CONGRESSWOMAN TERRI A. SEWELL

- Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515
- This mailing was prepared, published, and mailed at taxpayer expense.



- Over 1,100 job seekers and 104 major employers attended our 7th Annual Job Fair in Montgomery
- Over \$1.1 billion in federal grants awarded to the 7th Congressional District in 2018
- Approximately \$2.6 million in favorable benefits awarded to constituents assisted by our office
- Opened 398 new constituent cases and closed 642 constituent cases involving federal issues
- Sent 23,166 letters and email replies to constituents in 2018
- 177,629 recipients of our monthly e-newsletters and our biweekly "Guide to Grants"
- 147 bills sponsored/cosponsored; and 420 votes on the House floor
- 32 Congressional interns in our District and D.C. offices learned how our government operates
- **96** district events in 2018, including town hall meetings, forums, workshops, industry tours, and more
- Secured \$3 million for the repair and modernization of the U.S. Federal Courthouse in Selma
- 60 students competed in the Congressional Art Competition
- 10 Military Service Academy nominations were submitted from the 7th Congressional District in 2018: 5 to West Point, 3 to the Naval Academy, and 2 to the Air Force Academy
- Brought together 192 cosponsors in support of the Voting Rights Advancement Act
- Secured \$1.8 billion in additional funding for wastewater and water infrastructure through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, of which \$23.4 million has been allocated for infrastructure development in Uniontown
- Increased federal funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities by \$10 million
- Hosted 4 Grants Workshop events across the 7th District, teaching grant writing and providing guidance on COPS grants, rural broadband grants, and preservation grants

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IT'S AN HONOR TO SERVE YOU IN CONGRESS!

Every day, our office works to address the needs and concerns of constituents in Alabama's 7th District. In 2018, the District received over \$1.1 billion in federal grants and our office helped constituents recover more than \$2.6 million in benefits owed to them by the federal government. Once again, I visited all 14 counties in the district, hosting 96 district events including town hall meetings, industry tours, and workshops. Our office motto, "Constituents First," represents our commitment to ensuring that we are always ready to assist you and your family throughout the year.

LET US HELP YOU WITH YOUR FEDERAL NEEDS

WORKING FOR YOU

SENIORS

- Social Security Benefits
 Transition Assistance
- Medicare Benefits
- Survivor's Benefits

VETERANS

- VA Claims
- Assistance for Returning Service Members
- Pension Assistance

WORKFORCE

- Small Business Assistance
- Federal Grants
 - Job Training/Unemployment

FAMILIES

- Capitol & White House Tours
- Passport/Immigration Services

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- Student Internships
- Military Academy Nominations
- Internal Revenue Service



CONGRESSWOMAN TERRI A. SEWELL



Congresswoman Terri Sewell breaks ground at Love's Truck Stop in Eutaw as part of Congressional work to strengthen Alabama's workforce

FROM THE DESK OF

CONGRESSWOMAN TERRI A. SEWELL

Dear Friend,

For Alabama's 7th Congressional District, 2018 was a year of new challenges and hard-fought victories. Working together, we secured new investments in infrastructure, historic preservation, and for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). We pushed back against harmful auto and agriculture tariffs, fought to restore federal voter protections, and defended funding for CHIP, Medicare, and Medicaid. Through it all, I was proud to stand side-by-side

Each year, I make it a top priority to spend time in all 14 counties of Alabama's 7th District. Over the course of 2018, we hosted 96 district events, including town hall meetings, workshops, seminars, and industry tours. We responded to 23,166 pieces of constituent correspondence, completed over 642 casework files, and sponsored our 7th Annual Job Fair in Mongtomery, connecting over 1,100 job seekers with 104 of our state's largest employers.

In Congress, our focus is on bringing better opportunities and more resources to Alabama's 7th District. This year, our constituents recovered \$2.6 million in favorable benefits and received \$1.1 billion in federal grants for Alabama's 7th Congressional District. We are pleased to present this report summarizing our accomplishments in 2018 and outlining our priorities for 2019.

Levi Sewell

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CONGRESSWOMAN TERRIA. SEWELL

SPEAKINGUPFORALABAMA

FOCUSING ON JOBS FOR ALABAMA

A STRATEGY FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOB CREATION

In order for Alabama to succeed, everyone in our state needs better opportunities to climb the economic ladder and strengthen their competitiveness in today's job market. I have a three-pronged approach for supporting economic growth.

First, we need to strengthen our state's engines of job creation and maintain our global competitiveness. As the only member of the Ways and Means Committee from Alabama, I have supported free and fair trade for our farmers and manufacturers and opposed trade barriers that would hurt our growing automobile industry. Second, we must equip job seekers with the tools they need for success. This past year, we hosted a series of Project R.E.A.D.Y (Realizing Everyone's Ability to Develop Yourself) workshops throughout the District to equip job seekers with tips on job readiness. We also hosted our 7th Annual Congressional Job Fair at Alabama State University in Montgomery. Third, we must encourage employers to invest in the training of our workforce. That is why I introduced the Workforce Development Tax Credit Act, to ensure that our tax code promotes apprenticeship training and creates an employer incentive to invest in human capital.



Rep. Sewell hosts 7th Annual Job Fair at Alabama State University

STANDING UP FOR EDUCATION

GIVING OUR CHILDREN THE OPPORTUNITIES THEY DESERVE

From pre-K through college, the education we offer to our next generation has the power to open doors of opportunity. In Alabama's 7th District, we are home to seven historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). These colleges make our communities stronger and give our students a better shot at success. This year, I am happy to report that we helped to secure a 14 percent increase in federal funding for our HBCUs and passed loan relief for HBCUs struggling with debt.

