

PA-01 Member of Congress Tracking Report - 04/21/19

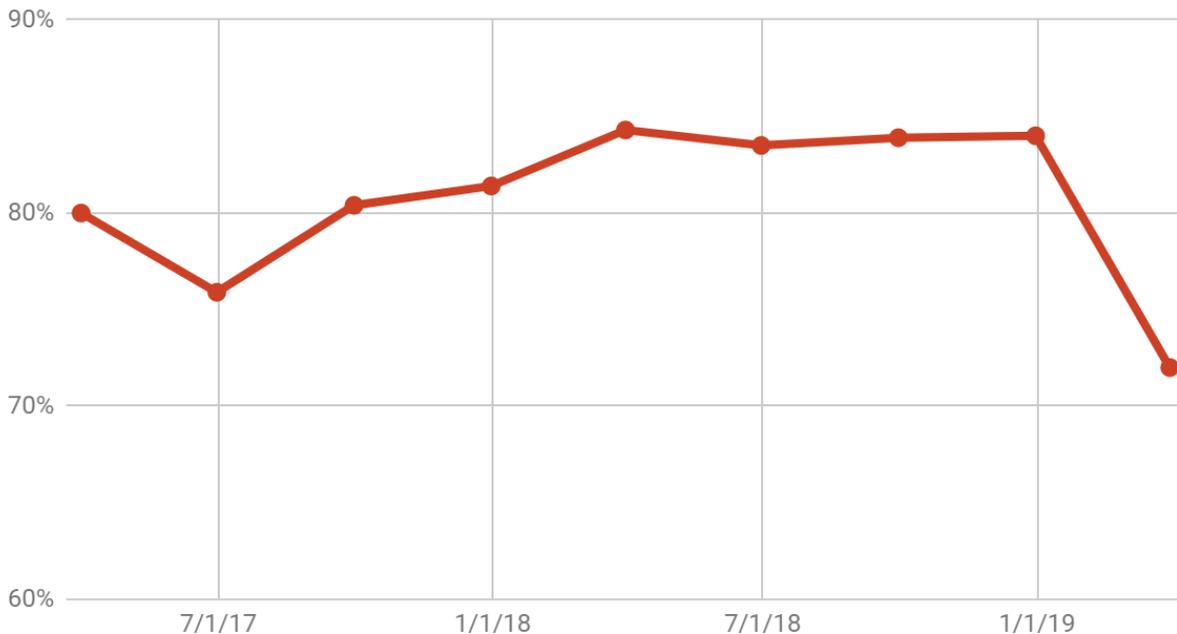
This is a 100% volunteer effort brought to you by a handful of progressive Democrats and Independents who share a vision of an informed electorate and a desire to make the process of getting legislative news easier! We want to offer thanks to the Pennsylvania Together and Pennsylvania Statewide Indivisible organizations who host our report and help us share it out to the residents of our Commonwealth!

Tracking Congress in the Age of Trump

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

Member of Congress	This week's score	Change from last report
Senator Bob Casey (D)	30.9%	0.0%
Senator Pat Toomey (R)	87.9%	0.0%
PA-01 Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R)	72.0%	0.0%

Rep. Fitzpatrick's Trump Tracker Index 2017-2019



Nate Silver's [FiveThirtyEight website](#) assesses the voting records of our MoCs to provide this index, by comparing any bills where President Trump has stated a position, and comparing the vote of the legislator to that opinion. Congress is on recess, so there were no votes to score.

Want to see exactly what votes went into giving your MoC the numbers above? Click on the name of any legislator and you will be brought to their 538 webpage, where all of the positions that went into the index are listed in an easy-to-read format.

Words From Our Founders

“An elective despotism was not the government we fought for; but one which should not only be founded on free principles, but in which the powers of government should be so divided and balanced among several bodies of magistracy, as that no one could transcend their legal limits, without being effectually checked and restrained by the others.”

— James Madison, from [Federalist 48](#)

Votes of Interest -

Our Congress is on recess - there were no votes.

Our MoCs respond to the release of the Redacted Mueller Report and Attorney General Barr’s press conference

□ Senator Bob Casey, 04/18/19, via [Twitter](#):

“Over the coming days, I will carefully review Special Counsel Mueller’s report because the American people deserve to know the whole truth. I will also continue to press Attorney General Barr to release grand jury information and all the underlying evidence that is not protected due to intelligence concerns. Despite the misinformation coming from President Trump, it’s vital that the American people know that the unified assessment of our intelligence community in January 2017 stands. It said, ‘We assess Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign in 2016 aimed at the U.S. presidential election.’ It continued ‘Russia’s goals were to undermine public faith in the U.S. democratic process, denigrate Secretary Clinton and harm her electability and potential presidency. We further assess Putin and the Russian Government developed a clear preference for President-elect Trump.’ While examining the Mueller report and the underlying evidence will be vital, it will not change what we already know: Russia attacked our election in 2016, President Trump and his closest aides and allies welcomed that attack. And then, we know from the public record, that President Trump made a series of statements and appeared to engage in conduct that interfered with a fair and independent investigation. The actions we know that President Trump, his aides and allies took may not violate criminal statutes, but they are fundamentally inconsistent with American values.”

