

Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge
Legislative Accomplishments
113th Congress

GRANTS

- Sent a letter of support for Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine’s Prevention Research Center grant application. The school received a \$4.35 million grant.
- Sent a letter of support for Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine’s Research in Epilepsy grant application. Case received an award of \$971,573.
- Sent a letter of support for the YMCA of Greater Cleveland’s Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant application. The YMCA was awarded a \$986,270 grant by the CDC.



- Sent a letter of support for Greater Cleveland Partnership Cleveland Development Advisors’ New Market Tax Credit grant application. The Greater Cleveland Partnership received an award of \$35 million.
- Sent a letter of support for Babcock & Wilcox’s small modular reactor (SMR) application to the Department of Energy (DOE). The DOE has allocated an additional \$20.5 million in funding to its Cooperative Agreement with Babcock & Wilcox mPower, Inc. under the Small Modular Reactor Licensing Technical Support Program.
- Sent a letter to the Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Authority in support of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority. The Greater Cleveland RTA received an award for \$796,800 through FTA’s State of Good Repair Program to purchase 11 new paratransit vehicles.
- Sent a letter to USDA, Farm to School Program, in support of the Akron City School District and Hattie Larlham Community Living Center’s grant application. The Akron City School District was awarded \$44,999.
- Sent a letter to Education Secretary Duncan in support of John Carroll University’s application for a two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education’s Undergraduate International Foreign Studies grant program. The University was awarded \$82,413.

LEGISLATION



In January, 2014, I attended the ceremony in which President Obama signed the bipartisan Farm Bill into law.

I authored (or co-authored) several provisions which were included in the Farm Bill Conference Agreement:

- Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI), which combats the lack of healthy food retail through a public private initiative that would allow for the leveraging of millions in private loans.

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- Microloan language, which improves federal agricultural credit programs to better meet the needs of small, young, beginning, veteran, and urban farmers and ranchers by establishing a program that would provide these farmers access to small loans and capital;
- Youth operating loan that expands the availability of the loan to all children, regardless if they are rural, urban, or suburban;
- Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Research Policy Center;
- Receipt for service, which requires USDA agencies that serve farmers and ranchers to routinely provide a time and date stamped receipt for service to each farmer and rancher requesting information or service from USDA; and
- Pilot program allowing schools participating in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program to offer all forms of fruits and vegetables, including canned, frozen, or dried; and
- Designation of Central State University as an 1890 land grant institution.



In July, I announced my introduction of the Breaking Addiction Act at a news conference in Cleveland.

- Introduced H.R. 5136, the Breaking Addiction Act of 2014 to expand cost-effective, community-based treatment options and address the heroin/opiate epidemic.
- Introduced H. Res. 388, a resolution expressing support for ending the federal pay freeze and preventing further cuts to federal workers' pensions or benefits.

- Introduced legislation, H.R. 655 and 656, which would help provide funds for the demolition of abandoned and vacant buildings. I worked with state and federal officials to reallocate \$60 million of Ohio's Hardest Hit Funds for demolition purposes.
- Co-introduced H.R. 2707, the Clean Water Compliance and Ratepayer Affordability Act, which would authorize 15 pilot communities across America and allow these pilot communities to develop, in consultation with the EPA, their own approach to clean water standard compliance.



- The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee held a public hearing on this bill and I submitted comments for the record demonstrating support.

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- Introduced H.R. 1343, the Project Ready STEM Act, which increases minority and underserved student’s access to high quality STEM education, during the traditional school day, afterschool and in summer programs.
- Introduced H.R. 2160, the Promoting Health as Youth Skills in Classrooms and Life (PHYSICAL) Act to include health education and physical education in the definition of “core academic subjects.”
- Introduced H.R. 5001, the Core Opportunity Resources for Equity and Excellence Act of 2014, which amends the school improvement program under Part A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to require states to adopt student achievement standards that lead to college and career readiness by high school graduation.
- Introduced H.R. 1437, the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones Fire Prevention Act, which directs the Secretary of Education to make competitive demonstration grants to institutions of higher education (IHEs), fraternities, and sororities for up to half the cost of installing approved fire suppression systems in student housing and dormitories owned or controlled by such entities.
- Co-introduced H.R. 3471, the Women’s Health Protection Act of 2013 to create stronger federal protections for the essential health care, personal decision-making, and individual constitutional rights of every woman in the United States, no matter where she lives.
- Co-introduced H.R. 5590, the Go to High School, Go to College Act, which directs the Secretary of Education to carry a program awarding Early College Federal Pell Grants to students to support their enrollment in, and completion of, postsecondary courses offered through early college high schools.
- Introduced H.R. 5591, Transportation Connections to Opportunity Act of 2014, which promotes investment in projects that support economic and partnership opportunities, enhance access to job sites, and provide more transportation options. Specifically, the legislation provides \$100 million in competitive grants for local, eligible entities, and the flexibility states need to improve access for transportation disadvantaged Americans.

