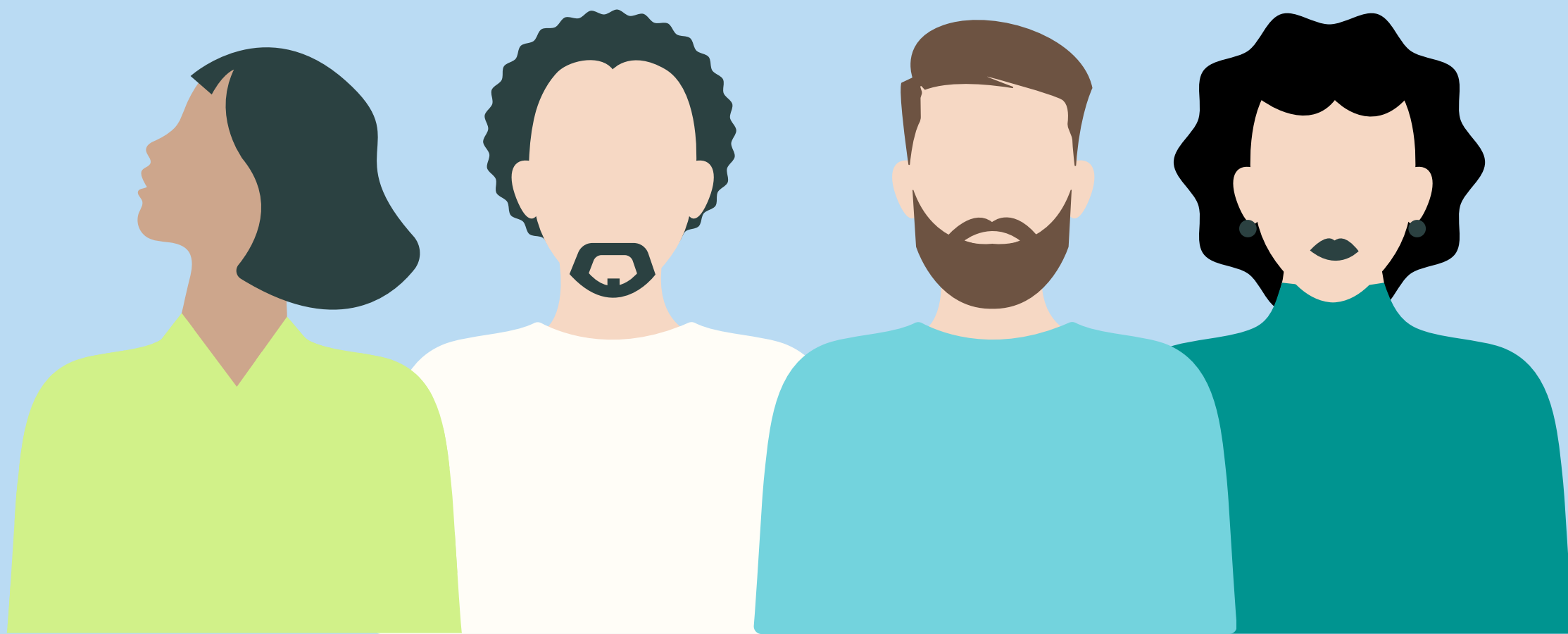


Preparing for Legislative Advocacy

A video series providing strategies for success



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Introduction to Advocacy & Congress

Module 1



Learning Agenda



This module will include:

- Advocacy and why it matters
- Overview of Congress & the legislative process
- Understanding the federal budget and appropriations
- Researching legislators and understanding their positions

What is Legislative Advocacy?

Using your voice to share your lived experience, speaking on behalf of others, to bring the needs of a community to the attention of local, state, and federal government officials.