An almost identical statement is available on [Senator Casey’s website](#).

□ Senator Pat Toomey, 04/18/19, via [Twitter](#):

“I’ve repeatedly stated that Attorney General Barr should be as transparent as possible about the Special Counsel’s findings while being consistent with the law and longstanding Department of Justice policy. While I have not had the opportunity to review the just-released 448 page report, all Americans should be pleased that the Special Counsel concluded there was no collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia. I am pleased that the report does not have any redactions based on executive privilege and that a version of the report with all redactions removed, except those relating to grand jury information, will be made available to a bipartisan group of lawmakers. I appreciate Attorney General Barr agreeing to testify before Congress in public next month to discuss the report. The Special Counsel’s findings are a stark reminder that Russia’s goal is to undermine the trust the American people have in our democratic process and government.”

An almost identical statement is available on [Senator Toomey’s website](#).

□ PA-01’s Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, 04/18/19, via his [website](#):

“As a Former FBI Supervisory Special Agent and colleague of Special Counsel Mueller, I have always supported allowing this investigation to run its course, to allow the FBI to follow the facts wherever they lead and to report those facts with unimpeachable integrity. The public deserves 100% transparency of all investigative matters, consistent with DOJ protocol. I will be thoroughly reviewing this report, as I encourage all of my colleagues to do, before commenting or concluding on its contents. After Congress has reviewed this matter, and responded accordingly, it is time to move on.”

□ **PA-02's Rep. Brendan Boyle, 04/17/19, via [Twitter](#):**

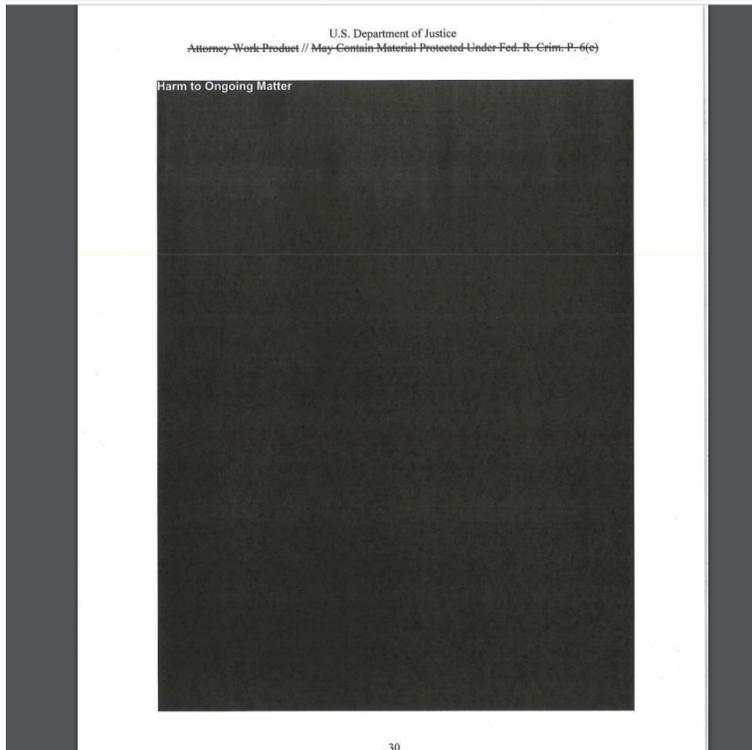
The representative did not have any specific statement sent out via his website, Twitter or Facebook (as of Sunday April 21st) upon the release of the redacted Mueller Report. But, in reaction to a [tweet from a CNN reporter](#) that "lawmakers will receive discs" of the redacted Mueller Report, Representative Boyle replied, "Like floppy disks? □"

□ **PA-03's Rep. Dwight Evans, 04/18/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"For weeks, the American people have been demanding the TRUTH from Attorney General Barr regarding the #MuellerReport. But all we're getting is a REDACTED report & political spin from AG Barr. Congress is an independent branch of government with a duty to do oversight of the executive branch, whether a president of either party likes it or not.

Under the Constitution that was written in Philadelphia, we don't have kings in this country. If the #MuellerReport fully "exonerates" the president, then releasing the full report shouldn't be a problem for him and his administration. The House recently voted 420-0 in favor of releasing the report! Again: the American people deserve the truth. NOT SPIN.

Later in the afternoon, after the report was released, Representative Evans [tweeted](#) again: "Congress requires the FULL #MuellerReport to do our constitutional duty of oversight; pages like this prevent me & my @HouseDemocrats colleagues from doing our jobs #ForThePeople."



□ **PA-04's Rep. Madeleine Dean, 04/18/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"Special Counsel Mueller's Report exposes deeply disturbing actions by the President and his Administration--equally troubling is Attorney General Barr's decision to act as the President's defense lawyer, rather than our Nation's top law enforcer. First & foremost: this report does not exonerate. The President made multiple attempts to thwart any investigation into his campaign or conduct: He fired FBI dir Comey, attempted to fire Special Counsel Mueller, he has refused to testify, & his campaign destroyed relevant emails. Now we need the unredacted report, we need the evidence. The American people deserve the truth. And Congress will come to its own determination about obstruction of justice and the possibility of impeachment."

If you would like to hear more from the Representative on this topic, she was interviewed by CNN, due to her role on the House Judiciary Committee. A clip of that Meet the Press interview is available [here](#). And another CNN appearance by Rep. Dean, specifically about Attorney General Barr is [here](#).

□ **PA-05's Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon, 04/18/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"As we review the #MuellerReport, I'll share takeaways on this thread. Some key reminders from this page:

1. Congress has a constitutional duty to be a check and balance.
2. Congress has a duty to protect the integrity of the administration of justice.
3. No one is above the law. *<shared with [image](#) of a specific portion of the report>*

To read along with us, you can view the the redacted #MuellerReport here:

<https://www.justice.gov/storage/report.pdf>

When we discuss the obstruction of justice, the central question is: Do these actions harm our justice system? The Special Counsel found evidence of efforts by the President to attack/control the investigation and to influence witnesses & alter their testimony. #MuellerReport *<shared with [image](#) of a specific portion of the report>*

The #MuellerReport says that the Special Counsel would have exonerated the President if the evidence allowed. But, because of the evidence of obstruction of justice, the report "does not exonerate." This is why Congress needs to see the underlying evidence and the full report. *<shared with [image](#) of a specific portion of the report>*

I look forward to reviewing those documents and discussing them with Special Counsel Robert Mueller in the near future. #MuellerReport"

□ **PA-06's Rep. Chrissy Houlahan, 04/19/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"After taking time to go through the redacted report, I feel we are left with more questions than with answers. To arrive at informed answers, the American people and Congress need access to the full report and underlying evidence. What is clear is that a foreign government actively sought to influence our country's election. I urge the Administration to work transparently with Congress to prevent this kind of attack on our electoral processes from happening again. What is also clear is that the behavior from the Oval Office and this Administration disrespected the rule of law and our values as a country during this investigation. Pennsylvanians sent me to Washington in part to restore civility to and faith in our democracy. I intend to uphold this mantle through legislation, oversight, and appropriation that protects the democracy and stands up for the people of Pennsylvania."

□ **PA-07's Rep. Susan Wild:**

Representative Wild does not have any materials on her website, Twitter feed or Facebook presence about the redacted report release. There is a segment from [Laura Olson's article](#) in the Allentown Morning Call that reads:

In a phone interview Thursday morning between events in Bethlehem and Allentown, U.S. Rep. Susan Wild said she hadn't yet reviewed it. "We hadn't planned our district week around the Mueller report being released," Wild said. "If we had, we would have had to set aside eight hours for me to just read."

□ **PA-08's Rep. Matt Cartwright:**

Representative Cartwright does not have any materials on his website, Twitter feed or Facebook presence about the redacted report release. There is a segment from [Andy Mehalshick's article](#) on PAHomepage.com, but it contains an interview with Rep. Cartwright that is from prior to the release of the redacted report.

□ **PA-09's Rep. Dan Meuser:**

Representative Meuser does not have any materials on his website, Twitter feed or Facebook presence about the redacted report release. There is a segment from the same [Andy Mehalshick's](#)

[article](#) on PAHomepage.com that contains the interview with Rep. Meuser, but it also contains an content from Rep. Meuser that is from prior to the release of the redacted report.

□ **PA-10's Rep. Scott Perry:**

Representative Perry does not have any materials on his website, Twitter feed or Facebook presence about the redacted report release.

□ **PA-11's Rep. Lloyd Smucker, 04/18/19, via [Twitter](#):**

“Despite 2800 subpoenas, 500 witnesses, an unlimited budget, and now more than 400 pages of Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation, nothing has changed. There was no collusion and Mueller concluded that there is insufficient evidence for obstruction of justice. Yet the investigations continue because liberal Democrats have sacrificed the principle of presumption of innocence on the altar of political profits. This is the politics of personal destruction. It is past time for Congress to move on with the business of the American people.”

Representative Smucker released the same content on his [Facebook page](#).

□ **PA-13's Rep. John Joyce, 04/18/19, via [Twitter](#):**

“The case is closed. It is now our duty as members of Congress to move on and get back to work for the American people and address important issues. Read my full statement on the Mueller Report below ↓ The release of the Mueller Report confirms the top line conclusions issued by Attorney General Barr a couple of weeks ago. There was no collusion with the Russians by President Trump or his campaign, there was no obstruction of justice committed by the President, and to claim otherwise on either or these fronts would be a direct contradiction of the facts. Attorney General Barr has complied with the law at every step of this process, fulfilling what Congress called on him to do unanimously earlier this year.

The case is closed. It is now our duty as members of Congress to move on and get back to work for the American people and address important issues like the crisis at the southern border, which I witnessed first-hand this week.”

