



## NEWS FROM THE 1st DISTRICT

Dear Friends,

A week ago, I announced my intention not to seek another term representing New Hampshire's First District in the 2018 election. This was a difficult decision, but it is the right time to take a pause. Please know that I will keep working hard for our state and you and for your family for the next year and three months.

### **Working to restrain nuclear proliferation**

Over the past two weeks, President Trump has destabilized our already-tenuous peace with two countries that America and the global community have deep security concerns about: Iran and North Korea.

Today, President Trump withheld routine certification of our multilateral nuclear nonproliferation deal with Iran without any evidence of a material breach. His reckless action threatens national security, isolates the U.S. from our international partners and allies, and undermines our efforts to defuse the nuclear crisis with North Korea by indicating that we are not a credible negotiating partner.

Meanwhile, the President continues to escalate his rhetoric about North Korea to such an extent that Republican Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Bob Corker said that he is setting the country "on the path to World War III."

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I am deeply alarmed by the President's escalating rhetoric and actions. It is time for Republicans and Democrats to work together to check the President's unacceptable behavior.

### **Standing up to Trump's spiteful health care sabotage**

Late last night, President Trump announced that he will torpedo the individual insurance market by ordering the government to stop making the Cost-Sharing Reduction (CSR) payments it owes. He is right to be so ashamed of this spiteful action he would only announce it in the dead of night.

Stopping these payments won't just hurt the lower-income people whose out-of-pocket costs are defrayed by CSRs, it will also hurt every one of the millions of Americans who buy their

own coverage. That's because insurance companies say they are going to charge everyone more to make up for the lost funding. Congress must act immediately to fund CSRs and protect our constituents from Trump's vengeful and destructive actions.

Earlier yesterday, President Trump issued another executive order on healthcare. Americans have been very clear over the past months that they don't want to return to the days of discrimination against people with pre-existing conditions and bare-bones junk insurance that's not there when you need it – but that's exactly what this executive order would do. While we won't know the scope of the damage until regulations are drafted, this is yet another step taken by the Trump Administration to sabotage the Affordable Care Act and make it harder for people in New Hampshire to access good, affordable healthcare.

### **Working to help Puerto Rico**

This week, President Trump said "we cannot keep FEMA, the military, and first responders" in Puerto Rico indefinitely, even though millions of Americans there have no water and electricity, disease is spreading, and food is scarce. Brutal.

The situation on the ground in Puerto Rico, home to 3.5 million American citizens, has become a humanitarian nightmare because of the Trump Administration's inexcusably weak response. While I voted for yesterday's disaster relief package, it is not enough.

Congress must do more to help Puerto Rico. We should be both addressing urgent needs and providing support for medium- and long-term rebuilding efforts without adding to the territory's crippling debt. We must also continue to conduct oversight of the Trump Administration's inadequate response and call for needed improvements.

I am glad this bill also includes help for wildfire-stricken California, where yet another natural disaster has left our fellow citizens in need of help.

### **Advocating for help to fight the heroin, fentanyl, and opioid crisis**

It has now been two months since President Trump promised he would follow the top recommendation of his opioid commission and declare a national emergency, but we are still awaiting action.

During those two months, the Administration has not only refused to issue this declaration, it has also failed to give New Hampshire our fair share of resources to fight heroin and fentanyl and continued to undermine access to substance abuse treatment by sabotaging the health care markets.

It is past time for President Trump to step up to the plate and help New Hampshire turn the tide on the opioid crisis. He should start by fulfilling his two-months-old promise to declare this crisis a national emergency, which will provide flexibility for federal agencies to direct more help to New Hampshire.

### **Gun safety after Las Vegas**

Once again, our nation has experienced its worst-ever mass casualty shooting in modern history. A day that should be unimaginable feels like a nightmare our country keeps reliving. I am praying for the victims and the families who have lost loved ones to the senseless violence in Las Vegas. But as a Member of Congress, I know prayers are not enough.

I will never forget the day in 2013 that Congress came close to passing the most significant gun safety bill since 1986. But as the parents of children murdered at Sandy Hook looked on, a minority of U.S. Senators refused to stand up to the leaders of the National Rifle Association and voted against a bill to prevent criminals and the dangerously mentally ill from purchasing guns.

During his 2013 State of the Union address, President Obama memorably invoked the Sandy Hook families, saying: "They deserve a vote." He was right. We cannot let the NRA drown out our voices. None of us want our families to live in fear. None of us want our first responders to live in fear. None of us want to wake up to news of another slaughter.

The shooter in Las Vegas used bump stocks, devices that allow civilian guns to fire like automatic rifles. Last week, I joined with Congressman David Cicilline to introduce legislation that will close this loophole. I also cosponsored the Keep Americans Safe Act, a bill that prohibits the transfer, importation, or possession of high-capacity magazines that are able to hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

### **Opposing the House Republican Budget**

A budget is a moral document that lays out our priorities for America. This year's House Republican Budget once again showed a dangerous and destructive vision of our nation's future that would leave seniors and working families to fall further and further behind.

Last week, House Republicans voted to end the Medicare guarantee and instead give seniors vouchers to fend for themselves. They voted to slash Medicaid, which supports about two-thirds of nursing home residents. And their budget calls for changes to the tax code that would further benefit the wealthiest and the biggest corporations at the expense of working families and small businesses. Like the President's budget, this budget would use these tax cuts for the wealthy as an excuse to slash spending on education, infrastructure, medical research, veterans benefits, and other investments in our future.

Paul Ryan has shown us his road map to exacerbate inequality in America. I will keep fighting to stop this budget's dangerous vision from becoming our reality.

### **Protecting our environment**

As the founder and co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Allergy and Asthma Caucus, one of my top priorities is to ensure that our kids and grandkids are breathing clean, healthy air. That's why I supported the Clean Power Plan, which was projected to prevent an estimated 90,000 pediatric asthma attacks and 3,600 premature deaths each year once fully implemented.

This week's Trump Administration proposal to roll back the Clean Power Plan threatens to harm both our environment and our kids' lungs. Climate change is a public health crisis, and we must

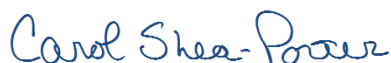
continue taking steps like the Clean Power Plan to contain its impact, instead of going backward and worsening the environmental threats our children will inherit.

### **Closing thoughts**

I was pleased to announce that the University of New Hampshire's Northeast Passage Program will receive a \$172,974.49 grant from the Department of Veterans Affairs to support adaptive sports opportunities for veterans and servicemembers.

As a leader in the field of recreational therapy, Northeast Passage empowers military men and women who are living with disabilities, and this grant will help them continue their important work. Congratulations to the staff and volunteers – I'm always proud to support this excellent program.

Best wishes,



Carol

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### **Recent Press Releases**

- [Shea-Porter Statement on Trump's Spiteful Decision to Torpedo the Individual Insurance Market](#)
- [ICYMI: Shea-Porter, CPC Health Taskforce Releases 2018 ACA Marketplace Improvements as Trump Continues Sabotage](#)
- [Shea-Porter Statement on House Disaster Relief Vote](#)
- [Shea-Porter Statement on Trump Executive Order](#)
- [Shea-Porter Statement on Trump Administration Proposal to Repeal Clean Power Plan](#)
- [Shea-Porter: Two Months and Still No Opioid Emergency Declaration](#)
- [New Hampshire Congressional Delegation Calls for Improved Facilities for Women Veterans at Manchester VAMC](#)
- [Shea-Porter Statement on House Republican Budget Vote](#)
- [Shea-Porter Opposes H.R.36, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act](#)
- [Shea-Porter, Kuster Announce \\$173,000 VA Grant for UNH Veterans Adaptive Sports Program](#)

### **ICYMI**

#### **[N.H. officials split on Trump's health care executive order](#)**

**Concord Monitor // Lola Duffort and Ethan DeWitt**

New Hampshire's all-Democratic congressional delegation, on the other hand, was quick to condemn Trump's order as a naked attempt to further undermine ACA. "Americans have been very clear over the past months that they don't want to return to the days of discrimination

against people with pre-existing conditions and bare-bones junk insurance that's not there when you need it – but that's exactly what this executive order would do," Rep. Carol Shea-Porter, who represents the first district, said in a statement.

### **Trump Can Find 'Drug-Infested Dens' Right Outside His Windows**

**NBC // Staff**

Earlier, Rep. Carol Shea-Porter, D-N.H., also ripped Trump for failing to make good on his promise. "It is past time for President Trump to step up to the plate and help New Hampshire turn the tide on the opioid crisis," she wrote. "He should start by fulfilling his two-months-old promise to declare this crisis a national emergency, which will provide flexibility for federal agencies to direct more help to New Hampshire."

### **NH's Congressional delegation calls for improvements to women's facilities at VA**

**Union Leader // Staff**

WASHINGTON — All four members of the state's Congressional delegation have sent a letter to officials at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, requesting improved facilities for female veterans who receive care at the Manchester VA Medical Center. The letter, signed by Rep. Annie Kuster, a member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Senators Jeanne Shaheen, D-NH, and Maggie Hassan, D-NH, and Rep. Carol Shea-Porter, calls for the Manchester VAMC to provide a separate entrance for female veterans at the center, to relocate the Women's Health Clinic to the first floor or a separate building, and to improve medical spaces provided for women at the Manchester facility.

### **Belknap County loses out on \$650,000 grant for corrections center**

**The Laconia Daily Sun // Roger Amsden**

Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter (NH-01) on Friday asked Attorney General Jeff Sessions to explain the U.S. Department of Justice's decision to award New Hampshire less than 1 percent of the \$58.8 million in CARA awards it disbursed nationwide. "As you know, New Hampshire is one of the states that has been hardest hit by the national opioid crisis. And despite state and local efforts, the crisis is growing: our state's largest city, Manchester, has already suffered a record number of opioid overdose deaths this month," Shea-Porter wrote. "In March, you visited our state to express your commitment to helping us. Given the commitment you have expressed, please explain why your Department has rejected these four New Hampshire grant applications and awarded New Hampshire less than 1 percent of the total amount nationwide."



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