

Rep. Stephanie Murphy Summary of Accomplishments



116th Congress, First Session (2019)

Summary of Key Accomplishments

- In the 115th Congress (2017-2018), Rep. Murphy authored **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, and she was named one of the most effective, bipartisan, and independent members of Congress.
- Rep. Murphy built on that success during the first session of 116th Congress (2019). She introduced **12** standalone bills on a range of domestic policy and national security issues, offered numerous amendments to bills being considered on the House floor, and worked to include her priorities in larger legislative vehicles.
- In 2019, Rep. Murphy spearheaded at least **16** measures that became law, an additional **2** measures that passed the House, and an additional **2** measures that were approved by the relevant committee.

Highlights of Key Accomplishments

Measures that Became Law (16)

1. Measure to help part-time workers save for retirement. Requires employers who offer 401(k) retirement plans to their employees to make those plans available to part-time employees. This will help these workers prepare for retirement, especially women, who are more likely than men to work part-time. There are over one million part-time workers in FL. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 1874; included in H.R. 1994, the SECURE Act of 2019; became law as part of H.R. 1865, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94)].
2. Measure to address harmful algae blooms (HABs), which are particularly problematic in Florida and can be detrimental to human health, water quality, recreation and tourism, and the broader economy. The measure increases funding for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to research ways to reduce HABs, and provides NOAA with \$1 million to sponsor a much-needed study on the economic impacts of HABs, both nationally and in hard-hit states like Florida. A better understanding of economic impacts will likely drive federal and state policymakers to enact additional measures to combat HABs. [Provision included in H.R. 1158, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-93)].
3. Measure to provide a total of \$25 million for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to sponsor independent research into ways to reduce gun violence. In her first term in office, Rep. Murphy helped lead the successful effort to repeal the longstanding ban on federally-sponsored research in this area, known as the Dickey amendment, and she has now helped secure funding to actually conduct this research. [Provision included in H.R.1865, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94)].
4. Measure to provide enhanced funding for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to make a variety of grants to state and local governments, colleges, and K-12 schools to address mental health challenges and prevent suicide among younger Americans. As chair of Future Forum, Rep. Murphy led this effort, which is particularly important given the relatively low level of funding that the State of Florida provides for this purpose. [Provision included in H.R. 1865, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94)].
5. Measure to provide \$425 million for the U.S. Election Assistance Commission to make grants to help state and local governments secure their election infrastructure from foreign interference, the most funding ever provided for this purpose. The Rep. Murphy-led Blue Dog Coalition led the successful initiative to get congressional leaders to provide this enhanced election security funding. [Provision included in H.R. 1158, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-93)].
6. Measure, authored by Rep. Murphy and Rep. Jenniffer González-Colon (R-PR) to combat drug trafficking and related violence in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Florida. The language directs the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to prepare and publish an updated Caribbean Border Counternarcotics Strategy, which will establish a whole-of-government plan to disrupt drug trafficking organizations that use Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands as an illicit transit route into Florida and other states along the eastern seaboard. [Provision included in H.R. 1158, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-93)].
7. Measure to provide an unprecedented level of funding for the U.S. Department of Education to make grants to local school districts to improve English-language instruction programs. This funding increase could help pave the way for passage of a bill—H.R. 4943, the ELEVATE Act—that Rep. Murphy introduced with Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) to amend the current grant formula to ensure that Spanish-speaking students who

relocate from Puerto Rico to a state are fully counted in that state's funding allocation, which is not currently the case. [Provision included in H.R. 1865, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94)].