Representative Joyce released the same material on his [website](#).

□ **PA-14's Rep. Guy Reschenthaler:**

Representative Reschenthaler does not have any materials on his website, Twitter feed or Facebook presence about the redacted report release.

□ **PA-15's Rep. Glenn W. Thompson:**

Representative Thompson does not have any materials on his website, Twitter feed or Facebook presence about the redacted report release.

□ **PA-16's Rep. Mike Kelly:**

Representative Kelly does not have any materials on his website, Twitter feed or Facebook presence about the redacted report release.

□ **PA-17's Rep. Conor Lamb:**

Representative Lamb does not have any materials on his website, Twitter feed or Facebook presence about the redacted report release.

□ **PA-18's Rep. Mike Doyle, 04/18/19, via his [website](#):**

“I’m still in the process of reading Special Counsel Mueller’s report, but several points are already quite clear. Russia repeatedly interfered in the 2016 US election with the goal of helping Donald Trump and undermining Hillary Clinton. Candidate Trump and his campaign welcomed that interference – and, as we all saw, even publicly encouraged it. The Mueller report clearly doesn’t exonerate President Trump

on obstruction of justice. Given the Attorney General's clear lack of objectivity, it will now fall to Congress to review all the evidence and determine what action should be taken."
Representative Doyle shared a link to this statement via [Twitter](#).

Our MoCs promote legislation

Many of our MoCs shared information about the bills or initiatives that they are currently backing

□ **Senator Bob Casey, 04/15/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"The GOP tax scam was a huge windfall for the extremely wealthy and largest corporations while working families were left out in the cold. We can fix that with the #WorkingFamilies Tax Relief Act. This bill would expand two of the most effective tools we have to fight poverty and put money in the pockets of working families – the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit. In Pennsylvania, 1.69 Million households would benefit from the #WorkingFamilies Tax Relief Act according to the @CenterOnBudget. #TaxDay2019 [tweeted with a link to a [Center on Budget and Policy](#) article]

□ **Senator Pat Toomey, 04/18/19, via his [website](#):**

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette published an op-ed co-authored by the senator and Rep. Guy Reschenthaler about the Blocking Deadly Fentanyl Imports Act. View his site for the full piece (as the newspaper has a paywall). This is an excerpt -

"Our bipartisan legislation enables the president to cut off certain foreign aid and taxpayer-backed loans, such as those made by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and the Export-Import Bank, to major illicit fentanyl-producing countries. To regain good standing, a penalized country would need to adopt and enforce laws and regulations comparable to U.S. standards for prosecuting drug traffickers, scheduling new psychoactive substances on an emergency basis and registering pill presses or tableting machines."

□ **PA-01's Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, 04/17/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"130 million girls around the world are not in school today - many because of barriers like child marriage, gender-based violence & family pressures. I introduced the #KeepingGirlsInSchoolAct, to address these challenges, empower girls & strengthen their communities"

□ **PA-02's Rep. Brendan Boyle, 04/16/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"My bill HR 2115 in the Prescription Drug STAR Act would increase transparency and make prescriptions more affordable. Proud to introduce and pass last week in the Ways & Means Committee."

□ **PA-03's Rep. Dwight Evans, 04/15/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"In #Philly, more than 40% of residents live in neighborhoods that are defined as "middle neighborhoods". Middle neighborhoods are neighborhoods that are caught between growth & decline. One wrong move and these neighborhoods could be described as low-income.

To lift up our communities, I'm working hard in Congress to ensure residents have tools in the toolbox to renovate their □, utilize orgs in PHL that can help w/ this process, & create jobs. While I continue to enact policies that would address housing, watch the video [below](#) featuring @RebldgTogthr"

□ **PA-05's Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon, 04/16/19, via [Twitter](#):**

This is a retweet of content from Food and Water Watch - "Thank you @RepMGS for cosponsoring the #WATERAct to fund repairs to our public water infrastructure & create almost a million jobs. We need to make water service safe & affordable for all! <https://fwwat.ch/2UbHmoU> #WaterIsAHumanRight



□ **PA-06's Rep. Chrissy Houlahan, 04/16/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"I am standing up for local and small businesses by introducing the Accelerated Payments for Small Business Act as the Lead Democrat. Small businesses in PA, and across the country, represent a critical component to our national economic wellbeing.

In our community, #PA06, over 99% of the firms are considered small businesses. The bill would direct federal government agencies that contract with small businesses, which comprise 99.7% of all firms w/ paid employees in America, to pay those small businesses within 15 days. I introduced this bill b/c I understand that success of small businesses translates into success for our country. Accelerated payments from the federal government is an important step in addressing the needs of the many Americans who run/are employed by small businesses."

