are hateful, discriminatory, and racist, and cannot and should not be the basis of any American policy, including immigration policy; and
- (3) call on President Trump to retract and apologize for these hateful, discriminatory, and racist remarks and any offense they have caused.

In the aftermath of the President’s comments, Rep. Fitzpatrick issued a tweet calling them “unacceptable.” If he truly does not accept the President’s blatant racism, he should sign on as a cosponsor of this resolution. Please consider contacting his office to ask that he sign on to this bill to prove that he does indeed find this unacceptable.

If you are interested in following all of the voting action in Congress, a number of phone apps come in handy. One of the Lower Bucks Indivisible leaders recommends the Countable app. It is available for both Apple and Android phones. You can sign up at [Countable.us](http://Countable.us) to get instant notification when our legislators vote, as well as details on each measure, pros and cons, status, and links to take action.

For those of you who are more computer- than phone-oriented, I recommend [Govtrack.us](http://Govtrack.us). The website enables you to add individual bills that interest you to a docket, so you can easily see the status of all your items in one place. They can also provide daily or weekly digest emails to track the action of any Member of Congress, committee, bill or vote. If not for Govtrack, I would not be able to compile this report.



This report brought to you by the PA-08 MoCTrack team...

Gary Garb

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We are seeking additional assistance. Our Congresspeople are always busy and there is always more for us to cover — tasks big and small to fit any level of time commitment or experience. Can you help us out? Please email [KierstynPZ@gmail.com](mailto:KierstynPZ@gmail.com) and put "MoCTrack Help" in the subject. Thanks!