LETTERS



- Sent two letters to the Department of Justice (DOJ) asking it to review the Cleveland Police Department. The first letter was sent in November 2012 after Malissa Williams and Timothy Russell lost their lives following a high speed chase involving more than 60 police vehicles and 137 rounds fired into their car. A second letter was sent in August 2014 following the unrest in Ferguson, MO. In December 2014, the DOJ announced its review of the City of Cleveland Division of Police Department and found that the Cleveland Police Department had exhibited systemic deficiencies and engaged in a pattern of excessive force. As a result, the City of Cleveland has entered into a consent decree with the DOJ to right these wrongs.

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- Sent letter to Transportation & Infrastructure Committee to include H.R. 2273, the Great Lakes Navigation System Sustainability Act of 2013, in any Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) legislation. This language was included in the WRRDA bill introduced on 9/11/2013.
- Sent letter to USDA urging the Department to not move forward with its proposed regulatory rule that, among other things, would speed up poultry plant production from 140 to 175 birds per minute. Increased line speeds would endanger the safety of poultry workers and food; USDA did not include the mandatory increased line speed provision.
- Led a letter to the ABA Standards Review Committee (SRC) voicing concern regarding Proposed Standard 315, which if implemented, could have had devastating impacts on the enrollment of minorities in law school. Also sent a follow up letter since the Committee never replied to the initial correspondence. Due in part to my efforts, the SRC unanimously voted to retain the current bar passage rules with no substantive changes.
- Sent letter to Federal Aviation Administration Administrator Michael Huerta encouraging him to consider taking Cuyahoga County Air Traffic Control Tower off the closure list because of its importance to Northeast Ohio. The tower is still open.
- Led letter with Ohio's Senate delegation to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) expressing The City Mission's concerns about coordination requirements for the Continuum of Care (CoC) program. HUD responded by saying it would provide The City Mission with technical assistance.
- Sent letter to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) director regarding reimbursement issue for platelet rich plasma (PRP) therapy. In the final rule, CMS revised their rates to make the reimbursement rate more accurate.
- Sent letter to the Department of Justice urging its lead negotiator with Bank of America to ensure that any consumer relief component of their settlement will be effective and robust. My suggestion that Bank of America be incentivized to donate money for community development as opposed to simply discharging its obligations through loan modifications was included in the final settlement.
- Sent letter to CMS Administrator to express concerns about Cleveland Clinic Florida's (CCFL) Graduate Medical Education reimbursements. CCFL's appeal was favorably resolved and they once again will be reimbursed for the training of residents in Internal Medicine, Neurology and Colorectal Surgery.
- Led an Ohio delegation letter to Secretary Duncan requesting the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Agency be allowed to continue to provide rehabilitative services to nearly 8,500 job seeking Ohioans with disabilities currently being served through state and local partnership arrangements. Secretary Duncan has elected to allow OOD to continue to operate under the current structure until 2015.
- Led Ohio delegation letter to Ohio Environmental Protection Agency requesting they reject the proposal by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for open lake disposal of dredged material. Ohio EPA decided not to authorize open-lake placement of the dredge material by USACE.
- Co-led letter to Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Moran of the House Appropriations Interior, Environment & Related Agencies Subcommittee urging them to fund the Great Lakes

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Restoration Initiative (GLRI) at \$300 million. In both the Senate and House versions of bills for FY14, and FY15 GLRI received \$300 million.

- Led Ohio delegation letter to Labor Secretary Perez asking that he compel Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) to provide a clear timetable for reaching a determination for the 20,000 Delphi salaried retiree pension issues. In a letter, Secretary Perez assured that the remaining Delphi salaried retirees will start to receive final benefit determinations no later than October 2015. In the interim, PBGC will ensure that Delphi retirees that are owed a payment receive one without interruption.
- Sent a letter to newly sworn in U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Commissioner Kerlikowske regarding the process for clearing containerized cargo at the Port of Cleveland. CBP has maintained a working relationship with the Cleveland Port Authority to ensure the direct service with Antwerp is effectively processed while maintaining homeland security duties. The CBP has established interim facilities to continue the process until new infrastructure is established.
- Sent letter to Federal Highway Administrator (FHA) urging it to initiate a formal review/audit of the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and whether it is meeting, and/or has met, federal contracting goals on the Cleveland Innerbelt Bridge Project. ODOT is increasing efforts to award construction contracts to minority-owned businesses. The agency will host certification classes and seminars and assemble work forces on ODOT projects that more closely mirror the population of metro Cleveland.
- Sent letter to EPA Administrator McCarthy expressing concerns about EPA's proposed rule to expand its permitting authority under the Clean Water Act. The EPA replied to the letter, explaining that it will weigh every concern before issuing a final rule. Sent letter to CMS asking it to withdraw its proposed rule regarding Medicare Part D, citing the threat the new rule poses to a program that has enjoyed widespread support. CMS Administrator Tavenner decided to not move forward with the proposed changes.
- Sent letter to Treasury Secretary Lew imploring the Administration to issue guidance allowing victims of domestic abuse to file their taxes separately from their spouses and receive the health insurance premium assistance for which they alone qualify. The policy was changed.