


JOE NEGUSE
U.S. CONGRESSMAN
FOR COLORADO'S 2ND DISTRICT



2019
END OF YEAR
REPORT



Neguse.House.Gov

From Congressman Joe Neguse

Dear Friends,

It has been the honor of my life to serve you in the U.S. Congress this past year. Colorado's 2nd District is truly an incredible place and one I am privileged to call home.

In 2019, we worked to prioritize accessibility and transparency, holding 24 town halls across the 2nd District's 10 counties and launching a first-of-its-kind "service town hall initiative" that combines volunteerism with community engagement. The initiative was recently recognized with the "Spirit of Service" award. Our office has also worked to connect constituents to federal agencies and secured hundreds of thousands of dollars for constituents.

I am proud of the work we have done to fight for Colorado's values in the U.S. Congress, including by introducing the most bills of any freshman lawmaker. Those bills include legislation to protect 400,000 acres of public lands in our state—the first major Colorado wilderness legislation to pass the U.S. House of Representatives in over a decade—and legislation that has come straight from our local communities to expand affordable housing opportunities, combat the existential threat of climate change and lower the cost of prescription drugs and surprise medical bills.

I look forward to continuing to highlight our Colorado values and fight for Coloradans in Congress in the year to come.

Sincerely,



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Congressman Joe Neguse



4

BILLS SIGNED
INTO LAW

30

PIECES OF
LEGISLATION
INTRODUCED

5

AMENDMENTS
APPROVED BY
THE HOUSE

392

BILLS
CO-SPONSORED



24 TOWN HALLS

\$12,450,000

OBTAINED IN
GRANT MONEY

\$419,639

RETURNED
TO CONSTITUENTS



396

CONSTITUENT CASES
SUCCESSFULLY CLOSED

58,000+

CONSTITUENT
EMAILS/LETTERS
RESPONDED TO



Map of 2019 Events



KEY:

- Town Hall**
- Java with Joe**
- Senior Saturday**
- Tour/Site Visit**
- Mobile Offices Hours**
- Community Events**
- Roundtable or Forum**

Delivering for Constituents Across Colorado!

This year, Rep. Neguse has helped nearly 400 constituents resolve issues with the federal government, from VA benefits to Social Security. Here is what a few Coloradans had to say after reaching out to Rep. Neguse's office for assistance:

"[Rep. Neguse's staff] have been so helpful and I am now receiving an additional **\$1,200+** each month [from social security]! Thank you!"

– **Constituent in Fort Collins**

"I had an issue with Social Security, and after months of trying to work within the system, decided to contact my Congressman. A few days after letting [his staff] know about the problem, I finally heard from Social Security (after they had ignored me for months), **and the issue was resolved.**"

– **Constituent in Boulder**



"[Rep. Neguse's] constituent advocate has been **invaluable** in my immigration petition for my wife and daughters in Venezuela. We have received approval and hope to have them here soon. Thank you!"

– **Constituent in Broomfield**

"**My problem was fixed very quickly.** Neguse has chosen people in his office that really care and can get results."

– **Constituent in Boulder**

"Rep. Neguse's staff dealt with the issue with tact and due urgency. [Their] knowledge of the workings and minutiae of the VA was without equal and essential to fixing my issue."

– **Constituent in Fort Collins**

Serving Colorado Families

Since taking office, Rep. Joe Neguse has worked to make his office a resource for individuals across Colorado's 2nd District. He has supported local applications for federal grant money and helped secure \$12,450,00 for constituents in the 2nd District. His office has closed nearly 400 federal cases for constituents, returned hundreds of thousands of dollars to constituents, hosted community resource events and responded to over 58,000 letters to his office.

More Than \$419,639 Returned to Constituents

In 2019, Rep. Neguse and his staff returned over \$419,639 to the constituents of Colorado's 2nd District through federal casework. His office has helped to ensure constituents are receiving Social Security benefits and VA benefits, streamlined visa and work authorizations and connected constituents to other federal agencies.

Rep. Neguse Hosts Two Community Health Fairs and a Veterans Resource Fair

In 2019, Rep. Neguse's staff hosted two community health fairs across the district to offer information on Medicare, Medicaid and the health care marketplace. Additionally, his staff held a veterans resource fair to equip local veterans with federal resources in health care, education, housing and mental health.