□ **PA-07's Rep. Susan Wild, 04/15/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"The 2017 tax overhaul made #TaxDay2019 a little tougher for students and workers in #PA07. I'm trying to fix that with my bill to reinstate deductions on tuition and qualified school expenses and my bill to reinstate deductions on work expenses." [tweeted with an image of her press release on this bill, which can be read in full [here](#)]

□ **PA-14's Rep. Guy Reschenthaler, 04/19/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"Arnold Palmer touched millions of lives through his storied golf career and philanthropic efforts, so it is only right that we honor this great man with a Coast Guard vessel bearing his name." [tweeted with a link to an [article](#) about the Congressman's pursuit of the ship renaming]

□ **PA-15's Rep. Glenn W. Thompson, 04/16/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"In #SaintMarys #ElkCounty this AM meeting with Pastors & citizens that are members of the #LifeMatters Group. Sharing updates on the Washington battle to protect the innocent #unborn including the Democrat resistance to our #BornAliveAct"

□ **PA-16's Rep. Mike Kelly, 04/17/19, via [Twitter](#):**

"The Taxpayer First Act will protect taxpayers and make the IRS a service-first agency. In this op-ed, Sen. @ChuckGrassley and I address @propublica's inaccurate reporting and argue why this legislation, crafted over several years, is great for Americans." [tweeted with a link to a [Fox News article](#)]

Congressional Recess Activities

On weeks like this, our MoCs spend their time making in-district visits to businesses, organizations and events. Other travel in their official capacity. The visits that they choose to publicize say a lot about their priorities, and the constituencies whose support they wish to maintain.

☐ Senator Bob Casey

- Gave the keynote speech at the International Labor Organization 100th Anniversary event at the [Fox School](#) of Temple University
- Visited with [people with disabilities](#) in Harrisburg to discuss the ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) program

☐ Senator Pat Toomey

- Updated Bloomsburg residents on [floodwall construction](#)

☐ PA-01's Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick

- Accepted a Spirit of Enterprise award from the [Chamber of Commerce](#)
- Cut a ribbon at a Kimberton Whole Foods store opening in [Ottsville](#)
- Attended an induction ceremony at the [Neshaminy](#) All Sports Hall of Fame
- Took a lot of pictures at a [CB Cares](#) Educational Foundation charity basketball game
- Joined [Crossroads Pregnancy Care](#) for their annual fundraiser
- Participated in a [Transportation and Infrastructure round table](#) with Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon and Rep. Chrissy Houlahan
- Discussed the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization with [NOVA Bucks County](#)
- Visited the Multi-Generational Art Exhibition at the [Bensalem Senior Center](#)
- Caught some balls with the [Middletown Athletic Association](#)

☐ PA-02's Rep. Brendan Boyle

The Representative travelled overseas with a House delegation to Great Britain. These three tweets from the Congressman discuss what he was doing abroad:

[April 15th](#) - "Proud to be w/ Speaker Pelosi and my colleagues for meetings in London with our senior British counterparts. From our meeting at 10 Downing Street to our meetings with various UK parties, our message is simple and clear: our top priority is preserving the Good Friday Agreement."

[April 17th](#) - "Proud to be part of the official US Congressional Delegation to Ireland and be welcomed by the Dail. @SpeakerPelosi spoke eloquently today about the shared history and unwavering support between Ireland and the United States."

[April 18th](#) - "Thank you @LeoVaradkar @simoncoveney @MichaelDHiggins and all those who made our time in Ireland such a special memory. Both my wife @jenboyle625 and I will never forget it. There is no doubt the bonds between ☐☐ and ☐☐ have never been stronger. Until next time, slán go fóill."

☐ PA-03's Rep. Dwight Evans

- Joined constituents, a Philadelphia councilwoman and folks from [Clean Water Action PA](#) to deliver materials opposing the roll back of the Clean Water Rule to the PA Department of Environmental Protection
- Made an appearance on WURD's [Reality Check](#)
- Visited the Philadelphia office of [Community Legal Services](#) to discuss the new changes to the SSA Disability application process
- Met with constituents to discuss [Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome](#)

☐ PA-04's Rep. Madeleine Dean

- Visited a [pair of businesses](#), Nationwide Insurance in Harleysville and Van Horn, Metz & Co. in Conshohocken

