

# The Deep Need for REPAIR

IN OUR POLITICS, OUR SOCIETY, AND OUR CHURCHES



Grounded in Gospel values and the Catholic social justice tradition, NETWORK transforms our society by shaping federal policies that achieve racial, economic, and social justice; serve the common good; and honor the dignity of all.

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# Healing Our Politics

### We Can Build a Better World by Participating in the Systems That Shape Our Destiny

ith the 2022 midterms behind us and a new Congress coming into session, it's fitting for people of faith to survey the "Signs of the Times." Where is God speaking to us and trying to lead us as a people as we enter a new year, with a new Congress, in one of the oldest democracies on earth? The answer that NETWORK has discerned in the face of an increasingly volatile political landscape is that we must work to heal our politics.

Our political life has suffered a wound, a laceration that has exposed us to further injury and infection. This wound is reflected in the divisions in our society today that allow hateful, dehumanizing rhetoric to become normalized, and violent, resentful action to become a part of everyday life. The Signs of the Times are clear: We are a divided country. Even the composition of the new Congress — with the narrowest of majorities in both houses — suggests a body politic that has been torn asunder.

This situation has been building for a long time. The fact is, we are witnessing the ugly final acts of a power struggle in the U.S. that began half a century ago as an effort to strip away the gains made toward equity and justice for anyone who is not white, male, and socioeconomically privileged.

# The field hospital imagery of Pope Francis is apt language as we try to bind societal wounds while also addressing their root causes.

This struggle has played out in every aspect of our politics and now, most concerning, in our judiciary. For the first time in our history, we are seeing recent rulings that take rights away from Americans instead of expanding them, rulings that seem wholly untethered from any sense of the common good and even reflect bias toward a particular political ideology. Sadly, we also see allegations of corrupt dealings between justices and right-wing groups. Even the objectivity of our judicial system seems caught up in this fight.

The repercussions of this power struggle have been as painful as they have been predictable: stratospheric economic inequality; the dismantling of the power of organized labor; the rise of Christian nationalism with its view that America is only for white Christians; increasing threats to our planet and



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our public health; rising homelessness, and so much more. These are signs that our politics and our society are in desperate need of healing and repair.

As we look back on 2022 and the legislation passed in the second session of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress, we can imagine each bill as a tiny swatch of material trying to patch the frayed social fabric of our current reality. The field hospital imagery of Pope Francis is apt

language as we try to bind societal wounds while also addressing their root causes.

This is where we see our mission. At our core, NETWORK is a political ministry, which calls us to respond first with empathy and then with truth-telling and concrete actions that lead to economic and racial justice. We decry the divisions and seek to be a prophetic voice for peace, reparatory justice and reconciliation in order to reshape our politics and center the voices of those whose voices are not heard — those who are not privileged; those who lack the money and power to wield influence; and those who are most impacted by the evils of unfettered capitalism, white supremacy and extreme individualism in our politics and in our society.

At NETWORK, we have endeavored to do this by first listening to and seeking out other justice-seekers, such as the National Black Sisters' Conference, to partner with us in raising an authentic witness for the common good. We have also sought to amplify the call for justice through our new podcast. "Just Politics," a collaboration of NETWORK and *U.S. Catholic* magazine, launched in September 2022 and will have its season 2 premiere in February. We have used this new platform to center the voices of women religious, impacted communities, and other justice-seekers.

In his 2020 encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis argues for "a better kind of politics" and makes a key distinction between political movements that are populist — the forces that weaponized people's anger for personal gain — and those that are truly reflective of "the people's voice". Our work seeks to put the pope's words into action, to insure that our politics includes the needs and voices of all people in order to build a more inclusive and equitable community. Through healing our politics, we can all play a part in shaping our common destiny and building a better country, a better society, a better world for everyone.



# Pope Francis Voters Showed Up for the 2022 Elections

Ahead of the 2022 Midterm Elections, NETWORK's Pope Francis Voter Tour connected with hundreds of Spirit-filled voters. Pope Francis Voters — multi-issue voters, willing to do the work to build a multi-racial, inclusive democracy — showed up at community organizations, churches, and colleges.

Justice-seekers learned about the threats facing our democracy and ways to take action to create the truly representative democracy that we deserve. Everyone committed to using their vote and their voice to make sure we all have what we need to thrive, no matter what we look like or where we come from.

In Ohio and Illinois, the **Town Hall for** Spirit-Filled Voters attracted passionate voters in (L-R) Springfield, Cincinnati, and













The NETWORK community learned about the challenges facing local families during site visits to Cristo Rey Community Center (Lansing, MI), Casa San Jose (Pittsburgh, PA), Working in Neighborhoods (Cincinnati, OH), and Esperanza Threads (Cleveland, OH).







# THE POPE FRANCIS VOTER

**8** TOWN HALLS

**5** SITE VISITS

**5** COLLEGE STOPS **8** ONLINE EVENTS

connected with the next generation of justice-seekers on college campuses, **Chestnut Hill** College and University of







In November 2022, NETWORK delivered a letter to the White House calling on President Biden to establish a reparations commission via executive order. The letter was signed by more than 2,000 Catholic Sisters and Associates of Congregations of Women Religious.

# Racism, Reconciliation, and Repair

## Racial Justice Is Central to Renewing Society, Politics, and Church

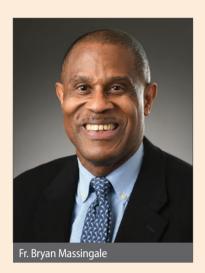
After a consequential election year, the re-election of Senator Rev. Raphael Warnock of Georgia finalized the composition of the 118th Congress. His election, in many ways, symbolizes how the U.S. struggle toward progress is bound up in how the country deals with racism, white supremacy and reparatory justice. The election of a Black man in a former Confederate state, while certainly symbolically powerful, doesn't capture the work still undone in securing racial justice in U.S. politics, including in elections themselves.

The first cornerstone of NETWORK's Build Anew agenda is "Dismantle Systemic Racism," and its placement rightly suggests that racism must be confronted at every level of our social structures for economic injustices and other wrongs to be fully addressed. The many in-person and online actions taken by NETWORK in 2022 also reflected the central prioritization of racial justice in Catholic Social Justice.

### **Talk About White Supremacy**

In the second installment of NETWORK's "White Supremacy and American Christianity" event in October, Fr. Bryan Massingale of Fordham University, author of "Racial Justice and the Catholic Church," dialogued with Dr. Robert P. Jones, founder and CEO of the Public Religion Research Institute. They discussed data gathered by Jones that showed almost half of white evangelicals and almost four in 10 white Catholics in the U.S. believe that their country should be a place that privileges people of European descent and that God intends this.

"That attitude has become hardened and more dangerous," said Massingale. "What we're seeing now is a willingness among those who hold that ideology to use any means necessary to achieve that end: ... a country that says only white Americans are true Americans and all others are Americans only by exception or toleration or not really at all."







Massingale referenced the aftermath of the 2020 presidential election, with a growing number of people questioning the legitimacy of elections themselves and adopting the position of "If my candidate loses, then by definition it was an illegitimate election." This, coupled with very open use of voter restrictions and voter suppression, as well as the insurrection of Jan. 6, 2021, made clear to Massingale that "any means necessary" includes political violence.

Concerned that the normalization of political violence is the next stage after voter suppression and election denial, Massingale cited the violent attack on Paul Pelosi, husband of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, drawing a connection to the rhetoric of Christian nationalist rallies across the country in the weeks preceding the attack.

"God's angel of death is coming," Massingale noted one rally speaker proclaiming in reference to their political opponents. "Let's connect the dots here. ... One needs to understand that even though people don't necessarily call for overt political violence, if you say enough about divinely inspired victory and gun rights and God's angel of death, then we can't be surprised when people take violent means."

Massingale also cited the "failure of religious leaders to connect the dots," noting that Catholic bishops offered only cursory statements in response to the Pelosi attack.

Massingale's observations also reflect a Black Catholic doing the work of educating a white, predominately Catholic audience, about the pernicious implications of racism. This is an unfair burden placed on Black people, says Dr. Ansel Augustine — to educate colleagues on racism, while continuing to endure its effects.

Author of the new book, "Leveling the Praying Field: Can the Church We Love, Love Us Back?," Augustine told *Connection*, "Ministering in the church, which at times perpetuates this 'original sin,' constantly has us questioning and renewing our commitment

to the faith," Augustine told *Connection*. "It is tough having to be an 'expert' on something that is trying to destroy your dignity as a human being, especially within an institution that is supposed to empower you and be your safe space to simply 'exist."

"Reparations is about the church and the people and the society moving from charity to justice."

— Rev. Traci Blackmon

James Conway, a cradle Catholic in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, notes that the last two years have been different for Black Catholics.

"People no longer seem to be afraid to show any racist tendencies that they may have secretly harbored for years," he told *Connection*. "Now it's just blatant and in your face under the guise of being cultural ignorance."

He also sees "an uptick in instances of racial aggression and microaggressions against minorities in the church." He was told by a now former member of his parish that, because they sing gospel music, she would be taking her money and her family elsewhere, and that the parish would be closed within six months without her financial support. Two years later, the parish is still open.

### **Focus on Reparations**

The church not living up to its own teaching on human dignity when it comes to race is a problem that goes back centuries, Sr. Patricia Rogers, OP, shared in a conversation on NET-WORK's "Just Politics" podcast in November.

She asked, "Why is it that Black Catholic children were denied a Catholic education before the Civil Rights Movement? I never saw a Black nun, and then I learned that the



Rev. Traci Blackmon, Associate General Minister of Justice & Local Church Ministries for The United Church of Christ, speaks at NETWORK's reparations vigil in Cleveland.

first Black nuns had to establish their own congregations because they were not welcome. And it still makes me wonder, what happened to the dignity of all humans? You just don't know what to do with that sometimes."

This raises the question of reparatory justice for harm inflicted over generations and the need for reparations in the U.S. today. In that area, NETWORK has hosted and participated in numerous events, including a June action near the White

House calling on President Biden to take executive action to set up a commission on reparations, as called for in H.R. 40, a bill first introduced in Congress in 1989.

In June, NETWORK also helped organize an in-person event "Repair and Redress: A Vigil for Reparations" at St. Aloysius-St. Agatha Parish in Cleveland. The parish and school community, Sisters, the Cleveland NETWORK Advocates Team, justice-seekers, and NETWORK staff together made a stand for

Cleo and Yvonne Nettles speak at the June 15 prayer vigil for reparations at St. Aloysius-St. Agatha Parish in Cleveland.

reparations for Black Americans and called for a reparations commission by Juneteenth.

Rev. Traci Blackmon of The United Church of Christ spoke to the theological call to repair a society broken by the sin of chattel slavery and the racism that has followed in its wake, as well as of the need to atone and provide redress.

"The reason we have not reckoned with racism in this country," she said, is that "decision-makers have decided that God cannot be Black, that God cannot be Brown, that God indeed must be white. And therefore we have created a fractured ... society."

NETWORK continued the push for President Biden to establish reparations commission by executive action following the November elections with the event "Faith in Reparations."

"I'm so sick of living in a nation that treats white rage as a sacrament and black grief as a threat," Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, senior minister at Middle Collegiate Church, said at that event.

"White rage is why we had Jim Crow. White rage is why we had redlining. All of the structures in our nation are built around white rage's disdain for Black people's beauty and body and joy," she continued. "I'm so tired of the permanent pernicious nature of white supremacy in this nation that is now in a wicked dance with Christianity, blessing with Jesus' name and in the name of God this vile hatred that is always directed to my people."

Sr. Anita Baird, DHM, founding director of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office for Racial Justice, said:

"Reparations are ...about America fulfilling her promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of justice for all. And until this injustice is acknowledged and rectified, there can be no healing and no moving forward. The Biden administration must uphold its promise to African Americans. It is a matter of justice. It is a matter of life. Now is the time."



The NETWORK community will continue calling on Congress and President Biden to act on their commitments to dismantle racist laws, policies and frameworks, and advance racial equity.

Leticia Ochoa Adams and Elissa Hackerson contributed to this feature.

# A Year of Mending the Social Fabric

### Progress and Frustration Marked 2022 for Congress, Administration

The beginning of 2022 saw deep concern that President Biden's agenda might stall. After the collapse of Build Back Better and the rejection of common-sense democracy reforms at the end of 2021, due largely to resistance of Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), it was uncertain how much could be accomplished. Wildly exceeding these concerns, it turned out that 2022 was a year of great progress — and deep frustration — on Capitol Hill. Even amid the outbreak of war by the Russians in Ukraine, record inflation, continued COVID and M-Pox outbreaks, infant formula shortages, and spiking gun violence, Congress — with support from the Biden administration — was able to take incremental steps to address some of the most pressing problems facing our country.

A crowning achievement this year was passage of the Inflation Reduction Act. This bill included a handful of priorities from the Build Back Better bill, although others, like Paid Family and Medical Leave, restoring the Child Tax Credit and closing the Medicaid coverage gap, did not make the cut.

The law takes major action to stem the tide of "trickle down" tax policy by including provisions that raise taxes on the wealthy and corporations to pay for new programs and to reduce the debt. The law also cuts the cost of drug prices for seniors and requires drug companies to negotiate prices for Medicare, while increasing subsidies to working people to ensure they could afford access to health care through the Affordable Care Act. Finally, the Inflation Reduction Act provided significant investment into domestic energy production while promoting clean energy.

A second major piece of legislation passed this summer was the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors and Science Act of 2022 (CHIPS Act). The law creates incentives to increase domestic high-tech manufacturing jobs and provides job training programs in areas of the country suffering from disinvestment and job loss. Advocates, including NETWORK, successfully pushed for the inclusion of family leave for new jobs.

This summer, Washington and the nation were riveted by hearings conducted by the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6<sup>th</sup> Attack on the U.S. Capitol, chaired by Bennie Thompson (D-MS) and Vice Chair Liz Cheney (R-WY). Both Reps. Thompson and Cheney blamed then-President Trump for inciting violence in an attempt to overthrow the results of the 2020 election. As a result of the hearings, a bipartisan group of Members created the Electoral Count Reform Act of 2022 to shore up the electoral system, which we hope to see passed by the end of the session.

The retirement of Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer handed President Biden a major opportunity, and the nomination and confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson brings the court a significant step closer to achieving a more representative, inclusive, and just democracy. Her experience as a federal public defender, on the bipartisan U.S. Sentencing Commission, and on the Federal District Court of D.C. and the D.C. Circuit Court made her a tremendous choice. NETWORK was proud to support her historic nomination.

Action in the Supreme Court significantly shifted the legislative landscape. Because of language in the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision, which struck down a federal right to abortion, activists in support of the LGBTQ and civil rights community organized to protect the right of samesex and interracial couples to marry established by the Supreme Court in the *Obergefell v. Hodges*. The House quickly passed the Respect for Marriage Act, a bill requiring the U.S. federal government to recognize the validity of same-sex and interracial marriages by a strong bipartisan vote. The Senate then passed the bill, with the inclusion of provisions to protect religious liberty. NETWORK proudly supported this pro-family, anti-discrimination bill, which was signed into law on Dec. 13.

As the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress drew to a close, NETWORK pushed to get our priorities — the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit, protections for Medicaid and CHIP, measures to end the Black Maternal health crisis, a pathway to citizenship for DACA recipients, the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, the Equal Act that reduces sentencing disparities for cocaine and crack cocaine — as riders on the FY23 appropriations bill.

Some areas of our work present great and ongoing frustration. Failure to pass the Voting Rights Act in the face of systematic voter suppression is unacceptable. Immigration rights, particularly the right to seek asylum, continue to be weaponized by the Administration and Republican Members of Congress. And Congress failed to put H.R. 40 — a bill to set up a Commission to Study Reparations for Black Americans — on the floor for a vote. NETWORK and allies are pressing the Biden administration to use executive action to set up a commission; we will not relent.



Laura Peralta-Schulte is NETWORK's Senior Director of Public Policy and Government Relations.

## **HOUSE VOTES**

### Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act (H.R.5746) — Vote #9

NETWORK strongly supported this effort to pass important provisions of both the For the People Act and the Voting Rights Advancement Act together. The legislation included establishing Election Day as a federal holiday, instituting automatic and same-day registration, expanding voting access with vote-by-mail and early voting, and limiting the ability to remove voters from voter rolls. Passed 220-203, January 13, 2022

# **Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and** 2 Marijuana Opportunity Items 2 Expungement (MORE) Act (H.R.3617) — Vote #107

NETWORK supported this bill that seeks to address injustices in our criminal legal system. This legislation would decriminalize cannabis, remove it from the Controlled Substances Act, and enact various criminal and social justice reforms related to cannabis decriminalization, including expunging prior convictions and reinvesting in people and communities adversely impacted by the War on Drugs. Passed 220-204, April 1, 2022

### **Collective Bargaining for House Staffers** (H.Res.1096) — Vote #144

NETWORK proudly supported the effort to win collective bargaining rights for employees of the House of Representatives, which was included in a package of unrelated House Resolutions (H.Res.1097). House staffers too often experience conditions that fail to honor the dignity of work including low or unequal pay, long hours, poor treatment or harassment, and burnout. Passed 217-202, May 10, 2022

### **Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being** Act (H.R.7666) — Vote #286

This bipartisan legislation reauthorizes and improves federal mental and behavioral health programs through FY2027, expands access to prevention, treatment, and recovery services, and invests in our mental health and substance use care system. The bill included the Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act, to eliminate an outdated bureaucratic requirement keeping people from lifesaving treatment. NETWORK supported these important efforts to address our nation's mental health crisis and opioid and drug overdose epidemic. Passed 402-20, June 22, 2022

### Respect for Marriage Act (H.R.8404) — Vote #373

Recognizing the dignity and importance of family, NETWORK encouraged Congress to pass the Respect for Marriage Act. By repealing the Defense of Marriage Act, requiring the federal government to recognize valid marriages, and guaranteeing the federal rights, benefits, and obligations of marriage, regardless of sexual orientation or race, this bill prevents discrimination and promotes stability and safety for families.

Passed 267-157, July 19, 2022; Signed into law December 13, 2022

### **Supreme Court Security Funding Act** (H.R.4346) — Vote #404

NETWORK supported this legislation, which includes provisions to increase science and technology jobs in the U.S., with a focus on training and employment in communities of color, and provides supplemental funding for security to protect the Supreme Court and its justices and staff from threats. The law also improves flexibility for individuals with caregiving responsibilities working in the sciences, to promote gender and racial equity in STEM and ensure people have the time they need to care for their loved ones. Passed 243-187, July 28, 2022; Signed into law August 9, 2022

### Inflation Reduction Act (H.R.5376) — Vote #420

This legislation was originally introduced in 2021 as the Build Back Better Act, President Biden's signature policy proposal, which NETWORK supported. After being revised and renamed, the legislation still included significant expansions of climate change investments, provisions to make health care more affordable, and changes in taxation to ensure corporations pay their fair share of taxes.

