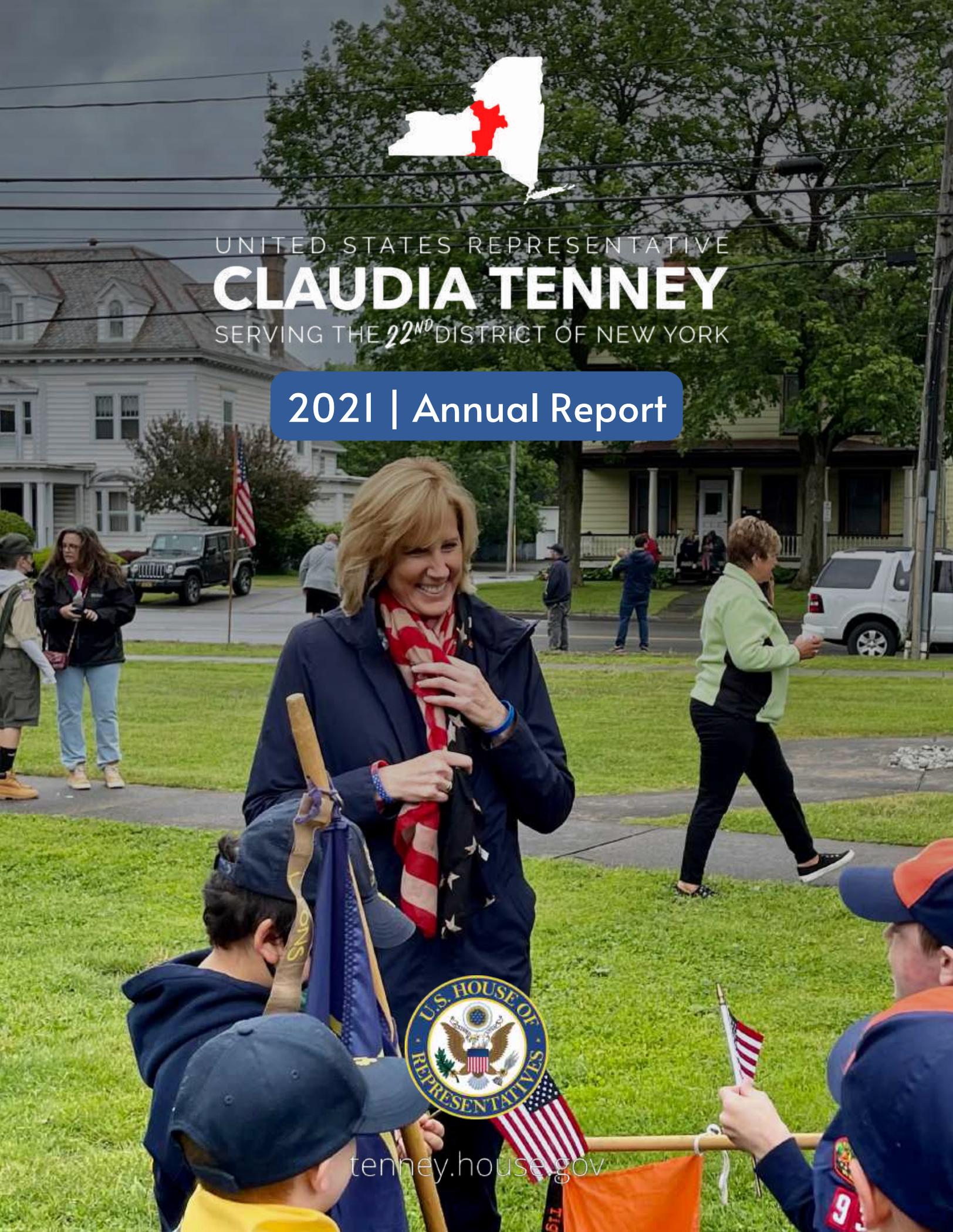




UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
CLAUDIA TENNEY
SERVING THE 22ND DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

2021 | Annual Report



tenney.house.gov

INTRODUCTION

Dear Friend,

Thank you for the opportunity to represent our great community in Congress. As a lifelong resident of upstate New York, it is the honor of a lifetime to fight every day in Washington for our Upstate values, families, and small businesses. This region is home to some of the nation's most strong-willed and generous people. Despite daunting obstacles throughout our shared history, the spirit of our region and our communities remains strong. This is where the Erie Canal broke ground. It is where Remington Arms and IBM were founded and where General Electric thrived. Our tenacious spirit, generosity, and desire to reach greater heights are all still alive and well. I am supporting policies in Congress that will once again unleash our full potential and renew the hope of future generations.



Despite being sworn into Congress after the start of the new session, my office hit the ground running to deliver for you. I introduced 24 bills focused on the most pressing issues facing our region and the nation, including the bipartisan Essential Caregivers Act that was inspired by a Utica resident, and I have cosponsored 266 bills. I founded the House Election Integrity Caucus to promote fair, free, and transparent elections, which now has more than 60 members. My office has replied to more than 40,000 messages and I have explained more than 170 votes publicly on my website. We may not always agree, but you will always know exactly where I stand and why.

I am committed to transparently serving every resident of New York's 22nd District with honor, integrity, and compassion. As part of this commitment, my annual report lays out my office's work on your behalf over the past year. We have been focused on providing top-tier constituent services and working proactively to address the full range of your needs. As you will see, we have been striving every day to provide you with facts, while fighting to advance policies to improve our region, uphold the Constitution, and make our nation stronger. I always welcome your feedback. It is an honor to serve you!

Sincerely,
Claudia Tenney

Office of U.S. Representative Claudia Tenney

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1 CONSTITUENT SERVICES

One of my most important priorities as your representative in Congress is to make sure the federal government works for you!

I'm honored to share that this year, my office assisted thousands of New Yorkers who had issues with federal agencies. We returned more than \$6.6 million in benefits or back pay to residents. Taking on the federal bureaucracy can be overwhelming, but you never have to do it alone. My team of expert caseworkers is always here to fight for you and to help you navigate the process. For assistance, call my Utica office at 315-732-0713 or my Binghamton office at 607-242-0200.

Mobile Office Sessions

New York's 22nd Congressional District is comprised of all or part of eight counties. It stretches from the Canadian border in the north, to the Pennsylvania border in the south. I understand that many residents live a great distance from either of my two district offices in Utica and Binghamton, which can limit their access to in-person services. To ensure every resident of NY-22 can access the services they deserve, my office has hosted Mobile Office Sessions in communities across the district.

Since February 2021, we have hosted 25 mobile office sessions, bringing our services to thousands of constituents who otherwise may not have been able to make the trek. In 2022, we will continue to host these mobile office hours. If you would like to bring

FAST FACTS

\$6.6M

**BENEFITS
RETURNED**

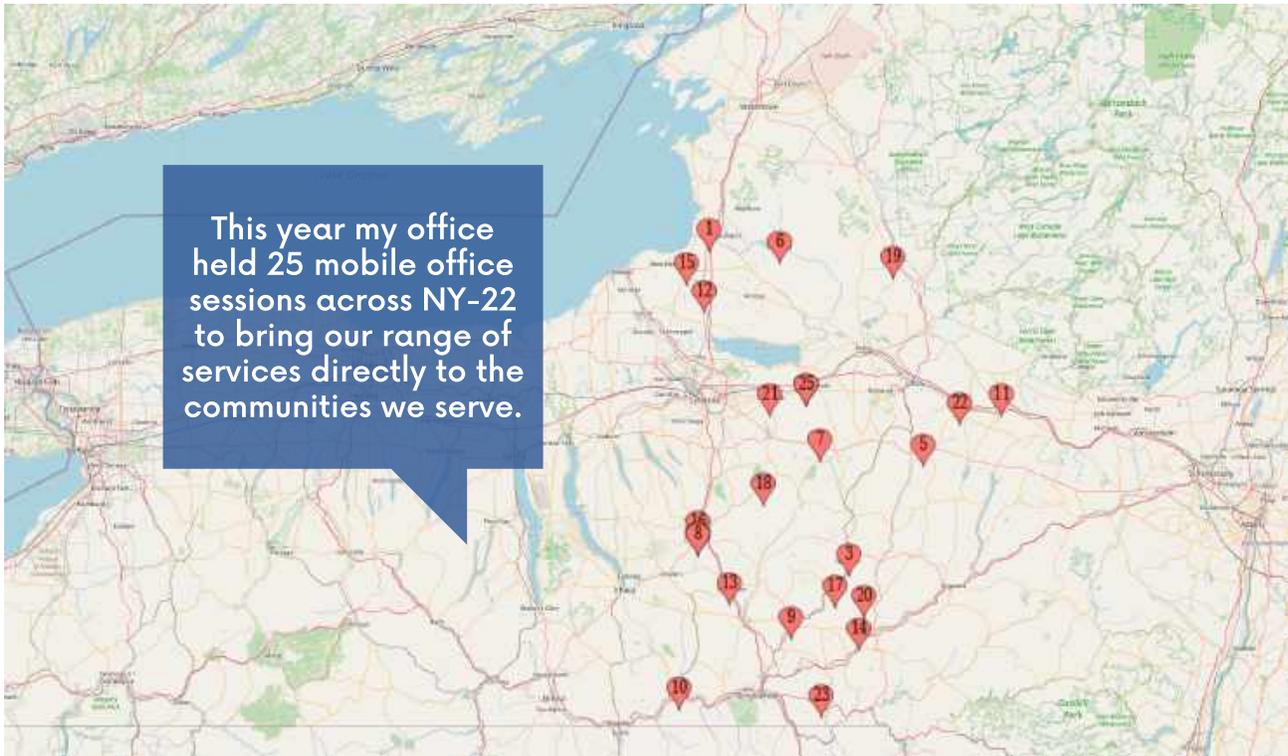
2,000+

CASES CLOSED

25

**MOBILE OFFICE
SESSIONS**

these mobile office sessions to your community in the future, please call my office at 315-732-0713 to let my team know. Additionally, thank you to all of the elected officials across NY-22 who worked with my staff to host these mobile office sessions.



Launched Monthly Seminar Series with Federal Agencies

This year, my office launched a new monthly seminar series that brings experts from federal departments and agencies directly to stakeholders in our community. My office has hosted the USDA and FEMA for sessions on topics like flood mitigation, rural water infrastructure, and the Assistance to Firefighters Grants program. These seminars have been an excellent opportunity for local officials and stakeholders to receive information directly from federal agencies or offices, and to ask specific questions they may have about programs. I look forward to continuing this initiative in 2022.

There are so many existing federal resources and programs available to our community, and I am committed to making sure you have easy access to the information you need to fully utilize them. To ensure these seminar sessions are accessible to you in the future, my office records and posts them on my website, tenney.house.gov. If you would like to view a past session, just visit my website today.

Casework Success Stories

I understand how frustrating it can be to deal with a federal agency. Whether you are a veteran struggling to receive benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), a family who cannot get a straight answer from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), or a small business frustrated with the Small Business Administration (SBA), my office is here to help. You will never have to take on these federal agencies alone.

This year, I am honored to report that our office assisted **more than 2,000 constituents resolve issues** with federal agencies like the VA, IRS, and SBA. Our office has helped constituents connect with federal agencies, correct errors, secure back pay or benefits, and apply for visas. All told, this year we met the **huge milestone of delivering \$6,641,908.09 in federal pay, benefits, or credit back to constituents.**



Casework Success Story: The Social Security Administration

A constituent from **Oneida County** was planning his retirement and contacted the Social Security Administration (SSA) six months in advance of his planned retirement date to start the process of receiving benefits. He was not able to access a computer and utilized a library computer to fill out the forms. The SSA required follow-up questions and when he was not able to get a hold of the SSA over the phone, our office was able to connect him directly with the management of the local office, where he was able to schedule an emergency appointment to ensure he was set for his retirement.

Casework Success Story: Veterans Records

A constituent from **Herkimer County** asked for assistance securing her recently deceased uncle's discharge papers so he could receive proper military honors at his funeral. The constituent was struggling to get the agency to respond to her request, especially since the agency's offices were closed due to a federal holiday. With the funeral less than three days away, she reached out to our office for help. Even though the agency was closed for the federal holiday, we were able to secure the needed paperwork in time.

Casework Success Story: Small Business Admin

Several small businesses in **Cortland** and **Broome Counties** were struggling to keep their doors open. They had applied for assistance through the SBA, but never heard back from the agency. Our office reached out to the SBA on their behalf and we were able to ensure the small businesses all received a timely response. After we contacted the SBA on their behalf, several of the small businesses finally received their lines of credit.

Grant Searches and Letters of Support

This year my office helped hundreds of individuals, small businesses, local governments, and non-profit entities search for funding opportunities or grants available at the federal level. Through our partnership with the Congressional Research Service, we conducted comprehensive grant searches on their behalf to determine if there were federal funding opportunities available that met their needs.

In addition, my office provided **95 letters of support** to local individuals, governments, and entities to include in their applications for funding. These letters underscored the important impact certain projects would have in our community and helped make state and federal funding applications even stronger. If you have questions about what funding opportunities are available or need a letter of support, please call us today.

I am also honored that this year my office announced **\$15,574,957.73 in federal grants and awards that were returned to New York's 22nd Congressional District**. This includes grants for broadband expansion in Madison County, the Greater Binghamton Airport in Broome County, and law enforcement agencies in Oneida County. The complete list of key awards and grants announced this year is below:

DOT Low and No Emission Vehicle Grant	Broome	\$3,200,000
USDA's ReConnect Program	Madison	\$10,000,000
Small Community Air Service Program	Broome	\$1,000,000
FEMA Financial Assistance Grant #1	Oneida	\$157,325
FEMA Financial Assistance Grant #2	Oneida	\$1,005,332
FY21 Byrne JAG Grant #1	Broome	\$30,435
FY21 Byrne JAG Grant #2	Oneida	\$31,865
FY21 Byrne JAG Grant #3	Madison	\$150,000

HERE TO SERVE

There are so many ways my office can serve you. If you need help or have questions, visit tenney.house.gov or call any one of my three offices today.



Casework Assistance

If you need assistance with a federal agency like the Social Security Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, or Internal Revenue Service, give us a call. We will go to bat for you.



Order an American Flag

If you would like to order a U.S. flag from our office, call 202-225-3665. All flag purchases include a dedication message, which may be customized for the recipient. You may also choose to have your new flag flown over the U.S. Capitol for an additional charge.



Internships

If you are a high school or college student interested in public service and learning more about the legislative process, I encourage you to apply for an internship in one of my three offices. To learn more about available opportunities, call 202-225-3665.



Service Academy Nominations

It is my honor each year to nominate outstanding students from our area to one of the U.S. Service Academies. If you are a high school student interested in applying, visit tenney.house.gov/services/military-academy-nominations to learn more about the process, or call my office at 315-732-0713.



Grant Searches and Letters of Support

If you are looking for federal funding opportunities or are in need of a letter of support for an existing funding application, call my office at 315-723-0713 to discuss how we can help.

2 ACCESSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Maintaining a responsive office that is accessible and transparent is important to me. As part of this commitment to you, I explain every vote I take in the House of Representatives. This year alone, I have publicly explained more than 170 votes on my website. You will always know where I stand and why. I have also prioritized outreach and engagement. I held 13 town hall events this year, including five tele-town halls as well as multiple small business town halls and other roundtable events.

Every Vote Explained

Most Members of Congress simply list on their website how they voted on certain bills. I take the extra step of always explaining **why** I voted the way I did. This ensures that you know exactly where I stand, especially on the tough issues. I know we will not always agree, but it is important to me that you know my rationale for the decisions I make as your representative in Congress. Since taking office in February, I have **publicly explained 176 votes**. I post these comprehensive explanations immediately after I vote. You can access them at tenney.house.gov/about/my-votes-explained.

Advisory Committees

It is vitally important to me that stakeholders throughout the district provide their input. This year, I launched several Advisory Committees, comprised of stakeholders from across the district who provide regular feedback and updates. This includes **the Law Enforcement Advisory Committee, the Agriculture Advisory Committee, the Veterans**

FAST FACTS

176
VOTES
EXPLAINED

48,000+
MESSAGES
RESPONDED TO

13
TOWN HALL
EVENTS

Advisory Committee as well as the **Small Business Advisory Committee**. In 2021, each of these advisory committees met at least once and will continue to meet regularly in the future. If you are interested in joining one of these committees or know someone in our community who is, please call my office at 202-225-3665.

Public Events

One of the greatest honors of representing you in Congress is attending so many of the amazing community events throughout the 22nd District. This year, I attended more than **200 official and community events** in the district, in addition to a full schedule of virtual and in-person meetings in Washington, D.C. while the House of Representatives was in session. Throughout the year, I also held **8 virtual or in-person town hall events** as well as **5 tele-town halls**, which reached tens of thousands of residents across Central New York and the Southern Tier. I will continue to hold these events to hear directly from you.

I was also tremendously honored to participate in **15 events recognizing active-duty service members as well as our region's Veterans**. This includes a Candlelight Vigil I recently hosted honoring the fallen American soldiers in Afghanistan, an honor flight ceremony I attended in Binghamton, and a moving Purple Heart Ceremony in Utica, where I had the privilege of posthumously honoring two courageous Veterans of World War I (the Purple Heart ceremony is pictured right).



Responding to Your Messages

Since taking office in February, more than **15,850 residents** of New York's 22nd Congressional District have contacted my office to express their views, share their concerns, and ask important questions. I value this feedback and am honored to have responded to **48,000 messages** this year. While we may not always agree, you have my commitment that I will always respond to your concerns. If you would ever like to share a message with me, please visit my website at tenney.house.gov/contact.

Laying out my Plans in Congress

Part of my commitment to transparency is not only explaining how I vote, but also laying out my plans for tackling the big issues. This year, I released **seven plans** on issues like broadband access and tax reform that detail where I stand and what I am doing in Congress to drive real results that make a difference. To read the plans and provide your feedback, please visit tenney.house.gov.

- **Broadband Access Plan:** Every New Yorker needs access to a robust marketplace of broadband options. In addition, we must also lay the groundwork for new technologies, such as 5G, that promise better connectivity for a lower cost. To accomplish these objectives, my Broadband Access Plan focuses on unleashing private sector innovation to foster competition and bring costs down while boosting resources for rural communities.
- **Healthcare Plan:** My priority in Congress is to expand your access to affordable, quality healthcare. My Healthcare Plan includes policies that deliver more choices for patients, leading to better quality care for everyone at lower prices families can afford.
- **Law Enforcement Plan:** We must move beyond divisive and damaging rhetoric, mend the relationships between police and the communities they serve, and give our police officers the legal protections and tools they need to safely and effectively do their jobs. My Law Enforcement Plan focuses on supporting police and bringing communities together.
- **Veterans Plan:** America's veterans have put so much on the line to defend our great Nation and safeguard our freedoms. As the mother of a Marine officer, I understand the sacrifices that are made by our service members and their families. My Veterans Plan focuses on VA transparency and accountability, expanding access to quality healthcare, supporting the transition to civilian life, and continuing to honor the sacrifice of those who served.
- **Agriculture Plan:** The agriculture industry is the backbone of our region and has driven our economy for generations. The 22nd District is home to over 4,300 farms and 7,400 producers. These enterprises are engines of our Upstate economy. My Agriculture Plan focuses on supporting programs that allow the farming industry to recover fully from the pandemic and promotes tax policies that encourage the growth of these family businesses.
- **Education Plan:** Access to a high quality education is vital for economic and social success. My Education Plan focuses on safely reopening our schools, ensuring our education system cultivates engaged citizens, and supporting the educational success of students regardless of the path they pursue. Whether they attend university, high school, or trade school, this commonsense plan will unleash the potential of our students and empower them to succeed.
- **Tax Reform Plan:** I am a strong advocate for the rights of New York taxpayers. This means advocating for low rates while fighting against new and onerous taxes. It also means ensuring the government uses tax revenue in ways that are transparent, accountable, and necessary. My Tax Reform Plan lays out what I am doing in Congress to achieve these goals.

Setting the Record Straight

Transparency also means sharing facts about the bills and proposals being debated in Washington. Often times, there is more than meets the eye when it comes to many of

the policies being proposed in Congress, which is why this year I launched a new initiative, "Setting the Record Straight." As part of this effort, my office has released **seven helpful factsheets on critical issues being debated in Congress**. This includes H.R. 1, the bill to federalize our elections, as well as the recent effort by Democrats in the House and Senate to pack the Supreme Court.



These factsheets cut through the mainstream media's biased narrative and dispel some of the biggest myths being pushed by far-left activists.

- [Setting the Record Straight: The Biden-Pelosi-Bernie Reconciliation Bill](#)
- [Setting the Record Straight: H.R. 1, The For the People Act](#)
- [Setting the Record Straight: Biden's Infrastructure Proposal](#)
- [Setting the Record Straight: Supreme Court Packing](#)
- [Setting the Record Straight: Biden/Harris Border Crisis](#)
- [Setting the Record Straight: Biden's Budget](#)
- [Setting the Record Straight: H.R. 4, The John Lewis Voting Rights Act](#)

To read these fact sheets, visit my website at tenney.house.gov and be on the lookout in 2022 for many more to come!

3 DRIVING RESULTS FOR NY-22

I am fighting to advance commonsense policies to improve our region, uphold the Constitution, and make our nation stronger than ever. As a member of the House Small Business Committee as well as the Foreign Affairs Committee, I'm focused on delivering for small businesses and strengthening our national security. I introduced 24 bills and cosponsored 266 on a range of important issues. Six bills I cosponsored have been signed into law, while 27 bipartisan bills I cosponsored passed the House.

Advocating for Small Businesses

As a small business owner and lifelong resident of upstate New York, I understand that local businesses are the backbone of our economy and communities. On the House Small Business Committee in Congress, I have gone to bat for small businesses this year, delivering real results to level the playing field and help ensure their success.

One of the first decisions I made after taking office was to cosponsor **H.R. 1799, the PPP Extension Act**. This bill provided additional time for small businesses to apply for and receive assistance through the Paycheck Protection Program. I have heard from so many businesses in New York's 22nd Congressional District who told me this program was a vital lifeline for them. This bill became law in March 2021.

To continue delivering for our small business community, especially our local restaurants, I cosponsored **H.R. 4568, the ENTREE Act**. This bill will provide restaurants with critical COVID-19 relief funds through the Restaurant Revitalization Fund.

FAST FACTS

6

**BILLS SIGNED
INTO LAW**

24 & 266

**BILLS INTRODUCED &
BILLS COSPONSORED**

27

**BILLS PASSED
THE HOUSE**

My focus has also been on boosting American manufacturing and restoring good-paying jobs to our region. That is why I introduced two bills to help small businesses and domestic manufacturers grow, thrive, and compete. I partnered with Senator Marco Rubio (FL) to introduce **H.R. 2262, the bipartisan and bicameral American Innovation and Manufacturing Act**. This bill provides greater access to capital for small, rural manufacturers like those throughout our community. I also partnered with Senator Josh Hawley (MO) to introduce **H.R. 6011, the Make it in America to Sell it in America Act**. This bill provides critical support to American manufacturers and ensures that our nation has a reliable domestic supply of critical goods.

As soon as I returned to Congress, I **launched a Small Business Outreach Tour, hosted numerous small business roundtables or town halls with employers and workers, toured more than two dozen small businesses, and met with countless business owners to hear directly from them.** I also conducted a **Community Opportunity Survey** for individuals and businesses in our community that provided critical feedback on the concerns of those living in our area. In December, I was honored to release a comprehensive report detailing key findings from my meetings, results from my recent Community Opportunity Survey, and an overview of the policies I am supporting in Congress to empower our area and the nation. As I argue in the report, the key lies in once again prioritizing investment in advanced domestic manufacturing, aligning the workforce with the needs of local businesses, and encouraging shared economic and social prosperity. To read the full report, visit tenney.house.gov or [click here](#).



Strengthening our National Security

I am honored to also serve on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, where I am committed to promoting America's core national security interests and holding the Biden Administration accountable for its disastrous foreign policy blunders. This year, two bills I introduced were considered and passed by the Foreign Affairs Committee. This includes **H.R. 5102, the Flights for Freedom Act**. This bill prohibits the Biden Administration from charging American citizens and legal permanent residents for their lifesaving flights out of Afghanistan following President Biden's reckless retreat. The Committee passed this bill unanimously. Legislation I introduced, **H.Res. 348,**

calling for a United Nations Arms Embargo on the military regime in Burma, also passed out of the Committee. New York's 22nd Congressional District is home to more than 4,000 Burmese refugees and new Burmese-American citizens who have been resettling in the region for more than 20 years. Many have family back in Burma who continue to be terrorized by the brutal military regime there, which overthrew the democratically-elected government earlier this year. I also introduced **H.R. 5760, the bipartisan China Watcher Act**, which is focused on countering China's malign activity abroad by increasing resources for our diplomatic personnel serving around the world.

This year, I also continued fighting for our military service members as well as our region's defense installations and assets, including Rome Lab. I voted to pass the **bipartisan National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022**. The bill included **three of my amendments**, which will now be signed into law.

The NDAA is vital for our Nation's security as well as our military service members and their families. The bill I supported reversed President Biden's dangerous cuts to our military and advanced many of our most important national security priorities by continuing to provide for a strong and robust military. For example, the bill holds the Administration accountable for its disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan, provided our troops with a 2.7% pay raise, invests \$118 billion in cutting-edge research, and holds the Chinese Communist Party responsible for its role in the outbreak of COVID-19. The bill also protects the health freedom of our service members by ensuring they are not dishonorably discharged for refusing to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

I am especially pleased that the bill included a **\$10 million amendment I introduced to establish a quantum network computing testbed at the Air Force Research Lab in Rome, New York**. This is a big win for Rome Lab and our community that will continue to cement the Lab as our nation's leading center for quantum research and development, while supporting our region's economic growth. I will always fight to invest greater resources into our region's defense assets and installations. Earlier this year, I was honored to welcome the Under Secretary for the Air Force, Gina Ortiz Jones, for a tour of Rome Lab. Our tour included an in-depth look at the cutting-edge research being conducted at Rome Lab, including an overview of the advanced research and development in quantum as well as in artificial intelligence and machine learning, and unmanned traffic systems. Rome Lab was recently designated as the Quantum Information Science Research Center for the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force, a critical development for the Lab and New York's 22nd District.

I also had the honor this year of touring defense contractor **Lockheed Martin in Owego** as well as the **Eastern Air Defense Sector** and the **Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)**, both of which are in Rome. In August, I announced the exciting news that DFAS-Rome was adding 100 new jobs.

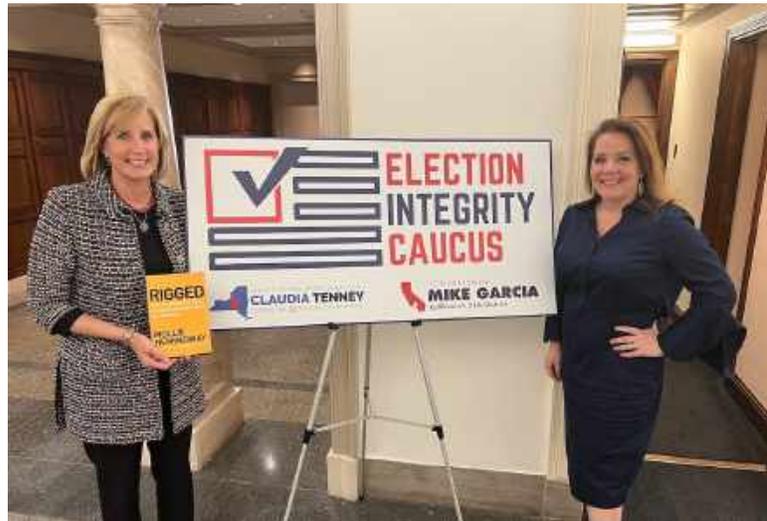
Fighting for Free and Fair Elections

Just weeks after taking office, I founded the **House Election Integrity Caucus**. Now with more than 60 members of Congress on board, it is the only caucus in Congress devoted solely to preserving our sacred right to vote. More Americans than ever have concerns regarding how elections are administered in our country, which is why the caucus is proactively educating and informing the American public about issues related to election security and actively driving commonsense policy solutions to restore faith in the democratic process and improve the administration of elections.

This year alone the **caucus held more than eight events**, including a recent discussion with author Mollie Hemingway, who wrote a book exposing how partisan political operatives and Big Tech giants unfairly influenced the 2020 election (pictured below). To address the influence of Big Tech billionaires, I introduced **H.R. 4290, the End**

Zuckerbucks Act. The administration of our elections is not something that should be sold to the highest bidder or wealthiest Silicon Valley donor. This bill ensures that wealthy, private citizens cannot funnel money through non-profits directly to government election agencies like they did in 2020. In December 2021, my office was the first to reveal the extent to which a liberal non-profit group flooded

left-leaning counties in the states of Texas, Ohio, Nevada, Minnesota, Georgia, Florida, Arizona, and Pennsylvania with opaque private funding to increase voter turnout. After analyzing the Center for Tech and Civic Life's (CTCL) IRS Form 990, we confirmed that of the \$144.2 million spent by CTCL on these key states in the 2020 election, 90 percent went to Democrat-leaning counties won by Joe Biden, while only 10 percent went to right-leaning counties that voted for Donald Trump. This confirms earlier allegations that CTCL used these private funds, which were provided by Big Tech billionaire Mark Zuckerberg, to selectively drive turnout in Democratic areas. These funds bypassed state and local governments and went directly to local election agencies. This year, I also introduced **H.R. 4789, the PROTECT Electoral College Act**, bicameral legislation to ensure that the rushed and unconstitutional election mandates put into place during the pandemic do not become the new norm. This bill ensures state election laws are driven by elected state legislators who are accountable to taxpayers, and not judges or partisan bureaucrats.





Standing up for Seniors and Essential Caregivers

I am tremendously honored to have introduced **H.R. 3733, the bipartisan Essential Caregivers Act**. With more than 20 cosponsors in the House of Representatives, this bill protects the rights of residents in long-term care facilities by allowing them to access up to two designated Essential Caregivers during a public health emergency.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, long-term care facilities like nursing and group homes were forced to enter lockdowns, completely cutting off access between residents and their Essential Caregivers. This caused many residents, seniors, children, and individuals living with developmental disabilities to be cut off from their loved ones for months at a time. These residents suffered tremendously in isolation, which took a significant toll on their physical and mental health, even costing some of them their lives.

The Essential Caregivers Act fixes a loophole in current federal law in order to better protect the rights of seniors and those with disabilities during any future public health emergency. Individuals residing in long-term care facilities have rights, and it is up to Congress to make sure they are protected. Earlier this year, I was honored to welcome Essential Caregivers from across the country to Washington to advocate for this vitally important bill (pictured above). This includes Utica-resident Karla Abraham-Conley, whose personal caregiving story with her mother served as my inspiration for this bill.

Opposing Biden's Overreaching Mandates

The COVID-19 vaccine prevents serious illness and is one important tool against COVID-19. I received my vaccine and support voluntary vaccination efforts along with expanded access to vital therapeutic treatments. Those who want a vaccine can receive one. **However, this year, I have been leading the fight to make sure that no New Yorker is forced to receive the vaccine.** No American should be fired for failing to comply with Washington or Albany's ever-changing edicts. No small business should ever be fined, or worse, for failing to enforce whatever the latest decree may be.

In September, the Chairman of the Republican Study Committee, Congressman Jim Banks, joined me to introduce **H.R. 5471, the Health Freedom for All Act.** This bill prevents the Biden Administration from enacting its planned vaccine mandate on the American people. The bill clarifies that under existing law the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) does not have the authority to implement rules requiring Americans to undergo COVID-19 vaccinations or testing. I also introduced **H.R. 5851, the Employment Freedom for All Act,** which ensures that American workers wrongfully fired for not receiving the vaccine are not prevented by non-compete agreements from securing gainful employment elsewhere.

Backing our Men and Women in Blue



Law enforcement officers put their lives in harm's way to ensure our communities are safe each day. I find it shameful that congressional Democrats continue to call for the police to be defunded and for qualified immunity to end, especially as crime and attacks against police are on the rise in America. It is imperative that we stand with law enforcement to ensure they are not subject to harassment and frivolous litigation simply for doing their jobs. This year I

was honored to introduce **H.R. 4500, the Local Law Enforcement Protection Act** to protect qualified immunity and stand with our Heroes in Blue.

Promoting Government Integrity

Since my time serving in the Albany swamp, I have been committed to promoting transparency and integrity in government. I introduced a range of good government bills this year to make Congress function better and hold elected officials to a higher standard. This includes **H.R. 1950, the No Pensions for Corrupt Politicians Act**. Corrupt politicians always manage to find loopholes to advance their interests, often at great expense to the American taxpayers. The No Pensions for Corrupt Politicians Act closes one of these loopholes – it cuts off federal pensions to members of Congress as soon as they're convicted of a crime. Under current law, politicians can continue receiving pensions for years after they are convicted of a crime just by keeping their cases tied up in the appeals process, which can stretch on for a very long time.

This year I also introduced **H.R. 1949, the Upholding the Integrity of Public Officials Act**. This bill broadens the definition of an "official act" to reform federal anti-bribery laws and strengthen transparency and oversight within the federal government. The bill clarifies the definition of official act and clearly states that if an elected official takes bribes in exchange for official favors, they have committed a crime. These are simple standards all elected officials should live by and uphold.

Protecting our Second Amendment Rights

In July of this year, I was honored to lead 175 of my **House colleagues**, including House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, House Republican Whip Steve Scalise, and House Republican Conference Chair Elise Stefanik, in an amicus brief to the Supreme Court, defending the right to conceal carry under the Second Amendment to the Constitution in the case *New York State Rifle*



and Pistol Association v. Corlett. In this case, which the Supreme Court heard recently, New York residents assert they were wrongly denied a conceal carry permit for personal protection by state officials. If the plaintiffs prevail in this case, it could be the most significant victory for Second Amendment advocates since *Heller v. District of Columbia* in 2008, which reaffirmed our right to keep and bear arms for protection.

Community Project Funding

Our communities – not bureaucrats in Washington – know how best to direct local spending. This year, I supported the Community Project Funding program because it brings our taxpayer dollars back to upstate New York to help fill gaps and create greater opportunity across our region. I am committed to ensuring that any federal funding brought back to our region is spent transparently and responsibly. As with any federal program, Community Project Funds must be held to the highest standards of accountability and I will hold community beneficiaries to these standards.

The projects I supported this year fell into one of three categories: (1) water infrastructure improvement; (2) Revitalization and economic development; and (3) Broadband expansion and research. For any award that may be granted, I will continue to work closely with all recipients to ensure federal funds are spent appropriately and in the interest of the American taxpayers.

- Project Title: City of Binghamton, New Fire Headquarters (Broome County)
- Project Title: Griffiss-Woodhaven Revitalization Project (Oneida County)
- Project Title: Utica Harbor Pedestrian Bridge (Oneida County)
- Project Title: SkyDome Trusted Smart-X Environment (Oneida County)
- Project Title: Eastern MV Regional Transmission Main (Herkimer County)
- Project Title: Repairs to the H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse (Oswego County)
- Project Title: Vernon Center Water District (Oneida County)
- Project Title: Village of Frankfort, Water System Improvements (Herkimer County)
- Project Title: Village of Marathon, Water River Crossing (Cortland County)
- Project Title: Village of Sherburne Municipal/Rural Broadband (Chenango County)

In selecting these projects, I prioritized submissions that had a strong demonstration of community support and local partnerships; a demonstrated benefit to local communities, especially those that are under resourced; and a clear plan to obligate funds awarded in a timely manner and for the intended purpose. Unfortunately, funding for any of the above projects has yet to be determined due to the congressional Democrats failure to pass a long-term spending bill for Fiscal Year 2022. We hope to have updates in early 2022 about the funding status of the projects.

To read more about the Community Project Funding initiative, visit tenney.house.gov.

ADDITIONAL BILLS I INTRODUCED IN 2021



H.Res. 819, VOTE Resolution

This good governance bill restores order and integrity to the House of Representatives by ensuring the Speaker cannot hold votes open for hours at a time simply to obstruct the rights of the minority party, as Speaker Pelosi recently did.



H.R. 5672, Transparency in COVID-19 Expenditures Act

This is another good governance bill that increases oversight to ensure pandemic relief funds help those in need and are used appropriately.



H.R. 5356, Anti-BDS Labeling Act

This bill prevents the Biden Administration from unraveling existing policy that requires Israeli goods produced in Judea and Samaria to be labeled as "Made in Israel."



H.R. 5264, To Expand Burial Benefits for Veterans

This legislation expands access to headstones and burial plaques for US military veterans who passed away on or after December 30, 1960.



H.R. 5069, CUBA Act of 2021

This bill directs the federal government to counter the Cuban regime's censorship efforts and take steps to support the dissemination of censorship circumvention tools.



H.Res. 566, Commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol

The resolution recognizes the historical contributions by the CAP over its 80-year history. It was founded on December 1, 1941, for civilian defense in World War II.



H.R. 3923, Remembering Our Local Heroes Act

This bill creates a federal grant program to assist communities with the construction, restoration, or maintenance of memorials for veterans, military personnel, law enforcement, and firefighters.



H.R. 3068, the ARC Act

This bill corrects an error made by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid to ensure our area's rural hospitals are not on the hook for more money than they owe.



H.Res. 255, Setting a Higher Threshold for Important Legislation

This bill amends the House rules to ensure that major legislation being considered under a "suspension of the rules" goes through a fair and open committee process first.

HOW AM I DOING?



I want your feedback. Scan the QR code to the left to take a brief survey. Let me know what you think of my performance so far this year and share your top areas of concern with me heading into 2022.



UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
CLAUDIA TENNEY
SERVING THE 22ND DISTRICT OF NEW YORK