

LORI TRAHAN

SERVING MASSACHUSETTS' 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



2023 - 2024 TERM IN REVIEW

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

The past two years have been challenging, particularly for working families like the one I grew up in. Far too many folks across Massachusetts have been working hard to provide a better future for their families but go to bed each night worried about how they're going to make ends meet.

My guiding principle as your representative is simple: I believe every family in our Commonwealth deserves a fair shot to get ahead. They deserve good paying jobs, the ability to own a home, and the peace of mind that if a loved one gets sick or injured, their community hospital isn't on the brink of closing its doors. That's why every time I go to vote, to introduce a bill, or to question witnesses at a hearing, I do so through the lens of how it will help the district that I have the honor to represent.

Above all else in this job, I am accountable to you. I've compiled this End of Term Report so you can review the work my team and I have been doing to live up to our mission. I'm proud of the progress we've made on many important issues, but there's much more to do. I will continue working with whoever – Democrat, Republican, or Independent – to ensure our district has a voice at the table.

I hope you find this report valuable, and I wish you and your loved ones a joyous holiday season.

Warm Regards,



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



TABLE OF CONTENTS

03	TABLE OF CONTENTS
04	TERM IN REVIEW
05	REPORT CARD
06	RESPONDING TO THE STEWARD CRISIS
07	ADDRESSING THE HOUSING SHORTAGE
08	FIGHTING FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH
09	LOWERING ENERGY COSTS
10-11	INVESTING IN THE COMMONWEALTH
12	PROTECTING WOMEN'S FREEDOMS
13	TACKLING THE MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS
14	GROWING THE MIDDLE CLASS
15	SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS
16	FIXING OUR BROKEN IMMIGRATION SYSTEM
17	PROTECTING OUR KIDS ONLINE

TERM IN REVIEW

Growing up in Lowell, I saw firsthand how strong communities are built on connections and care. Whether it's helping a veteran secure overdue benefits, ensuring a small business owner can cut through red tape, or connecting a family with affordable health care, my team and I are proud to help make government work for the people it's meant to serve. In a term filled with roadblocks at every turn, we have worked around the clock to find solutions, support, and resources for thousands of folks who call the Third District home.

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

 **4** bills passed in the House

2,900 +  constituent requests for assistance closed

 **66,000 +** constituent phone calls & emails answered

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

 **\$258,600,000 +** in federal benefits and relief delivered to residents and small businesses

64% of all bills we introduced have a Republican co-lead

BIPARTISANSHIP AT WORK

REPORT CARD

118TH CONGRESS

Congresswoman Lori Trahan

Massachusetts' Third Congressional District

- THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ADDICTION MEDICINE PUBLIC POLICY AWARD
- DISTINGUISHED COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER CHAMPION AWARD
- HUMANE SOCIETY HUMANE CHAMPION AWARD
- INFECTIOUS DISEASES SOCIETY OF AMERICA LEGISLATIVE IMPACT AWARD

AFL-CIO	A
Alliance for Retired Americans	A
League of Conservation Voters	A
Humane Society	A
National Parks Conservation Fund	A
Planned Parenthood	A
Reproductive Freedom for All	A
End Citizens United	A
Common Cause Democracy	A
Defend The Vote	A
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights	A
Human Rights Campaign	A
National Rifle Association	F



Responding to the STEWARD CRISIS

Lori hosts a discussion with Lawrence General Hospital, Tufts Medicine Lowell General Hospital, UMass Memorial Health, and Massachusetts Secretary of Health and Human Services Kate Walsh about how to best support Third District patients and providers.

Since news first broke of Steward Health Care’s corrupt business practices that prioritized generating massive profits at the expense of Massachusetts patients, I have been working relentlessly to ensure that everyone in our communities can access the care they need, to support hospital nurses and staff, and to hold bad actors like Steward CEO Ralph de la Torre accountable for the catastrophe they have created.

SOUNDING THE ALARM

Immediately after learning of Steward’s gross financial mismanagement, I went to work with nurses and hospital staff as well as health care advocates to protect patients and the hardworking folks that provide their care. I’ve spearheaded efforts to demand answers from Steward executives whose greed put us in this situation and repeatedly raised concerns during congressional hearings. In April, I secured a commitment from our nation’s top health official to support Massachusetts as we continue responding to the Steward Health Care crisis.

