

— CONGRESSWOMAN —  
**LORI TRAHAN**

PROUDLY REPRESENTING  MASSACHUSETTS' 3RD DISTRICT



**2021-2022 TERM IN REVIEW**

# DEAR NEIGHBOR,

Since I was first sworn in as your representative nearly four years ago, I have viewed every vote I've taken, every meeting I've attended, and every conversation I've had through the lens of how it will help our district. The needs of this community – the one I grew up in and the one I'm raising my daughters in – guides my work each day.

This job is truly the honor of a lifetime, and I remain deeply grateful for the trust you've placed in me to make your voice heard in Washington. In my second term in Congress, I have worked to deliver billions in federal funding for working families in the Third District, delivered unprecedented investments to repair our roads, bridges, and water systems, defended women's rights, expanded access to quality, affordable health care, enacted historic environmental policies, and much more.

I appreciate you taking a moment to review this report and reflect on all we've achieved together over the past two years – we've certainly come a long way. However, I'm far from finished. There's much work ahead to build on the remarkable progress we've made. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in both parties, with President Biden, and with local partners to deliver for families like yours.

As always, I hope you will share your feedback, thoughts, and priorities as we continue those efforts. Please don't ever hesitate to contact my office to ask for help. I wish you a wonderful holiday season with your loved ones, and I look forward to keeping in touch over the next year!



Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

03	TERM IN REVIEW
04	REPORT CARD
05	HELPING FAMILIES MAKE ENDS MEET
06	LOWERING ENERGY COSTS
07	MAKING HEALTH CARE MORE AFFORDABLE
08	CREATING GOOD PAYING JOBS
09-10	INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE
11	PROTECTING WOMEN'S RIGHTS
12	CLEANING UP OUR DRINKING WATER
13	TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS
14	SUPPORTING OUR PARENTS AND CHILDREN
15	COMBATING THE OPIOID CRISIS

# TERM IN REVIEW

Serving every person who calls the Third District home is always my top priority. In a term filled with new and complex challenges, we've assisted thousands of families with requests for assistance.

From expediting home heating funds to helping working families access Child Tax Credit payments to assisting veterans, seniors, and those with disabilities with receiving the benefits they're owed, I could not be prouder of what our team has accomplished.

If you are in need of assistance with a federal agency or believe we can be helpful, please call my Lowell office at **978-459-0101** or email me at **Rep.LoriTrahan@mail.house.gov**.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**19**  bills introduced


**2,900 +**  constituent requests for assistance closed

 **61,000 +** constituent phone calls & emails answered

 **940 +** events, constituent and organization meetings, town halls, and visits in the district

 **\$435,800,000 +** in federal benefits and relief delivered to residents and small businesses

**42%** of all bills we introduced have a Republican co-lead



# REPORT CARD

UNITED STATES CONGRESS

## CONGRESSWOMAN LORI TRAHAN

MASSACHUSETTS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

YEAR: 2021-2022

ORGANIZATION	GRADE
Alliance for Retired Americans	A
Humane Society of America	A
National Education Association	A
Human Rights Campaign	A
Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights	A
End Citizens United	A
National Parks Conservation Association	A
League of Conservation Voters	A
Planned Parenthood Action Fund	A
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)	A
American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)	A
American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)	A
Democracy Scorecard	A
International Association of Mechanists and Aerospace Workers	A
National Rifle Association	F

# HELPING FAMILIES MAKE ENDS MEET

I know families are hurting right now. Putin's invasion of Ukraine and corporate price gouging have resulted in higher costs making it harder for families to afford everyday essentials. I'm laser-focused on doing everything possible to lower prices and keep money where it belongs – in families' pockets.

## HOME HEATING

I have voted to increase Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds and am now making sure Bay Staters receive those funds expeditiously. I also have called for the passage of the Home Heating Oil Price Reduction Act to increase the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve (NEHHOR) from 1 million to 4 million barrels. I know that oil and natural gas shortages have caused serious concern around heating and utility costs, which is why I've been actively working on this priority issue.

## PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

I voted for the Inflation Reduction Act because I know what it's like for a family to have a health emergency that they never could've planned for. To make sure families can afford their life saving medicine, this legislation caps insulin and other out-of-pocket costs for all Medicare recipients. Thousands of Third District residents can expect to save on their prescription drug costs with the Inflation Reduction Act in place.

## PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY

As a daughter whose parents count on their Social Security checks coming every month, I understand how essential the program is. With rising costs, programs like Social Security and Medicare are more necessary than ever. And we have good news: the Social Security Administration recently announced that benefits are set to increase by 8.7% – that's \$145 more per month on average for seniors in our community!

## ANTI-INFLATION LEGISLATION

Fighting inflation requires a multipronged approach, which is why I've been working on legislation that lowers the costs of everyday goods from all angles. I voted for the Ocean Shipping Reform Act to combat exorbitant shipping costs by strengthening enforcement against exploitative business practices and easing supply chain backlogs. I also supported the Lower Food and Fuel Costs Act to strengthen our food and agriculture supply chains, crack down on anti-competitive conduct and price gouging by massive meat and poultry corporations, and lower food and gas prices for Third District families.

# LOWERING ENERGY COSTS

The huge increases in home heating and electricity bills from National Grid and Eversource this winter are already hurting many families across our district. This is personal for me. Growing up, my family wouldn't have been able to afford bills that were \$40 or \$50 more each month. I've been working around the clock to get legislation across the finish line to help families like yours keep their houses warm, keep the lights on, and keep their children fed.

## GAS PRICES

Big Oil companies have used Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine to rake in record profits while hard-working families struggled to get by. In fact, over the last six months, six of the largest oil companies have made more than \$100 billion in profits, and executives have pocketed million dollar bonuses. I questioned those executives as a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, making them go on record about why they were padding their bottom line and forcing working families to pay for it.

I've also been a proud supporter of the Buy Low and Sell High Act to make sure that the Emergency Petroleum Reserve is able to buy oil when prices are low and sell when prices are high, ensuring that those savings go to working families so they aren't forced to pay more at the gas pump.

## HOME HEATING

I cosponsored the Home Heating Oil Price Reduction Act to increase home heating oil supplies across New England. We know that prices go down when we have a higher supply, and this legislation will drastically increase the supply of home heating oil in our region this winter so those savings can be passed onto families.

I've also been an advocate for increasing Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds, which helps tens of thousands of families here in Massachusetts afford their heating bills each winter. That's why I voted to deliver nearly \$160 million in federal LIHEAP aid for families across the Commonwealth!

Understanding that funds sometimes get held up or delayed, I led every Massachusetts Congressperson and Senator in calling on the Biden administration to release those LIHEAP funds as soon as possible. Families shouldn't fall behind on their payments because the funding moved too slowly. I'm proud to report those funds were disbursed in early November.

## SAVING MONEY AT HOME

Massachusetts families will be able to save an average of \$500 annually through the Inflation Reduction Act's environmental tax credits that start taking effect next year. The cost of new energy-efficient appliances like heat pumps, water heaters, dryers, and stoves is covered by rebates of up to 100%. Low and middle-income families are also eligible for tax credits for the installation of solar panels, weatherizing their homes, and upgrading their HVAC systems.



# MAKING HEALTH CARE MORE AFFORDABLE

I believe that every family in our nation should have access to quality, affordable health care. In the wealthiest country on earth, no one should have to choose between a trip to the hospital or keeping a roof over their heads. As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee's Health Subcommittee, I've been working to lower health care costs for families in our district.

## DECREASING PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

For the first time ever – thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act – insulin prices for Medicare beneficiaries will be capped at \$35/month. This cap will benefit 5,300 Third District residents who rely on their lifesaving insulin prescription and save them thousands of dollars in the coming years. In addition, for another 1,000 Medicare Part D beneficiaries in our district, the Inflation Reduction Act will cap annual out-of-pocket expenses at \$2,000, saving families thousands of dollars each year on their critically important medications.

