

**Rep. Cuellar Supports U.S. Workers and Labor Industry***Votes to Raise Minimum Wage and Maintain Davis-Bacon Protections****The Paycheck Fairness Act/ 2021–ORIGINAL COSPONSOR / [PASSED THE HOUSE]***

This legislation addresses wage discrimination on the basis of sex. It amends equal pay provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to restrict the use of the bona fide factor defense to wage discrimination claims, makes it unlawful to require an employee to sign a contract or waiver prohibiting the employee from disclosing information about the employee's wages, and increases civil penalties for violations of equal pay provisions.

***Border Patrol Pay Security Act of 2019 – SPONSOR***

This bill solves the high attrition rate that Border Patrol is experiencing by amending the Fair Labor Standards Act to include language guaranteeing that Border Patrol agents receive time and a half for the first 20 hours of overtime they accrue in a two-week pay period.

***Raise the Wage Act/ 2019 – VOTED YES [PASSED THE HOUSE]***

This measure will increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour by the year 2025, giving 33 million Americans a raise. In Texas's 28th District, 45% of workers will receive a total wage increase of nearly \$640,000.

***Middle Class Health Benefits Tax Repeal Act of 2019 – COSPONSOR / [PASSED THE HOUSE]***

Repealing the "Cadillac Tax" provision will lower healthcare costs for millions of Americans and provide a much-needed fix to the Affordable Care Act, ensuring medical treatment is affordable to those who desperately need it.

***Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act of 2019 – VOTED YES [PASSED THE HOUSE]***

This bill provides nearly \$32 billion in multiemployer pension plan rehabilitation loans from 2020 through 2029, and about \$39 billion in additional financial assistance over the same 10-year period.

***Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act of 2019 – COSPONSOR***

The objective of this legislation is to provide basic collective bargaining rights for police officers, fire fighters and EMS personnel. While most first responders live in jurisdictions where these rights are provided, many still go without needed workplace protections. Providing employers and their workers with a framework to define benefits and solve disputes is necessary to ensure a productive workforce and a safe working environment.

***The Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act of 2021 – COSPONSOR***

The Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act fixes the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) by introducing a new proportional formula, provides meaningful WEP relief to current retirees, includes a benefit guarantee so that no current or future retirees can be worse off as a result of the bill, and ensures that public servants across the nation can retire with the security and dignity they deserve.

***Equality Act/ 2021 – COSPONSOR / [PASSED THE HOUSE]***

This bill prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in a wide variety of areas including public accommodations and facilities, education, federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system. Specifically, the bill defines and includes sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation.

***GROW Act of 2018 – COSPONSOR***

This bill amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and the Internal Revenue Code to authorize a new composite multiemployer pension plan, which combines features of defined benefit and defined contribution pension plans. In August 2020, sent letter expressing support for the HEROES Act, which includes critical provisions like the GROW Act to help strengthen the multi-employer pension system.

***Davis - Bacon / Prevailing Wages Support***

***INVEST in America Act (Bipartisan Infrastructure bill) – VOTED YES [PASSED THE HOUSE]***

H.R. 3684 is \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill that invests in comprehensive updates to our nation’s infrastructure. Furthermore, this bill ensures that the jobs created through any infrastructure package are covered by Davis-Bacon Act protections, which require construction work to pay market wages and benefits.

***House Amendment 227 to H.R. 3219 / VOTED NO***

This amendment by Rep. Steve King (R-Iowa) to the Make America Secure Appropriations Act, 2018 (H.R. 3219) would have repealed Davis-Bacon coverage for projects funded under this bill.

***House Amendment 296 to H.R 3354, FY18 Minibus / VOTED NO***

Amendment sought to prohibit the use of funds to be used to implement, administer, or enforce the Davis-Bacon Act.

***House Amendment 315 to H.R 3354, FY18 Minibus / VOTED NO***

Amendment sought to prohibit the use of funds to be used to implement, administer, or enforce the Davis-Bacon Act.

***House Roll Call Vote 414 to H.R. 2055, Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs Appropriations / VOTED NO***

The Amendment exempted any construction project funded by a military construction and veterans bill from Davis-Bacon Act requirements.

***House Roll Call Vote 395 to H.R. 2017 - Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 / VOTED NO***

The Amendment exempted any construction project funded by a Homeland Security bill from Davis-Bacon Act requirements.

***House Roll Call Vote 216 to H.R. 658, FAA Modernization and Reform Act / VOTED NO***

The Amendment prohibited public works projects funded by a Federal Aviation Administration bill from complying with the Davis-Bacon Act

***House Roll Call Vote 144 to H.R. 1 - Full Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 / VOTED NO***

The Amendment prohibited federal funds from being used to enforce the Davis-Bacon Act.

*FY22 U.S. House Appropriations Bill*

**Department of Labor (DOL)** – The bill provides a total of \$14.7 billion in discretionary appropriations for DOL, an increase of \$2 billion above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$400 million above the President’s budget request. Of this amount, the bill includes:

- \$11.6 billion for the **Employment and Training Administration**, an increase of \$1.6 billion above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$371.2 million above the President’s budget request. Within this amount, the bill includes:
  - \$3.1 billion for **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act State Grants**, an increase of \$250 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$76.2 million above the President’s budget request.
  - \$96.7 million for **Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers**, an increase of \$2.8 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and the same as the President’s budget request.
  - \$150 million for the **Reintegration of Ex-Offenders**, an increase of \$50 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and the same as the President’s budget request.
  - \$285 million for **Registered Apprenticeships**, an increase of \$100 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and the same as the the President’s budget request.
  - \$145 million for **YouthBuild**, an increase of \$48.5 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and the same as the President’s budget request.
  - \$100 million, an increase of \$55 million over the FY 2021 enacted level and the President’s budget request, to continue and expand **Strengthening Community College Training Grants** to help meet local and regional labor market demand for a skilled workforce by providing training to workers in in-demand industries at community colleges and four-year partners.
  - \$1.83 billion for **Job Corps**, an increase of \$81.4 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$75.3 million above the President’s budget request.
  - \$450 million for the **Senior Community Service Employment for Older Americans Program**, an increase of \$45 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and the President’s budget request.
  - \$3.1 billion for operation of the **Unemployment Insurance** program, an increase of \$559.4 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and the same as the President’s budget request. The bill also includes \$155 million in emergency contingency funding to help States address spikes in unemployment claims.
  - \$94.1 million for **Foreign Labor Certification**, an increase of \$16.3 million above the FY 2021 enacted level. Funds will help support Federal oversight and enforcement of regulations and assist States in reviewing and conducting oversight of processing applications.

- \$2.1 billion for **Worker Protection Agencies**, an increase of \$305 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$1 million below the President’s budget request. Within this amount, the bill includes:
  - \$300 million for the **Wage and Hour Division**, an increase of \$54 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$1 million above the President’s budget request.
  - \$692 million for the **Occupational Safety and Health Administration**, an increase of \$100 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$27 million above the President’s budget request.
- \$25 million for the **Women’s Bureau**, an increase of \$10 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$5 million above the President’s budget request.
- \$68 million for the **Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program**, an increase of \$10 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and the President’s budget request.

**FY21 U.S. House Appropriations Bill**

**Support of Section 749 of FSGG Appropriations – Signed On**

Letter that advocates for protections of the fair collective bargaining rights for federal employees in FY20 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations legislation.

**Department of Labor (DOL)** – The bill provides a total of \$12.5 billion in discretionary appropriations for DOL, an increase of \$122 million above the FY 2020 enacted level and \$1.4 billion above the President’s budget request. Of this amount, the bill includes:

- \$9.4 billion for the **Employment Training Administration**, an increase of \$99 million above the FY 2020 enacted level. Within this amount, the bill includes:
  - \$2.8 billion for **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grants**, an increase of \$26 million above the FY 2020 enacted level.
  - \$94 million for **Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers**, an increase of \$2 million above the FY 2020 enacted level. New bill language is included increasing the eligibility threshold to 150 percent of the poverty line.
  - \$100 million for the **Reintegration of Ex-Offenders**, an increase of \$2 million above the FY 2020 enacted level.
  - \$185 million for **Registered Apprenticeships**, an increase of \$10 million above the FY 2020 enacted level. New bill language is included that requires the participation of equity intermediaries and business and labor industry partner intermediaries.
  - \$97 million for **YouthBuild**, an increase of \$2 million above the FY 2020 enacted level.

- \$45 million for **Strengthening Community College Training Grants**, an increase of \$5 million above the fiscal year 2020 enacted level. Funding will help meet local and regional labor market demand for a skilled workforce by providing training to workers in in-demand industries.
- \$1.7 billion for **Job Corps**, an increase of \$5 million above the 2020 enacted level.
- \$77.8 million for **Foreign Labor Certification**, an increase of \$9 million above the FY 2020 enacted level.
- \$1.7 billion for **Worker Protection Agencies**, an increase of \$15.3 million above the FY 2020 enacted level.
  - \$246 million for the **Wage and Hour Division**, an increase of \$4 million above the FY 2020 enacted level.
  - \$592 million for the **Occupational Safety and Health Administration**, an increase of \$10 million above the FY 2020 enacted level.
- \$15 million for the **Women's Bureau**, an increase of \$1 million above the FY 2020 enacted level. Within this amount, the Women Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO) program is funded at \$1.8 million, \$500,000 above the 2020 enacted level.
- \$58 million for the **Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program**, an increase of \$2 million above the FY 2020 enacted level.

*United State Postal Service (USPS)*

***Delivering for America Act of 2020 -- Co-sponsored / Voted YES [PASSED THE HOUSE]***

Prohibits the Postal Service from implementing any changes to operations or level of service it had in place on January 1, 2020.

***HEROES Act of 2020 -- Voted YES [PASSED THE HOUSE]***

Provided the USPS with \$25 billion in emergency funding and postal workers would receive much-needed relief.

***H.R. 2478 Federal Retirement Fairness Act of 2019 -- Co-sponsored***

The bill would allow federal employees covered under FERS to make a deposit for post-1988 civilian service that was previously not available for credit.

***H.R.695 USPS Fairness Act-- Co-sponsored***

This bill repeals the requirement that the U.S. Postal Service annually prepay future retirement health benefits.

***H.Res.109 / 2021 -- Co-sponsored***

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of door delivery for all business and residential customers.

***H.Res.47 / 2021 -- Co-sponsored***

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and is not subject to privatization.

***H.Res.114/ 2021 -- Co-sponsored***

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of its 6-day mail delivery service.

***H.Res.119/ 2021 -- Co-sponsored***

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to restore service standards in effect as of July 1, 2012.