Passed 220-207, August 12, 2022; Signed into law August 16, 2022

### **Presidential Election Reform Act** (H.R.8873) — Vote #449

In light of the January 6, 2021 attack on our democracy, NET-WORK strongly supported this legislation that makes needed updates to the process of casting and counting electoral votes for presidential elections. These include limiting the reasons for extending states' voting time, specifying the role of the presiding officer as purely ministerial, and raising the threshold for objection. These bipartisan proposals serve to safeguard the electoral process and preserve the will of the people.

Passed 229-203, September 21, 2022

### Changes in the House in 2022

- Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick (FL-20) was sworn in January 18, 2022
- Devin Nunes (CA-22) resigned January 3, 2022
- Connie Conway (CA-22) was sworn in June 14, 2022
- Jim Hagedorn (MN-01) died February 17, 2022.
- Brad Finstad (MN-01) was sworn in August 12, 2022
- Don Young (AK-AL) died March 18, 2022
- Mary Peltola (AK-AL) was sworn in September 13, 2022
- Jeff Fortenberry (NE-01) resigned March 31, 2022
- Mike Flood (NE-01) was sworn in July 12, 2022
- Filemon Vela (TX-34) resigned March 31, 2022
- Mayra Flores (TX-34) was sworn in June 21, 2022
- Tom Reed (NY-23) resigned May 10, 2022
- Joe Sempolinski (NY-23) was sworn in September 13, 2022
- Antonio Delgado (NY-19) resigned May 25, 2022
- Pat Ryan (NY-19) was sworn in September 13, 2022
- Jackie Walorski (IN-02) died August 3, 2022
- Rudy Yakym (IN-02) was sworn in November 14, 2022
- Ted Deutch (FL-22) resigned September 30, 2022
- Donald McEachin (VA-04) died November 28, 2022

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2 Kirkpatrick (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	49 Levin, M. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Grijalva (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	50 Issa (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%
4 Gosar (R)	-	_	_	-	-	-	-	-	0% 0%	51 Vargas (D) 52 Peters, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0 +	100%* 100%
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2 Hill (R)	-	_	_	+	-	_	_	_	13%	5 Lamborn (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
3 Womack (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	6 Crow (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Westerman (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	7 Perlmutter (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
CALIFORNIA										CONNECTICUT									
1 LaMalfa (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	1 Larson, J. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Huffman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	2 Courtney (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Garamendi (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	3 DeLauro (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 McClintock (R)	0	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	14%*	4 Himes (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Thompson, M. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	5 Hayes (D) DELAWARE	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Matsui (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100% 100%*	AL Blunt Rochester (D)		+					+		100%
7 Bera (D) 8 Obernolte (R)	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	25%	FLORIDA	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
9 McNerney (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	1 Gaetz (R)	_	+	_	_	_	_	_	_	13%
10 Harder (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	2 Dunn (R)	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	13%
11 DeSaulnier (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	3 Cammack (R)	_	_	_	+	+	_	_	_	25%
12 Pelosi (D)	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	100%*	4 Rutherford (R)	0	-	_	+	_	-	_	-	14%*
13 Lee, B. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	5 Lawson (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Speier (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	6 Waltz (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%
15 Swalwell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	7 Murphy (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
16 Costa (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	8 Posey (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
17 Khanna (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	9 Soto (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
18 Eshoo (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	10 Demings (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
19 Lofgren (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	11 Webster (R)	0	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	0%*
20 Panetta (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	12 Bilirakis (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
21 Valadao (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%	13 Crist (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	I	100%
22 Conway (R)	I	I	I	0	-	-	-	-	0%* 13%	14 Castor (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
23 McCarthy (R)	-	-	-		-					15 Franklin (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
24 Carbajal (D) 25 Garcia, Mike (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100% 38%	16 Buchanan (R) 17 Steube (R)	-	_	-	+	_	_	_	_	13% 0%
26 Brownley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	18 Mast (R)	_	+	_	+	+		_	_	38%
27 Chu (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	19 Donalds (R)	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	13%
28 Schiff (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	20 Cherfilus-McCormick (D)	Ī	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%*
29 Cardenas (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	21 Frankel (D)	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	100%
30 Sherman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	22 Deutch (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
31 Aguilar (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	23 Wasserman Schultz (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
32 Napolitano (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	24 Wilson, F. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
33 Lieu (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	25 Diaz-Balart (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%
34 Gomez (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	26 Gimenez (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%
35 Torres (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	27 Salazar (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%
36 Ruiz (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%										

- + voted with NETWORK
- voted against NETWORK
- o did not vote
- inactive/not in office
- \* Did not vote on all relevant bills

### **HOUSE VOTES SCORED** 117<sup>th</sup> Congress — 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

- Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act NETWORK Position: Yea
- MORE Act
  NETWORK Position: Yea
- Collective Bargaining for House Staffers
  NETWORK Position: Yea
- Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act
  NETWORK Position: Yea
- Respect for Marriage Act NETWORK Position: Yea
- Supreme Court Security Funding Act NETWORK Position: Yea
- 7 Inflation Reduction Act NETWORK Position: Yea
- Presidential Election Reform Act NETWORK Position: Yea