## LOWERING HEALTHCARE PREMIUMS

I supported passage of the Inflation Reduction Act to rein in out-of-control health care costs. Here are a few of the specific ways this will help Third District families:

- 18,000 Third District residents who have health care through the Health Connector will **save an average of \$840** annually on their health care premiums. Families that would have otherwise seen premiums spike in cost or lose their coverage entirely will pay significantly less.
- A family of two kids and two adults making \$75,000 per year could see **\$2,832 in savings** on health care premiums. Seniors will benefit even further with a household of two adults over 60 making \$70,000 seeing a **savings of \$9,768 annually** on their premiums.

I also voted for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which significantly expanded health care access through the Health Connector to cover more middle-class families and make coverage more affordable for families already on a plan through Connector. For individuals who lost their job during the pandemic, this legislation also ensured they could access health care through the marketplace or continue their employer-sponsored health coverage.

## LOCAL COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER INVESTMENTS

The COVID-19 pandemic has proven just how critical community health centers are to ensuring positive health outcomes, especially for the most vulnerable in our communities. I secured \$2,770,654 in federal ARPA relief funding for community health centers in Lawrence, Lowell, and Fitchburg. I also fought to secure \$2,000,000 in Community Project Funding for Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC) to expand its services. The funding will expand and update GLFHC's Essex Street facility to bolster patient and pharmacy access at one of its busiest clinical locations.



Lori discusses the \$2 million in federal funding she secured for GLFHC.

# CREATING GOOD PAYING JOBS

I grew up in a working family in Lowell. My father was a union ironworker and my mother picked up work where she could while raising my three sisters and me. Like many families across our district, we lived paycheck to paycheck and felt the tight grip of economic anxiety. I've made it my mission to make sure Congress puts the needs of workers and their families first – not corporations.

## INVESTING IN AMERICAN MANUFACTURING & INNOVATION

I voted for the bipartisan CHIPS & Science Act to finally strengthen America's manufacturing sector and create good paying jobs here in the Third District – the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Our region stands to benefit disproportionately from the CHIPS Act because of the tremendous coalition of chip-focused companies and research institutions like UMass Lowell and Fitchburg State University that call our district home. This legislation also made investments in STEM education for K-12 schools, colleges, and universities, which will help more people get the education they need to succeed in good-paying jobs.

## CLEAN ENERGY JOBS

Massachusetts currently has 113,000 high-quality, good-paying clean energy jobs. Over the next 8 years, the Inflation Reduction Act will invest more than \$11 billion in large-scale clean power generation and storage right here in the Commonwealth. This will spur the creation of more family-sustaining jobs and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels that are a key driver of high inflation.

## CREATING A CLIMATE FOR BUSINESS GROWTH

Massachusetts has some of the top talent in the country and the world. Public research universities, like UMass Lowell and Fitchburg State University – as well as our technical schools, vocational schools, and community colleges – are delivering a pipeline of skilled workers here in the Third District and well beyond.

I've made it a priority to connect this local talent with businesses coming to the Third District. I've had the privilege of welcoming a diverse array of small and medium-sized businesses that are creating good-paying jobs across industries, from manufacturing to health care!

## PROTECTING WORKERS' RIGHTS

Coming from a union family, a union city, and a union state, there was no doubt that I would be an original cosponsor of the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act. This legislation passed the House in 2021 and protects the basic right of all workers to join a union. It penalizes companies and executives that violate workers' rights, closes exploitative loopholes utilized by corporations, and strengthens workers' collective bargaining rights.



Lori speaks at the grand opening of Unitex's new facility in Lawrence, bringing business and jobs to the community.