How To Get Started

- 1 A professional or lived experience
- 2 A steadfast commitment to your cause
- 3 A bit of political know-how



Advocacy & Why It Matters

Raising Awareness

Addressing Disparities

Empowering Patients

Easing The Burden Patients Experience

Protecting Patient Rights

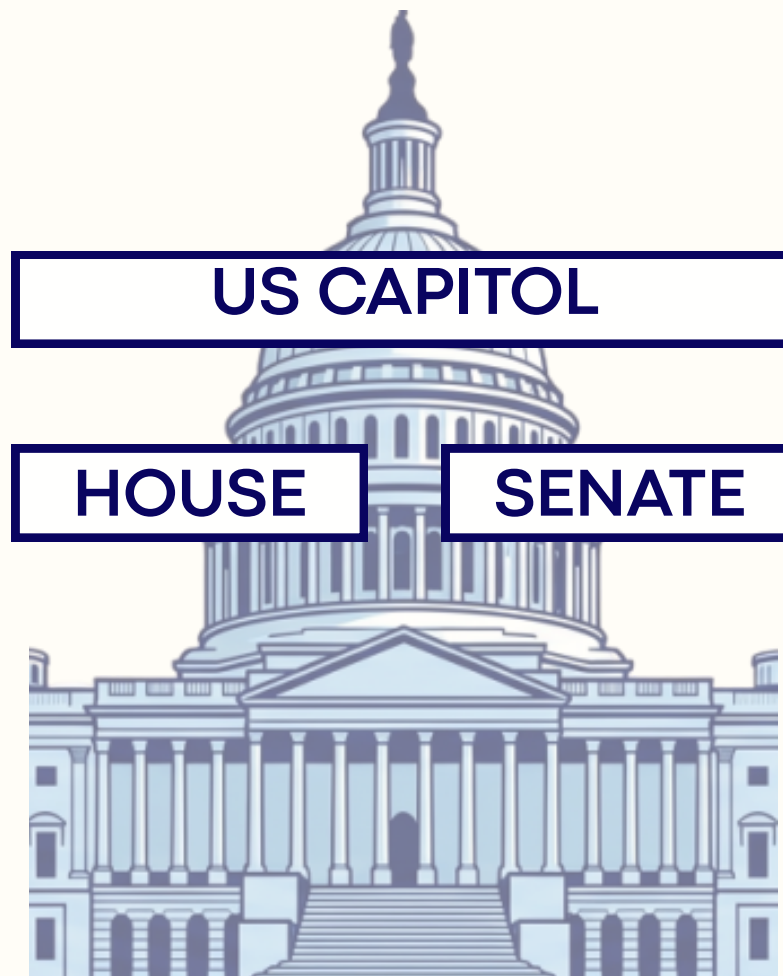
Improving Quality Of Care

Impact Public Policy

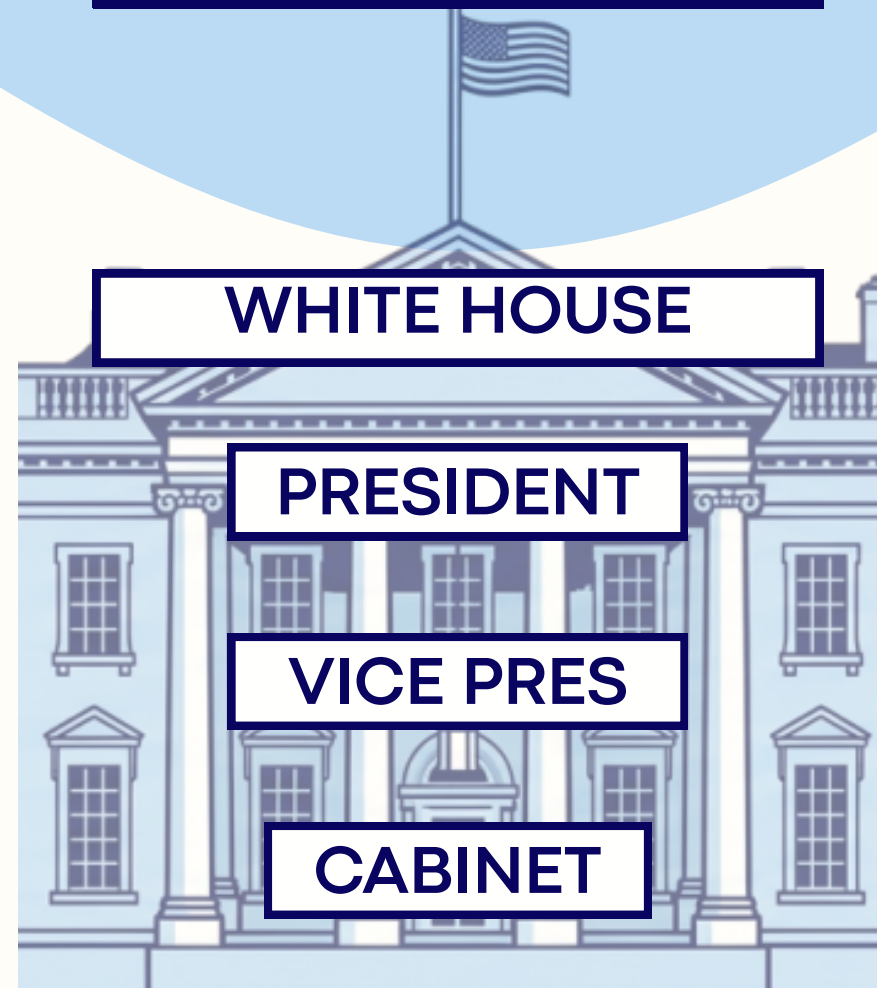


The Federal Government

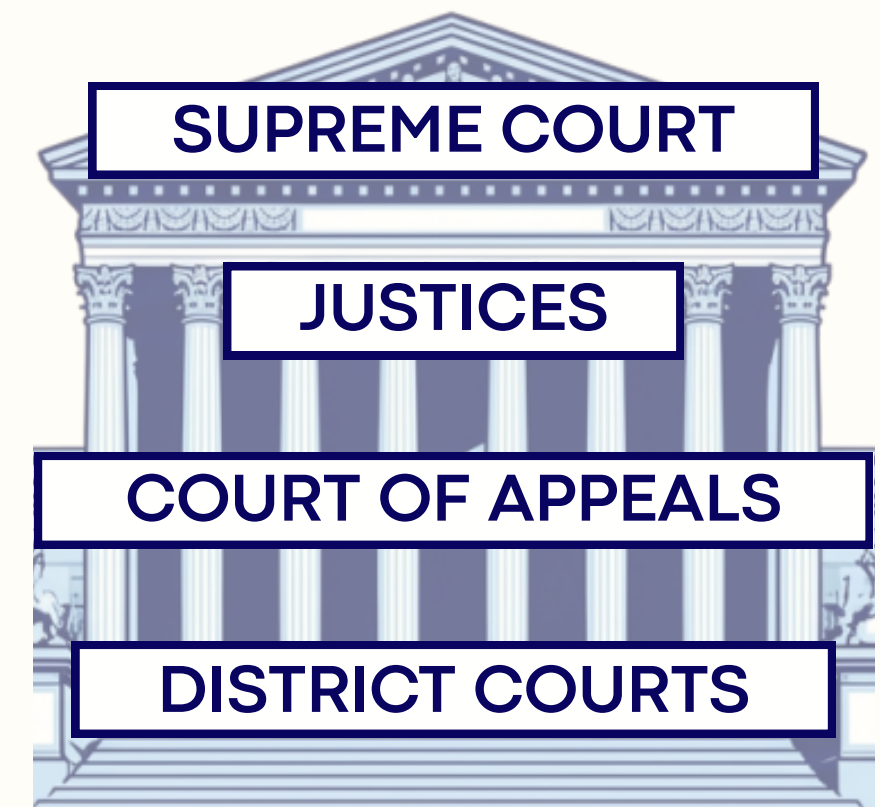
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH



EXECUTIVE BRANCH



JUDICIAL BRANCH



How Bills Pass Through Congress

Senate

- Introduced in the Senate
- Referred to Senate Committee
- Subcommittee Action
- Full Committee Action
- Senate Debates and Passes



House

- Introduced in the House
- Referred to House Committee
- Subcommittee Action
- Full Committee Action
- House Debates and Passes

Senate and House Members
Reach Compromise

Senate and House Approve
Compromise

President Signs Into Law or
Vetoes Bill

Funding Terminology



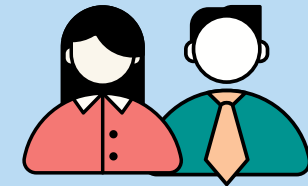
Calendar Year vs. Fiscal Year

- *A calendar year runs from January 1st to December 31st
- *The federal fiscal year runs from October 1st to September 30th



Discretionary Spending vs. Mandatory Spending

- *Discretionary spending- appropriated by Congress each year
- *Mandatory spending- Set by law



Authorization vs. Appropriation

- *Authorizations are for programs and policies
- *Appropriations are for funding to support them

Congressional Budget

Breakdown of Spending

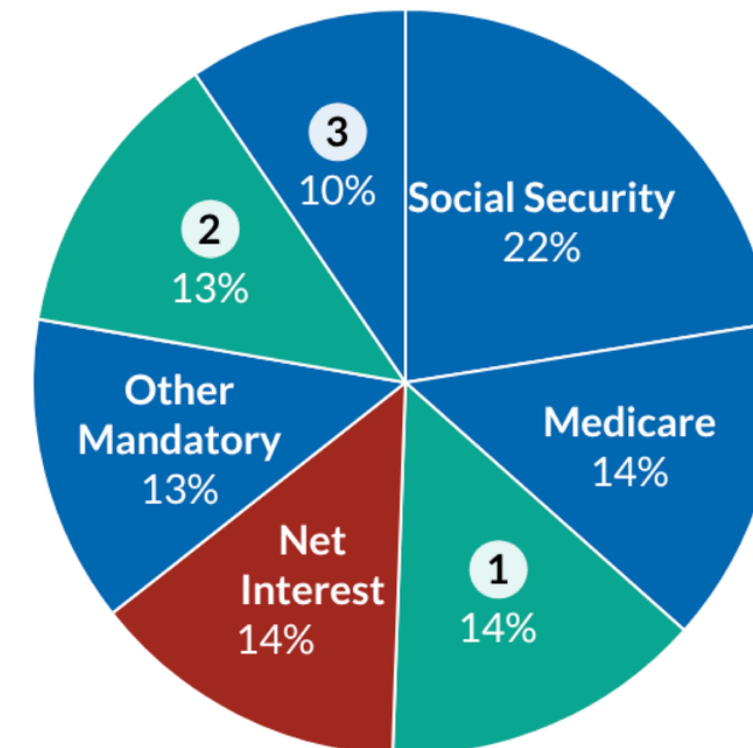
Appropriations bills fund the discretionary portions of the federal budget, such as education, defense, and housing.



Share of federal spending by budget category

FY 2025 Outlays: \$7 Trillion

■ Mandatory (59%) ■ Discretionary (27%) ■ Net Interest (14%)



1 Nondefense Discretionary 2 Defense Discretionary 3 Medicaid

Source: Office of Management and Budget

Notes: Outlays for Social Security include non-retirement benefits.