HOLDING STEWARD EXECUTIVES ACCOUNTABLE

Ralph de la Torre and Steward executives not only drove Massachusetts hospitals into the ground so they could pocket as much money as possible, but they also engaged in a widespread, multi-million-dollar effort to cover up their business practices. In July, I wrote to the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Trade Commission, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services requesting that they investigate actions by Steward executives that led to the company’s bankruptcy and closure of hospitals. In August, I joined my colleagues in demanding that Steward executives provide thousands of nurses and support staff with the severance pay and accumulated time off they are owed.

RESTORING SERVICES TO THE NASHOBA VALLEY

Since Steward announced its intention to close Nashoba Valley Medical Center, I’ve been working with the Healey Administration to identify a path forward that will restore emergency services in the region. I am proud to be a part of Governor Healey’s working group alongside community leaders, first responders, state leaders, and many others who are committed to this work. Similar to the transition of Holy Family in Methuen and Haverhill from Steward to Lawrence General Hospital, we have an obligation to ensure that folks in the Nashoba Valley have access to the high-quality health care services they deserve.

FIXING OUR HOSPITAL SYSTEM

I introduced the Reinforcing Essential Health Systems for Communities Act to direct more federal funding and support to safety net hospitals that traditionally support working and middle class communities. I’ve also fought hard to pass commonsense bipartisan legislation to streamline care for patients in need, including improving Medicaid and Medicare policies, expanding telehealth access, and strengthening medical emergency services.



Addressing the HOUSING SHORTAGE

Lori celebrates the opening of Stone Mill Lofts in Lawrence, one of Massachusetts’ first all-electric apartment communities.

Housing costs continue to be one of the biggest challenges for working families and young people trying to get ahead in Massachusetts. No one should have to take on two or three jobs just to afford owning or renting a home. To tackle the housing crisis head on, I’ve been working with local and state officials to support the construction of new housing units, expand affordable housing options, and address the root causes of rising prices across the Commonwealth.

BUILDING HOMES ACROSS THE DISTRICT

One thing’s for certain: if we don’t increase our housing supply now, the housing crisis will only worsen. That’s why I’ve fought hard to secure federal funding to help start housing construction across our district. I secured \$7.8 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for organizations in Lowell, Lawrence, and Fitchburg to build and develop additional housing units, as well millions for the Lowell Innovation Network Corridor (LINC), a transformative project that will bring new housing units and workforce development to downtown Lowell.

EXPANDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Growing up, my family would have struggled to meet the high prices that families are seeing in today’s housing market. That’s why I’ve made it a priority to make owning or renting a home more accessible for everyone in our communities by expanding our affordable housing supply. This year, I celebrated the opening of Stone Mill Lofts, a project that transformed the oldest mill in Lawrence into 86 units of rental housing, including 69 units of dedicated affordable housing. I also secured \$1 million for WHEAT Community Connections to create low-income transitional housing units in Clinton. Additionally, I secured more than \$800,000 in federal funding for NewVue Communities, Inc. in Fitchburg, Lawrence CommunityWorks, and Coalition for a Better Acre in Lowell to preserve and develop affordable housing and create jobs.

TACKLING THE ROOT CAUSES

To properly address the underlying drivers of rising housing costs and homelessness, we must take a coordinated approach that gives everyone a voice and seat at the table. This October, I hosted a roundtable discussion with local, state, and federal officials to identify the steps we can take to increase our affordable housing supply and make owning a home accessible to working families. I’ve worked closely with HUD Regional Administrator Juana Matias to discuss the root causes of Massachusetts’ housing crisis, and how to advance policies and funding that help everyone in the Third District and beyond put a roof over their family’s head.





Fighting for CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Lori learns about UMass Memorial HealthAlliance-Clinton Hospital's brand new 3D mammography system, a purchase made possible through her successful efforts in securing \$450,000 in federal funding.