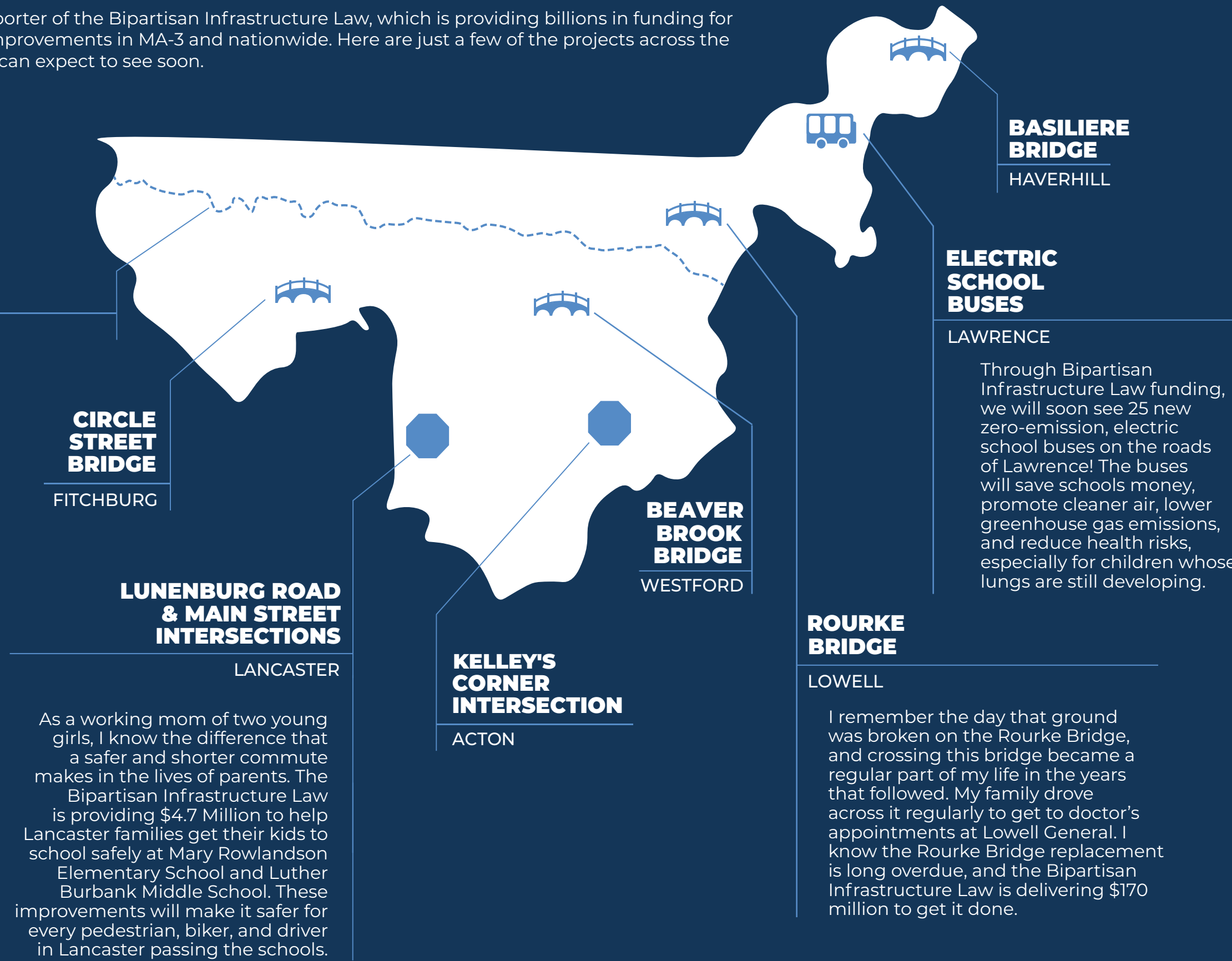
# INVESTING *in* INFRASTRUCTURE

I'm a proud supporter of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which is providing billions in funding for infrastructure improvements in MA-3 and nationwide. Here are just a few of the projects across the district that you can expect to see soon.

## ROUTE 2

### ACROSS THE DISTRICT

Shortly after taking office in 2019, I toured our district to understand what infrastructure projects we desperately needed to invest in. What became clear is that no highway needs improvements more than Route 2, the highway that tens of thousands of parents in the Third District – from Gardner to Acton – rely on to get their kids school and themselves to work each day. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is providing over \$60 million for upgrades and repairs at a number of points along Route 2.