- Joined fellow members of the House Judiciary Committee for a [press conference](#) just prior to the release of the redacted Mueller Report
 - Made an appearance on WURD's [Reality Check](#)
 - Appeared on [Meet the Press](#)
 - Held a [TOWN HALL](#) in Norristown
 - Discussed the Attorney General's actions on [MSNBC](#)
- ☐ **PA-05's Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon**
- Joined the [Carpenters Local 158](#) on Tax Day for their Tax Fraud Day of Action
 - Participated in a [Transportation and Infrastructure round table](#) with Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick and Rep. Chrissy Houlahan
 - Attended a [Project HOME](#) event
 - Spoke at an [Optimist Club](#) event
 - Visited [Cheyney University](#) to discuss funding for HBCUs and criminal justice reform with students and administrators
 - Read to the children at storytime at the [KenCrest Center](#)
 - Appeared on [MSNBC](#) with Ari Melber
 - Participated in a clean up day at the [John Heinz Wildlife Refuge](#)
- ☐ **PA-06's Rep. Chrissy Houlahan**
- Discussed climate change with students at the [Fugett Middle School](#) in West Chester
 - Participated in a [Transportation and Infrastructure round table](#) with Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick and Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon
 - Spoke at a [Teach for America](#) event
 - Held a [TOWN HALL](#) at West Chester University
 - Toured a [steel mill](#) in Coatesville
 - Visited the [Olivet Boys and Girls Club](#) in Reading to announce an Americorps grant
 - Gave a speech about education at the [United Community Services YouthBuild](#) Commencement Ceremony in Reading
 - Met with [JROTC students](#) at the Valley Forge Medal of Honor Grove
- ☐ **PA-07's Rep. Susan Wild**
- Participated in a listening session about the [ACA](#) with PA Attorney General Josh Shapiro
 - Visited the district winner of the Congressional Art Competition at [Nazareth High School](#)
 - Had a [BUSY day](#) in Monroe County... [quoting from her itinerary]
 - ☐ Tour of @TeamTobyhanna Army Depot
 - ☐ Explore small businesses in downtown [Stroudsburg](#)
 - ☐ Meet students at [East Stroudsburg High](#) and answer their burning questions
 - ☐ Meeting with [@ESUniversity](#) Pres
 - ☐ "100 Days and Counting" [Town Hall](#) at @TheRenegadeWine
 - Met with [Lehigh University](#) students and toured their [research lab](#)
 - Toured the [YouthBuild House](#) in Allentown
- ☐ **PA-08's Rep. Matt Cartwright**
- Opened his [new district office](#) in Tannersville, with a [constituent event](#)
 - Participated in a [forum](#) at Marywood University
- ☐ **PA-09's Rep. Dan Meuser**
- Spoke at a luncheon at the Greater Hazleton [Chamber of Commerce](#)
 - Made an appearance on [PCNTV](#)
- ☐ **PA-10's Rep. Scott Perry**
- Guest-hosted the [Ken Matthews Show](#) on WHP Talk Radio
 - Attended a new [citizenship celebration](#)
- ☐ **PA-11's Rep. Lloyd Smucker**

- Discussed the USMCA with dairy farmers at [Kreider Farms](#)
- Met with members of the [Housing and Urban Development Department](#) in Lancaster
- Participated in a [workforce summit](#) this morning with York County educators and business leaders
- Spoke to members of the [York Rotary Club](#)

□ **PA-13's Rep. John Joyce**

The Representative travelled down to the southern border. These three tweets (from nearly a dozen he shared) give a good taste of what the Congressman was up to:

[April 16th](#) - "Wow. Just a remarkable tour of @FisherSandG, a company that is doing innovative construction work and wants to help us build the wall. Thank you to @RepAndyBiggsAZ for leading this great fact finding tour. @BillCassidy @mattgaetz"

[April 16th](#) - "This is a section of the southern border in Yuma. All illegal immigrants have to do is get across this small, shallow portion of the Colorado River and they are in our country. There are no barriers preventing this and it is far too easy for them. We need to build the wall."

[April 17th](#) - "We had a very informative briefing today with @CBP at a legal port of entry and discussed what Congress can do to help by providing them with more manpower and resources."

April 19th - "The @dailyamerican has more on my trip to the southern border and how it reinforced to me that we are facing a crisis. -> [article](#)"

□ **PA-14's Rep. Guy Reschenthaler**

- Held [office hours](#) in a state representative's office

□ **PA-15's Rep. Glenn W. Thompson**

- Attended a boy scout ceremony in [DuBois](#)
- Presented a Congressional Award to a student at [West Shamokin High School](#)
- Visited the [Industrial Development Council](#) in Armstrong County
- Discussed lock and dam operation with the [Allegheny River Development Corporation](#)
- Held a meeting with a [pro-life group](#) to discuss the Born Alive Act
- Toured [St. Mary's High School](#) in Elk County
- Spoke to [Penn State](#) students about careers in health care

□ **PA-16's Rep. Mike Kelly**

Representative Kelly shared many tweets about Tax Day and the economy, but did not provide any information about his recess activities on any of his social media feeds.

□ **PA-17's Rep. Conor Lamb**

- Held [office hours](#) at a public library in Penn Hills

□ **PA-18's Rep. Mike Doyle**

- Discussed water infrastructure with [Pittsburgh United](#)

Casey in the News

Courtesy of contributor Kathy Sites

"This change is an attack on individuals with disabilities and said extra step will make obtaining disability benefits more complicated and more frustrating for Pennsylvanians."

— [Senator Casey's response regarding changes in the application process for SSAI, SSDIB or both those with disabilities, from a Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article titled "Changes coming to federal disability programs' application process in PA"](#)

"There have been reports from across the country alleging that some Medicaid managed care companies (MCOs) continuously deny care to patients sorely in need of care. In some cases, patients have

experienced entirely preventable life-altering harms. Medicaid is emblematic of who we are as a nation, reflecting who we value and the ideals we are willing to fight for. We must ensure Medicaid MCOs live up to these ideals and provide Americans with the health care that they deserve.”