As a mom, I fiercely believe that every child in America deserves access to quality, lifesaving health care – no matter their medical condition, zip code, or background. Expanding and strengthening pediatric care has been one of my top legislative priorities during the 118th Congress. As a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Health Subcommittee, I've been able to successfully break partisan gridlock to advance legislation that reduces administrative hurdles and strengthens federal support to help our kids stay healthy and safe.

ACCELERATING KIDS' ACCESS TO CARE ACT

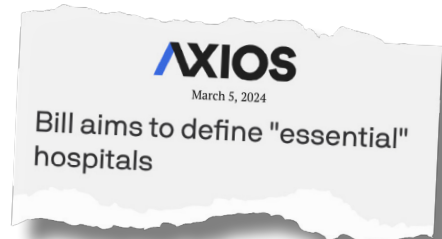
For children and families who face rare pediatric diseases like cancer, the time between diagnosis and treatment is everything. I introduced the Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act to cut unnecessary bureaucratic red tape for children on Medicaid with complex medical conditions to make it easier for families to access the care they need. My bipartisan legislation passed the House this September, and is now one step closer to being signed into law.

IMPROVING BRAIN TUMOR RESEARCH

Pediatric brain tumors remain the leading cause of cancer-related death among children and young adults in America. This July, I teamed up with Republicans and Democrats to introduce the BRAIN Act, bipartisan legislation that aims to strengthen brain tumor research, help develop treatments, and improve the accessibility of brain cancer treatment.

TREATMENT FOR RARE PEDIATRIC DISEASES

While children comprise as many as half of those living with rare diseases, treatment options remain extremely limited due to the high costs and high risks of pediatric rare disease research and drug development. That's why I introduced the Creating Hope Reauthorization Act of 2024 to incentivize the development of new drugs for children with rare pediatric diseases. My bipartisan legislation received unanimous support in the House, and I'm currently working with colleagues in the Senate to send it to the President's desk to become law.



Lowering ENERGY COSTS

Lori tours Commonwealth Fusion Energy Systems, a recipient Milestone-Based Fusion Development Program funding that Lori authored into law.

The Third District has rapidly emerged as a national leader in clean energy innovation, research, and production thanks to federal funding unlocked by the Inflation Reduction Act. I've worked diligently to not only secure this critical funding, but to advance policies that drive renewable energy progress forward so that we can reduce home heating expenses, lessen our dependence on fossil fuels, and protect our planet for generations to come.

HOME HEATING

In 2023, more than 160,000 families in Massachusetts relied on the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help pay their home heating bills. That's why I led a letter to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services urging increased funding, and successfully secured \$271 million for Massachusetts families who utilize this lifeline program. I voted for critical pieces of legislation like the Inflation Reduction Act and American Rescue Plan that support programs like these because it's my firm belief that everyone in our communities deserves a warm and safe place to call home.

FUSION ENERGY

Fusion energy has the potential to drive down costs for families struggling with fluctuating energy prices, reduce our carbon footprint, and propel America forward in the clean energy race. As co-chair of the Congressional Fusion Caucus, I introduced the Fusion Energy Act to finally unlock this unlimited source of carbon-free fusion energy. President Biden signed my bipartisan legislation into law this past August, making that long-sought breakthrough closer than it's ever been.

