

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

As this year comes to a close, I have been reflecting on the challenges and hopes that define life for so many families across Massachusetts. I hear every day from parents, caregivers, workers, and small business owners who are doing everything they can to build a better life for the people they love, even as costs continue to rise faster than their paychecks.

Your stories guide me. I believe deeply that every household in our Commonwealth should have access to the tools they need to thrive. That means good jobs with family-sustaining wages, the chance to buy a home in the community they cherish, the health coverage they need, and confidence that when someone falls ill, the hospital they rely on will still be there to care for them. These priorities shape my decisions when I vote on the House floor, craft legislation, or question witnesses during committee hearings. My focus is always on how each action will improve life in the district I was born in, raised in, and that my husband and I are now raising our family in.

Above all else, my responsibility is to you. This End of Year Report offers an overview of the work my team and I have carried out on your behalf throughout 2025. I am proud of the progress we have made together, and I remain committed to protecting our communities and standing up for the values that define Massachusetts. Fairness, opportunity, and dignity are worth fighting for, and I will continue working every day to ensure that our voices are heard.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I hope this report is useful to you, and I extend my warmest wishes for a peaceful and joyful holiday season for you and your loved ones.

Warm Regards,

Lori Trahan

Member of Congress

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YEAR IN REVIEW

Growing up in Lowell, my family taught me that strong communities are built when people look out for each other. That lesson guides every part of the work my team and I do day in and day out. Whether we are helping a senior navigate a federal agency, assisting a local entrepreneur trying to keep their business afloat, or making sure a family can access affordable health care, our goal is always the same: to ensure government works for the people it serves.

This year has brought its share of challenges, but it has not slowed our commitment to delivering real results. We've worked tirelessly to identify answers, cut red tape, and connect thousands of Massachusetts residents with the support they need. This Year in Review highlights the impact of that work and the progress we've made together.

BY THE NUMBERS



1000 + constituent requests for assistance closed







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



constituent emails answered



constituent phone calls answered

OUR DISTRICT IN THE NEWS



Trahan breaks ground for affordable housing development



Updated: U.S. Rep. Trahan Cites Haverhill Man's Example as Risk if Feds Cut Medicaid





'It is worth fighting for': Legislators protest shuttering of federal Jobs Corps program



Lori Trahan reintroduces bill to recognize Cambodian Genocide Remembrance Day



Trahan Demands Release of Federal Funds for Lowell Folk Festival & Merrimack Repertory Theatre

The Washington Post



Concerns about DOGE's data grab fuel push to update privacy law



simplifying those lengthy online TOS agreements



Local school officials discuss impact of dismantling US Dept. of Ed

Sentinel & Enterprise



'Adding vibrancy to this Main Street'



'Decades in the making': Officials break ground on long-awaited Rourke Bridge replacement



Health care costs keep rising from the doctor's office to the pharmacy and every stop in between. Instead of working to lower prices, Republican politicians in Washington passed the single largest cut to Americans' health care in our nation's history while refusing to protect millions from higher premiums or the loss of their coverage. I have fought these proposals at every turn while advancing commonsense solutions that keep our communities safer and healthier.

TRUMP'S ONE BIG, UGLY BILL

This summer, Republicans in Congress passed Donald Trump's so-called "One Big, Beautiful Bill." To finance sweeping tax cuts that overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest one percent, the bill strips \$1 trillion from Medicaid and another \$189 billion from SNAP. These cuts have real consequences. As many as 12 million Americans could lose their health care and more than 200 hospitals could be forced to close. I fought this bill for 27 hours during its committee markup and then for another 36 hours when it came before the full House.

STOPPING THE GOP HEALTH CARE PRICE HIKE

More than one million Massachusetts residents rely on MassHealth, and many are now facing steep premium increases at the end of the year. This is the direct result of Republican leaders refusing to extend the tax credits that help families afford coverage through the Affordable Care Act. I have taken this fight directly to my Republican colleagues and to the President because 300,000 Massachusetts residents need relief to keep their health care next year.