### CIRCLE STREET BRIDGE

FITCHBURG

### LUNENBURG ROAD & MAIN STREET INTERSECTIONS

LANCASTER

As a working mom of two young girls, I know the difference that a safer and shorter commute makes in the lives of parents. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is providing \$4.7 Million to help Lancaster families get their kids to school safely at Mary Rowlandson Elementary School and Luther Burbank Middle School. These improvements will make it safer for every pedestrian, biker, and driver in Lancaster passing the schools.

### KELLEY'S CORNER INTERSECTION

ACTON

### BEAVER BROOK BRIDGE

WESTFORD

### ROURKE BRIDGE

LOWELL

I remember the day that ground was broken on the Rourke Bridge, and crossing this bridge became a regular part of my life in the years that followed. My family drove across it regularly to get to doctor's appointments at Lowell General. I know the Rourke Bridge replacement is long overdue, and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is delivering \$170 million to get it done.

### ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES

LAWRENCE

Through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding, we will soon see 25 new zero-emission, electric school buses on the roads of Lawrence! The buses will save schools money, promote cleaner air, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce health risks, especially for children whose lungs are still developing.

### BASILIERE BRIDGE

HAVERHILL

## PROTECTING WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The fight for women's rights has spanned generations. Whether it was the mill girl movement here in the Merrimack Valley or the suffragette movement of the early 20th Century, women have spent decades pushing for the rights we hold dear today. As the mother of two young daughters, I have worked tirelessly to ensure that future generations of women see their rights and opportunities expanded – not taken away.



### THE OVERTURNING OF ROE V. WADE

The Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade has been disastrous for millions of women across our nation. Many states have passed legislation to ban or severely limit access to safe, legal abortion care. We've already seen alarming stories about women being denied lifesaving reproductive care because doctors and hospitals are limited by draconian state laws. I believe women should have complete control over our bodies and our health care decisions. Politicians have no business being in the doctor's office with us.

### PROTECTING ABORTION ACCESS & WOMEN'S HEALTHCARE

Long before the Supreme Court overturned Roe, I was sounding the alarm about the need to codify abortion rights into law. I voted in late 2021 to pass the Women's Health Protection Act to protect women's access to abortion. Since Republicans blocked it, I voted to pass the Ensuring Access to Abortion Act in the weeks after the Supreme Court's shameful decision to overturn Roe. These pieces of legislation prohibit government interference with abortion services and ensure women will not be penalized for seeking services in another state like Massachusetts. I'm committed to getting them across the finish line.

### THE INFO FOR REPRODUCTIVE CARE ACT

In the meantime, I've been working on legislation to support women who have seen their reproductive rights taken away in other states. I introduced the Informing New Factors and Options (INFO) for Reproductive Care Act to support the creation of a coordinated national public awareness campaign to inform health care professionals on the best ways to help patients navigate the legal landscape following the overturning of Roe. It's not just women who are paying the steep price for extreme Republican abortion bans. Health care providers simply trying to care for their patients are being forced to navigate a patchwork of new bans and limitations on abortion care, some of which could land them in jail just for doing their jobs. This legislation will help get them the guidance they need to save women's lives.

### DEMANDING TECH COMPANIES PROTECT WOMEN

Tech companies and data brokers harvest and sell access to data about all of us, including women's health and reproductive data. Following the overturning of Roe, I've raised concerns that this data can be used to criminalize women seeking reproductive care. I led a group of my colleagues in writing to powerful technology companies to demand answers on their handling of women's reproductive health data and what actions they're taking to ensure women aren't punished for seeking the care they need. I will continue this work until we are certain that women's reproductive data is protected.

## CLEANING UP OUR DRINKING WATER

The Merrimack River is one of Massachusetts' most prized natural treasures. It powered the Industrial Revolution and has become woven into the fabric of our Commonwealth over the years. It's our duty to protect and strengthen this valuable natural resource – as well as all of our rivers – and the hundreds of thousands of people for whom they provide drinking water.