\$12 Million Secured for Grand County's Lift System

Rep. Neguse sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Transportation and was able to help secure a \$12 million grant for Grand County's Lift System.

"Investments in transportation infrastructure in Grand County are much needed and welcomed to invest in our local economies and connect communities. I was proud to help secure this grant to ensure The Lift can continue to provide the over 500,000 riders in rural Colorado with safe means to access employment, medical appointments, social and recreational opportunities." - Rep. Joe Neguse

Funding Secured for Colorado's Public Lands, Federal Labs and Rural Schools

Rep. Neguse effectively leveraged the annual appropriations process to secure funding for Colorado's public lands, federal labs, rural schools, zero-emission transportation options and affordable housing. He was able to successfully advocate to secure \$7 million for an Open Textbooks Pilot program, \$495 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, \$640 million for rural broadband and \$1 billion for TIGER/BUILD infrastructure grants.

After visiting federal labs across the district, Rep. Neguse prioritized investments in federal science and lab infrastructure throughout his work on the appropriations package. He was successful in ensuring a 4% increase, \$590 million, for NOAA's Office of Oceanic



Atmospheric Research; an 11% increase, \$754 million, for NIST Construction and Research Facilities; a 4% increase, \$754 million, for NIST Scientific and Technical Research Services; a 9% increase, \$48 million, for the NASA Space Grant program; and \$8.28 billion for the National Science Foundation, which funds many of the scientific research projects and institutions in Colorado's 2nd District.

Broomfield Fourth Grader Inspires "Ally's Act"

After receiving a letter from Ally, a fourth grader in Broomfield whose family has struggled to get insurance coverage for an essential hearing device, Rep. Neguse responded by introducing legislation named after her to right the issue.

"For Ally and others with varying modes of hearing loss, OIDs are miraculous devices that create opportunities for them to actively participate in our communities. I'm honored to work alongside Ally and her family to create better access to these devices for individuals throughout our nation. We must ensure that insurance coverage for hearing devices is consistent and fair, to ensure every child can thrive and obtain the health care they deserve."
- Rep. Joe Neguse

\$400 Million for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Secured

Across the 2nd District, as Rep. Neguse meets with teachers, school board members and

education advocates, the need for increased IDEA funding has been a resounding request. Rep. Neguse was able to secure an additional \$400 million in funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in 2020. He is also co-leading legislation to fully fund this essential program to the full 40%.

Provision Incorporated to Honor 10th Mountain Army Division Veteran Sandy Treat

In October, Rep. Neguse passed major Colorado wilderness legislation on the House floor. He was able to include a special provision in the bill to honor Sanford Morris "Sandy" Treat Jr, one of the first soldiers to serve at Camp Hale as part of the Army's 10th Mountain Division. Neguse included a provision in the bill to name an interpretive outlook near Camp Hale after Sandy Treat to honor his memory and his advocacy for the bill.

Two New Community Service Awards Launched to Honor Constituents in Colorado's 2nd

Rep. Neguse has a passion for service and has worked to find new and unique ways throughout his first year in office to encourage service across the district.

Earlier this year he launched two new congressional community service awards to honor high school students from each county in the district, and constituents in general that have shown great passion for service and social justice. Both awards are open for nominations and more information can be found on Neguse.House.Gov.



Protecting Our Environment

During his first year in office, Rep. Joe Neguse has made combating the climate crisis a chief priority of his legislative agenda. Nearly half of the bills he introduced in 2019 proposed provisions to combat climate change, protect the environment and conserve Colorado's public lands. He also was able to highlight Colorado on the national stage through a field hearing in Boulder to discuss clean energy and on the international stage at the COP25 UN Climate Conference.



Rep. Neguse Brings Select Committee on the Climate Crisis to Colorado for First and Only Field Hearing

In August, Rep. Neguse hosted the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis in Boulder, Colorado for the Committee's first and only field hearing where they heard from state and local leaders on Colorado's leadership in renewable energy and toured federal labs across Colorado.

"The state of Colorado, and the 2nd Congressional District in particular, is an epicenter for climate research, home to both renowned research facilities at the University of Colorado Boulder and Colorado State University and Federally-funded labs and facilities at the forefront of climate and environmental research. It was only fitting to host the newly empaneled House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis in Boulder for the Committee's first field hearing to discuss critical state and local efforts to combat the climate crisis."

- Rep. Joe Neguse

Rep. Neguse Joins High-Level Delegation to Madrid, Spain, for COP25 Climate Conference

In November, Rep. Neguse joined the Speaker of the House for a high-level congressional delegation to Madrid, Spain, for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, COP25 Conference. Along with his colleagues, he met with international leaders, including President Pedro Sánchez Pérez-Castejón of Spain, European Union President David Sassoli and United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, and spoke with international, U.S. and faith-based NGOs to discuss shared priorities in fighting the climate crisis.

"In Colorado, we are leading on climate action from groundbreaking climate science research underway at our federal labs to ambitious renewable energy goals being set in cities and



counties across the state. I was honored to bring the voice of Coloradans and constituents across the 2nd District to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and participate in critically important international discussions with leaders from across our globe about needed actions to fight climate change.”

- Rep. Joe Neguse

A Bipartisan Effort to Invest in Regenerative Agriculture Research

Rep. Joe Neguse introduced a bipartisan legislative package aimed at combating the climate crisis through sustainable farming practices and soil health. The two bills would provide federal support for sustainable agriculture and soil research through the Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AGARDA) program and by directing the National Academies of Science to study the state of soil health on public lands.

“Healthy soils are one of the most potent tools for mitigating climate change. By investing

in sustainable farming practices, we ensure effective carbon sequestration to help combat the climate crisis. The climate crisis is an existential threat; not only do we need to work toward reducing carbon emissions, but we must also look at restoring and investing in natural methods to take carbon back out of the atmosphere. We must do everything in our power to protect our planet for future generations.”- Rep. Joe Neguse

Working to Create a Pathway for Modernization of Labs in CO-02 and Across the Nation

Rep. Joe Neguse introduced legislation to create a pathway to modernize federal labs.

“Our district is home to some of our nation’s top federal labs, research and scientists. I’ve seen for myself the need for increased investment in infrastructure and security at many of the facilities in our district. Our nation cannot remain a leader in research and development without Congress’s dedication to providing the funding for these much-needed improvements at federal laboratories.”- Rep Joe Neguse

Fighting for Bold Climate Action in the Capitol

To lead by example, Rep. Neguse introduced a provision in the House to transition the U.S. Capitol Complex to 100% renewable electricity. Additionally, he sent a letter to the U.S. Committee on House Administration requesting that plastic bottles no longer be used in Committee proceedings.

Working to End Climate Censorship

Rep. Neguse introduced legislation to address climate censorship at federal agencies.



Defending Our Democracy

As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Joe Neguse has played a leading role in providing needed oversight on the Administration's inhumane immigration policies and passing meaningful legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives to protect young immigrants, combat the gun violence epidemic, end discrimination for LGBTQ+ Americans and protect voting rights.

Rep. Neguse Helps Pass the American Dream and Promise Act

In May, Rep. Neguse played a leading role in passing legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives to protect over 800,000 young immigrants with DACA status living in the shadows, and protect individuals who benefit from Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and Deferred Enforced Departure (DED).

"It was humbling and awe-inspiring that as the son of refugees, I was able to stand as a Congressman in the House chamber in defense of this piece of legislation, and it is proof that the American dream is real."

- Rep. Joe Neguse



Rep. Neguse Visits El Paso to Examine Conditions at Border Detention Facilities

In September, Rep. Neguse traveled to El Paso, Texas, with the House Judiciary Committee to visit detention facilities at the southern border and participate in a hearing focusing on violence aimed at immigrant communities.

Fighting to Keep Our Communities Safe and End Gun Violence

Following the lead of communities in Colorado, Rep. Neguse worked to pass bipartisan universal background check legislation out of the House Judiciary Committee and the U.S. House of Representatives. The Committee also worked to examine additional gun violence prevention legislation to make communities



safer, including a red flag law—similar to what Colorado passed in 2019—a high-capacity magazine ban and an assault weapons ban.

“In Colorado, the devastation of gun violence in our communities led state and local governments to step up to the plate and pass needed gun violence prevention measures, including background checks, a red flag law and a high-capacity magazine ban. These are vitally important bills that we must pass at the federal level as well.”
- Rep. Joe Neguse

Rep. Neguse Passes Legislation to Allow Young People to Pre-Register to Vote

Rep. Neguse passed a provision out of the U.S. House of Representatives with bipartisan support to enact national early registration for 16- and 17-year-olds. The **Next Generation Votes Act** mirrors efforts taken in Colorado to ensure that young people are able to register to vote at a time when they are already interacting with government agencies, for example when they are at the Department of Motor Vehicles to get their driver’s licenses or learner’s permits.