— [Senator Casey’s response to the US Office of Inspector General launching investigation into Medicaid oversight as reported by *weareiowa.com* in article titled “Inspector General will investigate government oversight of Medicaid”](#)

Fitzpatrick in the News

“American heroes affected by Agent Orange deserve the peace of mind knowing that the federal government recognizes the existing link between their exposure and illness.”

— [from an article in *Stars and Stripes* titled “New legislation would recognize nine more diseases caused by Agent Orange”](#)

“We need to revolutionize American education and job training so we’re preparing students for a 21st century job market. That means, among other things, reducing barriers to educational opportunities and post-graduation success.”

— [from a blog post in the *Ripon Advance* titled “Fitzpatrick cosponsors bipartisan bill to allow refinancing of student loans”](#)

Toomey in the News

Courtesy of contributor Elayne Baker

“It’s a very, very bad idea to turn the independent judiciary into an extension of the political arm... Elections have consequences, and some of my Democratic colleagues are having a really hard time accepting that sometimes the election doesn’t go the way they would like.”

— [from an article in *Erie News Now* titled “Expanding the Supreme Court? Toomey, GOP Senators say no.”](#)

“Obviously that ship has sailed and now we’re in a position where our Democratic colleagues are — I’m not aware of a single elected Democrat member of Congress who’s endorsed this. Maybe you are but I’m not. I’m aware of many who have panned it. So it’s not clear to me what the path forward is,” he added. “As I’ve warned the administration, there’s a lot of resistance from Democrats.”

— [Senator Toomey’s assessment of President Trump’s new NAFTA plan, the ‘USMCA,’ from an article in *Business Insider* titled “Trump and the Republican-controlled Senate are increasingly at odds on everything from trade to Yemen to the border wall”](#)

“The vast majority of [migrants] do not qualify for asylum, but it takes us so long to process their request that we end up having to release them in the meantime and they never come back. So we need to speed this up, we need more judges, we need more facilities, so we can reduce this revolving door.”

— [from an article on the *Newsradio 1070 WKOK* website titled “U.S. Senator Toomey shares views against sanctuary cities”](#)

“One of the many ironies of this situation is that I fully support adding to the border wall that we have today. Here is the funding available to the president to fully fund what it is he wants to build, and what I want to build,” Toomey said. “And that’s what I thought the president should have done.”

— [from an article in the *Bethlehem Press* titled “Toomey talks about voting against Trump’s declaration”](#)

"[Cuts to staffing] creates an unsafe environment for staff, inmates and the public. Correctional officers, who act as the law enforcement officers within a prison, have the training and experience necessary to guard inmates and address any dangerous situations that arise. Proper staffing is absolutely necessary to keep officers, support staff, inmates and the general public as safe and secure as possible. As Attorney General, you will play a key role in directing and crafting BOP policy. We strongly encourage you to use your position to ensure that our federal prisons are fully and properly staffed."

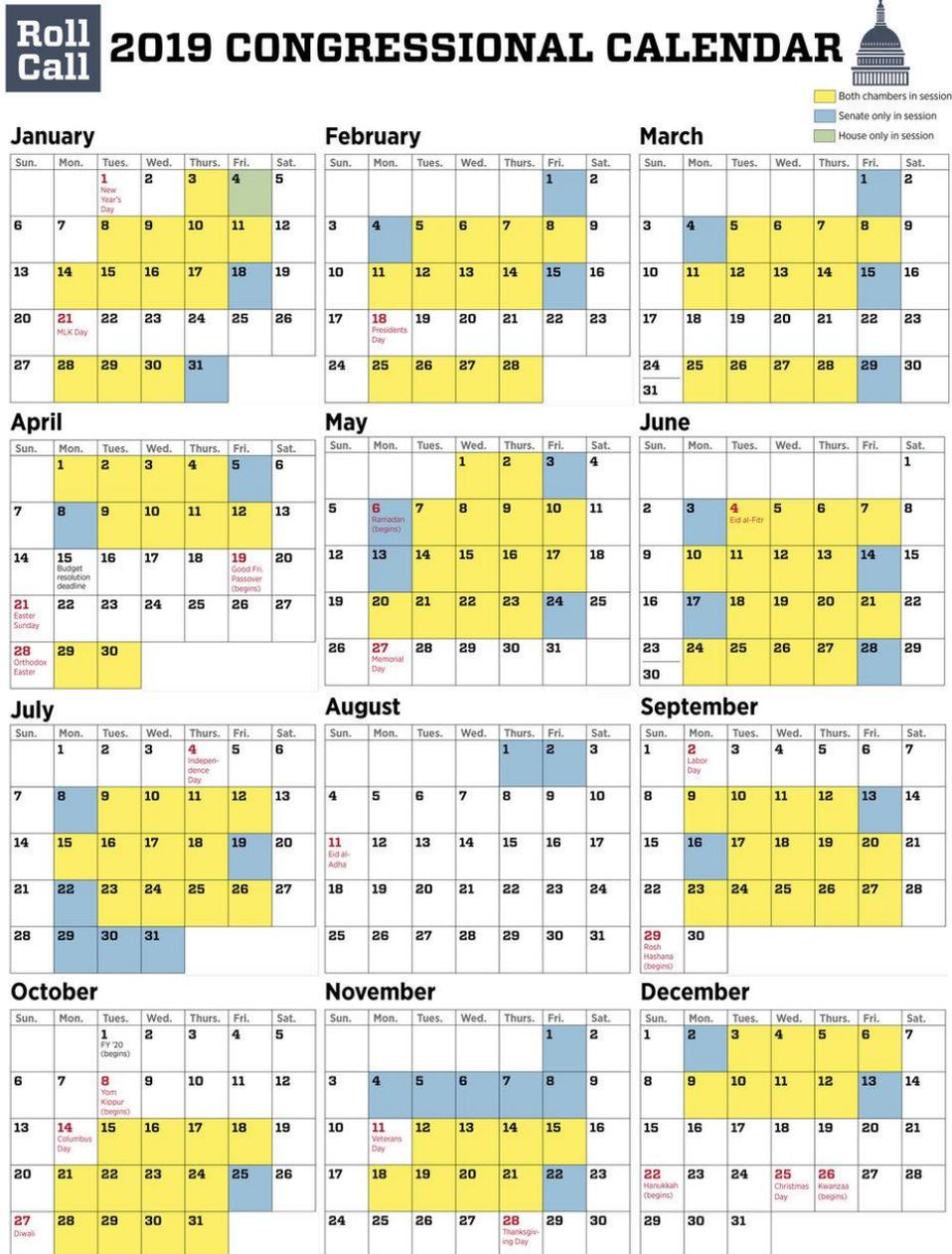
— from a letter jointly authored by Senators Casey and Toomey, directed to the Attorney General, from an article in *The Citizens Voice* titled "[Casey, Toomey plead with AG to increase staffing in federal prisons](#)"