HYDROGEN ENERGY

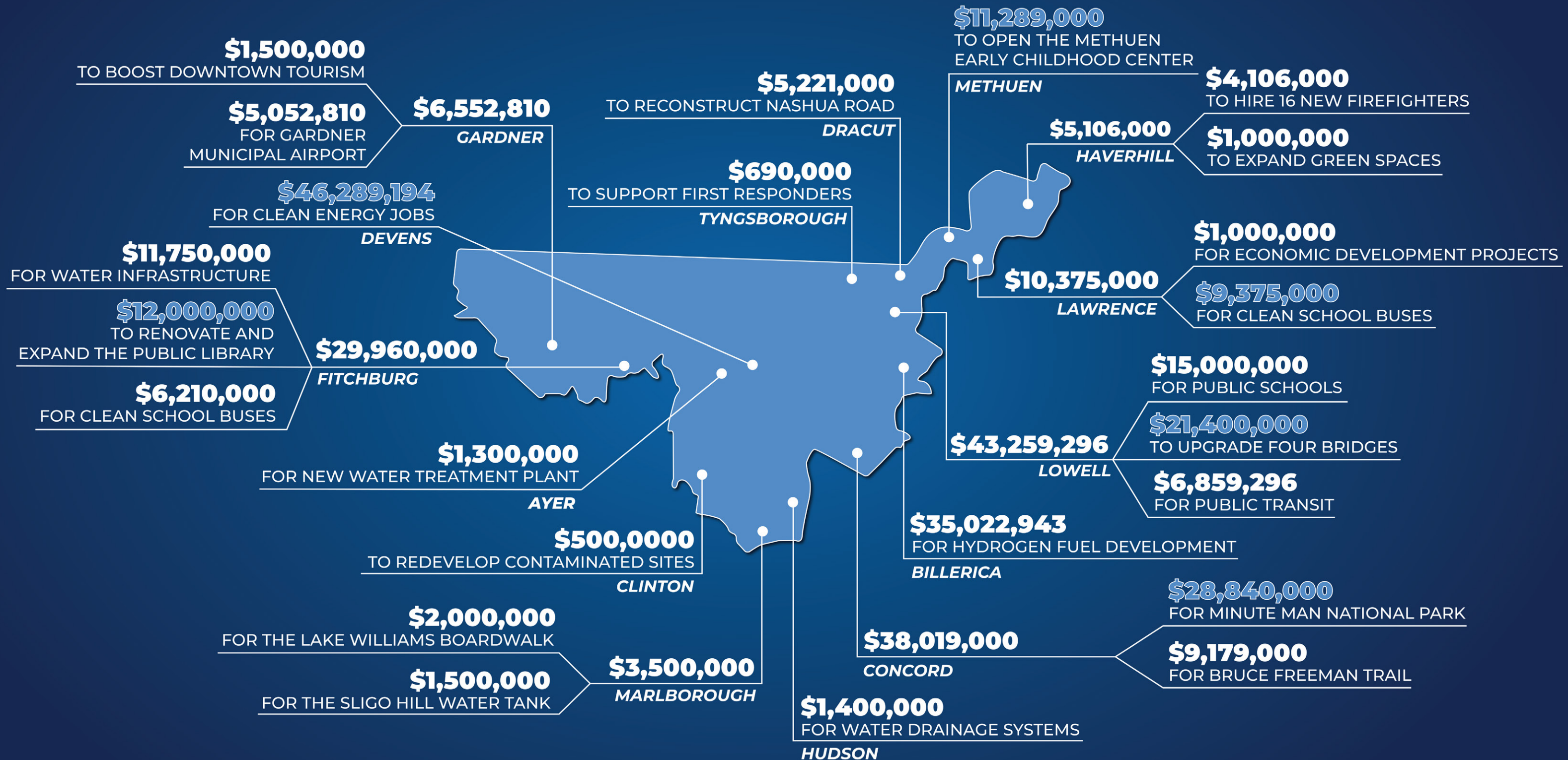
As the global energy market shifts toward sustainable energy, hydrogen energy will play a key role in decarbonizing industries like transportation, manufacturing, and power generation. That's why I've worked hand-in-hand with federal, state, and local partners to secure over \$94 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding for Massachusetts-based hydrogen facilities, including five in the Third District: Cabot Corporation, AvCarb Material Solutions, Electric Hydrogen, Plug Power, and Nuvera Fuel Cells.

CREATING CLEAN ENERGY JOBS

As the clean energy job sector continues to quickly expand, the increase of high quality, good paying jobs in Massachusetts provides workers with the opportunity not just to get by, but to get ahead. I'm proud to do everything I can in Washington to support the success of energy companies here in the Third District so that we can create a strong regional economy, and I've been working with Governor Healey to advance her bold climate technology agenda to make Massachusetts the world leader in this lucrative sector.

INVESTING *in the* COMMONWEALTH

One of my top priorities in Washington is securing federal funding for projects that will improve our communities.
Here are just a few highlights!





Protecting WOMEN'S FREEDOMS



Tackling the MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

Lori visits Boston IVF, where she underwent fertility treatments for five years.