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	%	
GEORGIA			)	7	)	U	/	0	70	ļ
1 Carter, E.L. (R)			_	+	_	_	_		13%	
2 Bishop, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
3 Ferguson (R)	_	-	_	+	_	_	_	-	13%	
4 Johnson, H. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
5 Williams, N. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
6 McBath (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
7 Bourdeaux (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
8 Scott, A. (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
9 Clyde (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
10 Hice (R)	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	0%*	
11 Loudermilk (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
12 Allen (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
13 Scott, D. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
14 Greene (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
HAWAII		٠.		٠.		٠.		٠.	1000/	
1 Case (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
2 Kahele (D) IDAHO	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
1 Fulcher (R)	_			+	_	_	_		13%	
2 Simpson (R)	_		_	+	+	_	_		25%	
ILLINOIS					т				23%	
1 Rush (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
2 Kelly, R. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
3 Newman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
4 García, J. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
5 Quigley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
6 Casten (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
7 Davis, D. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
8 Krishnamoorthi (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
9 Schakowsky (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
10 Schneider (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
11 Foster (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
12 Bost (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
13 Davis, R. (R)	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	38%	
14 Underwood (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
15 Miller, M. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		0%	
16 Kinzinger (R)	-		0	+	+	+	-	+	57%*	
17 Bustos (D) 18 LaHood (R)	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%* 13%	
INDIANA	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
1 Mrvan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
2 Walorski (R) *	_	-	_	+	_	_	i	l i	17%*	
3 Banks (R)	_		_	+	_	_		ļ :	13%	
4 Baird (R)	_	-	_	+	_	+	_	-	25%	
5 Spartz (R)	_	-	0	+	_	-	-	-	14%*	
6 Pence (R)	-	-	_	0	-	-	0	-	0%*	h
7 Carson (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	٩
8 Bucshon (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
9 Hollingsworth (R)	-	-	-	+	0	+	-	-	29%*	
IOWA										
1 Hinson (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%	٩
2 Miller-Meeks (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%	
3 Axne (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
4 Feenstra (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
(D)									120/	4
1 Mann (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	
2 LaTurner (R) 3 Davids (D)	-			+		_			13%	
4 Estes (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
+ ESIES (N)	-		-	+	-				13%_	

	_	2	2	_	_		_		0/
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	%
KENTUCKY (D)									430/
1 Comer (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	_	-	13% 13%
2 Guthrie (R) 3 Yarmuth (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Massie (R)	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	_	0%
5 Rogers, H. (R)	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	13%
6 Barr (R)	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	13%
LOUISIANA									.5,0
1 Scalise (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
2 Carter, T. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Higgins, C. (R)	0	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	0%*
4 Johnson, M. (R)	-	0	-	+	-	-	-	-	14%*
5 Letlow (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
6 Graves, G. (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
MAINE									4000/
1 Pingree (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Golden (D) MARYLAND	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
1 Harris (R)									120/
2 Ruppersberger (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	-+	+	13% 100%
3 Sarbanes (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Brown, A. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Hoyer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Trone (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
7 Mfume (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Raskin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
MASSACHUSETTS							-		
1 Neal (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 McGovern (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Trahan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Auchincloss (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Clark, K. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Moulton (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
7 Pressley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Lynch (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
9 Keating (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
MICHIGAN									430/
1 Bergman (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
2 Huizenga (R) 3 Meijer (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
* ' ' '	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	50% 13%
4 Moolenaar (R) 5 Kildee (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Upton (R)	-	_	-	+	+	+	_	+	50%
7 Walberg (R)	_	_	_	+	_	-	_	_	13%
8 Slotkin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
9 Levin, A. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 McClain (R)	-	<u> </u>	-	+	-	<u> </u>	-	-	13%
11 Stevens (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
12 Dingell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
13 Tlaib (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Lawrence (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
MINNESOTA									
1 Hagedorn (R)	-	1	-1	- 1	-1	1	- 1	- 1	0%*
1 Finstad (R)	- 1	1	- 1	- 1	- 1	1	-	-	0%*
2 Craig (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Phillips (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 McCollum (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Omar (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Emmer (R) 7 Fischbach (R)	_	-	-	+	+	-	_	-	25% 13%
7 Fischbach (R) 8 Stauber (R)	_	_		+	_	_	_	_	13%
o staubei (K)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	%		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	%
MISSISSIPPI		_					-			NEW YORK (CONT.)						Ŭ	_	Ť	
1 Kelly, T. (R)	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	13%	15 Torres (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Thompson, B. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	16 Bowman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Guest (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	17 Jones (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Palazzo (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	18 Maloney, S.P. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
MISSOURI										19 Delgado (D)	+	+	+	- 1	-1	- 1	-1	- 1	100%*
1 Bush (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	19 Ryan, P. (D)	- 1	- 1	- 1	- 1	-1	- 1	-1	+	100%*
2 Wagner (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%	20 Tonko (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Luetkemeyer (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	21 Stefanik (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%
4 Hartzler (R)	-	-	-	+	0	-	-	-	14%*	22 Tenney (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
5 Cleaver (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	23 Reed, T. (R)	-	-	0	!	1	!	1	- 1	0%*
6 Graves, S. (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	23 Sempolinski (R)	I	1	I	1	-1	1	I	-	0%*
7 Long (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-		-	13%	24 Katko (R)	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	50%
8 Smith, J. (R) MONTANA	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	25 Morelle (D) 26 Higgins B. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100% 100%
AL Rosendale (R)	_	_	_	+		_	_	_	13%	26 Higgins B. (D) 27 Jacobs, C. (R)	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	50%
NEBRASKA	-	_	-	+	-	-	-	-	1370	NORTH CAROLINA	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	30%
1 Fortenberry (R)	_	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0%*	1 Butterfield (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
1 Flood (R)	1	l i	i.	i i					0%*	2 Ross (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Bacon (R)		Ė		+	+	_	_	_	25%	3 Murphy, G. (R)		Ė	o	+		Ė		Ė	14%*
3 Smith, Adrian (R)	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	13%	4 Price (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEVADA				·					.570	5 Foxx (R)		Ė		+		Ė		Ė	13%
1 Titus (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	6 Manning (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Amodei (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	7 Rouzer (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
3 Lee, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	8 Hudson (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
4 Horsford (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	9 Bishop, D. (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
NEW HAMPSHIRE										10 McHenry (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
1 Pappas (D)	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	88%	11 Cawthorn (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
2 Kuster (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	12 Adams (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW JERSEY										13 Budd (R)	-	0	-	+	-	-	-	-	14%*
1 Norcross (D)	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	100%*	NORTH DAKOTA									250/
2 Van Drew, J. (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-		-	25%	AL Armstrong (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	25%
3 Kim, A. (D) 4 Smith, C. (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100% 13%	OHIO 1 Chabot (R)		_	_		_		_	_	25%
5 Gottheimer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	2 Wenstrup (R)		_		+	_	+	_		13%
6 Pallone (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	3 Beatty (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
7 Malinowski (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	4 Jordan (R)	_	_	_	+	_		_		13%
8 Sires (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	5 Latta (R)	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	13%
9 Pascrell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	6 Johnson, B. (R)	_	_	_	+	_	+	_	_	25%
10 Payne (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	7 Gibbs (R)	_	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	25%
11 Sherrill (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	8 Davidson (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
12 Watson Coleman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	9 Kaptur (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW MEXICO										10 Turner (R)	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	38%
1 Stansbury (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	11 Brown, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Herrell (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%	12 Balderson (R)	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	25%
3 Leger Fernandez (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	13 Ryan, T. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW YORK										14 Joyce, D. (R)	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	38%
1 Zeldin (R)	-	0	0	0	+	-	-	-	20%*	15 Carey (R)	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	38%
2 Garbarino (R)	-	-	-	+	+	-		-	25%	16 Gonzalez, A. (R)	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	50%
3 Suozzi (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100% 100%	OKLAHOMA				٠.					13%
4 Rice, K. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		1 Hern (R)	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	13%
5 Meeks (D) 6 Meng (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100% 100%	2 Mullin (R) 3 Lucas (R)		_	-	+	0		-	-	14%*
7 Velázquez (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	4 Cole (R)		_	_	+	-	+	_	-	25%
8 Jeffries (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	5 Bice (R)	_		_	+	_		_		13%
9 Clarke, Y. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	OREGON				,					. 3 /0
10 Nadler (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	1 Bonamici (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
11 Malliotakis (R)	_	· -	_	+	+	-	_	-	25%	2 Bentz (R)	_	Ė	-	+	+	Ė	-	:	25%
12 Maloney, C. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	3 Blumenauer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
13 Espaillat (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	4 DeFazio (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Ocasio-Cortez (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%	5 Schrader (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

- + voted with NETWORK
- voted against NETWORK
- o did not vote
- inactive/not in office
- \* Did not vote on all relevant bills

### **HOUSE VOTES SCORED** 117th Congress — 2nd Session

- Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act NETWORK Position: Yea
- MORE Act
  NETWORK Position: Yea
- Collective Bargaining for House Staffers
  NETWORK Position: Yea
- Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act
  NETWORK Position: Yea
- Respect for Marriage Act NETWORK Position: Yea
- Supreme Court Security Funding Act NETWORK Position: Yea
- 7 Inflation Reduction Act NETWORK Position: Yea
- Presidential Election Reform Act NETWORK Position: Yea

PENSYLVANIA   1 Fitzpatrick (R)	0% 13% 25% 13% 14%* 13% 0% 00% 13% 100% 100%* 20%* 00% 14%*
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3 Evans (D)	25% 13% 14%* 13% 0% 88% 000% 100% 13% 00% 100%* 20%* 00%
4 Dean (D)	13% 14%* 13% 0% 88% 000% 100% 13% 00% 100%* 20%* 00%
5 Scanlon (D)	14%* 13% 0% 88% 00% 100% 13% 00% 100%* 20%* 100%
6 Houlahan (D)	13% 0% 88% 00% 100% 13% 00% 100%* 20%*
7 Wild (D)	0% 88% 00% 00% 13% 00% 100% 20%*
8 Cartwright (D)	88% 00% 00% 13% 00% 00% 100%* 20%*
9 Meuser (R)	00% 00% 13% 00% 00% 100%* 20%*
10 Perry (R)	00% 13% 00% 00% 100%* 20%*
11 Smucker (R)	13% 00% 00% 100%* 20%*
12 Keller (R)	00% 00% 100%* 20%*
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17 Lamb (D)	14%*
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2 Langevin (D)	25%
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3 Duncan (R)	
4 Timmons (R)	00%
5 Norman (R)	
6 Clyburn (D)	0%*
7 Rice T. (R)	00%
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5 Gooden (R) + 13% 10 Strickland (D) + + 0 + + + + + 10	100%*
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	14%*
19 Arrington (R) + 13% WYOMING	1-70
20 Castro (D) + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	57%*

- + voted with NETWORK
- voted against NETWORK
- o did not vote
- inactive/not in office

\* Did not vote on all relevant bills

# **SENATE VOTES**

### Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act (H.R. 5746) — Vote #9

NETWORK urged all Senators to vote yes on this important procedural vote to advance the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act to a Senate floor vote. Because of the Senate filibuster, 60 votes were required in order to proceed to a floor vote and pass this important pro-democracy legislation.

Cloture motion rejected 49-51, January 19, 2022

### **Confirmation of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson** (PN1783) — Vote #134

NETWORK supported confirming Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to be an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Justice Jackson's extensive legal and judicial experience, as well as her proven character and integrity, all made her an exceptionally qualified nominee to our country's highest court and the addition of Justice Jackson's varied, lived experiences to the Supreme Court will serve to improve decision-making on the bench. Confirmed 53-47, April 7, 2022

### **Supreme Court Security Funding Act** (H.R.4346) — Vote #271

NETWORK supported this legislation, which includes provisions to increase science and technology jobs in the U.S., with a focus on training and employment in communities of color, and provides supplemental funding for security to protect the Supreme Court and its justices and staff from threats. The law also improves flexibility for individuals with caregiving responsibilities working in the sciences, to promote gender and racial equity in STEM and ensure people have the time they need to care for their loved ones.

Passed 64-33, July 27, 2022; Signed into law August 9, 2022

# Inflation Reduction Act (H.R.5376) —

This legislation was originally introduced in 2021 as the Build Back Better Act, President Biden's signature policy proposal, which NETWORK supported. After being revised and renamed, the legislation still included significant expansions of climate change investments, provisions to make health care more affordable, and changes in taxation to ensure corporations pay their fair share of taxes.

Passed 51-50 with Vice President Harris casting the tie-breaking vote, August 7, 2022; Signed into law August 16, 2022

### Respect for Marriage Act (S.8404) — Vote #362

Recognizing the dignity and importance of family, NET-WORK encouraged Congress to pass the Respect for Marriage Act. By repealing the Defense of Marriage Act, requiring the federal government to recognize valid marriages, and guaranteeing the federal rights, benefits, and obligations of marriage, regardless of sexual orientation or race, this bill prevents discrimination and promotes stability and safety for families. Passed 61-36, November 29, 2022; Signed into law December 13, 2022

### **NETWORK's Efforts to Shape Legislation**

NETWORK also works tirelessly on shaping legislation before it goes up for a vote. This includes lobbying for the inclusion of NETWORK's priorities in must-pass bills, as well as the defensive work of keeping bad provisions out of bills.

For example, NETWORK advocates across the country mobilized for months to contact their members of Congress, write Letters to the Editor, and attend rallies supporting the inclusion of key policy priorities in this \$1.7 trillion FY2023 omnibus spending package. NETWORK praised the final package for making key investments in healthcare, housing, and criminal legal system reforms, but voiced disappointment at the omission of the Child Tax Credit expansion, the EQUAL Act, substantive voting rights legislation, and a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers and other long-term undocumented immigrants.