Senator Toomey also (as one can tell from the title) took on a number of topics in the *Bucks County Courier Times* article "[U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey talks southern border, taxes, Mueller report.](#)" Here are a selection of his quotes from that piece:

- **On President Trump's 'bomb-hurling' brand of politics** - "It's on both sides. There are Republicans and there are Democrats who engage in inciting the most vitriolic kind of reactions they can incite. And I think that's unfortunate."
- **On the GOP Tax Plan** - "I still think that it's very likely, that over the five- and 10-year windows, we will bring in more revenue as the result of the extra growth from the tax reform."
- **On social safety net cuts** - "If we're going to be honest about the nature of the problem ... that is the definition of an unsustainable dynamic." *[editor's note - the ellipses was in the article]*
- **On the ACA's individual mandate** - "very bad idea [that] didn't work very well."
- **On dealing with people who have pre-existing conditions** - "I think a state-administered pool, where people who are outliers, the state gets reimbursed above some level by the federal government, creates a broader population."
- **On the government's role in dealing with climate change** - "It's not clear to me that won't do more harm than good"
- **On the environment** - "Does it get manifested with slightly higher overnight low temperatures in the winter, more than say, record-breaking heat in the summer? I'm not sure we know the answer to that. It probably varies geographically. And humans have an amazing ability to adapt."
- **On the process of redacting the Mueller Report** - "On a judgment call where you could go either way, I think we should err on the side of disclosure."
-

Learning about Legislation

Congress gets to set its own schedule, though there are some conventions that the House and Senate leaders tend to abide by. Since the House and Senate are on recess, it feels like a good time to look at the proposed schedule for 2019. This version is provided by [Roll Call](#).



Knowing the Congressional schedule is critical for planning actions involving you MoCs. It's always best to set up an event for a time that your targeted legislator is in-district. Just as a reminder, Indivisible has a whole Library full of [resources for organizing](#)...check out this one about planning visits and events for [district offices](#) and take advantage of the Congressional Calendar to make your voice heard!

Thanks for reading up on what our Pennsylvania Members of Congress have been doing this past week. We're delighted to have you as a reader. If you liked what you read here and think others need to keep up with our MoCs, please share our website - www.patogether.org/congress.html Or you can head over to Twitter and search for #MoCTrack and retweet what you see there. Since Congress is on recess through April 29th. Accordingly, this report is going to be a bit on the short side, and MoCTrack is going to take a recess of our own. **Our next edition will come out on May 5th.**

This report brought to you by the PA-01 MoCTrack team...

Elayne Baker

Gary Garb

Kathy Sikes

Kierstyn Piotrowski Zolfo

Are you an introvert activist looking for ways to help a progressive effort that don't involve phone calls, door knocking, or leaving your house? We are always seeking additional assistance. Our Congresspeople are always busy and there is always more for us to cover — tasks big (example - what traditional media is saying about your MoC) and small (example - what's your MoC tweeting about) to fit any level of time commitment or experience. Can you help us out? Please email KierstynPZ@gmail.com and put "MoCTrack Help" in the subject. Thanks!