We also worked to make daycare centers safer with passage of our amendment prohibiting childcare centers with health and safety violations from receiving federal funds. Since the tragic death of five-year-old Kamden Johnson at a daycare in Alabama last summer, I have made it a top priority to ensure that federal resources are directed to accountable daycare centers that care for our children's health and safety.

FIGHTING FOR OUR RIGHT TO VOTE SPEARHEADING EFFORTS TO RESTORE VOTER PROTECTIONS

As the United States Commission on Civil Rights (USCCR) highlighted in a report this year, our fundamental right to vote is under attack. Since the Supreme Court's 2013 decision to gut the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965, voter ID laws, cuts to polling places, reduced voting hours, and other voter suppression tactics have restricted access to the ballot box. To bring attention to our efforts to restore voter protections, I hosted a hearing in Congress with USCCR to share findings from their 2018 report with Members of Congress. To mark the fifth anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to gut the VRA, I organized a panel featuring voting rights experts who testified on the importance of restoring the vote.

At the end of 2018, our bill, the Voting Rights Advancement Act (VRAA), had 192 cosponsors in the House of Representatives. As we begin the 116th Congress, we plan to hold hearings on the VRAA and pass this legislation in the Rep. Sewell, hosts, panel of voting rights House to restore fundamental voting rights for all Americans.



experts on the anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to gut the Voting Rights Act

MODERNIZING INFRASTRUCTURE IN ALABAMA NEW INVESTMENTS IN LOCAL WASTEWATER SYSTEMS AND WATERWAYS

Since I came to Congress in 2011, I have worked to bring resources and solutions to the families in the Black Belt who struggle with inadequate water and wastewater systems and related health outcomes. After years of work on behalf of these residents, I am happy to report landmark successes in our fight to modernize infrastructure in Alabama's 7th District, including important investments in local wastewater systems and in our waterways.

In March 2018, we were successful in advocating for the inclusion of an additional \$1.8 billion in funding for water and wastewater infrastructure through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In Alabama's rural Black Belt, have toured homes with no wastewater systems and communities that rely on unsafe spray fields for wastewater treatment. The funding we secured gives rural communities access to resources for modernizing their wastewater systems for the 21st Century. In the City of Uniontown, this investment is already at work. In November 2018, USDA announced \$23.4 million in funding to repair the community's existing wastewater treatment plant and install new



Rep. Sewell tours wastewater systems in Lowndes County to develop solutions like the Rural Septic Tank Access Act

infrastructure. Working with Sen. Doug Jones and Rep. Mike Rogers of Alabama we introduced H.R. 5837, the Rural Septic Tank Access Act, a bipartisan bill to invest in the construction and repair of decentralized wastewater systems in underserved communities. In December 2018, the Rural Septic Tank Access Act was signed into law as a part of the Farm Bill. We also hosted a Health Fair with Sen. Jones in Lowndes County to provide health screenings and to raise public awareness about the health consequences associated with failing wastewater systems.

In the 2018 Water Resources and Development Act, we also secured additional funding and authorization for the Army Corps of Engineers to complete their final study of severe river erosion in Selma and to begin restoration construction.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION ADDRESSING RURAL CARE & OPIOID ADDICTION PASS INTO LAW

In 2018, we worked diligently to protect and strengthen quality access to health care in Alabama's 7th District and across this nation. On the Ways and Means Committee, I continued to fight back against attacks on Medicare, Medicaid, the CHIP program, and the Affordable Care Act.

We also built upon our work to protect our rural hospitals. We continued to garner support for our bill to increase Medicare reimbursements in Alabama, and we worked across the aisle to secure funding for struggling, rural hospitals. To improve health services in rural communities, we introduced the Rural Emergency Medical Center Act and fought for funding for community health centers that provide necessary primary care services.

Alabama, which has the highest rate of opioid prescriptions in the country, is a battleground in our fight against the opioid epidemic. This year, legislation to combat this epidemic was passed and signed into law, including a bill we introduced. Our bill, called the Preventing Addiction for Susceptible Seniors (PASS) Act, helps prevent opioid abuse among seniors without limiting access to needed medications. Addiction is a chronic disease, and I believe policies like these, aimed at treating addiction in healthcare settings, rather than in jails, are the best way forward.

These are just a few of the ways we are fighting for a better health care system. Next year, we will continue our work to expand access to the prevention and treatment services families need to lead long, productive, and healthy lives.



Rep. Sewell breaks ground at the Selma Rural Health Clinic as part of her work to increase access to care

CONGRESSWOMAN TERRIA. SEWELL

2019 PRIORITIES

PROMOTE GREATER ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN ALABAMA

- Host our 8th Annual Job Fair in 2019 in Selma to provide quality employment opportunities for constituents
- Defend free and fair trade from harmful policies that endanger job growth and Alabama industries
- Pass legislation investing in infrastructure, education, and defense, laying a foundation for greater economic growth
- Offer ideas for a new economic agenda focused on increasing wages and helping working families in Alabama

STRENGTHEN ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE CARE

- Pass legislation lowering health care costs for working families and stabilizing the health care marketplace
- Support efforts to strengthen Medicare and Social Security, ensuring their continued success for generations to come
- Fight for legislation supporting Alabama's rural hospitals
- Support our veterans by streamlining the delivery of benefits and services and encouraging transparency at the VA
- Support solutions for addressing health disparities for underserved

RESTORE THE VOTE AND STRENGTHEN DEMOCRACY

- Drive passage of the Voting Rights Advancement Act, restoring voter protections in states with a history of discrimination
- Increase federal funding to restore, preserve, and promote historic civil rights and voting rights sites in Alabama
- Push for cybersecurity legislation ensuring the integrity of elections