8. Measure, called the Prevention and Oversight of Intelligence Sharing with Enemies Act (POISE Act), requiring Congress to be notified when a member of the executive branch, including the President, discloses sensitive information to an adversary foreign government (North Korea, Iran, China, Russia, Cuba) outside of established intelligence channels. This will deter imprudent disclosures of top-secret information and enable Congress to conduct damage control in the event of a disclosure. This measure stems from a 2017 incident in which President Trump disclosed highly-sensitive information, entrusted to the U.S. by Israel, to senior Russian officials during a White House meeting. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 3476; included in H.R. 3494, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020; included in S. 1790, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (P.L. 116-92)].
9. Measure to provide an unprecedented \$30 million to fund USAID and State Department efforts to bolster democracy, support independent media, promote human rights and the rule of law, and highlight the moral and policy failures of the despotic Maduro regime in Venezuela, all of which serve to advance U.S. national security interests. [Provision included in H.R. 1865, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94)].
10. Measure to strengthen the modeling, simulation and training (MS&T) community in Orlando by robustly funding three important Department of Defense accounts that make investments in simulation technology to help military servicemembers train for their missions. As co-chair of the Modeling & Simulation Caucus in Congress, Rep. Murphy led the effort to preserve funding for these accounts, which the Administration and the Senate had proposed to cut. [Provision included in H.R. 1158, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-93)].
11. Measure to increase funding for the U.S. Secret Service, within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, to combat credit card "skimming," which is the installation of electronic devices, typically at gas station pumps or ATM machines, that steal encoded information from debit and credit cards. Orlando is one the cities where credit card skimming is most prevalent. [Provision included in H.R. 1158, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-93)].
12. Measure to combat the national security threat posed by a foreign adversary's use of deep fake technology, which is the digital falsification of images, video, and audio to portray an individual as having done or said something they didn't do or say. Requires the Director of National Intelligence to provide Congress with a comprehensive strategy to deter and respond to the use of deep fake technology by foreign nations or individuals intended to harm the United States. This is the first federal measure on deep fake technology ever to become law. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment included in H.R. 3494, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020; included in S. 1790, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (P.L. 116-92)].
13. Measure to address the threat posed to the U.S. and Israel by Iran's military and political presence in Syria. Requires the Director of National Intelligence to craft a comprehensive strategy to prevent Iran, its terrorist proxy Hezbollah, and other Iranian-supported Shia militias from using Syria as a platform to attack Israel, threaten American forces in Syria, and further destabilize the region. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment included in H.R. 3494, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020; included in S. 1790, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (P.L. 116-92)].
14. Measure to authorize federal agencies to use expedited procedures to hire younger Americans, which will encourage more young Americans to choose fulfilling careers in public service and improve the effectiveness

of our government so it can better serve the American people. [Rep. Murphy floor amendment ultimately included in S. 1790, National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020].

15. Measure directing the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to study PTSD among first responders working in fields like law enforcement, fire services, and emergency medical services, since the nature and extent of this problem is under-studied and the most effective treatment options are poorly-understood. [Provision included in committee report accompanying H.R. 2740, Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill 2020; retained in H.R. 1865, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94)].
16. Measure directing the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to prioritize research on deadly childhood cancers. [Provision included in committee report accompanying H.R. 2740, Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill 2020; retained in H.R. 1865, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94)].

Measures that Passed House

1. Measure, called the BRIDGE for Workers Act, that provides states with flexibility to use annual federal grants from the Department of Labor to help more unemployed workers get the training and resources they need to re-join the workforce so they can support their families and again experience the dignity that comes with a job. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 1759; passed House in standalone form on April 9, 2019]
2. Measure introduced with Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), called the Combat Online Predators Act, to deter and appropriately punish stalking and cyberstalking of children by increasing potential criminal penalties for convicted adult offenders. [Rep. Murphy and Rep. Fitzpatrick introduced H.R. 570; included in House-passed version of H.R. 1585, Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2019].

Measures that Passed Committee

1. Measure, called the PACE Act, that would make child care more affordable for working families. Enhances two provisions in federal tax code that help families pay for child care expenses: the child and dependent care tax credit (CDCTC) and the income exclusion for child and dependent care. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 1696; modified version of bill was included in H.R. 3300, the Economic Mobility Act of 2019, and approved by the Ways and Means Committee on June 20, 2019].
2. Measure, called the Empowering Student Borrowers Act, that would help student borrowers choose the repayment plan that best fits their needs by reducing red tape and making it easier for them to enroll in an income-based repayment plan. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 4658 and it was included in H.R. 4674, the College Affordability Act, which was approved by the Education and Labor Committee.]

Other Key Measures

1. Measure, called the ALERTS Act, to require notification—to appropriate members of Congress, relevant state and local officials, and potentially affected voters—when the online election infrastructure of a state or local government is breached and there is reason to believe the breach resulted in voter information being compromised. Measure was filed after it was revealed that multiple Florida counties had their election systems penetrated by Russian hackers in connection with the 2016 election. Similar language was included in the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 (P.L. 116-92), and the Trump administration published a document detailing the factors it will consider when determining whether to publicly disclose election interference by a foreign government. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 3529].

2. Measure, called the Smart Choices Act, that requires non-partisan group of experts to conduct annual study showing benefits—like increased federal funding and more individuals with insurance coverage—that have flowed or would flow to a state that expands Medicaid. The goal is to provide non-expansion states like Florida with evidence that could encourage them to reconsider the decision not to expand. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 944].
3. Measure, called the Keep Congress Working Act, that prohibits Congress from adjourning in the event of a future government shutdown. If Members of Congress do not perform their most fundamental job—keeping the government open and functioning—then they should be working around-the-clock trying to fix the problem. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 1205].
4. Measure, called the Reclaiming Congressional Trade Authority Act, that would enhance Congress’s role in decisions by U.S. government to impose tariffs on imported goods, which is necessary in light of (1) the irresponsible way in which the current administration has used tariffs as a policy tool, and (2) the severe economic harm that tariffs can cause to U.S. families and businesses. [Rep. Murphy introduced H.R. 3477].