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VISIT [PGPF.ORG](https://www.pgpf.org)

Discretionary Spending for Health Related Services

- ▶ Research
- ▶ Clinical Training
- ▶ Public Health Measures
- ▶ Global Health
- ▶ Grants & Cooperative Agreements



Relationship Building

CONNECTING WITH YOUR
CONGRESS MEMBER



Building A Relationship With Your Representatives



- Helps lawmakers recognize and address our concerns
- Meetings with staff can be just as impactful as meeting with the representative
- The Bobby Jones CSF meetings are a key part of relationship-building

Preparation- Know Your Congress Member

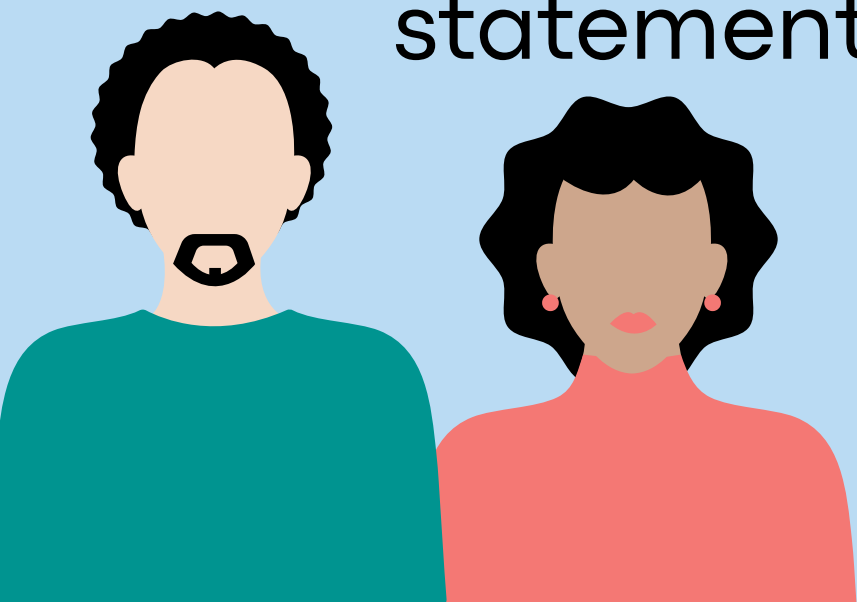
Get To Know Your Legislator

- Issues most important to them
- Bills they have sponsored and co-sponsored
- Committees and/or caucuses they are on
- Press releases and public statements

Websites

- Official Congress Directory of Members
- Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives
- Official US Senate Website Directory
- Law Maker's website

Remember that they are parents, siblings, friends, volunteers, etc. and not just Members of Congress or staff.



Gathering Information

Congress Member Snapshot

Basic Information:

Name: _____ Party: _____
D.C. Address: _____ Phone: _____
Local Address: _____ Phone: _____
Year Elected: _____ Term Expires: _____ Birthday: _____
Hometown: _____ Spouse: _____
Education: _____
Past Political Positions: _____

Committees:

• _____
• _____
• _____

Caucuses:

• _____
• _____
• _____

Sponsored Bills:

• _____
• _____

Information To Consider

- Basic Information
- Past Political Positions
- Committees
- Subcommittees
- Caucuses
- Sponsored Bills
- Co-sponsored Bills
- Voting Record
- Recent Press Releases



● [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov)

● [GovTrack.us](https://www.govtrack.us)

● [OpenSecrets.org](https://www.opensecrets.org)

Importance of Researching Your Law Maker

Focus on areas of legislation important to your cause

Note information that may be useful in your meetings

Opportunity to thank them for legislation

Shows you know your legislator

Senator Mark Warner-Democrat



The Honorable Mark Warner
703 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-2023

Sworn in: January 3, 2009
Reelected Nov. 2020

Term Expires: 2027

Hometown: Alexandria

Born: Dec. 15, 1954 (age 66 years)

Education: Graduated as valedictorian from George Washington University, the first in his family to graduate from college; Graduated from Harvard Law School with a Juris Doctor in 1980

Previous Political Appointments:

Governor of Virginia (2002–2006),
Virginia Democratic Party chairman
(1993–1995)

