

Congressman Lloyd Smucker

16 Congressional District

Friday January 12, 2018

KEY POINTS

- Report covers January 6 through 12
- Voting: Voting last week focused largely on national security and emergency management.
- The Congressman has no bills that he is sponsoring or co-sponsoring this week.
Smucker introduced two pieces of legislation: *Department of Education Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act* [H.R.4702](#) and the *Department of Labor Accountability Act* (no bill number issued yet).
- Congress will be voting on the H.R.4712 - Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. This bill would amend existing U.S. law to “prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.”
- The Congressman met with a group of Dreamers in his office on Monday but has made no statements on the current status of DACA legislation.
- The Problem Solvers Caucus, of which Smucker is a member, released a plan for a bi-partisan infrastructure plan which includes;
 - Designate a rural liaison within each infrastructure agency to provide technical assistance
 - Implement reforms to the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) and Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) that expand eligibility criteria and encourage more small system applications in rural communities
 - Adapt FAST 41 streamlining provisions to other infrastructure legislation
 - An immediate or phased in modernization of the federal gasoline user fee that fully and sustainably funds the Highway Trust Fund
 - Strengthen and increase access to the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds
 - Maintain funding for the Department of Energy’s power grid modernization efforts

- Year end FEC filings are not in yet.

WHAT HE SAID:

On the floor:

Nothing

Press Releases:

REPS. SMUCKER AND ROONEY WORK TO MAKE GOVERNMENT MORE ACCOUNTABLE
[HTTPS://SMUCKER.HOUSE.GOV/MEDIA/PRESS-RELEASES/REPS-SMUCKER-AND-ROONEY-WORK-MAKE-GOVERNMENT-MORE-ACCOUNTABLE](https://smucker.house.gov/media/press-releases/reps-smucker-and-rooney-work-make-government-more-accountable)

PROBLEM SOLVERS CAUCUS RELEASES REPORT WITH BIPARTISAN POLICY
RECOMMENDATIONS TO REBUILD AMERICA’S INFRASTRUCTURE
[HTTPS://SMUCKER.HOUSE.GOV/MEDIA/PRESS-RELEASES/PROBLEM-SOLVERS-CAUCUS-RELEASES-REPORT-BIPARTISAN-POLICY-RECOMMENDATIONS](https://smucker.house.gov/media/press-releases/problem-solvers-caucus-releases-report-bipartisan-policy-recommendations)

Nothing

In Print

Nothing

Television

On.....Fox News.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=almcS_923g4

YouTube

Nothing

Email

On his pro-life stance

Knowing of our shared interest in protecting life, I am writing to update you on legislation I recently cosponsored to help preserve the sanctity of life.

Like you, I strongly believe that all life is sacred. The federal government should protect life, including unborn children. For these reasons, among others, I cosponsored the Life at Conception Act (H.R. 681). This bipartisan legislation extends the constitutional right of equal protection under the law to all unborn children by defining that life begins at conception. Moreover, H.R. 681 includes important protections for the mother in the tragic case of the death of the unborn child. This legislation has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. While I am not a member of this committee, rest assured I look forward to working with my colleagues to help pass this crucial legislation.

To further protect unborn life, you may also be interested to know that I voted for the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (H.R. 36) when it passed the House of Representatives on October 3, 2017. This legislation prohibits abortions once an unborn child reaches the 20th week of development, which is when science has determined an unborn child can feel pain. This will save thousands of lives. The federal government should be sanctioning abortions after the 20th week of a mother's pregnancy. Visit smucker.house.gov to read more about the passage of H.R. 36. I urge my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to act swiftly to take up this legislation.

On H.R. 3771, the Special Counsel Integrity Act.

Safe, secure, and sound elections are critical to our democracy. I strongly condemn any attempt by Russia, or any other actor, to interfere in our elections and undermine the integrity of our democracy. As you may know, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Senate Committee on Intelligence have been conducting bipartisan investigations into Russian cyber activities, including any potential links between Russia and individuals associated with U.S. political campaigns. I have repeatedly stated publicly that I support these efforts and Congress should work to ensure these investigations remains credible.

H.R. 3771 states that a special counsel appointed under the Department of Justice may only be removed by the Attorney General of the United States. Moreover, a special counsel may only be removed for misconduct, dereliction of duty, and conflict of interest, among other reasons. This bill has been referred

to the House Judiciary Committee. While I am not a member of this committee, rest assured I will remember your thoughts should H.R. 3771 be considered by the full House of Representatives.

On Korea

The evidence is clear, North Korea is a dangerous and unpredictable regime. Its dangerous and threatening rhetoric, coupled with its nuclear proliferation, represents an unprecedented threat to domestic security and to our allies in the region. I believe that the United States should explore every diplomatic tool available in order to help bring stability to the Korean Peninsula.

Moreover, the United States must work to ensure the safety and security of the American people. Accomplishing this goal will require a joint effort between U.S. State Department negotiations and sanctions from Congress. For these reasons, I recently voted for the Otto Warmbier North Korea Nuclear Sanctions Act (H.R. 3898) as it passed the House of Representatives. This bipartisan legislation imposes the strictest financial sanctions to date on North Korea. These far-reaching sanctions will severely limit any financial institution or foreign government's ability to do business with North Korea. Implementing these sanctions will strengthen the American negotiating position by sending a strong signal to Pyongyang that the status quo is unacceptable. Rest assured I will remember your comments about the status of North Korea as the 115th Congress moves forward.

On the tax legislation, Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (H.R. 1).

American families are hurting under the weight of a tax code that does not work for them. Complying with the current complicated tax code is both costly and burdensome. High tax rates are hurting individuals and families who are simply trying to get ahead and discouraging small businesses from creating more jobs. Reforms are desperately needed to change this failed status quo. For these reasons, among others, I voted for and supported the conference report on H.R. 1 on December 19, 2017. You can read this legislation at smucker.house.gov. For more about the benefits of this tax reform plan, I encourage you to read my recent opinion-editorial in LancasterOnline.com.

This legislation is the most significant tax reform package passed in the House in more than 30 years. Moreover, H.R. 1 simplifies the tax code to provide much-needed relief to all Americans and allows families to keep more of their hard-earned paychecks. H.R. 1 reduces the number of tax brackets and lowers rates for everyone while doubling the standard deduction. These changes will immediately allow low- and middle-income families to keep more of their pay, allowing families to save for things like college or retirement. Also, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act closes loopholes and eliminates deductions largely used by high-income earners and corporations. These changes make our tax code fairer and more honest for middle-class families.

In addition to returning economic freedom to hard-working men and women, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will fuel economic growth that we have not seen in a decade. These changes will result in more jobs and higher wages by reinvesting in our economy and will make the American workforce more globally competitive. H.R. 1 also makes it easier for American businesses to bring home foreign earnings to invest in growing jobs and improving local communities here at home. The independent Tax Foundation estimates that this legislation alone will add more than 39,000 full time jobs to Pennsylvania over the next ten years, while also adding \$2,683 in after-tax income to middle-income families. Simply put, this legislation is a game-changer and I urge the President to sign it into law.

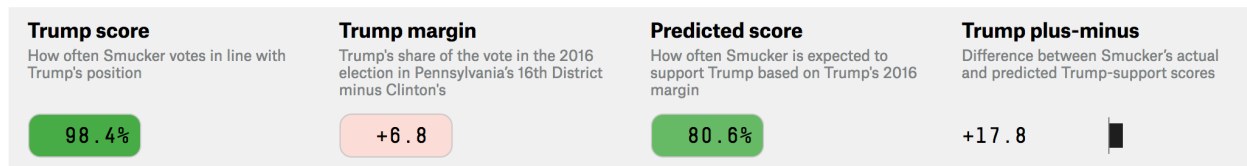
Radio:

Nothing

WHAT HE DID:

General Floor Votes

Smucker's votes against party score (per ProPublica) = 4.6%
Five Thirty-Eight's Trump Score for Smucker as of January 12 = 98.4%



See additional report for this week's votes.

Votes Expected this Week

MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2018

On Monday, the House is not in session.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018

On Tuesday, the House will meet at 12:00 p.m. for Morning Hour debate and 2:00 p.m. for legislative business, with votes postponed until 6:30 p.m.