### STOPPING SEWAGE OVERFLOWS

I reintroduced the bipartisan Stop Sewage Overflow Act to increase federal investments in combined sewer overflow projects in communities like ours that are working to tackle sewage overflow issues head-on. I'm proud to report that provisions from this legislation were incorporated into the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which authorizes \$1.4 billion to prevent sewage overflows. But our work didn't stop there. My office continues working with towns and communities across the district to ensure this funding reaches critical sewage projects here at home.

### SEWAGE FUNDING FOR THIRD DISTRICT COMMUNITIES

I testified before the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and requested \$100 million in federal funding authorization to help address combined sewage overflows in Lowell, Lawrence, Methuen, Haverhill, and Fitchburg. That authorization was passed by both the House and Senate, and I'll be working in the months ahead to bring that funding home to our cities.

### ACTING ON PFAS CONTAMINATION

The Third District is home to many communities with some of the highest PFAS levels in their drinking water in the Commonwealth. I helped introduce and pass the PFAS Action Act of 2021 in the House to clean up these PFAS contaminations, help families who have been exposed to the dangerous "forever chemicals," and prevent future exposures. This bipartisan piece of legislation will bolster state and local initiatives like those already underway in Massachusetts. I am also working closely with the Biden administration which has launched a multi-step plan to mitigate the harmful effects of PFAS.

### PFAS FUNDING FOR THIRD DISTRICT COMMUNITIES

In the Third District, PFAS contaminations have impacted at least 16 cities and towns. This Congress, I secured federal funding for Hudson and Littleton's water treatment plants that will filter PFAS chemicals and ensure families are drinking clean water.



Lori joins local leaders at the Merrimack River to celebrate securing \$350,000 in federal community project funding for the Merrimack River Watershed Council.

# TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

I'm working urgently to combat the climate crisis to protect our planet for our children and our grandchildren. As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I work on a wide variety of environmental issues, and this Congress, I voted to pass the largest climate investment in history.

## DOMESTIC MANUFACTURING & ENERGY SECURITY

Over \$11 billion in federal investments for large-scale clean power generation and storage is headed to the Commonwealth in the next 8 years because of the Inflation Reduction Act. This means abundant job growth and reduced dependence on fossil fuels which are key drivers of inflation. Additionally, the Inflation Reduction Act strengthens the energy supply chain, eliminating bottlenecks and reducing the risk of future supply shocks that drive up prices.

## DECARBONIZING THE ECONOMY

The Inflation Reduction Act stands to reduce carbon emissions in almost every sector of the economy. From investing in clean energy production and storage to reducing emissions from industrial manufacturing, the Inflation Reduction Act will put us on course to cut our carbon emissions by 40 percent by 2030. And we'll build on that progress with the legislation's investments in research and development of new climate and clean energy technology to aid in this transition.

## INVESTING IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

The effects of the climate crisis can be felt in every community across the Third District, but that's especially true for low-income and minority communities that face disproportionate levels of air pollution and water contamination. The Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law deliver for those communities in the Third District – Lawrence, Lowell, and others – by providing grants to help their transition to a greener, cleaner future. The City of Lawrence has already taken advantage of one of those programs to purchase 25 new electric school buses to reduce diesel emissions.

## BUILDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes bold investments in our community's green infrastructure. Specifically, the package invests \$7.5 billion to build the first-ever national network of electric vehicle chargers, \$5 billion for zero emission buses, and \$50 billion to make America's infrastructure more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law also allocated \$3.5 billion to weatherize homes and buildings, an important initiative designed to reduce families' utilities bills by keeping houses warmer during the winter and cooler during the summer.



Lori joins with Department of Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm and local leaders to witness the ways the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will benefit the Commonwealth.

# SUPPORTING OUR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

As the mom to two young girls, I think about how every vote I take will affect our children and future generations. I've focused in this Congress on supporting our families by prioritizing youth mental health and holding Big Tech accountable for the harms they have caused our kids. After the toll that these past few years have taken on our children and young adults, it's imperative that we get them the support and care they need.