“A primary barrier for young voters is registration. Pre-registration, therefore, is essential to ensure that our next generation is engaged and active in our political process early and faces no barriers at the ballot box when they turn 18.” - Rep. Joe Neguse

Working to End State-Federal Conflict Over Cannabis Laws

Rep. Neguse co-led bipartisan legislation that would eliminate conflicts between state and federal laws and enable states to determine their own cannabis laws. He also helped secure passage of legislation out of the U.S. House of Representatives to ensure cannabis industries can access financial institutions more freely, and he wrote a letter requesting immigrants not be punished during their naturalization process for previous work in the cannabis industry.

“These businesses are licensed by the state, and they have a right to use safe and smart financial practices like the rest of us. I’m proud to support hardworking Coloradans and their families, and I thank my colleagues for doing the same.” - Rep. Joe Neguse



Working for Colorado

Rep. Joe Neguse has worked alongside county commissioners, city leaders, local housing authorities, higher education institutions and constituents across the district for each bill he's introduced to help meet tangible needs for communities in the district. Most of his bills are the response to letters his office receives, conversations he's had with individuals throughout the district and priorities voiced to him from local municipal leaders.

Rep. Neguse Passes Major Colorado Wilderness Legislation Out of the U.S. House of Representatives

In October, Rep. Neguse passed major Colorado wilderness legislation out of the U.S. House of Representatives. The **Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act** would preserve 400,000 acres of public land across the state of Colorado and designate the first-ever National Historic Landscape at Camp Hale to honor the storied legacy of the Army's 10th Mountain Division. The legislation was crafted over a decade by county commissioners, outdoorsmen, environmentalists, sportsmen and Coloradans across the state.

"I'm incredibly pleased with the momentum we have seen for this legislation. It is a true testament to Colorado's commitment to investing in our treasured public lands and outdoor recreation economy. From Gunnison to Carbondale, to Eagle and Summit counties, and so many other communities across our state, Coloradans have been waiting for over 10 years for Congress to act to preserve the lands they love. I was honored to lead passage out of the U.S. House of Representatives and look forward to continued momentum in the Senate.

- Rep. Joe Neguse

Bipartisan Legislation Signed Into Law to Secure Funding for Colorado's Rural Schools

Bipartisan legislation sponsored by Rep. Neguse to extend funding for rural schools in Colorado's mountain communities and across the nation was signed into law by the President. The **Secure Rural Schools Extension Act**

provides needed federal funds to counties that include large areas of National Forest, like many in Colorado's 2nd District.

"The Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program is a primary source of funding for schools, mountain search and rescue, road maintenance and other services that Coloradans rely on. We are obligated to maintain this program which provides these integral services. I'm proud to see this bill signed into law." - Rep. Joe Neguse

Bipartisan Legislation Signed Into Law to Protect Colorado Wildlife

Bipartisan legislation sponsored by Rep. Neguse to protect Colorado wildlife in the Platte River Basin was signed into law by the President. Over the last 13 years, the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program has allowed dozens of water projects in Colorado, Wyoming and



Nebraska to comply with the Endangered Species Act and continue operating, which has revitalized bird species, including the whooping crane, piping plover and least tern as well as the pallid sturgeon fish. Legislation from Neguse will allow the program to continue for the next 13 years with financial support from the Bureau of Reclamation.

Bipartisan Legislation Passed Out of the Natural Resources Committee to Install the First Outdoor Monument to Honor the Women’s Suffrage Movement in Washington, D.C.

Bipartisan legislation from Rep. Neguse to install the first outdoor monument in Washington, D.C., to honor the women’s suffrage movement passed out of the Natural Resources Committee and is headed to the House floor for a full vote. The legislation was inspired by a constituent in Loveland who brought the idea to Rep. Neguse’s office.

“Jane DeDecker’s statue is a gorgeous portrayal of the brave and bold women behind the women’s suffrage movement. I look forward to seeing her work installed in Washington, D.C., as the first ever outdoor monument to honor this movement and for her artistry to continue to inspire young women across our nation for generations to come.”- Rep. Joe Neguse

Fighting to Ensure Helicopter Safety and End Air Medical Surprise Billing for Colorado’s Mountain Communities

In partnership with Karen Mahany, a constituent from Frisco who lost her husband in a Flight for Life helicopter crash, Rep. Neguse has introduced bipartisan legislation to retrofit existing emergency helicopters with crash-



resistant fuel systems to keep emergency medical operators and crews safer.

Additionally, Rep. Neguse has also introduced legislation to end surprise billing for air medical emergency rescues often utilized in Colorado’s mountains.

Rep. Neguse Partners With Local Housing Authority to Introduce Affordable Housing Provisions

In partnership with the Boulder Housing Authority and Housing Catalyst in Fort Collins, Rep. Neguse introduced a legislative package to expand opportunities for affordable housing and ensure it will be built close to amenities and public transportation.

Rep. Neguse Establishes Senior Advisory and Youth Advisory Councils

Listening to constituents is a priority of Rep. Neguse. He has established two advisory councils in his first year to advise him on policy and issues pertaining to seniors and youth, respectively.

Transparent and Accountable



24
TOWN HALLS

Rep. Neguse Launches First-of-Its-Kind Service Town Hall Initiative

In his first year in office, Rep. Joe Neguse launched a first-of-its-kind service town hall initiative, combining official congressional town halls with community service projects and partnering with local organizations including the Larimer Humane Society, Boulder Shelter for the Homeless, Rocky Mountain National Park, Bridge House Boulder and Broomfield FISH.

"I've been tremendously inspired by the engagement and excitement for our service town hall initiative this past year. I truly believe we need to work to turn down the temperature in our politics. Service town halls allow us to engage on a community level, across party lines, with the focus of a common goal—serving our community. We look forward to continuing the initiative in 2020 and partnering with additional organizations to spread the spirit of service and neighborly love." - Rep. Joe Neguse

Traveling 4,500 Miles, Visiting All 10 Counties

Rep. Neguse has traveled over 4,500 miles since taking office, holding events and visiting with constituents across his 10-county district. He has visited with teachers, small business owners, local fire chiefs, veterans, met with municipal leaders, college students, farmers and federal scientists.

He held a BBQ for first responders in Fort Collins, attended Evergreen's Annual Fire and Rescue Day, toured West Magnolia with the Forest Service, hiked the Continental Divide/Colorado Trail with constituents and attended a naturalization ceremony in Estes Park. He is consistently active in the community, learning from constituents and taking time to better understand experiences of individuals across the district.

Convening In-District Discussions on Health care, Education, Housing and Small-Business Issues

Rep. Neguse has convened panels of experts to discuss important issues and work toward





Town Halls With A Twist: Joe Neguse's Participants Do Public Service Before Talking Politics



Congressman Neguse helps restore land in RMNP before hosting Town Hall

policy solutions. In August, Rep. Neguse brought Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi to Colorado for a panel discussion on affordable health care. He met with faculty, students and educators from Front Range Community College and Colorado State University to discuss the transfer process. He convened constituents for a discussion on the rising cost of prescription drugs and efforts that can be made at the federal level to solve this issue. Additionally, he has held roundtables with small-business owners, mobile home owners, LGBTQ+ Coloradans and educators.



Joe Neguse's innovative service town halls recognized by national group



Rep. Neguse Awarded "Spirit of Service" by the Town Hall Project

The Town Hall Project, an organization that tracks public events hosted by federal elected officials, recognized Rep. Neguse with the "Spirit of Service" award for his consistent and frequent town halls and service town hall initiative.

Elected Co-Representative to the Freshman Class

Rep. Joe Neguse serves as the youngest member of the House Leadership team in his position as Co-Representative of the biggest class of freshman House Democrats in more than 40 years. In this role, Rep. Neguse has more opportunities to discuss the needs of his district with key members of congressional leadership.

JOE NEGUSE
U.S. CONGRESSMAN
FOR COLORADO'S 2ND DISTRICT



Offices

Washington, DC Office
1419 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2161

Fort Collins Office
1220 S. College Avenue Unit 100A
Fort Collins, CO 80524
(970) 372-3971

Boulder Office
2503 Walnut Street, Suite 300
Boulder, CO 80302
(303) 335-1045

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