NETWORK also offered opposition to provisions of bills that would substantially hurt vulnerable communities if they moved forward. This was achieved by working in concert with trusted coalition partners in scheduling meetings with Congressional staff and stakeholders; hosting virtual webinars and public vigils; and educating and praying with our field for positive outcomes.

This helped to defeat the codification of Title 42 into law, which would have locked the provision into law and stopped our ability to end this unjust rule without new legislation.

NETWORK also worked to block corporate tax breaks from being included in the CHIPS Act and the omnibus package.

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ALABAMA Shelby (R)						0%	
Tuberville (R)	_	_	_	_	_	0% 0%	
ALASKA Murkowski (R)	_	+	0	_	+	50%*	
Sullivan (R)	-	-	-	-	+	20%	
ARIZONA Kelly (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Sinema (D)  ARKANSAS	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Boozman (R) Cotton (R)	_	-	-	_	_	0% 0%	
CALIFORNIA							
Feinstein (D) Padilla (D)	+	+	++	+	+	100% 100%	
<b>COLORADO</b> Bennet (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Hickenlooper (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
CONNECTICUT Blumenthal (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Murphy, C. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Carper (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Coons (D) FLORIDA	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Rubio (R) Scott (R)	-	_	-	_	_	0% 0%	
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Ossoff (D) Warnock (D)	+	+	++	+	+ 0	100% 100%*	
HAWAII Hirono (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Schatz (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
IDAHO Crapo (R)	_	_	_	_	_	0%	
Risch (R)	-	-	-	-	-	0%	
Duckworth (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
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Moran (R)	-	-	+	-	-	20%	
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Paul (R) LOUISIANA	-	_	-	_	-	0%	
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MARYLAND Cardin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Van Hollen (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
MASSACHUSETTS Markey (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
Warren (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%	
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Daines (R) Tester (D)	+	+	+	+	+	20% 100%
NEBRASKA Fischer (R)					_	0%
Sasse (R)	_	_	+	_	0	25%*
NEVADA Cortez Masto (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Rosen (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW HAMPSHIRE Hassan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Shaheen (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW JERSEY Booker (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Menendez (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW MEXICO Heinrich (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Lujan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW YORK Gillibrand (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Schumer (D)	-	+	+	+	+	80%
NORTH CAROLINA Burr (R)	_	_	+	_	+	40%
Tillis (R) NORTH DAKOTA	-	-	+	-	+	40%
Cramer (R)	_	-	-	-	_	0%
Hoeven (R)	-	_	-	_	-	0%
Brown (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Portman (R)  OKLAHOMA	_	-	+	_	+	40%
Inhofe (R)	-	-	-	-	-	0%
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Blackburn (R) Hagerty (R)	_	_	+	_	_	0% 20%
TEXAS Cornyn (R)			+		_	20%
Cruz (R)	_	_	_	_	_	0%
UTAH Lee M. (R)	_	_	_	_	_	0%
Romney (R)	-	+	+	-	+	60%
VERMONT Leahy (D)	+	+	0	+	+	100%*
Sanders (I)	+	+	-	+	+	80%
VIRGINIA Kaine (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Warner (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
WASHINGTON Cantwell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Murray (D) WEST VIRGINIA	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Capito (R)	-	_	+	_	+	40%
Manchin (D) WISCONSIN	+	+	0	+	+	100%*
Baldwin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	100%
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-COTTITUS (11)		7				20/0

### **SENATE VOTES SCORED**

117<sup>th</sup> Congress — 2<sup>ne</sup> Session

- Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act **NETWORK Position: Yea**
- **Confirmation of Justice** 2 Jackson **NETWORK Position: Yea**
- **Supreme Court Security** 3 Funding Act **NETWORK Position: Yea**
- **Inflation Reduction Act NETWORK Position: Yea**
- **Respect for Marriage** 5 Act **NETWORK Position: Yea**

### **KEY TO VOTES**

- + voted with NETWORK
- voted against NETWORK
- o did not vote
- inactive/not in office

<sup>\*</sup> Did not vote on all relevant bills

# What We Can Do

### Persistence Under Adverse Conditions is Essential for Seeking Justice

My community recently watched the 2019 Oscar-winning film "Jojo Rabbit," the story of a young German boy growing up in the last year of World War II. In one scene, Jojo and his mother pass through the public square, where Nazis had recently hanged members of the Resistance.

"What did they do?" Jojo asks her.

She answers, "What they could."

For those of us who strive for justice in this world, elections can be both inspiring and terrifying, especially when the two main parties refuse to work together. As the House changes hands, we are rightly concerned about what will become of the issues that animate NETWORK's Build Anew policy agenda: dismantling systemic racism, rooting our economy in solidarity, building inclusive community, and transforming our politics. But whether Congress champions or stymies them, we must carry on, and do what we can.

NETWORK has been in this place before. Although early on it enjoyed the ear of both major parties, that moment was short-lived. Starting with Ronald Reagan's election in 1980, it faced the dilemma of how to lobby "in a milieu in which basic assumptions and values were increasingly alien to ours." How it persevered through decades of opposition to its mission can be instructive on how to work steadfastly for Catholic Social Justice and the common good in adverse political climates.

Reagan's approach to cutting programs he didn't like was to defund them. In his first year, he introduced no new initiatives other than the budget, which drastically cut domestic spending. In this way, he could avoid going through the legislative process, which allowed for public debate about the merits of these programs.

With the regular channels of debate cut off, NETWORK turned to the field, where sisters and social workers could testify to the hardships people were experiencing. It provided members with lobbying kits to help mobilize communities and provide Congress with the much-needed perspective on how its policies affect those in need. It also partnered with 175 organizations to highlight that perspective in a week of HOUSING NOW! events to address rising homelessness.

Despite having a friend in the White House, the 1990s were just as difficult. The GOP's "Contract with America" promised to shrink government by way of cutting social programs, specifically welfare. The suggested cuts were as NETWORK said at the time, "mean-spirited calling for harsh, punitive measures

for poor women and their children." Again, NETWORK's impact was dulled when Congress bypassed traditional hearings, shunting aside organizations protesting its agenda.

