Rep. Stephanie Legislative Accomplishments

115th Congress (2017-2018)

Summary

- In the 115th Congress (2017-2018), Rep. Murphy introduced 19 standalone bills, spearheaded at least 19 measures that became law and an additional 8 measures that passed the House.

- Rep. Murphy’s bills obtained more cosponsors than any other House freshman (633), and she was named one of the most effective, bipartisan, and independent members of Congress.

Measures that became law (19)

1. Measure to authorize Procurement Technical Assistance Centers—funded by the DOD—to help small businesses obtain grants and contracts from various federal agencies through the SBIR and STTR programs. The small business uses this funding to research and develop high-tech products that benefit the nation and that the business can commercialize for profit. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment].

2. Measure to ensure that Commercial Market Representatives—SBA employees located around the country—are taking all reasonable steps to help small companies obtain their fair, legally-required share of federal government contracts and subcontracts. [Rep. Murphy bill with Rep. Brat (R-VA)].

3. Measure to ensure that Puerto Rico receives equitable treatment under the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting grant program, which helps low-income families with children stabilize and achieve economic and educational success. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment].

4. Measure to provide federal funding to K-12 schools and college and universities in Florida and other states that enroll students from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands displaced by Hurricane Maria. [Rep. Murphy-led initiative, included in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018].
5. Measure to lift effective 20-year ban on research sponsored by CDC and other HHS agencies into ways to reduce gun violence, and to pave way for such research to resume. [Rep. Murphy bill; provision was included in FY 2018 omnibus appropriations act].

6. Measure to increase funding for SBA’s Women’s Business Centers program from $17 million to $18 million, with broad aim of helping women entrepreneurs succeed and specific aim of establishing a new WBC in the Orlando area. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment].

7. Measure to increase funding for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum by $3 million, from $54 million to $57 million. [Rep. Murphy-led bipartisan letter, signed by 60 members, to House Appropriations Committee]

8. Measure that makes change to SBA’s Microloan program to enable more aspiring and existing small business owners to obtain low-interest loans. [Rep. Murphy bill].

9. Measure to enable graduates of the service academies to have the opportunity to pursue professional sports opportunities following graduation, after two years of active-duty service. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment with Rep. Rooney (R-FL); led letter to NDAA conferees].

10. Measure to get Orlando re-included in list of 30 or so metro areas that receive funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program. Urged FEMA to consider high-profile targets and number of foreign visitors. FEMA included those criteria in allocation formula, resulting in Orlando making the cut. Orlando will receive $1.5 million in 2018. Also makes Orlando non-profits, like JCCs, eligible for funding under DHS Non-Profit Security Grant Program.

11. Measure to name post office in Oviedo after fallen war hero, SFC Alwyn Cashe [Rep. Murphy bill].

12. Measure (BATTLE for Servicemembers Act) to improve training provided to departing servicemembers so they can attend school, learn a trade, or open a small business. [Rep. Murphy bill; substantially similar version included in FY 2019 NDAA].

13. Measure to express congressional support for U.S. support for Israel’s missile defense systems. [Rep. Murphy bill; substantially similar provision included in FY 2019 NDAA].

14. Measure increasing funding by $250,000 for the U.S. House of Representatives’ Wounded Warrior Program, which provides paid two-year fellowships to disabled veterans within House offices. There are currently about 50 disabled veterans with fellowships and this funding will help the program reach its goal of expanding that number to 110. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment with Reps. Kildee (D-MI), Mast (R-FL), and Gabbard (D-HI)].

15. Measure requiring FEMA to provide guidance and training to state and local governments, first responders, and local health care facilities on establishing emergency plans to ensure patients at these health care facilities are safe in the event of a major disaster. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment with Rep. William Keating (D-MA)]

16. Measure requiring FEMA to provide guidance and training to state and local governments, first responders, and hazardous waste facilities on establishing emergency plans to protect
public health and safety by prevent hazardous materials from being released in the event of a major disaster and responding effectively if they are released. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment with Rep. William Keating (D-MA)].

17. Measure to ensure states have effective plans in place to protect infants who are innocent victims of the opioid epidemic. Bill would establish grant program to help Florida and other states develop evidence-based policies and procedures so drug-dependent babies receive proper care at the hospital and the necessary family, community, and medical support once they are discharged. [Rep. Murphy bill with Rep. Garrett (R-VA)].

18. Measure increasing funding for the National Guard counter-drug program, which helps FL national guard and other state national guards combat drug trafficking and drug-related violence. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment with Rep. Barr (R-KY)].

19. Measure making it easier to establish Small Business Investment Companies (SBICs), which are privately-owned investment companies licensed by the SBA that provide capital to small businesses, in areas of the country where there are relatively few SBICs. [Rep. Murphy bill with Rep. McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)].

SM measures that passed the House (8)
1. Measure (POISE Act) that responds to President Trump’s disclosure of highly-sensitive, Israeli-provided intelligence to Russian officials by requiring notification to congressional intelligence committees when executive official, including president, discloses classified information to adversary nation outside of authorized intelligence channels, thereby deterring imprudent disclosures and enabling Congress to conduct oversight and damage control. [Rep. Murphy bill].

2. Measure to require FEMA, the National Counterterrorism Center, and the FBI to establish a Joint Counterterrorism Awareness Workshop Series to help eligible metropolitan areas—including Orlando—prepare for and respond to major terrorist attacks. [Rep. Murphy bill with Rep. Fitzpatrick (R-PA)].

3. Measure to improve the SBIR and STTR programs, through which federal agencies provide grants and contracts to small businesses, who use this funding to research and develop high-tech products that benefit the nation and that the business can commercialize for profit. [Rep. Murphy bill with Rep. Knight (R-CA)].

4. Measure to require procurement professionals at every federal agency to increase their engagement in the SBIR/STTR programs so they can help more small businesses use the programs. [Rep. Murphy bill].

5. Measure to deter and punish the stalking and cyberstalking of children by increasing potential criminal penalties for convicted offenders. [Rep. Murphy bill with Rep. Fitzpatrick (R-PA)].

6. Measure to prevent and punish scam charities; protect taxpayers who donate to charities; and increase transparency among charitable organizations. [Rep. Murphy bill with Rep. Kelly (R-PA)].

7. Measure increasing funding for SBA’s Women’s Business Centers by $600,000 and SBA’s Veteran Outreach initiatives by $400,000. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment].
8. Measure to ensure that college students thinking about transferring schools receive the financial counseling they need to make an informed decision and, specifically, that they understand that the loans they have received up to that point will count towards their aggregate loan limit, regardless of whether all the course credits they have completed are accepted by the school they seek to transfer to. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment].