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WYOMING'S CONGRESSWOMAN

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Hello Laura,

As the 119th Congress approaches the end of its first session, I remain focused on defending our Constitution, restoring accountability across the federal government, and standing up for the people who make our state strong.

Last week, we advanced my legislation to rein in unelected bureaucratic power out of committee, we continued important oversight in order to protect public safety on tribal lands and called on the administration to end an unauthorized program that harms American students and workers.

I appreciate the chance to keep you informed about the work I'm doing in Congress. Wyoming's priorities continue to guide everything I do here.

Continuing Oversight of Washington, D.C.

The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee voted my bill, H.R. 3766, to be taken up by the full House. With this milestone, we move one step closer to stopping Washington, D.C., from cementing a system that gives unelected bureaucrats the power to rewrite laws without fair judicial review.

The courts for decades have outsourced their interpretative authority pursuant to the judicially created doctrine known as Chevron deference, which required judges to “defer” to an agency’s interpretation of the meaning of statutes. In *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*, the Supreme Court overturned the Chevron deference doctrine, requiring courts to independently interpret the law and curbing unchecked agency power.

In response the D.C. Council earlier this year pursued a blatantly political exercise and enacted a law requiring courts to defer to the mayor’s and agencies’ interpretations of the law. This, in effect, codified Chevron deference for the District of Columbia.

This blatant effort to score political points against President Trump, the D.C. City Council literally transferred its legislative authority and undermined the independence of its courts. My bill stands on the side of D.C. residents, ensures D.C. courts maintain their independence, and upholds the principle that judges, not agencies, should interpret the law when there is a dispute. We cannot allow the administrative state to circumvent the Constitution by granting agencies unchecked power.

Oversight Efforts to Strengthen Public Safety on Tribal Lands

I joined Chairman Jim Jordan in sending an oversight letter to FBI Director Kash Patel about the increase of serious criminal activity on tribal lands caused by the Biden administration’s failed open border policies.

Dangerous foreign cartel networks are using our reservations as hubs for smuggling fentanyl, methamphetamine, and other illegal drugs into the U.S. They are also using these areas for human trafficking. These cartels prey on tribal members, taking advantage of unemployment, addiction, and financial strain. When people try to report cartel activity, they are often met with threats and intimidation. That is unacceptable.

Our committee, partnered with the Trump administration, aims to ensure the federal government prioritizes public safety in Indian Country, supplies adequate resources, closes jurisdictional loopholes, and holds cartel operatives accountable wherever they strike. That starts with clear data, increased personnel, and transparent partnership with the FBI to restore safety and justice for Native Americans living on reservations.

Putting American Students and Workers First

I joined several of my colleagues in urging the Trump administration to immediately end the Optional Practical Training (OPT) program, an unauthorized guest-worker scheme that undermines American students, American workers, and our national security. OPT was illegally created by the previous executive branch and never approved by Congress. Yet administrations have continued to expand it allowing foreign students to remain in the United States and work for up to three years after completing as little as one year of school here.

This loophole grew into a massive, unregulated pipeline that lets large corporations replace American STEM graduates with cheaper foreign labor while bypassing the H-1B caps that Congress established. In 2024 alone, nearly 300,000 foreign students received work authorization through OPT and its STEM extension, with many coming from countries like China that pose clear security risks.

OPT also exempts these workers from payroll taxes, costing our Social Security and Medicare trust funds billions each year and giving Big Tech and Big Pharma a taxpayer-funded incentive to hire foreign labor instead of Americans.

I am also a cosponsor of legislation to terminate the OPT program, and I will keep fighting to ensure that American students, small businesses, and families remain at the center of our economic future, not sidelined by unlawful programs that put them last.

See What I'm Doing in D.C.! Add Me on Social Media:



Events and Announcements

Federal Register Comment Period

Administration Revises Endangered Species Act Regulations

The Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced four proposed rules to restore Endangered Species Act regulations to their 2019 and 2020 framework.

The comment periods end on December 22, 2025, for the following proposed rules:

- [Interagency cooperation \(50 CFR part 402\):](#)
 - The services jointly propose to return to the 2019 consultation framework by reinstating definitions of “effects of the action” and “environmental baseline,” removing the 2024 “offset” provisions and restoring section 7 procedures consistent with the statutory text. These changes respond directly to the Supreme Court’s decision in *Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo*, which overturned the Chevron deference standard and reaffirmed that agencies must adhere strictly to the law as written.
- [Listing and critical habitat \(50 CFR part 424\):](#)
 - The services jointly propose to restore the 2019 regulatory text governing listing, delisting and critical habitat determinations. The proposal ensures decisions are based on the best scientific and commercial data available while allowing transparent consideration of economic impacts. It reestablishes the longstanding two-step process for designating unoccupied habitat, restores clarity to the definition of “foreseeable future” and reinstates flexibility to determine when designating critical habitat is not prudent.
- [Threatened species protections \(50 CFR part 17; section 4\(d\)\):](#)
 - The Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to eliminate the “blanket rule” option and require species-specific 4(d) rules tailored to each threatened species. This approach reflects the single best reading of the statute under *Loper Bright* and ensures that protections are necessary and advisable to conserve each species without imposing unnecessary restrictions on others. It also aligns service policy with the National Marine Fisheries Service’s longstanding species-specific approach.
- [Critical habitat exclusions \(50 CFR part 17; section 4\(b\)\(2\)\):](#)
 - The Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to reinstate its 2020 rule clarifying how economic, national security and other relevant impacts are weighed when determining whether to exclude areas from critical habitat. The revised framework provides transparency and predictability for landowners and project proponents while maintaining the service’s authority to ensure that exclusions will not result in species extinction.

Recent Photos



I had a wonderful time at the 20th Annual Salute to Team Wyoming Breakfast, celebrating the outstanding athletes representing Wyoming at the National Finals Rodeo.



A wonderful evening at the Daily Caller Annual Dinner. Congratulations to DNI Tulsi Gabbard on being named Woman of the Year and to Secretary Chris Wright for receiving the Courage Under Fire award.

Recent Votes

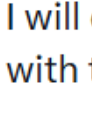
See below for highlights of this week’s votes; for more information on each bill, click the bill number. For my full voting record, [click here](#).

Voted YES on [H.R. 4305](#) – DUMP Red Tape Act

Voted YES on [H.R. 1069](#) – Protect Our Kids Act

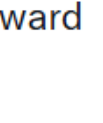
Voted YES on [H.R. 2965](#) – Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act

Tweet of the Week



Rep. Harriet Hageman

@RepHageman



The FBI’s arrest of the alleged January 6 pipe bomber is a significant breakthrough.

I will continue pressing for full transparency as this case moves forward with the [@J6Select](#) Subcommittee.

In the News

Trump Administration Gives UW \$1M To Create Second Amendment Program For Schools

Civic education is critically important to ensure each generation of Americans understands the role our Constitution plays in securing our natural liberties, including the right to keep and bear arms.

Hageman Probes Drug Cartels Exploiting Native American Tribes

Cartels and transnational drug traffickers exploited the Biden administration’s broken border and immigration policies to flood tribal lands with illegal drugs and violence.

Need Help With a Federal Agency?

One of the ways my office serves Wyomingites is by helping constituents navigate federal agencies. I am proud to share that November was an exceptional month for our casework team.

If you are facing issues with a federal agency, whether it is the VA, Social Security, the IRS, or another department, my office may be able to help. We can assist with paperwork, follow up on stalled cases, and make sure your concerns are heard and resolved as quickly as possible.

You can fill out a casework form on my [website](#) or call us directly at (307) 261-6595.

I Want to Hear From You!

I cannot do my job without your support and input. Thank you for the calls, letters, emails, and questions you have sent to our offices. Please continue to reach out via the contact information below, and stay up to date on all the latest activities and legislation by subscribing and sharing this newsletter and our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) accounts with your friends and family!

Sincerely,

Rep. Harriet Hageman

Member of Congress

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