"Denied clearance to stand outside House and Senate chambers — where the most effective floor lobbying takes place," it joined with Pax Christi and several women's religious congregations to form the Welfare Reform Watch Project. Collecting statistical and anecdotal information about the effects these cuts had on people's lives, they issued a paper in preparation for a Lobby Day "to insist that welfare reform is about getting people out of poverty not just off welfare."

George W. Bush also took on social spending under the guise of "compassionate conservatism." Bush, an evangelical Christian, summed up his governing philosophy by noting, "It is compassionate to actively help our fellow citizens in need. It is conservative to insist on responsibility and results." This would mean encouraging people to build better lives for themselves without government assistance and to expand responsibility for federally funded programs to religious and community organizations.

NETWORK cautioned that the "proposal implies that individual conversion of 'morally flawed' people is the answer to society's ills, including poverty. This disregards government's role in shaping social and economic structures that keep people poor" and would enable the government "to abdicate its larger responsibility to protect the rights of the individual and promote the common good."

Insisting on the government taking responsibility for the welfare of all its citizens is a tenet of Catholic Social Teaching and the thread that has run through NETWORK's 50-year history. The first Nuns on the Bus tour promoted resistance to Rep. Paul Ryan's harmful budget, and our members and staff have continued to engage in lobbying and organizing efforts on behalf of such issues as fair tax policies, immigration reform, Medicaid expansion, and reparations.

There have been both wins and losses, but we continue to do the work because we know that the U.S. government's time is not God's time. Until our dreams of a just and equitable society come to fruition, we do what we can.



Dr. Mara Rutten is a candidate with the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and NETWORK's historian.

## Restore Basic Function

### Fixing America's Immigration System Starts With Updating the Registry

BY CONGRESSWOMAN NORMA J. TORRES

When something isn't working like it should — such as a car making a strange noise or a computer laboring to perform basic tasks — our human reaction is often to ignore the problem and hope that it goes away. We do this as long as possible, even as our avoidance is clearly allowing the situation to get worse.

In the United States, this is the path we have taken with our immigration system, which we have left broken and ignored for too long.

The problem is that we have no real function to allow people who come to this country, and who work hard and contribute to our communities, to pursue legal status. And because we have avoided addressing the problem, more than 10 million people in our communities live in the shadows, without legal status, and barred from full participation in society. People even wait 30-40 years in line for their documents to be processed. That is all part of the systemic failure we have seen.

We call the U.S. immigration system broken because it doesn't perform the basic functions it's intended to carry out.

It shouldn't surprise us that one little provision in our system that hasn't moved in half a century is broken and needs to be replaced.

Now, how often when we finally seek help and take a car to an auto mechanic do we hear that one little part is causing all the problems? It's a relief and almost an embarrassment to know that our long-avoided problem has such a simple answer.

This too is reflected in U.S. immigration policy.

The Immigration Act of 1929 set up a registry to assist people who came to the U.S. without legal status. It was understood even then that we are better off knowing the people around us are not hiding in the shadows. The registry, which is still the law of the land, offered a rigorous process by which long-time residents could obtain permanent legal residence, and one of the provisions of that process was that a person resides in the U.S.

before a cutoff date. Originally, this date was June 3, 1921. It has been updated four times through the years and is currently Jan. 1, 1972.

That's a long time ago. I had just come to the U.S. two years earlier, at age 5, with my uncle, from Guatemala, which was embroiled in a dangerous civil war. I became a citizen 20 years later. The system worked for me. And that is part of why, in the 117th Congress, I co-led H.R. 8433: Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immi-



Rep. Norma J. Torres represents California's 35<sup>th</sup> District. She has served in Congress since 2015.

gration Act of 1929. This bill would simply update the cutoff date that, again, exists in current law.

It shouldn't surprise us that one little provision in our system that hasn't moved in half a century is broken and needs to be replaced. This bill is a simple change that would have a major impact on the quality of life of so many people. People will be able to present themselves at financial institutions, register their kids at school, go to the doctor, and contact federal, state, and local agencies without being afraid because they don't have a legal document. While it wouldn't solve every problem for every person in the U.S. without legal status, it would be a major step forward.

For the thousands of immigrant workers, our neighbors and friends who have been in the community a long time and who have been good Americans in every way, except on paper, we have an opportunity to be better neighbors to them. Delay and avoidance will lead to only more brokenness, and now, we have a path forward.

Let us work to make our communities whole — the time to do registry is now.



FAITHFULLY SEEKING JUSTICE, INSPIRING CHANGE, TRANSFORMING POLITICS

What an incredible anniversary year we have had so far! Thank you to all who have joined us in celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary throughout 2022, including those contributing to our goal to raise \$5 million to build our Endowment Fund. Through your gift to NETWORK's 50th Anniversary Endowment Fund, you help fulfill our shared duty to future generations to ensure justice will flourish for us all.

As of December 14, we have reached \$4.44 million in gifts and pledges, 89 percent of our goal... and our anniversary year is not yet over! We invite all members of the NETWORK community to join in this joyful investment in the future of our political ministry with a gift or pledge by the end of our anniversary year, April 2023.

We are grateful to recognize the following organizations and individuals who have contributed to building the NETWORK Endowment Fund from August through December 14. If your name was omitted or was recorded incorrectly, we hope you will understand and inform us so we may make a correction. We will continue to acknowledge gifts and pledges made until the end of our anniversary year in *Connection*.

### **ORGANIZATIONS**

Bernardine Franciscan Sisters
Franciscan Sisters of Mary
Loretto Community
Religious of Jesus and Mary
Sisters of Bon Secours
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet,
Los Angeles Province
Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, Eastern Region

### **INDIVIDUALS**

John Adkins
Carolyn Alexander
Lynne Baker
Sr. Mary Barbieur ANG
Kathryn Barry
Susan Bellotti
Richard Bentz
Anne Berry-Goodfellow

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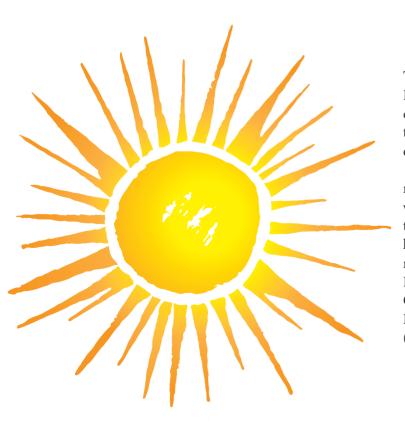
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