Lori celebrates securing over \$5,000,000 in federal funding for LUK, Inc. to improve mental and behavioral health services in Fitchburg.

The debate over reproductive rights comes down to one thing: You either believe decisions about a woman's personal health are between her and her doctor, or you believe that politicians are better suited to make those calls. Since the Supreme Court's devastating decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, I've fought to protect and restore women's full suite of reproductive freedoms, including access to abortion, contraception, and fertility treatments.

Every person in our communities, in our Commonwealth, and in our country has been affected by the mental health crisis in one way or another – especially our children and young adults. As a mom and a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Health Subcommittee, I've been focused on advancing bipartisan legislation that puts the mental health and wellbeing of patients and children first.

TWO YEARS SINCE DOBBS

One in three women in America currently live in a state with a Republican abortion ban. These bans have contributed to devastating health consequences for women and even rising maternal mortality rates. As a member of the Pro-Choice Caucus, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of the Women's Health Protection Act, which would enshrine the protections of *Roe v. Wade* and secure the national right to abortion in law. I also introduced the INFO for Reproductive Care Act in 2023, which would ensure women understand what their state's laws mean for their reproductive health. This bill would establish a national public awareness campaign to educate patients and health care providers about their rights and options.

COMBATING ADDICTION

In January, I will proudly become Co-Chair of the Bipartisan Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Task Force, a bipartisan group of members of Congress focused on ending the addiction crisis that has taken far too many lives. In 2022, I worked with the task force to pass the Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act, my bipartisan legislation to standardize substance use disorder training to ensure that all prescribers of addictive medications possess baseline knowledge in evidence-based addiction prevention and treatments. Since its passage, we've seen a promising trend: opioid overdose deaths in Massachusetts dropped about 10% in 2023 and 3% nationwide. This past August, I also introduced bipartisan legislation to formally designate Overdose Awareness Day as a way to properly honor and remember the countless lives lost to overdoses, and recommit to the work ahead to combat the disease of addiction.

I.V.F.

The debate over in vitro fertilization (IVF) this year was deeply personal. When my husband and I were struggling to get pregnant, IVF gave us the best gifts we could ask for: our two beautiful daughters. Every couple deserves the chance to start a family of their own – that's why I'm fighting tooth and nail against Republican attacks on essential fertility treatments. I was honored to invite Dr. Pietro Bortoletto, the Director of Reproductive Surgery at Boston IVF – where I underwent IVF treatment for five years – as my guest to the 2024 State of the Union, and I am proud to support the Right to IVF Act, which would codify the right to family-creating fertility treatments nationwide.

PASSING CRITICAL LEGISLATION

I've been working to get critical legislation that targets the root causes of the mental health crisis across the finish line. I successfully passed the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, bipartisan legislation I introduced to support youth suicide prevention efforts in schools across the country. I also introduced the Mentoring to Succeed Act, which provides a strong, sustainable support system through mentorship to ensure that children who experience systemic barriers like poverty or adverse childhood experiences can successfully transition to high school, college, and the workforce. This year, I introduced the Youth Poisoning Protection Act, legislation that would ban the consumer sale of products containing high concentrations of a dangerous chemical that can be lethal when ingested and has been tragically encouraged as an easily accessible method to die by suicide via online forums.

SAFEGUARDING CONTRACEPTION

Every person deserves to have their choice of birth control free from political interference. As extreme GOP attacks on contraception continue to take place across the nation, I am proud to stand with 9 in 10 Americans who support the bipartisan Right to Contraception Act to enshrine the right to contraception into federal law and protect all people who use it from attempts to restrict access to birth control.

SECURING COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Community organizations and health care facilities across Massachusetts are on the front lines of the fight to connect patients to the lifesaving mental health care they need. I secured more than \$6 million in federal funding for LUK, Inc. in Fitchburg to strengthen the full spectrum of comprehensive mental and behavioral health programs they provide. Additionally, this June, I celebrated the opening of a new children's mental health center at Community Health Connections in Fitchburg, a project that I proudly secured over \$2.5 million for. In October, I was able to deliver \$225,000 to GAAMHA in Gardner to support their mental health and addiction programs.





