



Legislative Accomplishments 117th Congress (2021-2022)

August 2022

Summary

- To date in the 117th Congress, Rep. DelBene has introduced **17 standalone bills**, cosponsored **10 bills** that became law, and cosponsored **64 bills** that passed the House of Representatives.

Committee and Caucus Highlights

- Rep. DelBene serves as the Vice Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, leading the debate on a fairer tax code, health reform, trade deals, and retirement security.
- She is also the Chair of the forward-thinking 99-member New Democrat Coalition.
- Rep. DelBene is the co-chair of the Women's High-Tech Coalition; Digital Trade Caucus; Medical Technology Caucus; Kidney Caucus; Caucus on Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality Technologies; Internet of Things Caucus; Hazards Caucus; and Dairy Caucus. She is a leadership member of the Pro-Choice Caucus.

Legislative Achievements

Families

- Rep. DelBene [championed a key provision](#) in the American Rescue Plan which expanded the Child Tax Credit to provide families with regular payments and make the credit fully refundable. Nearly 1.4 million children in 800,000 families in Washington state received up to \$300 per child per month. Across the country, 3.7 million children were lifted out of poverty because of this historic provision.
- Rep. DelBene also [championed a provision](#) in the American Rescue Plan which expanded Affordable Care Act subsidies. As a result, a record 60,000 more Washingtonians signed up for affordable coverage and over 40% of customers now get coverage for less than \$100 per month. This provision was extended in the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Rep. DelBene [led the Formula Act](#) which removed trade tariffs on safe formula from trusted foreign suppliers and will lower the price of imported formula by more than 25%.
- The Inflation Reduction Act includes major provisions championed by Rep. DelBene such as expanded Affordable Care Act subsidies for three years.

Jobs & the Economy

- Rep. DelBene's New Democrat Coalition released a [comprehensive action plan to fight inflation](#) that focuses on what Congress and the Biden administration can do to lower costs and address supply chain shortfalls.
- Rep. DelBene [championed a key provision](#) in the American Rescue Plan which extended unemployment assistance to nonprofits.
- The House of Representatives [passed the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act](#) with the support of Rep. DelBene, which will lower costs for American consumers by helping to end the shortage of semiconductor computer chips, create 100,000 good-paying American jobs, strengthen our STEM workforce, and reinvigorate American R&D.
 - Speaker Pelosi appointed Rep. DelBene to serve on the negotiating committee to reach a deal on this legislation with the Senate.
- The House of Representatives [passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#), with the support of Rep. DelBene. Through July 2022, Washington has already received \$2.1 billion to improve our roads, bridges, public transit, ports, and airports. These investments also expand access to affordable broadband, which is critical for our region to access work, health care, education, and more.
- Rep. DelBene successfully [secured](#) \$22 million for the Granite Falls Bridge Replacement project, \$19 million for the Bothell Way NE Multimodal Improvements project, \$25 million for the City of Lynnwood's Poplar Way Bridge project, and \$25 million for Whatcom County's Lummi Island Ferry Replacement and System Modernization project. These much-needed resources will provide better and safer ways for Washingtonians to connect to their jobs, communities, and loved ones.
- The House of Representatives passed the PRO Act, which Rep. DelBene cosponsored, which would restore the right of workers to freely and fairly form a union and bargain collectively.

Seniors

- Rep. DelBene [introduced the Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act](#) which would improve health outcomes for seniors by modernizing Medicare Advantage's antiquated prior authorization process, which often still requires faxing documents to insurance companies. This bill which is cosponsored by over 300 representatives would streamline the prior authorization process and establish a process for real-time decisions for items and services that are routinely approved. The House Ways and Means Committee advanced the legislation on July 27, 2022.
- The Inflation Reduction Act included major provisions championed by Rep. DelBene that will lower costs for seniors, including allowing Medicare to negotiate for cheaper prescription drugs, capping seniors' out-of-pocket costs at \$2,000 annually, and limiting the monthly cost of insulin to \$35 for Medicare beneficiaries.

Public Safety & Crime

- Rep. DelBene [cosponsored the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act](#) which would increase police accountability and transparency by banning chokeholds, ending qualified immunity, and establishing new standards for policing.
- The House of Representatives passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, with the support of Rep. DelBene. This historic gun violence prevention legislation will help protect America's children, keep our schools safe, and reduce the threat of violence across our country.
- Modeled from Washington's successful "24/7 sobriety" programs, Rep. DelBene co-led the introduction of the SOBER Act, a bill that would establish a grant program to help create, expand, and support existing treatment court programs.

Climate & Environment

- Rep. DelBene [successfully pushed the Biden Administration](#) to remove Trump-era tariffs on solar products from Canada and [avoid new tariffs](#) on Southeast Asian solar technologies. The removal of these tariffs will boost good-paying solar manufacturing jobs and expand access to affordable clean energy for U.S. families.
- The [House of Representatives passed the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act](#) which included \$10 billion in critical relief for farmers and other agricultural producers impacted by natural disasters including heat waves. Rep. DelBene secured the heat-related provision in this bill which was signed into law by President Biden.
- The Inflation Reduction Act passed included Rep. DelBene's legislation that would increase tax incentives to boost the development of direct air capture to remove carbon emissions from the atmosphere and incentivize businesses to produce clean hydrogen.

Immigration & the Border

- Rep. DelBene is a cosponsor of key immigration legislation including the American Dream and Promise Act which would provide Dreamers with a pathway to Citizenship, and the U.S. Citizenship Act to comprehensively reform and restore humanity to our immigration system.
- When our border communities were suffering from the continued northern border closure, Rep. DelBene [led numerous efforts](#) urging American and Canadian officials to safely reopen the northern border.
- Rep. DelBene [joined a bipartisan effort](#) calling on the Biden administration to grant visas to Ukrainian orphans in the adoption process and unite 300 Ukrainian children waiting to join their American adoptive families.

Veterans

- Rep. DelBene [introduced the bicameral Voices for Veterans Act](#), which would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to include LGBTQ+ veterans on its Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans. This committee advises the department on benefits and health care provisions for the country's 5 million minority veterans.
- Rep. DelBene supported the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act, which automatically makes veterans who were exposed to burn pits or other toxic substances during their military service eligible

for health care and disability benefits if they develop specified illnesses, conditions, or cancers.

Housing

- Rep. DelBene [introduced the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act](#), which would help create or rehabilitate 2 million affordable homes nationwide by expanding the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit. This bill would also create veteran-specific housing options, target extremely low-income populations, and boost affordable housing in Indian Country and rural communities.
- Every year, Rep. DelBene helps secure appropriations funding for homeless assistance grants, Section 8 Housing vouchers, assistance for homeless veterans, Section 4 community development grants, and rural housing programs.

Privacy

- Rep. DelBene [introduced the Information Transparency & Personal Data Control Act](#) to create a national data privacy standard. This bill would protect sensitive personal information including financial, health, location, sexual orientation, and immigration information. Rep. DelBene's privacy provisions including audit requirements were included in the American Data Privacy and Protection Act which was advanced out of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.
- Rep. DelBene [introduced the bicameral Public Health Emergency Privacy Act](#) to set strong and enforceable privacy and data security standards to protect health information.

Postal Service

- Rep. DelBene [protected mail delivery](#) for nearly one million King and Snohomish county residents by convincing Postmaster General Louis DeJoy to scrap the consolidation of a critical Redmond mail processing facility. Rep. DelBene sent multiple letters to DeJoy, visited the facility in January 2022, and spoke with workers and union leaders at the facility to prevent the consolidation from moving forward.

Small Business

- Rep. DelBene introduced the Point Roberts Small Business Fairness Act to provide relief to small businesses in Point Roberts impacted by COVID-19 border closures.
- Rep. DelBene [pushed](#) the Small Business Administration to ensure that Tribal small businesses, particularly Tribal fishers, have access to federal small business programs.

Funding for Critical Washington State Priorities

- [Delivering \\$7 Million in Community Project Funding for Fiscal Year 2022](#) – Rep. DelBene secured funding for all ten community funding projects that were submitted for Fiscal Year 2022. The funded projects include:
 - **Expansion of Sauk-Suiattle Recreation Center** (Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe) - **\$210,000** - This funding is enabling the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe to Expand its Tribal Recreation Center to increase reliable access to internet, computers, and printers.

- **Community Center/Emergency Operations Center** (City of Carnation) - **\$1,500,000** - This project is adding a critically needed community space and emergency operations center to a planned City Hall project.
- **Sky Valley Teen Center** (Volunteers of America Western Washington) - **\$500,000** - This funding is enabling VOAWW to house a teen center and emergency youth shelter in rural east Snohomish County, providing critical services to youth in the county.
- **Nooksack Clinic and Wellness Facility** (Nooksack Indian Tribe) - **\$1,000,000** - This funding supports the creation of a Nooksack one-stop health center to deliver health care to a previously underserved area of Whatcom County.
- **Snohomish Health District Telehealth and Records Modernization Project** - **\$250,000** - This grant will enable Snohomish County Health District to implement an electronic health system to better treat tuberculosis and provide maternal health and child health care programs.
- **Early Learning Center** (Lake Washington Institute of Technology) - **\$1,000,000** - This funding is being used to replace portable classrooms used for the Early Learning Center at Lake Washington Institute of Technology which provides low-cost childcare for 74 children of college students, employees, and residents.
- **Mount Vernon Library Commons** (City of Mount Vernon) - **\$2,000,000** - This funding is helping build the Mount Vernon Library Commons multi-use project to provide community space, a commercial kitchen, electrical vehicle charging, a park and ride, and a transit stop.
- **Snohomish County Community-Based Diversion** (CHOOSE 180) - **\$245,650** - This funding is being used for program planning and asset mapping of trauma-informed alternatives to the traditional court process for young people in Snohomish County, to ultimately reduce reengagement with the criminal legal system.
- **Community Enterprise Program** (Center for Inclusive Entrepreneurship) - **\$180,644** - This funding will scale up the Center for Inclusive Entrepreneurship operations to provide more technical assistance, business classes, and one-on-one training to micro-businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs in disadvantaged communities.
- **Best Buddies in Washington Inclusion Project for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities** (Best Buddies International) - **\$61,000** - This funding is allowing Best Buddies to expand to four new schools and provide opportunities for friendship and leadership development to an additional 100 students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.