RECOVERING FROM THE STEWARD HOSPITAL CRISIS

When Ralph de la Torre and Steward executives ran their hospitals into the ground and forced Nashoba Valley Medical Center to close, our region was left in crisis. Since then, I have worked closely with state and local leaders, first responders, and community advocates to protect access to care. Together, we secured a major step forward with the announcement that UMass Memorial will open an emergency center in Groton so that families in the Nashoba Valley are not left facing a 30 minute ambulance ride during a medical emergency. There is more work ahead, and I will keep pushing until this community has the care it deserves.

ACCELERATING KIDS' ACCESS TO CARE

This year, I introduced the bipartisan Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act to ensure that children with complex medical needs can receive lifesaving treatment without unnecessary delays. More than two hundred health care and patient advocacy organizations support the bill, and it passed the House unanimously last Congress. This legislation represents a bipartisan commitment to cutting red tape, removing barriers to treatment for our most vulnerable kids, and supporting the families who stand by them every day.

Massachusetts is home to world class schools, cutting edge innovation, and thriving communities, but the rising cost of living is putting real pressure on working families like the one I grew up in. Nowhere is that strain more visible than in our housing market. Too many young adults and families are being forced to make impossible choices about where they can live, work, and raise their children. While most housing policy is crafted at the state and local level, I have focused on delivering the federal resources needed to build more homes, making existing housing safer, and reducing costs for families across the Third District.

NEW HOUSING UNITS IN METHUEN

Nearly \$12 million dollars in federal funding I secured is driving construction of the YWCA's new 48 unit affordable housing development in Methuen. This project will create affordable homes for seniors and families and pairs stable housing with onsite health care through Element Care's PACE program, so older residents can live independently with dignity. Building on the successful first phase of Ingalls Court, this development expands the supply of safe, accessible, affordable homes in the Merrimack Valley.

SAFER HOMES IN LAWRENCE

Working closely with Lawrence leaders, I delivered more than \$11 million dollars in federal investments to expand affordable housing and strengthen public safety. These funds support lead removal efforts, healthy homes upgrades, homelessness response efforts, and community programs to confront the opioid crisis. Together, these investments will help more families access stable housing while ensuring first responders and law enforcement have the resources they need to keep our community safe.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES

Community Action Agencies like Community Teamwork and the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council are lifelines for working families and vulnerable residents across our district. They help people secure housing, afford their homes, put food on the table, and keep the heat on. I am proud to support the Community Services Development Block Grant program, which is currently under attack in Washington, because it strengthens these agencies and increases their capacity to build more housing, deliver critical services, and help families get back on their feet.



Protecting your personal information has long been one of my top priorities. For years, I have pushed back against tech companies that collect and sell sensitive data without consent. This year, I turned my attention to the federal government's use of your data. When the White House allowed Elon Musk and his DOGE lackeys access to your Social Security records and other personal information, it became clear that Americans face threats from both industry and government. That's why I expanded my work this year to defend your data from anyone who tries to misuse it, be they a private company or your own government.

STOPPING DOGE ABUSES

Elon Musk's leadership of the so-called "Department of Government Efficiency" created serious conflicts of interest, especially given his ownership of an Al company that trains models on massive amounts of data. Those concerns grew when DOGE staff began accessing sensitive records held by federal agencies without a specific purpose. I led the effort in Congress to stop these abuses and worked to secure court orders blocking unauthorized access to Americans' private information, because I believe that no official should be able to exploit government databases for personal or corporate gain.

REFORMING GOVERNMENT DATA LAWS

DOGE's misconduct exposed just how outdated our federal privacy protections have become. The main law governing how the government handles personal information was written in 1974, in the days of file cabinets and mainframe computers.. To ensure Americans' data is protected in a world shaped by artificial intelligence, vast data collection, and untrustworthy government officials, I launched an effort to modernize the Privacy Act of 1974. I plan to introduce comprehensive reforms to the Privacy Act in 2026 to strengthen Americans' privacy rights and better guard against future abuses.

PUTTING YOU IN CHARGE OF YOUR DATA

I reintroduced the bipartisan DELETE Act to put Americans firmly back in charge of their own data. The bill requires the creation of a single online portal where anyone can submit one request to have every registered data broker erase their personal data and stop collecting it in the future. By giving people a simple, effective tool to reclaim their privacy, the DELETE Act curbs a shady industry that profits from tracking individuals without consent and strengthens Americans' ability to control what happens to their most sensitive information.

Massachusetts is home to some of the oldest infrastructure in the country, and the strain is visible in every corner of our communities. Aging bridges over the Merrimack River, outdated sewer systems, heavy congestion along Route 2, and crumbling roads have all made clear that long delayed projects can no longer wait. I have made it my mission to break that cycle and deliver the federal resources needed to modernize our infrastructure and meet the needs of families, workers, and businesses across the Third District.

FINALLY REPLACING THE ROURKE BRIDGE

Shovels are finally in the ground for the long overdue Rourke Bridge replacement thanks to the federal funding I fought to secure through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. For decades, Lowell residents have been forced to rely on a temporary structure that could never meet the city's growing needs. Working closely with federal, state, and local partners, I helped deliver the \$251 million dollars that made this permanent replacement possible. This investment will strengthen safety, ease traffic, and reconnect neighborhoods on both sides of the Merrimack. After years of advocacy, planning, and partnership, construction has officially begun, and the new bridge Lowell deserves is on its way.

SECURING FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL PROJECTS

Working hand-in-hand with local leaders, municipalities, non-profits, and institutions, I have been pushing for federal investments that make our neighborhoods safer, more connected, and more accessible. Last year, I requested significant investments to upgrade key intersections in Lowell, restore critical bridges in Lawrence, improve sidewalks and lighting in Fitchburg, expand water treatment infrastructure, separate old sewer systems to protect the Merrimack River, and bolster regional job training. I'll continue working to get these critical projects across the finish line.

UP NEXT: THE BASILIERE BRIDGE

The Basiliere Bridge has long been a major concern in downtown Haverhill, where structural limitations have forced the fire department to take longer routes when responding to emergencies. I secured \$190 million dollars in federal funding to replace the bridge with a safer and more efficient structure that meets the community's needs. My focus now is ensuring that this desperately needed project stays on track and delivers the modern river crossing that Haverhill residents have rightfully demanded.



Unlocking
TREATMENTS & CURES

Lowering energy costs for families across Massachusetts starts with smart investments, strong oversight, and a commitment to protecting the people who rely on these systems every day. My work in Congress focuses on securing the resources our communities need, holding federal agencies and utility companies accountable, and making sure every household has access to safe, affordable and reliable energy.

DELIVERING HOME HEATING ASSISTANCE

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program is a lifeline for more than 300,000 Massachusetts residents who rely on it to stay warm during the winter. I have consistently fought to increase federal funding for this essential program and pressed the Trump Administration to release aid as quickly as possible, so no family is forced to choose between heating their homes and putting food on the table.

STOPPING UNNECESSARY ENERGY CUTS

In October, the Trump Administration announced harmful cuts to energy projects here in Massachusetts that are critical to modernizing our grid and lowering costs for families. I immediately called on the Administration to reverse this decision and worked with state partners to challenge the cuts in court. A federal judge in Boston is now reviewing a legal action brought with Attorney General Andrea Campbell that aims to restore these important investments.

ENSURING COMMUNITY SAFETY

The 2018 Merrimack Valley gas explosions were a painful reminder of what can happen when energy infrastructure fails. Since then, I have worked to ensure that safety is at the center of every energy project in our region. As Massachusetts advances a comprehensive plan to lower energy costs, I introduced legislation to strengthen pipeline safety standards and hold companies accountable so that no community has to face a disaster like that again.

The Eagle Tribune

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Access to innovative treatments and timely care can make the difference between life and death, especially for children and families facing rare or complex medical conditions. In Congress, I have focused on removing barriers, expanding research, and ensuring that new therapies and diagnostics reach patients as quickly as possible. From pediatric rare diseases to migraine disorders to bedside diagnostics for seniors, my work is about giving families the care and hope they deserve.

ADVANCING TREATMENTS FOR CHILDREN WITH RARE DISEASES

I'm proud to lead the Creating Hope Reauthorization Act, which extends a key federal program that accelerates the development of new treatments for children with rare diseases. The initiative has already helped spur therapies for nearly 40 conditions, most of which previously had no safe or effective options for kids. Last year, the House passed the legislation, and now we are working to build bipartisan momentum in the Senate to get this critical bill signed into law.

EXPEDITING LIFESAVING DIAGNOSES

When medical emergencies strike, fast and accurate diagnoses save lives. That's why I introduced the bipartisan, bicameral Portable Ultrasound Reimbursement Equity Act, which allows providers to administer ultrasounds at patients' bedsides. This ensures faster diagnosis of serious conditions like blood clots, heart failure, and abdominal disease. The bill makes health care more accessible and flexible, especially for seniors and patients who cannot easily reach a hospital, while also reducing costs for families and taxpayers.

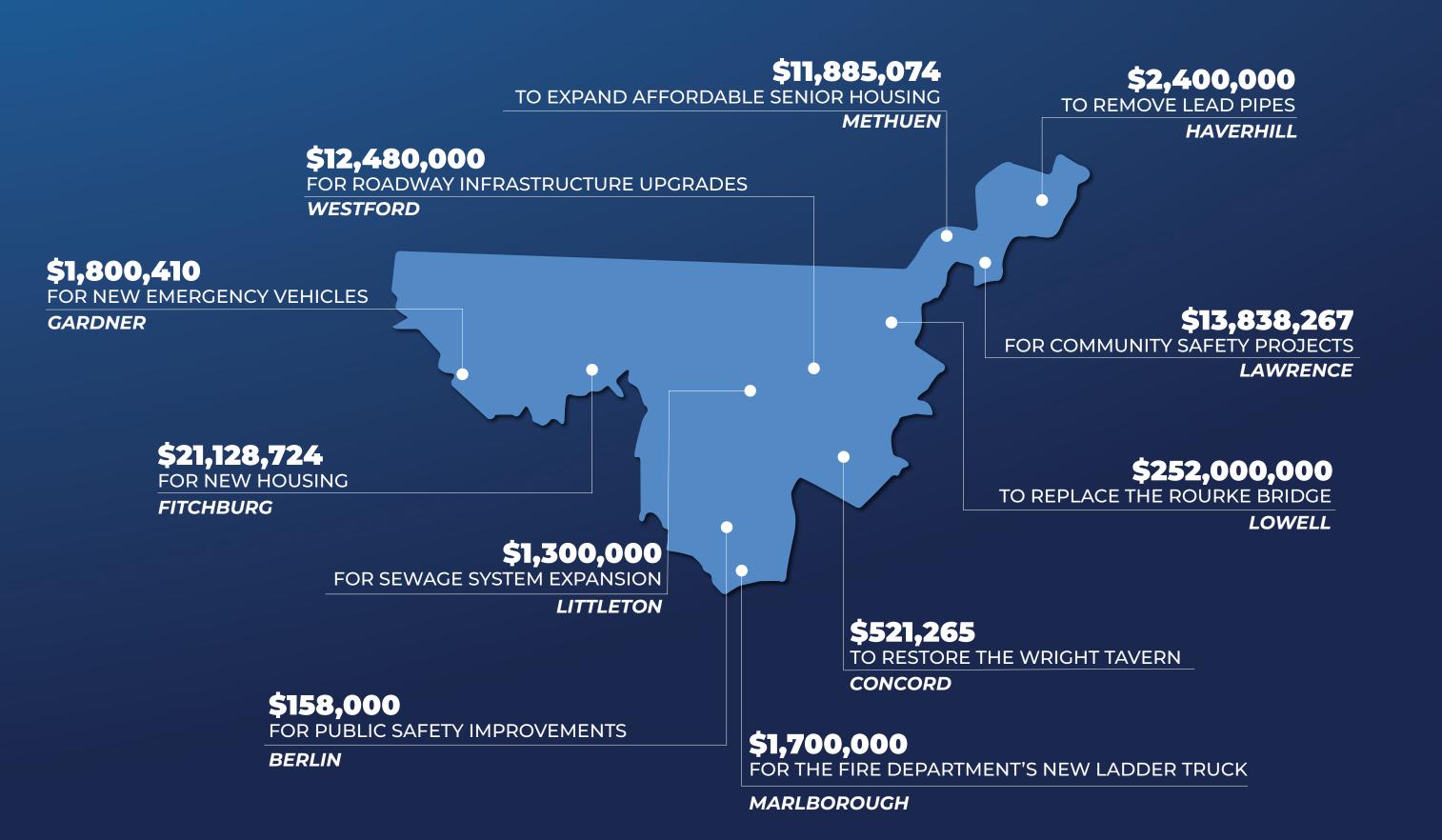
ACCELERATING KIDS' ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

I'm proud to lead the Creating Hope Reauthorization Act, which extends a key federal program that accelerates the development of new treatments for children with rare diseases. The initiative has already helped spur therapies for nearly 40 conditions, most of which previously had no safe or effective options for kids. The House of Representatives recently passed this bill unanimously, and I'm now working with members of the Senate to get it passed and signed into law.

FIGHTING BRAIN CANCER

More than one million Americans are living with primary brain tumors, and hundreds of thousands more are diagnosed each year, yet survival rates for malignant brain tumors have remained largely unchanged for decades. I introduced the BRAIN Act to accelerate research, improve treatments, and expand support for patients with brain tumors. By advancing cutting-edge science and supporting patients and families, this legislation brings hope to those facing some of the most aggressive and hard-to-treat cancers.

INVESTING in MASSACHUSETTS





As the mom of two young daughters, I am committed to building a future where every woman and girl has the freedom, opportunity, and respect she deserves. That means protecting reproductive rights, strengthening maternal health care, defending voting rights, and ensuring women have access to the care and support they need to thrive. In Congress, I am fighting every day to move us closer to that future.

WOMEN'S HEALTH PROTECTION ACT

I proudly joined more than 200 of my colleagues to reintroduce the Women's Health Protection Act, legislation that will restore the nationwide right to abortion access and overturn the dangerous bans sweeping Republican-led states. Since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, women across the country, especially young women like our daughters, have made clear that they want their rights back. I have been fighting for this bill since Roe fell, and I will keep working to ensure that every person has the freedom to make their own health care decisions, no matter where they live or how much they earn.

STOPPING THE SAVE ACT

When Republicans in Congress brought up the SAVE Act, I spoke out in strong opposition. This bill would make it harder for millions of eligible Americans, particularly women who changed their names after marriage, to register to vote. It would create new barriers for up to 69 million women who lack documents that match their current legal name. I called on my colleagues to reject this unnecessary and harmful bill and to focus instead on strengthening our democracy by protecting every eligible voter's right to cast a ballot.

STRENGTHENING POSTPARTUM CARE

I introduced the bipartisan Optimizing Postpartum Outcomes Act to expand access to Pelvic Health Physical Therapy for new mothers. The bill directs federal health officials to issue clear guidance so postpartum women can get the care they need to recover safely and comfortably after childbirth. With millions of births each year and many mothers experiencing treatable pelvic floor conditions, this legislation is a commonsense step toward stronger families and healthier communities.

REPUBLICAN ATTACKS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS

During consideration of Republicans' "One Big, Beautiful Bill," they included a provision that would undermine women's health clinics and worsen the maternal mortality crisis. I helped lead the effort to strike that provision and protect access to care, highlighting the real consequences we are already seeing in Massachusetts, including the closure of the Leominster maternity center and the loss of hospitals during the Steward Health Care crisis. These closures are not abstract policy debates. They are real losses for real families, and I will keep fighting to protect maternal health and women's health services in every community.

I believe seniors deserve respect, security, and the care they need to live with dignity. From Social Security and Medicare to affordable long-term care, I'm focused on making sure older Americans can retire safely, access the services they need, and have the support of their families and communities. My work in Congress is guided by the principle that growing older should never mean losing independence or peace of mind.

PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY

As a member of Congress, I am committed to protecting and strengthening Social Security for seniors and families who rely on it. This vital program ensures that hardworking Americans can retire with dignity, put food on the table, keep a roof over their heads, and afford their lifesaving medications. I strongly oppose any attempts to cut benefits, and I support the Social Security 2100 Act, which would increase benefits, improve cost-of-living adjustments, and expand access for children and dependent family members by closing loopholes that allow the top one percent to avoid paying their fair share. Social Security is a lifeline for millions, and I will keep fighting to make sure it delivers security and stability for seniors.

DEFENDING MEDICAID & MEDICARE

I strongly oppose Republicans' One Big Beautiful Bill because it slashes more than \$1 trillion from Medicaid, putting millions of seniors at risk who rely on this coverage for assisted living, in-home care, and other critical services. These cuts threaten the health and independence of older Americans and make it harder for families to access the care their loved ones need. The law also sets the stage for at least \$500 billion in reductions to Medicare over the next decade, jeopardizing hospital care, nursing home support, and access to lifesaving medications. I will continue fighting to protect these essential programs and ensure seniors can live with dignity and security.

GETTING YOU THE BENEFITS YOU'RE OWED

As a supporter of the Social Security Fairness Act, I'm proud that Congress finally passed this law to repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), which unfairly reduced benefits for public service workers who also earn a pension. This law restores Social Security for teachers, police officers, firefighters, and other public employees, ensuring that the roughly 3.2 million people affected receive the retirement security they have earned. I will continue fighting to strengthen Social Security and protect the hard-earned benefits of seniors and public servants across our country.

HELPING SENIORS AFFORD CARE

I know that access to quality care is about more than convenience. It's about dignity, safety, and independence. That is why I introduced the bipartisan Caring for Our Seniors Act. This legislation helps make assisted living more affordable and supports the workforce that cares for our aging loved ones. By keeping doors open, protecting access to care, and ensuring families have real options, we can help seniors get the support they need to age with dignity in their communities.



As a parent, I know firsthand how fast kids are navigating the online world and how quickly technology can outpace the protections meant to keep them safe. The internet offers incredible opportunities, but it also exposes children to risks such as exploitative content, predatory actors, and apps that collect personal data without parents fully understanding the consequences. That is why I am committed to making the internet a safer place for kids, holding tech companies accountable and empowering parents.

HOLDING SOCIAL MEDIA CORPORATIONS ACCOUNTABLE

Holding social media giants accountable is one of my top priorities because kids' safety should never take a backseat to corporate profit. When Meta planned an Instagram for Kids, I led the successful effort to stop it. I pressed Meta again after investigations showed Instagram serving sexual and exploitative content to users who engaged with material featuring children, and I demanded answers when the company attempted to launch its risky Friend Map feature. I also called out Snap for deploying a similar tracking tool without necessary safeguards. I will keep pushing Big Tech to put children's safety and privacy first.

IMPROVING THE APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN

As a mom, I want families to have more control over the apps and services their kids use online. That's why I introduced the App Store Freedom Act. For too long, a few dominant app stores have dictated what apps families can access, how those apps function, and what data they collect. My bipartisan bill tackles that by giving parents real choices about the tools and protections they want for their children. By breaking down Big Tech's gatekeeping power, we are making sure families, not corporations, are in the driver's seat when it comes to kids' online experiences.

TARGETING MALICIOUS ACTORS ONLINE

Every day, children and teens are vulnerable to predators and harmful content online. That's why I joined my colleagues to introduce the Stop Online Suicide Assistance Forums Act, bipartisan legislation that holds bad actors accountable for targeting people in crisis. These forums actively encourage suicide, often providing instructions or real-time guidance to young users. This bill gives the Department of Justice the tools to go after these dangerous websites and the people behind them, helping ensure that children and teens are met with support, not exploitation, when they are struggling.

PUTTING PARENTS IN CONTROL

As a parent, I know how impossible it can feel to keep up with every app our kids want to use. What makes it even harder is that tech companies bury critical information in pages of legal jargon that no busy family has the time to read. That is why I introduced the bipartisan TLDR Act. Parents deserve to know, in plain language, what an app will collect about their child, who that data will be shared with, and what risks may come with using the platform. This bill requires companies to give families clear, simple summaries of their terms of service so they can make informed choices before hitting download.



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