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Friends,

As your Congressman, I am committed to ensuring your voice is heard in Washington. Thank you for allowing me to continue serving North Carolina's Ninth Congressional District in the 117th Congress.

While we approach the end of the year, I will keep working to give you and your family the resources you need to get through this pandemic and get our economy back on track. Congress has a number of pressing matters to finalize before the end of the year, including COVID-19 relief, funding for the government and the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

Republicans have been working hard to provide vital aid like the forgivable small business loans from the popular Paycheck Protection Program and additional COVID-19 assistance. Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Democrats have blocked 40+ opportunities for aid. Instead, Pelosi brought the House of Representatives back in session to consider legislation to legalize marijuana, ban the private ownership of tigers & lions, and promote the legacies of Ghandi. Not what Americans need right now.

The government also runs out of funds in just a few days. The House voted to extend funding levels for one week while we work out a deal to avoid a shutdown, but that would expire on December 18th. Congress' most important job is to fund the government, and I am disappointed that Democrat leadership has failed—yet again—to meet this self-imposed deadline.

Finally, the House considered the NDAA this week, which is an annual bill to authorize the Department of Defense and its activities. This year, the bill was loaded up with unnecessary and dangerous provisions that made it impossible to support. More information is below.

Though this year brought unprecedented challenges, we have persevered. I am eager to continue working for you in the 117th Congress and look forward to assisting you however possible.

[National Defense Authorization Act](#)

The National Defense Authorization Act is an annual bill that authorizes the Department of Defense and limited parts of other agencies. It passed the House, but President Trump has said he will veto the bill if it comes to his desk. Here's a statement on my vote:

“I support our men & women in uniform, but this NDAA did a disservice to them, our national security & the taxpayer. I could not support it. The NDAA limits the Commander-in-Chief’s ability to control the troops—including bringing our troops home to stop futile ‘forever wars’ two decades later. It also keeps us from holding our allies accountable for their own defense. Somehow, it includes completely unrelated provisions that would cost small businesses over \$570 million in annual regulatory costs. We don’t play politics with the military, yet that’s exactly what House Democrats did with this NDAA. As a first-term Congressman, folks told me this bill must pass every year. An NDAA is critical, but some cynically manipulate the urgency of this bill to load it up like a Christmas tree & force us to vote for it. We need real reform in Washington, not a my-way-or-the-highway \$700+ billion bill for the status quo while American families are struggling.”

Lumbee Recognition Act

The Lumbee are a tribe of 66,000+ Native Americans who reside primarily in the Ninth District. Unlike other tribes, they do not enjoy federal recognition. Since I arrived in Congress, I have fought for the Lumbee to receive the full recognition they deserve. The Lumbee Recognition Act, which I cosponsored as my first official act in Congress, passed unanimously in the House of Representatives last month and I’m working to secure final passage before the end of this year. In September, President Trump stated his full support for Lumbee recognition. If the legislation passes the Senate and is sent to the President’s desk, the Lumbee tribe could finally receive the full federal recognition they deserve.

504 Credit Risk Management Act passes the House:

Empowering small businesses is critical as we recover from this pandemic. My bill, which passed the House, improves the implementation and efficiency of the Small Business Administration’s 504 Loan Program so small businesses can receive long-term, fixed-rate financing to modernize and expand their businesses.

This bill also:

- Specifies the abilities of the Office of Credit Risk Management to oversee a file review;
- Requires the SBA to provide clear instruction so small businesses know exactly how to comply with environmental regulation; and
- Ensures the program can operate on the fees currently built into it.

I urge my colleagues in the Senate to pass this bill to ensure this program meets the needs of small businesses.

Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment & Expungement Act

The Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment & Expungement Act would expose communities to an epidemic of drugged- driving attributable to total legalization and no means for proper testing. I spoke out against this dangerous measure. Americans cannot afford to let their businesses & livelihoods hemorrhage while Democrats promote their harmful partisan agendas. Though this bill passed the House, I am hopeful the Senate will not take up this controversial measure.



[Op-Ed: Post-Pandemic, Small Businesses Need Sustainable Opportunity](#)

This week, I had the opportunity to share more about the [Increasing Opportunities for Small Businesses Act](#) with Rep. William Timmons (SC-04) in “The Hill.”

“Our bill would put the weight of Congress behind President Trump’s White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council initiative by directing the SBA to use existing resources to educate entrepreneur, investor, and community leaders about Opportunity Zone financing and to facilitate connections that will fertilize growth in those investments”.

Opportunity Zones have allowed countless communities and businesses to flourish.



It is an honor to represent you in Congress. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office at 202-225-1976 or at RepDanBishop@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

Dan Bishop

Dan Bishop
Member of Congress

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