Suspensions (8 bills)

1. [H.R. 4258](#) – Family Self-Sufficiency Act, as amended (Rep. Duffy – Financial Services)
2. [H.R. 770](#) – American Innovation \$1 Coin Act, as amended (Rep. Himes – Financial Services)
3. [H.R. 4279](#) – Expanding Investment Opportunities Act, as amended (Rep. Hollingsworth – Financial Services)
4. [H.R. 4318](#) – Miscellaneous Tariff Bill Act, as amended (Rep. Brady (TX) – Natural Resources)
5. [S. 117](#) – Alex Diekmann Peak Designation Act of 2017 (Rep. Daines – Natural Resources)
6. [H.R. 1107](#) – Pershing County Economic Development and Conservation Act (Rep. Amodei – Natural Resources)
7. [H.R. 1532](#) – Poarch Band of Creek Indians Land Affirmation Act (Rep. Byrne – Natural Resources)
8. [H.R. 2897](#) – To authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes (Rep. Norton – Natural Resources)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018 AND THE BALANCE OF THE WEEK

On Wednesday and Thursday, the House will meet at 10:00 a.m. for Morning Hour debate and 12:00 p.m. for

legislative business. On Friday, the House will meet at 9:00 a.m. for legislative business.

Suspensions (3 bills)

1. [H.R. 3445](#) – AGOA and MCM Modernization Act, as amended (Rep. Royce – Foreign Affairs)
2. [H.R. 3776](#) – Cyber Diplomacy Act of 2017, as amended (Rep. Royce – Foreign Affairs)
3. [H.R. 1660](#) – Global Health Innovation Act of 2017 (Rep. Sires – Foreign Affairs)

[H.R. 2954](#) – Home Mortgage Disclosure Adjustment Act (Rep. Emmer – Financial Services) (Subject to a Rule)

[H.R. 3326](#) – World Bank Accountability Act of 2017 (Rep. Barr – Financial Services) (Subject to a Rule)

[H.R. 4712](#) – Born-Alive Survivors Protection Act (Rep. Blackburn – Judiciary) (Subject to a Rule)

Consideration of Legislation Making Further Appropriations for FY 2018

Additional Legislative Items Are Possible

COMMITTEE WORK

Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Nothing

UPCOMING

Nothing

Education and Workforce Committee

Nothing

UPCOMING

Nothing

Budget Committee

Nothing

UPCOMING

Nothing

FEC FILING September 30, 2017

<http://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/C00599464/1185996/>

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

In print:

Wolf opens Farm Show, stresses agriculture's economic impact on state (PHOTO GALLERIES)

<http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/wolf-opens-farm-show-stresses-agricultures-economic-impact-on-state#.WlzQQpM-fEY>

Leinbach seeks \$40 million to fight spotted lanternfly

<http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/leinbach-seeks-40-million-to-fight-spotted-lanternfly>

GOP legislators no better than Trump

http://lancasteronline.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/gop-legislators-no-better-than-trump/article_8989d078-f55b-11e7-a18e-3f9435cc301a.html

Reading dentist hopes to challenge Smucker in November

<http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/reading-dentist-hopes-to-challenge-smucker-in-november>

Berks dentist takes another run at seat in Congress

<http://www.wfmz.com/news/berks/berks-dentist-takes-another-run-at-seat-in-congress/684558116>

Congressional caucus recommends bipartisan U.S. infrastructure solutions

<https://transportationtodaynews.com/news/7545-congressional-caucus-recommends-bipartisan-u-s-infrastructure-solutions/>

Berks-area lawmakers respond to Trump's immigration comments

<http://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/berks-area-lawmakers-respond-to-trumps-immigration-comments>

LTE's:

Disappointed by lack of transparency

http://lancasteronline.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/disappointed-by-lack-of-transparency/article_66a79526-f23c-11e7-93e6-8bdc8c64162d.html

'Inspired' by letter writer

http://lancasteronline.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/inspired-by-letter-writer/article_f37a86a8-f178-11e7-8604-1bf7cc34bb47.html

What will candidate Smucker do?

http://lancasteronline.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/what-will-candidate-smucker-do/article_cb71dc64-f237-11e7-8975-ebbeb22d5574.html

Prohibition of marijuana won't work

http://lancasteronline.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/prohibition-of-marijuana-won-t-work/article_1aa7d38a-f48e-11e7-96a2-dbbdcd9dcebc.html

SMUCKER GENERAL INFO

COMMITTEES:

- o EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE
Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development
Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions
- o BUDGET
- o TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Subcommittee on Highways and Transit (Vice Chair)
Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials
Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management

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