## PRIORITIZING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

This Congress, I introduced the Youth Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Act and the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Reauthorization Act to support positive mental health promotion, behavioral health awareness, and suicide prevention programs in our schools. It's glaringly obvious that further investments in education, treatment, and strengthened mental health services are needed to ensure that no stone is left unturned in the fight to prevent youth suicide.

## PROTECTING KIDS ONLINE

As our kids navigate the Internet at earlier and earlier ages, I'm working to protect their safety and privacy. Big Tech companies have forfeited our trust that they would self-regulate to make sure our kids are safe online – making Congressional oversight more important than ever.

When Facebook announced its intention to roll out a version of Instagram specifically designed to hook children under the age of 13, I called out the company for trying to use our kids to expand their billion-dollar profits. Shortly after I demanded that they abandon those plans, the company paused the development of Instagram for Kids. I have requested that they permanently shelve those plans and will be vigilant if they try to resume their efforts.

After a horrific New York Times investigation of websites that encourage and assist people to die by suicide, I spearheaded the Stop Online Suicide Assistance Forums Act to put an end to these online spaces that disproportionately target and harm young people.

## REQUIRING TRANSPARENCY FROM BIG TECH

When it became clear that companies like Facebook and Google were sitting on evidence of their services harming children and young people, I began drafting comprehensive legislation that would mandate transparency from massive tech companies. The Digital Services Online Safety Act would require these huge corporations to report harms from their platforms, including any effects on our children, and ensure independent researchers are able to scrutinize their practices to determine any harms the company misses.

If you or someone you know is having suicidal thoughts, feeling at risk of suicide, or experiencing a state of distress, it is crucial to find help immediately. There are many [resources available](#), including the [988 Suicide & Crisis Hotline](#) which provides free, confidential support 24/7, and the [Crisis Text Line](#) which offers free crisis counseling 24/7. Dial 988 or text HOME to 741741 to connect with these services.





# COMBATING THE OPIOID CRISIS

Almost every family here in the Third District and beyond has been impacted by the addiction crisis, and many have lost a loved one or friend. Congress has an obligation to act with multi-pronged legislative solutions to tackle this epidemic that has taken far too many lives already.

## MEDICATION ACCESS AND TRAINING EXPANSION (MATE) ACT

I introduced the MATE Act in 2019 after meeting with a physician here in the Third District who lost his son to an overdose. His case is one that many families have experienced, where doctors – many of whom can prescribe highly addictive pain medication – are not adequately trained to spot, treat, or recommend treatment for addiction. I believe that's dangerous and unacceptable, which is why the MATE Act implements a standard requiring prescribers of highly-addictive medications to have baseline knowledge in evidence-based addiction prevention and treatment. This legislation passed the House over the summer, and I'm doing everything I can to get it passed in the Senate and signed into law.

## EXPANDING AWARENESS

Drug overdose deaths have reached record highs during the pandemic, which is why I led a bipartisan group of 21 of my colleagues in pushing the federal government to recognize and support Overdose Awareness Day: a day held in remembrance of the lives lost to overdoses. Because of our efforts, President Biden proclaimed the last week of August Overdose Awareness Week.

## SUPPORTING LOCAL EFFORTS TO END THE EPIDEMIC

Organizations across the Commonwealth work tirelessly to provide direct support to those suffering from substance use disorder in our district. From the Bridge Club of Greater Lowell to UMass Chan Medical School, I have proudly supported local efforts to increase addiction awareness and invest in programs designed to expand access to treatment and care for those suffering with addiction.

## JOINING WITH COLLEAGUES IN WASHINGTON

From day one in Congress, I've worked with anyone – Democrat or Republican – who is willing to take action to address the addiction crisis. As a member of the Bipartisan Addiction and Mental Health Task Force, I work with my colleagues to identify and advance meaningful solutions and enact policies to address substance use disorder and addiction, improve access to mental health care, and prevent overdose deaths.



Lori hosts a Facebook live with Dr. James Baker after the House passed her Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act, legislation that addresses the root causes of the addiction crisis.



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UNTIL NEXT YEAR,  
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