Growing the MIDDLE CLASS

Lori celebrates securing \$4,100,00 for the Haverhill Fire Department to hire more firefighters and purchase new equipment.

Right now, Americans are being crushed by high prices at the grocery store, on their utility bills, and when they're looking to rent or buy a home. I know the pain of high prices all too well – growing up, my family lived paycheck to paycheck. That's why I'm laser-focused on finding bipartisan solutions to build an economy that works for working families, not just the wealthy and well-connected.

CREATING GOOD PAYING JOBS

Since the passage of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022, federal funding has continued to flow into the Third District, creating high quality jobs at cutting-edge clean energy technology businesses that are growing in communities like Billerica, Lowell, Marlborough, and Devens. This past May, I hosted a discussion with Massachusetts Secretary of Economic Development Yvonne Hao on how our district will benefit from this law, including how local companies can access this federal funding and the ways that local institutions like UMass Lowell, Fitchburg State University, and our community colleges can prepare their students to enter emerging industries. According to the White House, this law and others that I helped pass to invest in our infrastructure have created 300,400 new jobs and unleashed nearly \$4.4 billion in private sector investment across Massachusetts.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO CHILD CARE

The ridiculously high cost of child care in Massachusetts is one of the biggest burdens facing families today. If we want to fix our broken child care system, we need to invest in early education infrastructure, support frontline child care workers, and expand the Child Tax Credit so families keep more of their own money. I've fought hard to secure additional Head Start funding for low-income children and families, delivering \$12 million for the Third District this year alone. Earlier this year, I voted to strengthen the Child Tax Credit to fully cover 182,000 children in Massachusetts who currently receive less than or none of the credit because their families' incomes are too low.

STRENGTHENING WORKERS' RIGHTS

I was raised in a union family, in a city that was built by unions, and in a Commonwealth that treasures our history of organized labor. I will always advocate for workers' right to organize and negotiate for the wages, benefits, and protections they deserve. Now more than ever, I'm determined to protect Massachusetts workers and strengthen the labor rights that helped my parents put food on the table for my family. I was an original cosponsor of the PRO Act, comprehensive legislation that protects the basic right of all workers to join a union and penalizes companies and executives that violate workers' rights.



Supporting our SENIORS

Lori presents Sergeant Adrian Moses Jr. of Berlin with a pin to commemorate his service during the Vietnam War.

Our seniors have spent their lives building our communities – it's our responsibility to deliver the support they need to live comfortably and safely. I'm committed to advancing legislation that ensures that older Americans receive the resources they need to retire with the dignity they deserve. That means strengthening Social Security, protecting Medicare, and providing every senior access to affordable health care and housing.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Social Security has been a cornerstone of support for hardworking Americans for almost 90 years, offering the promise that a lifetime of work will provide the dignity of a secure retirement. Over 100,000 seniors in our district alone now depend on this essential safety net. I helped introduce the Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust Act to increase Social Security benefits, create a more accurate cost of living formula, and ensure that the system remains solvent through the end of the century. I also helped lead the introduction and passage of the Social Security Fairness Act, legislation that would repeal the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) provisions that were intended to adjust benefits for higher income earners but in practice severely harm lower-income and middle-class retirees as well as their survivors.

MEDICARE

For far too long, pharmaceutical corporations have taken advantage of seniors by inflating the prices of essential medications, forcing patients to choose between paying for lifesaving medications and affording other vital necessities like food or housing. I voted for the Inflation Reduction Act to end that practice by giving Medicare the power to directly negotiate for lower prescription drug prices and cap out-of-pocket medication expenses for seniors, which has already saved seniors more than \$1.5 billion nationwide.

DECREASING PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

In addition to Medicare drug negotiations, the Inflation Reduction Act codified that insulin for seniors on Medicare is now capped at \$35 per month. In the Third District alone, more than 2,400 seniors are now saving an average of \$480 annually when they purchase their lifesaving insulin prescription. The Inflation Reduction Act's historic drug pricing reforms have brought down the price of a range of other medications, saving 46,000 seniors in the Third District \$8.1 million in out-of-pocket costs for their prescription medications this year. That same law will punish corporations that raise their medication prices higher than the rate of inflation so they can pad their profits.





