



NCNW

NCNW Purple Days in the District Issues of Concern

Healthcare: NCNW is elevating health equity and the correlation to Black women. Our immediate concerns include protecting the Affordable Care Act, supporting Medicaid coverage for those in need, elevating the need for regulations banning menthol flavored tobacco products, providing context in why it is important to pass the Health Equity Accountability Act, elevating obesity as a chronic disease and moving forward the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act to protect maternal health. Specific bills we are elevating:

- [H.R.7785](#) **Health Equity and Accountability Act:** This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to improve data reporting processes to address public health disparities. **Sponsor:** Rep. Robin Kelly (D-IL-2)
- [H.R.4818](#) **Treat and Reduce Obesity Act:** This bill expands medicare coverage to include intensive behavioral therapies and prescription drug treatments for obesity. **Sponsor:** Rep. Brad R. Wenstrup (R-OH-2)
- [H.R.3305](#) **Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act:** This bill directs resources for maternal care, child care, housing, and more among racial and ethnic minorities. **Sponsor:** Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14)

Economic Empowerment: An important aspect of empowering women of African descent, their families and community is to help them achieve economic and financial success. NCNW supports economic equity, affordable and fair housing, fair wages, workforce development, and supporting black entrepreneurship. Legislation that we are presently elevating that support financial freedom include:

- [H.R.7024](#) **Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act:** This bill extends and increases the amount received from the Child Tax Credit (CTC). **Sponsor:** Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO-8)
- [S.3702](#) **Credit for Caring Act:** This bill allows an eligible caregiver a tax credit of up to \$5,000 for 30% of the cost of long-term care expenses that exceed \$2,000 in a taxable year. The bill defines *eligible caregiver* as an individual who has earned income for the taxable year in excess of \$7,500 and pays or incurs expenses for providing care to a spouse or other dependent relative with long-term care needs. **Sponsor:** Sen. Michael F. Bennet (D-CO) The House companion to this bill can be found [here](#). **Companion Bill Sponsor:** Rep. Mike Carey (R-OH-15)

Education: NCNW supports equitable access to education for all ages, removing financial barriers in pursuing higher education goals, and the elevation of history as it pertains to people of African descent.

- [H.R.6592](#) **Fight Book Bans Act:** This bill authorizes the Secretary of Education to provide grants to local educational agencies to cover the costs of challenges to determinations not to discontinue the use of specific instructional materials. **Sponsor:** Rep. Maxwell Frost (D-FL-10)



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- **[H.R. 1088 Shirley Chisholm Congressional Gold Medal Act](#)**: This bill provides for the posthumous presentation of a Congressional Gold Medal in commemoration of Shirley Chisholm, in recognition of her activism, independence, and groundbreaking achievements in politics, including election as the first African American woman in Congress. **Sponsor**: Rep. Barabara Lee (D-CA-12)

Social Justice: NCNW is committed to uplifting civil and human rights for women, their families and their communities. Core to protecting the rights and privileges granted by the Constitution of the United States is the freedom to participate in the democratic process of voting. We will continue to elevate issues that violate the rights and well being of our community.

- **[H.R.6828 Brittany Clardy Missing and Murdered Black Women Act](#)**: Directs the Department of Justice to establish an Office for Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls. **Sponsor**: Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN-5)
- **[S. 4 John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act](#)**: This bill seeks to introduce new protections and guidelines for voting that reinforce existing voting rights, expand access for eligible voters, prevent discriminatory anti-voter practices, and restore key provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. **Sponsor**: Sen. Richard J. Durbin (D-IL)
- **[H.R.6929 Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act of 2024](#)**: This bill extends and provides FY2024 funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program, which provides a monthly benefit that allows eligible low-income households to receive discounted internet service. The program also provides a one-time discount that may be used to purchase a connected device, such as a computer. **Sponsor**: Rep. Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY-9)The Senate companion of this bill can be found [here](#). **Companion Bill Sponsor**: Sen. Peter Welch (D-VT)
- **[S.51 Washington D.C. Admission Act](#)**: This bill provides for the admission of the state of Washington, Douglass Commonwealth into the United States. The commonwealth consists of all the territory of the District of Columbia (DC), excluding certain federal property. In addition, the bill maintains the federal government's authority over military lands and specified other property and prohibits the commonwealth from taxing federal property except as permitted by Congress. **Sponsor**: Sen. Thomas R. Carper (D-DE). The House companion of this bill can be found [here](#). **Companion Bill Sponsor**: Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)

For more information on these and other federal bills elevating the NCNW mission, please contact Portia White, VP Advocacy & Policy (pwhite@ncnw.org) or Tyese Williams, Federal Advocacy & Policy Manager (twilliams@ncnw.org).