Committees

- Senate Committee on Intelligence (Chairman)
- Committee on Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs
- Finance Committee
- Budget Committee
- Rules & Administration Committee

Caucuses (29 Total, Co-Chair of 5)

- Co-chair and founder of the Senate Cybersecurity Caucus
- Senate Democratic Caucus
- Co-Chair Senate India Caucus
- Co-Chair Aerospace Caucus
- Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease
- **NOT a member of the Rare Disease Congressional Caucus**

Recently Enacted Legislation

Senator Warner's Sponsored Legislation (90 total)

During the 116th Congress (2019–2020), Senator Warner's top policy areas in which he sponsored bills*:

1. Health (10)
2. Government Operations & Policies (8)
3. Taxation (8)

Senator Warner's Co-Sponsored Legislation (394 total)

Senator Warner's top policy areas in which he co-sponsored bills*:

1. Government Operations & Policies (45)
2. International Affairs (38)
3. Health (25)

*Number in parentheses indicate number of bills sponsored or co-sponsored

Health Issues:

- Committed to providing access to quality, affordable care for Virginians. Warner has consistently said that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is not perfect, but our previous system was unsustainable and would eventually bankrupt our economy.
- Sponsored bills in the 116th Congress to protect Americans with pre-existing conditions, reduce health care costs, and expand coverage.
- Sponsored the Preserving Patient Access to Home Infusion Act which includes pharmacy services and certain self-administered drugs as part of covered home infusion therapy under Medicare
- Sponsored a bill that reauthorizes, and extends funding for, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) through FY2029. The bill also makes other changes related to the institute, such as (1) requiring health insurance plans to cover routine costs for items and services furnished in connection with certain PCORI-funded clinical trials, and (2) directing the Government Accountability Office to review barriers experienced by PCORI researchers when conducting studies or clinical trials.
- Working to address the opioid crisis across the Commonwealth by including more counties in the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program, which facilitates information-sharing and coordination between federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement branches with the goal of reducing the sale of illegal drugs and addressing the opioid crisis.
- He introduced the SAME Act in the 116th Congress, which would ensure Virginia receives its fair share of Medicaid funding that is crucial to many rural hospitals.

Recent News:

- U.S. Senators Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine announced \$46,328,480 in federal funding to support affordable housing development in 26 municipalities across Virginia.
- Feb. 22, 2021- U.S. Sens. Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine (both D-VA) today announced \$179,010,000 in federal funding from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)'s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to support COVID-19 vaccine distribution in Virginia.
- Feb. 8, 2021- U.S. Sens. Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine (both D-VA) announced \$4,000,000 in federal funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for the Richmond Behavioral Health Authority to help expand access to and improve the quality of mental health and substance abuse programs.
- Feb. 4, 2021- Warner & Warnock Lead Colleagues in Introducing Bill to Promote Health Care Access and Bring Crucial Federal Dollars to States

Additional Links:

<https://www.warner.senate.gov/public/>
https://ballotpedia.org/Mark_Warner
<https://www.facebook.com/MarkRWarner/>
<https://markwarnerva.com/>

Key Points

- 1 Congress has two chambers: House and Senate that pass laws and allocating funds.
- 2 We can impact discretionary funding.
- 3 Research your Congress members
- 4 Congress members work for the people.
- 5 As an advocate, you can make a difference for people who can't advocate for themselves.



Congress Member Snapshot

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D.C. Address: _____ Phone: _____

Local Address: _____ Phone: _____

Year Elected: _____ Term Expires: _____ Birthday: _____

Hometown: _____ Spouse: _____

Education: _____

Past Political Positions: _____

Committees:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Caucuses:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Sponsored Bills:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Co-Sponsored Bills:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Recent News & Press Releases:

Legislative Priorities:

Sponsored Legislation

Policy Area	Number of Bills

Co-Sponsored Legislation

Policy Area	Number of Bills

Recent Key Votes:

Major Donors: