



**CRITICAL  
LABOR  
COALITION**

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# 2023 | Year End Report

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# Highlights: By the Numbers



# Legislation

## Priorities

The Critical Labor Coalition (CLC) focused its targeted demographics and resulting 2023 legislative priorities to address the labor shortage on two issue areas: workforce growth and tax incentives. By working both individually and with strategic partners, CLC focused on the advancement of the following:

### Workforce Growth Initiatives

- Essential Workers for Economic Advancement Act (H.R. 3734)
- Asylum Seeker Work Authorization Act (S. 255, H.R. 1325)
- Administrative efforts to streamline asylum processes

### Tax Incentives

- EITC Age Parity Act (H.R. 5689)
- Improve and Enhance the Work Opportunity Tax Credit Act (H.R. 6833)

## Accomplishments

### Introduction of EITC Age Parity Act (H.R. 5689)

Worked with AARP and Golden State Opportunity in support of bill introduction and addition of 10 cosponsors

### Bipartisan introduction of Essential Workers for Economic Advancement Act (H.R. 3734)

Supported the addition of Rep. Henry Cuellar as democratic lead for bill introduction

### Bipartisan introduction of Improve and Enhance the Work Opportunity Tax Credit Act (H.R. 6833)

Lead organization in supporting bill introduction and bipartisan co-sponsorship

### Increased bicameral co-sponsorship of Asylum Seeker Work Authorization Act (S.255, H.R. 1325)

4 Senate Cosponsors 23 House Cosponsors



# 2023 Activity Detailed Report



CLC MEMBER  
MEETINGS

21

GUEST SPEAKERS

- Noelle Britton, Deputy Chief of Staff, Rep. Lloyd Smucker (R-PA-11)
- Diana Elliott, VP of U.S. Programs, Population Reference Bureau
- Rep. Harriet Hageman (R-WY-01)
- Ben Gitis, Associate Director, Bipartisan Policy Center
- Rep. Tom Kean (R-NJ-07)
- Jon Baselice, Vice President of Immigration Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- Michael Deheeger, Campaign Director, American Business Immigration Coalition
- Trent Benishek, Sr. Counsel, Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME)
- Margie Almanza, Labor Policy Director, Senate HELP Committee (Ranking Member Cassidy)
- Rhonda Richards, Government Affairs Director, Family & Caregiving Team, AARP
- Sam Conchuratt, Drew Crouch – Senate Finance Committee
- John-Mark Kolb, Deputy Chief of Staff, Rep. María Elvira Salazar (R-FL-27)
- Shannon Meade, Executive Director, Littler Workplace Policy Institute
- Luke Strange, Managing Director, Government Relations, American Enterprise Institute

## THINK TANK COORDINATION

- Humanity Forward
- Kaiser Family Foundation
- Institute for Progress
- Canadian Embassy
- American Enterprise Institute
- Third Way
- Center Forward
- Bipartisan Policy Center

**ISSUE  
SPECIFIC  
PARTNERSHIPS**

**H-2C GUEST  
WORKER PROGRAM**

- Immigration Forum
- Essential Worker Immigration Coalition

**ASYLUM/REFUGEE  
WORKFORCE CHALLENGES**

- Tent Partnership for Refugees
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS)
- Asylum Seeker Advocacy Project (ASAP)
- Immigration Forward
- Refugee Advocacy Lab
- Schedule A Coalition

**EARNED INCOME TAX  
CREDIT EXPANSION**

- Golden State Opportunity
- AARP

**SECOND CHANCE  
OPPORTUNITIES**

- U.S. Dept of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance
- American Probation and Parole Association



## CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS OUTREACH

- All congressional staff – 5/9 briefing
- Blue Dog Coalition
- Congressional Refugee Caucus
- Future of Work Caucus
- New Democrat Coalition
- Paid Family Leave Working Group
- Problem Solvers Caucus
- Republican Governance Group – 7/24 congressional briefing
- Republican Study Group

## SENATE OFFICE MEETINGS

- Sen. Brown (D-OH)
- Sen. Cardin (D-MD)
- Sen. Cassidy (R-LA)
- Sen. Collins (R-ME)
- Sen. Coons (D-DE)
- Sen. Cotton (R-AR)
- Sen. Graham (R-SC)
- Sen. Kelly (D-AZ)
- Sen. King (I-ME)
- Sen. Klobuchar (D-MN)
- Sen. Tillis (R-NC)
- Sen. Wyden (D-OR)

## HOUSE OFFICE MEETINGS

- Rep. Lisa Blunt-Rochester (D-DE-01)
- Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R-OR-05)
- Rep. Ben Cline (R-VA-06)
- Rep. Lou Correa (D-CA-46)
- Rep. Henry Cuellar (D-TX-28)
- Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL-07)
- Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC-05)
- Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp-Perez (D-WA-03)
- Rep. Lucy McBath (D-GA-07)
- Rep. Carol Miller (R-WV-01)
- Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME-01)
- Rep. Hillary Scholten (D-MI-03)
- Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA-14)
- Rep. Jeff Van Drew (R-NJ-02)
- Rep. Beth Van Duyne (R-TX-24)

## CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEETINGS



# MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## PRESS RELEASES

- “Earned Income Tax Credit Age Parity Act” bill introduction - Reps. Judy Chu (CA-28) and Gwen Moore (WI-04)
- “Improve and Enhance the Work Opportunity Tax Credit Act” bill introduction - Rep. Lloyd Smucker (PA-11) alongside Reps. Terri Sewell (AL-7)

## PODCAST INTERVIEWS

- Pantsuit Politics
- Main Street Matters
- Spotlight on Poverty and Opportunity
- Working Lunch

## SOCIAL MEDIA

- 77 posts across social media platforms
- 500+ reactions across social media platforms



# MEDIA COVERAGE

- **FSR Magazine:** [“2024 Restaurant Outlook: A Year of Growth, Costs, and Winning Over Guests”](#)
- **The Ripon Advance:** [“Smucker, Fitzpatrick unveil measure to enhance federal ‘job-creating’ tax credit”](#)
- **Financial Regulation News:** [“Rep. Smucker introduces bill to update Work Opportunity Tax Credit”](#)
- **FMI - The Food Industry Association:** [“FMI Welcomes Introduction of Bipartisan Measure to Improve the Work Opportunity Tax Credit”](#)
- **INC. Australia:** [“Business Groups Urge Congress to Speed Up Work Permits for Asylum Seekers”](#)
- **Inc. Magazine:** [“Business Groups Urge Congress to Speed Up Work Permits for Asylum Seekers: Business owners say asylum seekers shouldn't have to wait six months before receiving work permits.”](#)
- **Today's Hotelier Magazine:** [“Four Key Advocacy Issues in AAHOA’s Sights”](#)
- **Today’s Hotelier Magazine:** [“Examining AAHOA’s Current Advocacy Priorities, including access to capital, labor shortage, swipe fees and more”](#)
- **Spotlight on Poverty & Opportunity:** [“Coalition Looks To Fill Service Industry Labor Shortage”](#)
- **Restaurant Business Magazine:** [“N.Y. launches program to turn more immigrant asylum seekers into restaurant and hotel workers”](#)
- **Restaurant Business Magazine:** [“What can Congress do to ease restaurants' labor struggles?”](#)

## MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS ACCOMPLISHMENTS







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**2023**

**CLC**

**Highlights**

- 1/25** Institute for Progress Briefing on Visa Delays
- 1/31** “Welcome Back” Cocktail Reception
- 5/9** Congressional staff luncheon briefing
- 5/23** Coffee and Conversation with Population Reference Bureau
- 6/28** Webinar on Second Chance Hiring
- 7/24** Republican Governance Group staff briefing
- 7/19** Joint Meeting with EWIC on EWEA
- 8/27-28** CLC Presentation at APPA Annual Meeting
- 9/8** CEO Briefing with Prob. Solvers Chairmen Gottheimer & Fitzpatrick
- 9/26** Rep. Hageman at in-person meeting
- 10/26** AARP Congressional Briefing Panelist
- 10/28** WOTC bill stakeholder meeting
- 11/7** Presentation on Paid Leave by Bipartisan Policy Center
- 12/11** RI/AILA/ASAP presentation: Work Permits 101
- 12/12** Holiday Lunch with guest Rep. Tom Kean

# Your Critical Labor Team



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# Members



Little | Workplace Policy Institute



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