Fixing our **BROKEN IMMIGRATION SYSTEM**

Lori attends a citizenship ceremony where dozens of new citizens took their oaths to the United States Constitution.

For more than thirty years, Congress has failed to update our broken immigration laws, and Massachusetts taxpayers are being forced to pay the price for that inaction. When I first got elected to Congress, I pledged to support viable bipartisan solutions to the crisis at our southern border, but sadly, too many people in Washington think it's better to campaign on this crisis than fix it. I remain committed to updating our broken immigration laws and

SUPPORTING THE IMMIGRATION AGREEMENT

Earlier this year, a bipartisan group of senators came together to create an agreement on a legislative package that included key provisions to update our immigration laws, expedite the review of lawful requests for entry into our country, and strengthen our border security. It wasn't a perfect proposal, but it represented the first real effort since I was first elected to do something about this crisis. After the bill passed the Senate, the Republican majority in the House of Representatives refused to bring it up for a vote because they wanted to use the border as a campaign issue.

RESTORING FAIRNESS FOR MASSACHUSETTS TAXPAYERS

Over the past two years, taxpayers here in the Commonwealth have been forced to foot the bill for Washington's inability to address the glaring challenges at our southern border. While federal funds have helped other states respond to surges in legal migrants, we've largely been left to fend for ourselves. That's not fair, and it's why I have led multiple efforts to increase federal funding for Massachusetts' shelter programs. We shouldn't be forced to go it alone.

ANTI-FENTANYL TRACKING EFFORTS

For adults under the age of 45, fentanyl overdose has become the leading cause of death in America. While much of the fentanyl on the streets is imported from countries like China, there's also an elaborate trafficking network focused on smuggling it across our borders. I have worked with U.S. Customs and Border Protection to strengthen anti-fentanyl trafficking on the ground, including by expanding access to portable fentanyl detection devices that can be used by agents to quickly identify, seize, and destroy fentanyl shipments at our border.



Protecting our **KIDS ONLINE**

Lori speaks with students from Florence Sawyer School on the steps of the Capitol about the importance of online safety.

As a mom of two young daughters, I've witnessed firsthand how the tactics used by Big Tech corporations to maximize their profits can be incredibly addictive and harmful to young users. Congress needs to step up to the plate to protect the safety of our children and privacy of all Americans while they're online. That's why I've continued to take action to demand answers and advance bipartisan legislative measures to keep our kids out of harm's way on the internet.

HOLDING BAD ACTORS ACCOUNTABLE

Earlier this year, I led a letter to the CEO of Instagram sounding the alarm on the platform's proposed "Friend Map" feature, which would allow users to see their friends' locations in real time putting young users' privacy and safety at risk. In 2023, I demanded answers from Meta following investigative reports showing the company profiting from the promotion of exploitative content featuring children. I also advocated to the CEO of TikTok to implement more robust protections and transparency measures for young users, and I've continued to advocate to executives at Facebook and Google for increased transparency and stronger protections for young users in the U.S. I've also written to the Federal Trade Commission requesting information on steps the agency is taking to mitigate hate, harassment, and extremism in online games.

PROTECTING PERSONAL DATA

Once your private data gets added to a data broker's list, it becomes nearly impossible to get it removed. I introduced the Data Elimination and Limiting Extensive Tracking and Exchange (DELETE) Act in 2023 because it's long past time to rein in the shady practices of data brokers, and return power back to consumers by giving each of us the right over our own personal information. My bipartisan legislation would give every American the right to request that all data brokers delete any personal data collected by the company and prohibit future collection.

DEMANDING TRANSPARENCY

Giant online corporations love to force us to agree to long, complex terms of service to use their website or apps because they know we don't have hours to read the whole contract. I introduced the bipartisan Terms-of-service Labeling, Design and Readability (TLDR) Act to require that online companies make their terms of service agreements more accessible, transparent, and understandable for consumers. I also unveiled the Digital Services Oversight and Safety Act (DSOSA) to hold powerful online companies accountable for violating the promises they make to users, parents, advertisers, and enforcers about the safety of their services.



LORI TRAHAN

SERVING MASSACHUSETTS' 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



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