Brad Finstad (MN-01) Research Report

Significant Findings

Finstad Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Was Projected To Kick 14,700 People Off Their Health Insurance And Strip Hospitals In The District Of Nearly $80 Million In Federal Funds, Forcing Clinics To Close Or Significantly Reduce Services

- ✓ July 2025: Finstad voted for and was a strong supporter of the One Big Beautiful Bill and defended the bill's health care cuts.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill was estimated to cut $1 trillion from Medicaid, kicking 14,700 people in MN-01 off their health insurance in "the biggest rollback in federal support for health coverage ever" and slashing health clinic funding in MN-01 by nearly $80 million, forcing multiple clinics to close or reduce services.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill enacted the largest SNAP cuts in history, causing 18,000 Minnesotans to lose benefits and threatening benefits for more than 21,000 SNAP recipients in MN-01.
- ✓ The One Big Beautiful Bill handed more than $1.5 trillion in tax cuts to wealthy Americans like Finstad at the expense of lower-income households.
- ✓ Finstad said the One Big Beautiful Bill was "the largest deficit reduction in nearly 30 years," but the bill would add $3.4 trillion to the national debt over the next decade.

Finstad Supported Policies That Dramatically Increased Costs For Minnesotans On Everyday Goods And Energy, Including Tariffs And The Iran War, While Accepting Tens Of Thousands Of Dollars From Defense Contractors And Companies That Raised Energy Rates On Minnesotans

- ✓ 2026: Finstad claimed that "inflation has declined significantly" under Trump even though inflation was at its highest level since May 2023, and said Trump's policies were "the right direction for the country despite the current price of gas."
- ✓ Finstad repeatedly praised and voted to protect Trump's tariffs, which were expected to cost consumers more than $2,500 per household annually, increasing prices in Minnesota on everything from groceries, to energy, to hockey gear.
- ✓ Finstad voted for the One Big Beautiful Bill, which was projected to spike annual household energy costs in Minnesota by $410 by 2035.
- ✓ Finstad was a strong supporter of the war in Iran, which dramatically increased gas and diesel prices for Minnesotans, and accepted more than $100,000 from defense companies that served to benefit from the war.

Finstad Failed Farmers, Letting The Farm Bill Lapse And Supporting Tariffs And Policies That Hurt Minnesota Farmers In Crisis

- ✓ Finstad said advancing strong farm policy that benefitted rural communities was one of his priorities in Congress.
- ✓ 2026: Minnesota was in a farm crisis due to skyrocketing costs and plummeting prices, partially due to the tariffs and Iran War that Finstad supported.
- ✓ During Finstad's tenure, Congress failed to enact a new Farm Bill.
- ✓ Finstad supported reckless tariffs, which devastated Minnesota farmers as China retaliated by boycotting American soybeans.

- ✓ Finstad was a strong supporter of the war in Iran, which dramatically increased diesel and fertilizer prices for MN-01 farmers.

Finstad Repeatedly Voted To Raise Health Care Costs And Reduce Coverage For Minnesotans, Forcing Tens Of Thousands Of Minnesotans To Drop Their Insurance Coverage As Their Monthly Premiums Were Expected To Rise By More Than $3,000

- ✓ January 2026: Finstad voted against bipartisan legislation extending Affordable Care Act advanced premium tax credits for three years, dramatically increasing health insurance costs for Minnesotans on marketplace plans.

- ✓ December 2025: Finstad voted for H.R. 6703, the Lower Health Care Premiums For All Americans Act, a Republican bill that would chip away at the Affordable Care Act and cause 100,000 people to lose care.

- ✓ December 2023: Finstad voted against H.R. 5378, the bipartisan "Lower Costs, More Transparency Act," which increased funding for health programs to increase price transparency for hospitals, health insurance companies, and pharmacies.

- ✓ In the state legislature, Finstad co-authored an omnibus health finance bill that made drastic changes to MinnesotaCare and was projected to leave 25,000 people without health insurance, and voted for a separate bill that was projected to kick 27,000 people off their insurance.

Finstad Was An Anti-Abortion Extremist Who Co-Founded A Crisis Pregnancy Center And Co-Sponsored A National Abortion Ban With No Exceptions

- ✓ 2023-2025: Finstad co-sponsored and voted for extreme anti-abortion bills in Congress, including a national abortion ban that could also ban birth control and IVF, and legislation that could jail abortion providers.

- ✓ Finstad received an A+ rating from Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America and celebrated the Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade.

- ✓ In the state legislature, Finstad was chief author of a bill that allocated state funds to crisis pregnancy centers, while he and his wife were co-founders of a crisis pregnancy center in New Ulm.

- ✓ 2003-2009: Finstad was a staunch anti-abortion advocate in the state legislature, co-authoring a bill prohibiting state funds from going towards abortions that included possible criminal charges for abortion providers.

Finstad Was A Career Politician Of More Than Twenty Years Who Was In And Out Of The "Revolving Door" Of Politics; Less Than A Year After He Worked At The USDA, Finstad Headed An Agriculture Lobbying Firm In Minnesota

- ✓ 2002: Finstad got his start in politics with an opponent accusing him of trying to buy his seat with a bribe, allegedly offering his Republican primary opponent future employment and election assistance in exchange for dropping out.

- ✓ 2001-2021: Finstad spent more than twenty years in political and policy roles including in the Minnesota State House and at the USDA.

- ✓ 2021-2022: After leaving the USDA, Finstad served as executive director for a state-registered lobbying firm for Minnesota turkey farmers.

Finstad Was The Owner Of Frontier Labs, Which Filed For More Than $300,000 In Tax Abatements From Local Municipalities And Had A $62,499 Business Subsidy Rescinded After Failing To Build The Agreed Upon Project

- ✓ Finstad was the owner of Frontier Labs, which he reported as an asset of more than $1 million even though the company's assets were acquired by a Canadian company in 2022.

- ✓ 2012: Frontier Labs attempted to receive more than $80,000 in city and county property tax abatements in exchange for promising to provide just four jobs that paid at least $14 an hour.

- ✓ 2021: After receiving nearly $220,000 in property tax abatements and a $62,000 business subsidy from the city of Sleepy Eye, Frontier Labs failed to build their project by the agreed-upon timeline and had their development agreement terminated.

As A Member Of Congress, Finstad Was Part Of A Legislative Group That Proposed Raising The Retirement Age And Slashing Social Security And Medicare Benefits

- ✓ Finstad was a member of leadership for the Republican Study Committee, which proposed raising the retirement age and slashing Social Security benefits as well as increasing Medicare costs for beneficiaries through a "premium support" structure.

- ✓ Finstad was embraced by a group that wanted to privatize Social Security and turn Medicare into a voucher program.

- ✓ Finstad was a member of the House DOGE Caucus, which supported the Department of Government Efficiency which laid off thousands of Social Security staff across the country and shuttered offices.

Finstad Repeatedly Voted Against Funding For Federal And Local Law Enforcement During His Political Career

- ✓ In Congress, Finstad supported legislation that cut federal funding for local police and federal law enforcement, while voting against a bipartisan bill that provided $90 million in additional federal funding to local and state police for training.

- ✓ In the Minnesota State legislature, Finstad voted against legislation that provided millions in funding for the hiring of additional Minnesota state troopers and fire marshals.

- ✓ 2003: In the state legislature, Finstad voted for budget cuts that slashed funding for grants to help prevent violence in K-12 schools.

Finstad Voted Against A Pay Raise For Troops And Funding For Military Medical Programs While Supporting Cuts To The VA That Created Longer Wait Times, Understaffing, And Delays In Care For Veterans

- ✓ December 2023: Finstad voted against the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 which provided a 5.2 percent pay raise for both military servicemembers, authorized $20 million in impact aid for military children with severe disabilities, and expanded funding for military medical programs.

- ✓ December 2022: Finstad voted against having the VA study the provision of pregnancy support staff to pregnant or formerly pregnant veterans.

- ✓ Finstad was a member of the House DOGE Caucus and claimed he was "eager" to help the agency, when DOGE slashed positions at the Veterans Affairs Department disproportionately impacting veterans through longer wait times, understaffing, and delays in care.

Finstad Was An Anti-Labor Legislator Who Voted Against Speeding Up Union Contract Negotiations, Voted Against Requiring Joint Employers To Bargain Working Conditions With A Union Representative, Voted To Defund OSHA, And Voted To Cut $100 Million In Funding For The National Labor Relations Board

- ✓ 2025: Finstad received a legislative score of 0% from the AFL-CIO, the largest federation of unions in the United States.

- ✓ Finstad voted against bipartisan legislation to speed up union contract negotiations that was called "one of the most consequential labor bills to come before Congress in generations" by the president of the Teamsters.

- ✓ Finstad opposed a National Labor Relations Board rule that would require joint employers to bargain working conditions with a union representative, voted to defund OSHA, and voted to cut $100 million in funding for the National Labor Relations Board.

Finstad Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Was Projected To Kick 14,700 People Off Their Health Insurance And Strip Hospitals In The District Of Nearly $80 Million In Federal Funds, Forcing Clinics To Close Or Significantly Reduce Services

July 2025: Finstad Voted For And Was A Strong Supporter Of The One Big Beautiful Bill And Defended The Bill's Health Care Cuts

July 2025: Finstad Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill

July 2025: Finstad Voted For Final Passage Of The One Big Beautiful Bill Act. In July 2025, Congressman Brad Finstad voted for: "Motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill that would permanently extend nearly $4 trillion in expiring individual and business tax cuts, create several new tax breaks and fund border and immigration enforcement and air traffic control upgrades. It would cut Medicaid and other safety net programs to partly offset the cost. Among other provisions, it would raise the statutory debt ceiling by $5 trillion and appropriate more than $448 billion in mandatory funding for Trump administration priorities and other needs, including $153 billion for defense, $89 billion for immigration enforcement, and $89.5 billion for border control and security. It also would increase the state and local tax deduction cap to $40,000 annually for five years for households making up to $500,000 a year until 2030, when it would permanently revert to $10,000." The motion was agreed to by a vote of 218-214. [H.R. 1, Vote #190, 7/3/25; CQ, 7/3/25]

- **May 2025: Finstad Voted For H.R. 1, The One Big Beautiful Bill Act.** In May 2025, Finstad voted for: "Passage of the bill that would provide for approximately $3.8 trillion in net tax cuts and $321 billion in military, border enforcement and judiciary spending, offset by $1.5 trillion in spending reductions, as instructed in the fiscal 2025 budget resolution (H Con Res 14). It would raise the statutory debt limit by $4 trillion and provide for increased spending on defense and border security, spending cuts on social safety net programs, such as Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. It also includes a mix of tax breaks for businesses and individuals; tax increases on universities and foundations; and a phase-down of clean energy tax credits. It would reduce spending on Medicaid by $625 billion over a 10-year period and modify eligibility and cost provisions for enrollees and health providers and impose work, volunteer and education requirements on adults ages 19 to 64 who are covered by the program. It would appropriate "such sums as necessary" for reducing cost-sharing payments for low-income individuals who've purchased "silver" plans on the 2010 health care law's exchanges. But payments to plans that cover abortions would be mostly barred. It would extend and make permanent individual tax brackets and rates included in the 2017 tax overhaul law (PL 115-97) and provide for the adjustment of the lower bounds of each tier based on inflation. It would reduce federal spending on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by requiring states to shoulder more of the cost, expand work requirements for SNAP, extend programs authorized under the 2018 farm bill, and prohibit the U.S. Department of Agriculture from increasing the cost of the Thrifty Food Program. As amended, it would cap state and local tax deductions at $40,000 for households with incomes below $500,000 and prohibit Medicaid funding for gender transition therapies or procedures for minors and adults, among other provisions." The bill passed by a vote of 215-214. [H.R. 1, Vote #145, 5/22/25; CQ, 5/22/25]

Finstad Praised The One Big Beautiful Bill Extensively, Calling It "Once-In-A-Generation Legislation" And Saying It Would "Help Hardworking Minnesotans"

July 2025: Finstad Said He Was "Proud" To Have Voted For The Final Version Of The Republican Budget Bill And Claimed It Secured Big Wins For Americans. "Congressman Brad Finstad (MN-01) issued a statement after final passage of H.R. 1, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. The legislation now heads to President Trump's desk to be signed into law. Congressman Finstad celebrated its passage, saying, 'This Republican majority was sent to Congress to change the failed policies of the last four years and move our country forward with policies that cut taxes, secure our borders, restore energy independence, and deliver peace through strength. The bill we voted on today secures those wins for southern Minnesotans and for the American people. 'Importantly, this bill delivers meaningful and permanent tax relief for families and small businesses across the First District while also making government more accountable to taxpayers through much-needed checks on Washington's waste, fraud, and abuse. I was proud to vote to get this done for the American people, ushering in the economic growth that puts American families first.'" [Press Release, Rep. Brad Finstad, 7/3/25]

May 2025: Finstad Called The Republican Budget Bill "Once-In-A-Generation Legislation" And Claimed It Secured A "Historic $1.6 Trillion In Savings." "Congressman Brad Finstad (MN-01) issued the following statement after the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act: 'Since my first day in Congress, I have worked to support policies that grow our economy, rein in Washington's out-of-control spending, and let hardworking families keep more of their paychecks. The House's 'One Big Beautiful Bill' does exactly that. Not only does this once-in-a-generation legislation prevent the largest tax hike in our country's history, it delivers what the American people voted for: a secure border, national security, energy dominance, and an end to government waste, fraud, and abuse.' Rep. Finstad continued, 'For far too long, Washington has disrespected the hard-earned dollars of American taxpayers. This budget resolution secures a historic $1.6 trillion in savings, and quite simply, puts America – and Americans – first, which is why I was proud to cast a 'yes' vote on this legislation on behalf of southern Minnesota's families, farmers, and small businesses.'" [Press Release, Rep. Brad Finstad, 5/22/25]

June 2025: Finstad Said The Big Beautiful Bill Would "Help Hardworking Minnesotans." "Another great Tele-Town Hall last night! Appreciated hearing your thoughts on important issues like the ongoing situation in Iran, challenges our rural hospitals are facing, protections for the unborn, and how the House's One Big, Beautiful Bill will help hardworking Minnesotans in #MN01. Thanks to the nearly 5,000 of you who took time out of your evening to join!" [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 6/25/25]

[@RepFinstad, Twitter, 6/25/25]

July 2025: Finstad Called The Big Beautiful Bill "A Win For Southern Minnesotans." "Congressman Brad Finstad of Southern Minnesota's First District issued a statement after the passage of President Donald Trump's key tax bill, commonly known as 'One Big Beautiful Bill.' The Congressman applauded the bill's passage, calling it a win for southern Minnesotans and for the American People. Finstad said in part quote, 'This bill delivers meaningful and permanent tax relief for families and small businesses across the First District while also making government more accountable to taxpayers through much-needed checks on Washington's waste, fraud, and abuse. I was proud to vote to get this done for the American people, ushering in the economic growth that puts American families first.'" [KEYC, 7/3/25]

February 2026: Finstad Said The Big Beautiful Bill Contained Some "Big Wins." "To Finstad, the big wins came through the Republican majority in the House, which passed Trump's 'big beautiful' bill that included an extension of the president's first term tax cuts – and a few new ones. Those included the limited lifting of federal taxes on tips and raising the federal tax exemption on inheritances to those valued at $15 million, helping farmers and small businesses in the district pass their operations down to the next generation, Finstad said." [MinnPost, 2/26/26]

July 2026: Finstad Celebrated The One-Year Anniversary Of The One Big Beautiful Bill, Saying He Was "Proud" To Vote For The Legislation

July 2026: Finstad: "The U.S. House Passed The Working Families Tax Cuts […] My @HouseGOP Colleagues And I Were Proud To Support This Once-In-A-Generation Reform." "One year ago today, the U.S. House passed the Working Families Tax Cuts, and tomorrow is the one-year anniversary of President Trump signing this crucial legislation into law. My @HouseGOP colleagues and I were proud to support this once-in-a-generation reform, delivering meaningful and permanent tax relief, secure borders, revitalized American manufacturing, and peace through strength. These are just a few examples of the policy wins in H.R. 1 that prove our commitment to the American people and creating a stronger, more resilient United States of America." [RepFinstad, Twitter, 7/3/26]

[@RepFinstad, Twitter, 7/3/26]

- **September 2025: House Republicans Attempted To Rebrand The One Big Beautiful Bill As The "Working Families Tax Cut."** "President Trump's top political and messaging lieutenants are telling House Republicans to refer to his signature tax cut and spending legislation as the 'working families tax cut' rather than the One Big Beautiful Bill Act ahead of the midterms. Press secretary Karoline Leavitt, Trump 2024 political director James Blair and Trump 2024 chief pollster Tony Fabrizio briefed members and staff on the messaging strategy Wednesday morning. 'Working families tax cut, that's what we're calling it,' Rep. Jake Ellzey (R-Texas) said after the briefing. He said that Republicans are moving away from using 'one big, beautiful bill' because it doesn't say enough about the legislation, praising the work of Trump's team." [The Hill, 9/3/25]

February 2026: Finstad "Acknowledged The Especially Significant Challenges" The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Pose For Minnesota Counties, But Maintained That The Legislation Would Make "Life More Affordable"

Waseca County News: Finstad "Acknowledged The Especially Significant Challenges" The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Pose For Minnesota Counties. "While Congressman Finstad has supported the One Big Beautiful Bill and its additional work requirements for recipients of SNAP and Medicaid, as a former State Legislator he has also acknowledged the especially significant challenges it will pose for Minnesota counties. The AMC specifically urges policymakers to delay SNAP benefit and administrative cost shares for all states until Fiscal Year 2030. Under the One Big Beautiful Bill, the federal government's cost share of administering SNAP benefits will be cut from 50% to 25%." [Waseca County News, 2/9/26]

- **The Association of Minnesota Counties Said States Could Face Higher Administrative Cost Shares For Medicaid And SNAP Because Of The One Big Beautiful Bill.** "However, the Association of Minnesota Counties is still pushing for new laws and rules to ease or delay the burdens of administration, while shielding counties from being excessively penalized for minor errors amid the transition. While Congressman Finstad has supported the One Big Beautiful Bill and its additional work requirements for recipients of SNAP and Medicaid, as a former State Legislator he has also acknowledged the especially significant challenges it will pose for Minnesota counties. The AMC specifically urges policymakers to delay SNAP benefit and administrative cost shares for all states until Fiscal Year 2030. Under the One Big Beautiful Bill, the federal government's cost share of administering SNAP benefits will be cut from 50% to 25%. According to the AMC, such a shift would provide states with enough time to reduce payment error rates to the 6% target set under the One Big Beautiful Bill. If that 6% target is not reached, states could have to take on up to 15% of the cost of funding SNAP benefits." [Waseca County News, 2/9/26]

February 2026: Finstad Said The One Big Beautiful Bill "Made Life More Affordable." "'House Republicans and President Trump have ushered in the long-term reform Americans voted for by passing the Working Families Tax Cuts, which have made life more affordable – delivering meaningful relief to middle-class families and supporting millions of American jobs. Our country is safer both at home and abroad, our farmers have the certainty they need, small business owners spend less time fighting bureaucratic red tape, energy costs are lower for families, and Americans are keeping more of their hard-earned tax dollars.'" [Caledonia Argus, 2/25/26]

Finstad Repeatedly Defended The One Big Beautiful Bill's Medicaid Cuts And Accused Critics Of "Fearmongering," Arguing That People Who Needed The Program Would Not Lose Coverage And Dismissing Concerns About Rural Hospital Closures As "Lies"

August 2025: Brad Finstad And The MN Republican Delegation Op-Ed Headline: "GOP Delegation: Don't Believe The Democrats' Lies. Our One Big Beautiful Bill Strengthens Medicaid For Minnesotans." [Alpha News, Brad Finstad, Tom Emmer, Michelle Fishback, and Peter Stauber Op-Ed, 8/8/25]

- **August 2025: Finstad Defended Cuts In The Big Beautiful Bill As Being Made To "Clean" The Program.** "Finstad stated there have been zero border crossings in the first three months of the Trump Administration. According to the Department of Homeland Security, March 2025 had roughly 7,000 border encounters, which was labeled at the time a 'record low' in recent history. He then spoke about the changes the bill made to Medicaid, stating they were made to 'clean' the programs, addressing double enrollment in different states and raising work requirements from 55 to 65 for SNAP." [Owatonna People's Press, 8/15/25]

- **August 2025: Finstad And The MN Republican Delegation Called It "Lies" To Say That Rural Hospitals Would Be Negatively Affected By The Big Beautiful Bill.** "On July 4th, President Trump signed the One Big Beautiful Bill into law, delivering on the mandate 77 million Americans gave him in November. From securing our borders, to unleashing American energy, to preventing the largest tax hike in American history — this historic piece of legislation contains wins for every Minnesotan. Yet the Democrats, fueled by their hatred for President Trump, have been on a fearmongering campaign about the contents of our bill — particularly when it comes to Medicaid. According to Gov. Tim Walz, our One Big Beautiful Bill will 'tear health care away from a quarter million Minnesotans.' According to Sen. Amy Klobuchar, 'rural hospitals are roadkill' in the One Big Beautiful Bill. Even members of the Minnesota media have been perpetuating the Democrats' lies. But that's exactly what these statements are: lies." [Alpha News, Brad Finstad, Tom Emmer, Michelle Fishback, and Peter Stauber Op-Ed, 8/8/25]

August 2025: Finstad And The MN Republican Delegation Said Opponents Of The Big Beautiful Bill Were "Fearmongering" About The Bill's Cuts To Medicaid. "On July 4th, President Trump signed the One Big Beautiful Bill into law, delivering on the mandate 77 million Americans gave him in November. From securing our borders, to unleashing American energy, to preventing the largest tax hike in American history — this historic piece of legislation contains wins for every Minnesotan. Yet the Democrats, fueled by their hatred for President Trump, have been on a fearmongering campaign about the contents of our bill — particularly when it comes to Medicaid." [Alpha News, Brad Finstad, Tom Emmer, Michelle Fishback, and Peter Stauber Op-Ed, 8/8/25]

- **Finstad And The MN Republican Delegation Said People Opposed To The Big Beautiful Bill's Medicaid Cuts Were Spewing "Nothing But Lies To Stoke Fear And Score Political Points."** "While Democrat leaders in the state sit on the sidelines, our Republican trifecta in Washington signed provisions into law that address this very issue. The One Big Beautiful Bill contains policies that strengthen Medicaid for the Minnesotans who need it most while rooting out the waste, fraud, and abuse that exploded under the Biden administration […] So the next time a Democrat posts a video claiming Republicans are ripping away health care benefits from disabled, young children — don't believe them. It's nothing but lies to stoke fear and score political points." [Alpha News, Brad Finstad, Tom Emmer, Michelle Fishback, and Peter Stauber Op-Ed, 8/8/25]

Finstad And The MN Republican Delegation Op-Ed: "Nothing In Our Bill Takes Away Health Care From The Very People Medicaid Was Intended To Help Such As Single Mothers, Children, Seniors, Or The Disabled." "The truth is simple. Nothing in our bill takes away health care from the very people Medicaid was intended to help such as single mothers, children, seniors, or the disabled. The Medicaid provisions included in the One Big Beautiful Bill ensure our most vulnerable continue receiving the support they need, while restoring the integrity of the program and saving taxpayer dollars. It's a win for our communities, a win for our state, and a win for the entire country. The most appalling factor in all of this is that Democrats would rather spew lies than get on board." [Alpha News, Brad Finstad, Tom Emmer, Michelle Fishback, and Peter Stauber Op-Ed, 8/8/25]

August 2025: Finstad Said The Big Beautiful Bill Would Not Cut Medicaid For "A Family, Children, People With Disabilities." FINSTAD: "If you are here illegally on Medicaid, if you are involved in waste, fraud and abuse, then yes, you might be cut off the program. But if you are a family, children, people with disabilities, you will not. Page ten of the bill says specifically that you will not be cut out of the Medicaid or SNAP programs. So it's there for the general public to read." [KTTC, 00:44, 8/13/25] (VIDEO)

August 2025: Finstad Said It Was "Not Necessarily True" To Say Hard Working Minnesota Families Struggling To Get By Would Lose Their Access To Health Care Because Of The Big Beautiful Bill.

REPORTER: "Another thing that you touched on was cuts to Medicaid and SNAP, and you talked about how this is being done to just sort of prevent that fraud and that wasteful over spending, but we have seen people here at home that they are just hardworking families trying to feed their children, and they're seeing that their benefits are being cut, and they're really struggling with this. How can we help them?" FINSTAD: "I would say that's not necessarily true because, if you look at the bill and specific language that we have in the reconciliation bill, when it comes to Medicaid or it comes to SNAP, we're very specific about women with children, we're very specific about people with disabilities not being cut with any of the changes that we've made." [KAAL, 09:54, 8/19/25] (VIDEO)

The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Estimated To Cut $1 Trillion From Medicaid, Kicking 14,700 People In MN-01 Off Their Health Insurance In "The Biggest Rollback In Federal Support For Health Coverage Ever" And Slashing Health Clinic Funding In MN-01 By Nearly $80 Million, Forcing Multiple Clinics To Close Or Reduce Services

September 2025: The Joint Economic Committee Minority Estimated 14,700 People In MN-01 Would Lose Health Insurance By 2034 Due To Congressional Republicans' Cuts To Medicaid And The ACA

September 2025: The Joint Economic Committee Minority Estimated 14,700 People In MN-01 Would Lose Health Insurance By 2034 Due To Congressional Republicans' Cuts To Medicaid And The ACA. "Source: The Joint Economic Committee – House Minority's district-level numbers were created by combining estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office on the national total number of people who would lose insurance by 2034 with a range of state-level data on recent trends in Affordable Care Act enrollment, the total number of Medicaid enrollees in each state, and early analyses of how some Medicaid cuts in the bill would impact each state. Estimates were allocated to the district-level based on data provided by the House Budget Committee on the number of people in each District who are enrolled in Medicaid or in ACA Marketplace Plans. These estimates were sourced from the Regional Leadership Council and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Due to redistricting in 2024, Congressional district data for North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, Alabama, and New York may not be an exact match. ACA estimates are rounded, and data may not sum to overall totals due to rounding." [Joint Economic Committee Minority, September 2025]

MN-01: Health Insurance Losses From Cuts To Medicaid And The Affordable Care Act Under The One Big Beautiful Bill		
Est. Number of People Losing Affordable Care Act Coverage	**Est. Number of People Losing Medicaid Coverage**	**Est. Total Number of People Losing Insurance**
3,500	11,200	14,700

[Joint Economic Committee Minority, September 2025]

The Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Nearly $1 Trillion, "The Biggest Rollback In Federal Support For Health Coverage Ever"

KFF: The Big Beautiful Bill Cut Medicaid By Nearly $1 Trillion. "On July 4, President Trump signed into law a budget reconciliation package once called the 'One Big, Beautiful Bill' that made major reductions in federal health care spending to offset part of the costs of extending expiring tax cuts. The Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) latest cost estimate shows that the reconciliation package would reduce federal Medicaid spending over a decade by an estimated $911 billion (after accounting for interactions that produce overlapping reductions across different provisions of the law) and increase the number of uninsured people by 10 million." [KFF, 7/23/25]

- **KFF Executive Vice President For Health Policy Larry Levitt: The Big Beautiful Bill Was "The Biggest Rollback In Federal Support For Health Coverage Ever."** "The 'one big beautiful bill' that was just passed by the Senate has not been framed as a health reform plan. But make no mistake: This Republican policy bill is effectively a partial repeal of the Affordable Care Act to help pay for tax cuts, and should it reach President Trump's desk, it would represent the biggest rollback in federal support for health coverage ever. A preliminary estimate from the Congressional Budget Office projects that the bill would reduce federal spending for Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act's provisions by more than $1 trillion over a decade, resulting in nearly

12 million more people becoming uninsured by 2034." [New York Times, KFF Executive Vice President for Health Policy Larry Levitt Op-Ed, 7/1/25]

March 2026: Nearly 30,000 Fewer Minnesotans Were Enrolled In Medicaid As Compared To March 2025

March 2026: Nearly 30,000 Fewer Minnesotans Were Enrolled In Medicaid As Compared To March 2025. "This tracker presents the most recent data on monthly Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) enrollment reported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the Performance Indicator Project. It includes data for Medicaid and CHIP and reports enrollment data for children and adults. The data are generally the most recent data available and are useful for reporting trends in Medicaid enrollment. However, the data only capture full-benefit enrollees, excluding those who receive limited benefits, such as those who receive family planning services only, and consequently, do not provide a full count of the total population enrolled in Medicaid. Additionally, these data cannot be used to monitor changes in enrollment by eligibility pathway, including for adults in the Medicaid expansion group. Enrollment data for the full Medicaid population is available here, and for more information on how implementation of Medicaid work requirements is affecting Medicaid expansion enrollment, please see Tracking Implementation of the 2025 Reconciliation Law Medicaid Work Requirements." [KFF, accessed 7/13/26]

2025-2026: Number Of Minnesotans Enrolled In Medicaid			
March 2025	**March 2026**	**Difference**	**% Change**
1,165,733	1,136,089	29,644	−3%

[KFF, accessed 7/13/26]

August 2025: KFF: The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Projected To Increase Minnesota's Uninsured Population By Roughly 170,000 People. "This policy is projected to increase the uninsured population by roughly 170K people — around a 3 percentage point change. This estimate could vary between 130K and 210K based on a 25% range of uncertainty. Of the total increase in the uninsured, 150K would become uninsured due to changes in Medicaid, 9.4K would become uninsured due to changes in the ACA, and 6.8K would become uninsured because of changes to Medicare and policy interactions.." [KFF, 8/20/25]

The One Big Beautiful Bill's Cuts To Medicaid Would Particularly Impact Rural Communities

NBC Headline: "Rural Communities Brace For Medicaid Cuts In Republicans' Big Bill." [NBC, 6/25/25]

American Hospital Association: The Big Beautiful Bill Act Would Result In 1.8 Million Individuals In Rural Communities Losing Their Medicaid Coverage. "Medicaid, which covers over 16 million people in rural communities, helps address barriers to health care and sustain rural hospitals. But many in Congress are considering Medicaid cuts that would have a devastating impact on rural hospitals and patients. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1) would result in 1.8 million individuals in rural communities losing their Medicaid coverage by 2034. In addition, select Medicaid provisions in H.R. 1 would result in a $50.4 billion reduction in federal Medicaid spending on rural hospitals over 10 years." [American Hospital Association, 6/16/25]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Projected To Cut Nearly $80 Million In Revenue To Twenty-Two Hospitals And Clinics In MN-01

Twenty-Two Hospitals In MN-01 Were Projected To Lose A Total Of $79,522,934.37 Due To Medicaid Cuts In The One Big Beautiful Bill

Twenty-Two Hospitals In MN-01 Were Projected To Lose A Total Of $79,522,934.37 Due To Medicaid Cuts In The One Big Beautiful Bill [Third Way, 7/8/25]

Projected Cuts To MN-01 Hospital Revenue From Medicaid Cuts In The One Big Beautiful Bill			
Hospital Name	**Zip Code**	**City**	**Projected Cut to Hospital Revenue**

Allina Health Faribault Medical Ctr	55021	Faribault	$186,391.09
Cannon Falls Medical Center - Mayo	55009	Cannon Falls	$512,003.42
Madelia Health	56062	Madelia	$379,607.91
Mayo Clinic Health Sys - St. James	56081	St. James	$501,007.82
Mayo Clinic Health System - Red Wing	55066	Red Wing	$3,080,921.12
Mayo Clinic Health System - Waseca	56093	Waseca	$605,739.54
Mayo Clinic Health System-Fairmont	56031	Fairmont	$2,078,911.67
Mayo Clinic Hospital Rochester	55905	Rochester	$37,292,511.70
Mayo Clnic Health System - Lake City	55041	Lake City	$765,812.05
Mayo Clnic Hlth Sys-Albrt Lea Austin	55912	Austin	$7,299,447.80
Mchs - Southwest Minnesota Region	56001	Mankato	$9,506,242.35
New Ulm Medical Center	56073	New Ulm	$225,872.18
Olmsted Medical Center	55904	Rochester	$11,128,635.29
Owatonna Hospital	55060	Owatonna	$168,039.83
Rivers Edge Hospital And Clinic	56082	St. Peter	$166,096.76
Sanford Hospital Luverne	56156	Luverne	$488,866.26
Sanford Medical Center Jackson	56143	Jackson	$248,368.01
Sanford Regional Hospital Worthingto	56187	Worthington	$1,466,831.81
Sleepy Eye Municipal Hospital	56085	Sleepy Eye	$228,395.61
St. Elizabeth Hosp. Of Wabasha Inc.	55981	Wabasha	$351,518.97
United Hospital District	56013	Blue Earth	$1,019,689.75
Winona Health Services	55987	Winona	$1,822,023.42
		TOTAL:	**$79,522,934.37**

[Third Way, 7/8/25]

2026: The Minnesota Hospital Association Estimated Minnesota Will Miss Out On More Than $2 Billion In Federal Health Care Funding In Just The First Fiscal Year Of The One Big Beautiful Bill. "The Minnesota Hospital Association estimates Minnesota will miss out on more than $2 billion in federal health care funding just in the first fiscal year alone, 2028, under Trump's bill. It also estimates around 140,000 Minnesotans will lose Medicaid eligibility and another 60,000 will likely drop their Affordable Care Act health insurance because of rising costs. That means more uncompensated care, emergency room visits and requests for hospital financial assistance." [MPR News, 6/22/26]

Medicaid Cuts In The One Big Beautiful Bill Especially Impacted Rural Health Services In Southern Minnesota, Which Saw Several Clinics Close

Medicaid Cuts Hit Minnesota's Rural Hospitals And Clinics Particularly Hard

Sahan Journal Headline: "Minnesota Hospitals, Community Clinics Brace For Impact Of Medicaid Cuts." [Sahan Journal, 9/25/25]

KFF Headline: "'One Big Beautiful Bill' Would Batter Rural Hospital Finances, Researchers Say." [KFF, 6/12/25]

Minnesota Star Tribune: "Minnesota Has Managed To Hang On To This Level Of Small-Town Medical Care Much Longer Than Most States […] Minnesota Has 76 Critical Access Hospitals, Which Receive Federal Payment Boosts To Serve Underserved Or Rural Communities." "Minnesota has managed to hang on to this level of small-town medical care much longer than most states. Minnesota has 76 critical access hospitals, which receive federal payment boosts to serve underserved or rural communities, and that total ranks fourth-highest among U.S. states. Mayo Clinic shuttered its hospital in Springfield, Minn., in 2020, but closures in Minnesota remain rare.” [Minnesota Star Tribune, 5/15/26]

September 2025: Six Mayo Clinic Sites In Southern Minnesota, Including Four In MN-01, Closed After The One Big Beautiful Bill’s Medicaid Cuts Were Announced

September 2025: CBS Minnesota Headline: “Mayo Clinic To Close Six Sites In Southern Minnesota By End Of The Year.” [CBS Minnesota, 9/9/25]

- **September 2025: Mayo Clinic Announced It Was “Closing Six Sites In Southern Minnesota […] By Dec. 10.”** “Mayo Clinic says it is closing six sites in southern Minnesota by the end of the year and transitioning some elective procedures from Albert Lea to Austin and Waseca. The six clinics in Belle Plaine, Caledonia, Montgomery, Northridge, St. Peter and Wells will close by Dec. 10. Elective procedures in ophthalmology, orthopedics, podiatry, endoscopy and gynecology will move from the Albert Lea campus to sites in Austin and Waseca. The decision is a result of the challenges of providing health care in rural Minnesota — such as staffing shortages and a decline in the number of patients — Mayo Clinic said in a release.” [CBS Minnesota, 9/9/25]

The Six Hospitals Were Located In “Belle Plaine, Caledonia, Montgomery, Northridge, St. Peter And Wells.” “Mayo Clinic says it is closing six sites in southern Minnesota by the end of the year and transitioning some elective procedures from Albert Lea to Austin and Waseca. The six clinics in Belle Plaine, Caledonia, Montgomery, Northridge, St. Peter and Wells will close by Dec. 10.” [CBS Minnesota, 9/9/25]

- **Caledonia Was In MN-01.** [Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information | Cities and Townships 2023-24, accessed 7/29/26]

1	Finstad, Brad	Caledonia Township	637
		Caledonia City	2,847

[Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information | Cities and Townships 2023-24, accessed 7/29/26]

- **Mayo Clinic Health System – Northridge Was Located In Mankato.** [Rehab.com, accessed 7/29/26]

Mayo Clinic Health System – Northridge

1695 Lor Ray Drive • Mankato, MN 56003 • (507) 594-5700

4.0 (15 reviews) • Leave a Review • Claim Profile

[Rehab.com, accessed 7/29/26]

  - **Mankato Was In MN-01.** [Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information | Cities and Townships 2023-24, accessed 7/29/26]

1	Finstad, Brad	Mankato City	0
		Mankato City	44,495

[Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information | Cities and Townships 2023-24, accessed 7/29/26]

- **Saint Peter Was In MN-01.** [Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information | Cities and Townships 2023-24, accessed 7/29/26]

1	Finstad, Brad	Saint Peter City	12,004

[Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information | Cities and Townships 2023-24, accessed 7/29/26]

- **Wells Was In MN-01.** [Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information | Cities and Townships 2023-24, accessed 7/29/26]

1	Finstad, Brad	Wells Township	1,545
		Wells City	2,410

[Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information | Cities and Townships 2023-24, accessed 7/29/26]

June 2026: Following The Closure Of The Mayo Clinic Health System Location In Caledonia, The Community Of 2,800 Was Left Without A Primary Care Provider. "It was a happy accident that Amanda Middendorf opened her one-room, same-day clinic in Caledonia just after another healthcare provider left town. 'Convenient care is what I like to call it,' said Middendorf, a nurse practitioner, 'because I'm not really a full urgent care, and I'm not really a primary care yet — although I'm moving towards that direction.' As of November 2025, primary care is an unfilled niche in Caledonia, a community of 2,800 in the heart of Houston County. That month, the local Mayo Clinic Health System closed its outpatient clinic there, transitioning those staff members to the La Crosse, Wisconsin, location. In September 2025, Mayo Clinic Health System announced the closure of Caledonia's clinic and five others in rural communities: Belle Plaine, Montgomery, St. Peter, North Mankato and Wells. The changes also included some service reductions at Mayo Clinic Health System's hospital campus in Albert Lea." [Post Bulletin via Internet Archive, 6/30/26]

June 2026: Montgomery City Administrator Brian Heck Said That Given The Changes To Medicare And Medicaid And Reimbursement Levels, It Was Going To Be "Extraordinarily Difficult" To Attract Another Clinic To Replace The Mayo Clinic Location. "The reason given for the Montgomery clinic's closure: a shortage of support staff. 'If they had someone that called in sick or was on vacation ... they didn't have the support staff to support the operations,' said Brian Heck, Montgomery's city administrator. […] In Montgomery, there's not much optimism for getting a new medical provider to operate in the former MCHS clinic, which is connected to a nursing home. 'My sense is, given the changes to Medicare and Medicaid and the reimbursement levels that are there, particularly that are going to take place in the next couple of years,' Heck said, 'attracting another clinic, I think, is going to be extraordinarily difficult.'" [Post Bulletin via Internet Archive, 6/30/26]

June 2026: Rochester Post Bulletin: Clinic Closures In Rural Southeast Minnesota Were Part Of A National Trend Fueled By "Federal Changes To Medicaid, Workforce Issues And The Increasing Cost Of American Healthcare." "In September 2025, Mayo Clinic Health System announced the closure of Caledonia's clinic and five others in rural communities: Belle Plaine, Montgomery, St. Peter, North Mankato and Wells. The changes also included some service reductions at Mayo Clinic Health System's hospital campus in Albert Lea. […] 'I don't understand why they did it,' said Jake Dickson, Caledonia's city clerk and administrator. 'It was just labeled as consolidation, and there has to be some sort of reason for it, but up here we don't understand what that reason could be.' Rural Southeast Minnesota is not an isolated case. With impending federal changes to Medicaid, workforce issues and the increasing cost of American healthcare, many rural healthcare providers are in 'a period of uncertainty to outright stress,' said Michael Shepherd, an assistant professor of health management and policy at the University of Michigan School of Public Health. And when medical services disappear from a rural community, that care in the next town over might become unreachable for vulnerable community members." [Rochester Post Bulletin, 6/30/26]

As Of April 2026, Three Additional Mayo Clinic Locations In MN-01 Were Identified As Being At Risk Of Closure, One Of Which Had Already Reduced Services

Rochester Post Bulletin Headline: "Analysis: Mayo Clinic Health System Hospital Among Those Considered At-Risk For Closing, Reducing Services." [Rochester Post Bulletin, 4/24/26]

April 2026: An Analysis By Public Citizen Found That Mayo Clinic's Campuses In Albert Lea, Minnesota And Austin, Minnesota Were "At Heightened Risk Of Reducing Services Or Closing" Due To Severe Medicaid Cuts. "A Mayo Clinic Health System hospital in southern Minnesota is among 446 U.S. hospitals at heightened risk of reducing services or closing, according to an analysis by progressive think tank Public Citizen. The report identifies seven at-risk hospitals in Minnesota. Among those are Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis — a hospital that, this spring, has called upon the Minnesota Legislature for a financial lifeline — and Mayo Clinic Health System in Albert Lea and Austin. […] 'The list of at-risk hospitals is meant to be descriptive rather than predictive; it does not forecast that these hospitals will close, but rather identifies the hospitals most financially at risk from severe Medicaid cuts,' the report states." [Post Bulletin, 4/24/26]

- **Albert Lea Was Located In Minnesota's First Congressional District.** [Minnesota Legislature Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information, accessed 7/16/26]

- **Austin City Was Located In Minnesota's First Congressional District.** [Minnesota Legislature Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information, accessed 7/16/26]

Rochester Post Bulletin: "In Late 2025, Mayo Clinic Health System Eliminated Some Outpatient Services At Its Albert Lea Hospital Campus." "The MCHS facilities in Austin and Albert Lea are considered two campuses of the same hospital, Mayo Clinic Health System Southeast. In late 2025, Mayo Clinic Health System eliminated some outpatient services at its Albert Lea hospital campus. Since the Austin and Albert Lea hospital campuses' merger in 2013, the health system has consolidated several services, including intensive care and labor and delivery, that are now offered at just the Austin location." [Rochester Post Bulletin, 4/24/26]

- **Steve Tufte, Treasurer Of The Albert Lea Healthcare Coalition: "What You See When You Talk To People,' […] 'Is They Express Frustration With The Drive It Takes To Go Have An Actual Visit With Someone, And Then How Far Out Things Are Getting Pushed Now."** "In September 2025, Mayo Clinic Health System announced the closure of Caledonia's clinic and five others in rural communities: Belle Plaine, Montgomery, St. Peter, North Mankato and Wells. The changes also included some service reductions at Mayo Clinic Health System's hospital campus in Albert Lea. 'What you see when you talk to people,' said Steve Tufte, treasurer of the Albert Lea Healthcare Coalition, 'is they express frustration with the drive it takes to go have an actual visit with someone, and then how far out things are getting pushed now.'" [Rochester Post Bulletin, 6/30/26]

June 2025: A Study Done By The University Of North Carolina Found That The Mayo Clinic Health System Clinic In Fairmont Minnesota Was At Risk Of Closing Because Of Cuts To Medicaid In The Big Beautiful Bill. "In May, Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives passed a reconciliation package that, if enacted, will impose the largest cuts to health care in United States history, slashing funding for Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act by more than $1 trillion and triggering more than $500 billion in Medicare cuts. Republicans' cuts to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act will cause 16 million people in the U.S. to lose health insurance coverage. A majority of adults living in rural areas are concerned that these health care cuts will 'negatively impact hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care providers in [their] community.' They are right to be worried, as these cuts will have devastating consequences for health outcomes and costs, jobs, and the economic success of rural communities. Today, we write to provide you with detailed information about rural hospitals that are uniquely at risk of financial distress and even closure, conversion, or service reductions because of the cuts in the House-passed reconciliation package. The information provided by the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina (Sheps Center) illustrates what your party's reconciliation bill will mean for the health of Americans living in rural communities. […] The following is a list of at-risk rural hospitals identified based on two financial criteria: (1) the hospital is in the top 10% Medicaid payer mix of rural hospitals across the country, (2) the hospital has experienced three consecutive years of negative total margin. The Sheps Center evaluated hospitals based on Financial Distress Index data, but individualized data on that measure was not provided. […] Mayo Clinic Health System-Fairmont; Fairmont; MN-01." [United States Senate, Letter from Senators Chuck Schumer, Edward Markey, Jeff Merkley, and Ron Wyden, 6/12/25]

May 2026: Cuts To Medicaid Would Cost Madelia Hospital In MN-01 More Than $379,000 Per Year, Threatening Its Closure, Which Would Force Rural Patients To Drive Longer To Receive Lifesaving Care

May 2026: Minnesota Star Tribune Headline: "Madelia's Hospital Is Running Out Of Money — And Options." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 5/15/26]

Because Of The Hospital's Financial Struggles, Madelia Health's "Leaders Evaluated Shutting Down Inpatient Services And Converting Into A Rural Emergency Health Center." "Everything is on the table when it comes to saving Madelia Health, including partnerships or mergers with area health systems. Its leaders evaluated shutting down inpatient services and converting into a rural emergency center." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 5/15/26]

- **Madelia Health Hospital Was Also Debating "Partnerships Or Mergers With Area Health Systems."** "Everything is on the table when it comes to saving Madelia Health, including partnerships or mergers with area health systems. Its leaders evaluated shutting down inpatient services and converting into a rural emergency center. Mahnomen Health used that strategy in mid-2024 and its expenses only exceeded revenues by 18% that year, compared with 42% the prior year. But Snyder said it appears Madelia would lose money under that conversion by closing its revenue-generating swing beds." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 5/15/26]

May 2026: Star Tribune: Madelia Health Had Been "Leaning For Months On An Existing Line Of Credit With A Local Bank To Make Payroll." "What's a hospital to do when it no longer has cash to pay its nurses and other clinicians? Call local banks for a loan. But what happens when the banks say no? That's where Madelia Health is at right now, and officials there say they don't know what's next. The small critical-access hospital has been leaning for months on an existing line of credit with a local bank to make payroll while exploring every option to stabilize its funding and maintain health care for a region of about 16,000 people southwest of Mankato." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 5/15/26]

The Announcement Came After The Big Beautiful Bill Passed And Was Projected To Cost Madelia Health Hospital $379,608 A Year In Lost Medicaid Revenue. [Third Way, 7/8/25]

Big Beautiful Bill Hospital Funding Cuts In Madelia, Minnesota		
Hospital Name	**Hospital Address**	**Projected Annual Revenue Cut**
Madelia Health	121 Drew Avenue SE, Madelia, MN 56062	$379,608

[Third Way, 7/8/25]

May 2026: Madelia Health's Chief Clinical Officer Said The Hospital Closing Would Cause Patients To Drive Longer To St. James Or Mankato To Receive "Life-Saving" Care. Preserving Madelia Health means keeping its 200 workers employed and spending money in the local economy, but it also means an immediate source of health care in emergencies, said Roz Snyder, Madelia's chief clinical officer. "It might not seem like 30 minutes to Mankato or 15 minutes to St. James or whatever is a big deal, but it is a big deal when it comes to stroke and heart attack and those life-saving things." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 5/15/26]

- **May 2026: A Man Who Suffered From Dehydration And A Hamstring Problem Said It Would "Require Multiple Appointments Scheduled Out Over Months" If The Madelia Hospital Closed.** "Dennis Swenson, 74, only had a short trip to Madelia Health on Sunday night when he suffered weakness that was eventually diagnosed as dehydration. He returned for a clinic visit Tuesday with a written checklist of needs. A nurse practitioner he has seen for years ordered a blood draw to check for abnormalities and also ordered physical therapy to help Swenson overcome a hamstring problem. Getting all of those services elsewhere would require multiple appointments scheduled out over months with unfamiliar clinicians, he lamented. 'Here, you know the receptionist, you know the nurse that's taking care of you, you know the lab worker.'" [Minnesota Star Tribune, 5/15/26]

November 2025: Allina Health Announced It Would "Close The Birth Center At Faribault (Minn.) Medical Center Dec. 1" After The Big Beautiful Bill Was Projected To Cost Allina's Faribault Medical Center $186,391 A Year

November 2025: Allina Health Announced It Would Be Closing Its Birth Center In Faribault, Minnesota In December. "Minneapolis-based Allina Health is consolidating labor and delivery services in southern Minnesota and will close the birth center at Faribault (Minn.) Medical Center Dec. 1, according to a Nov. 6 health system news release. The move comes after Rochester, Minn.-based Mayo Clinic Health System notified Allina in September that it will end on-call OB-GYN physician services at Allina's Owatonna (Minn.) Hospital Nov. 17. Under a joint agreement, Allina operates the hospital and Mayo operates the clinic on the same campus. Allina said it will assume responsibility for on-call labor and delivery coverage and transition to a regional obstetric care model. Allina said its OB provider team cannot sustain two birth centers. Moving forward, inpatient labor and delivery services will be centralized at Owatonna Hospital. Outpatient care — including prenatal, postpartum, gynecologic, newborn and pediatric services — will continue in Faribault and begin in Owatonna in early December." [Becker's Hospital Review, 11/7/25]

Allina Announced It Was Closing The Faribault Clinic So It Could Consolidate Its "Labor And Delivery Services" With Mayo Clinic In Owatonna. "Minneapolis-based Allina Health is consolidating labor and delivery services in southern Minnesota and will close the birth center at Faribault (Minn.) Medical Center Dec. 1, according to a Nov. 6 health system news release. The move comes after Rochester, Minn.-based Mayo Clinic Health System notified Allina in September that it will end on-call OB-GYN physician services at Allina's Owatonna (Minn.) Hospital Nov. 17. Under a joint agreement, Allina operates the hospital and Mayo operates the clinic on the same campus. Allina said it will assume responsibility for on-call labor and delivery coverage and transition to a regional obstetric care model. Allina said its OB provider team cannot sustain two birth centers. Moving forward, inpatient labor and delivery services will be centralized at Owatonna Hospital. Outpatient care — including prenatal, postpartum, gynecologic, newborn and pediatric services — will continue in Faribault and begin in Owatonna in early December." [Becker's Hospital Review, 11/7/25]

- **October 2025: Mayo Clinic Announced It Was Ending Its "On-Call Labor And Delivery Services" At Their Hospital In Owatonna.** "Mayo Clinic Health System is ending on-call labor and delivery services at Owatonna's hospital next month, Nov. 17, meaning patients who go into labor could be diverted to other hospitals that are at least 40 minutes away. Mayo Clinic notified Owatonna's mayor and officials in the city of about 25,000 people about an hour south of the Twin Cities on Thursday." [MPR News, 10/20/25]

November 2025: Allina Health "Said Its OB Provider Team Cannot Sustain Two Birth Centers." "Minneapolis-based Allina Health is consolidating labor and delivery services in southern Minnesota and will close the birth center at Faribault (Minn.) Medical Center Dec. 1, according to a Nov. 6 health system news release. The move comes after Rochester, Minn.-based Mayo Clinic Health System notified Allina in September that it will end on-call OB-GYN physician services at Allina's Owatonna (Minn.) Hospital Nov. 17. Under a joint agreement, Allina operates the hospital and Mayo operates the clinic on the same campus. Allina said it will assume responsibility for on-call labor and delivery coverage and transition to a regional obstetric care model. Allina said its OB provider team cannot sustain two birth centers." [Becker's Hospital Review, 11/7/25]

The Announcement Came After The Big Beautiful Bill Passed, Projected To Cost Allina's Faribault Medical Center $186,391 A Year. [Third Way, 7/8/25]

Projected Big Beautiful Bill Hospital Funding Cuts In Faribault, Minnesota		
Hospital Name	**Hospital Address**	**Projected Annual Revenue Cut**
Allina Health Faribault Medical Center	200 State Avenue, Faribault, MN 55021	$186,391

[Third Way, 7/8/25]

Finstad Touted The $50 Billion "Rural Transformation Fund" Created Under The One Big Beautiful Bill, Despite Minnesota Providers Saying That The Fund Did Not Come Close To Offsetting Losses From Medicaid Cuts

Finstad Touted The $50 Billion "Rural Transformation Fund" Created Under The One Big Beautiful Bill And Said He Was "Committed To Strengthening The Future Of Rural Health"

Finstad Commended The One Big Beautiful Bill For Creating The Rural Transformation Fund, "A $50 Billion Fund For State Investments In Rural Health." "The U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, the Working Families Tax Cut, historic legislation that unleashes economic growth for southern Minnesota families, farmers, and small businesses. I was proud to give my strong support for this once-in-a-generation legislation that secures $1.2 trillion in savings for American taxpayers and delivers the real, long-term reform that Americans voted for.   Since my first day in Congress, I have worked to support policies that grow our economy, let hardworking families keep more of their paychecks, and rein in Washington's out-of-control spending. The Working Families Tax Cuts does exactly that.   Here's a look at just some of the ways this bill delivers real results for Minnesota's First Congressional District: […] Reining in Waste and Reducing the Deficit Delivers the largest deficit reduction in nearly 30 years Strengthens Medicaid for the traditional population that the program was intended for: children, pregnant women, and individuals with disabilities. Creates the Rural Transformation Fund, a $50 billion fund for state investments in rural health, and provides additional support to rural health providers. Defunds Big Abortion providers and redirects funds to community-based, qualified healthcare providers that support both mothers and children. Encourages pathways to financial independence for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid beneficiaries by strengthening work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents. Restores SNAP program integrity by curbing waiver abuse and requiring states to have skin in the game for the first time through a cost-share tied to error rates. Restores Congressional oversight over the Thrifty Food Plan to prevent unchecked spending increases by federal agencies." [Rep. Brad Finstad, accessed 7/14/26]

- **June 2026: MPR News: The One Big Beautiful Bill Included "$50 Billion In Federal Funding To States Over The Course Of Five Years To 'Transform' The Rural Health Care Delivery Ecosystem, Referred To As The Rural Health Transformation Program."** "Rural health care providers in Minnesota and across the country are bracing for heavy Medicaid funding cuts next year. They're part of President Donald Trump's tax breaks and spending cuts package known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act he signed into law last year, and includes nearly $1 trillion in Medicaid spending cuts over 10 years. As it made its way through Congress, lawmakers worked to appease some congressional Republicans concerned about how cuts could disproportionately impact rural hospitals and health providers, which see a larger portion of Medicaid patients. The Trump administration offered $50 billion in federal funding to states over the course of five years to 'transform' the rural health care delivery ecosystem, referred to as the Rural Health Transformation Program. But, six months after those grants were supposed to roll out, rural health facilities in Minnesota are still waiting on the promised money." [MPR News, 6/22/26]

November 2025: Finstad Said He Was "Committed To Strengthening The Future Of Rural Health, Supporting Investments, Expanding Mental Health Access, Tackling Workforce Shortages And Ensuring That You Can Count On Timely, High-Quality Care On This National Rural Health Day." "Congressman Brad Finstad here. Today we recognize National Rural Health Day when we reflect on the strength, resilience, and challenges of rural healthcare across America. In southern Minnesota and communities like it across the country, access to quality care isn't just a convenience; it's a lifeline. The men and women who serve our rural hospitals, clinics, and emergency medical services are the backbone of our communities. They show up every single day with the commitment and compassion, often doing more with less and serving as the first and sometimes only point of care for miles. Today, we honor our healthcare providers, our doctors, our nurses, our EMTs, and the community leaders and organizations who work tirelessly to close gaps, to expand access, and advocate for the needs of rural families. I'm committed to strengthening the future of rural health, supporting investments, expanding mental health access, tackling workforce shortages and ensuring that you can count on timely, high-quality care on this National Rural Health Day. Join me in recognizing the immense contributions of our rural health heroes and the work that they do to build a stronger, healthier rural America. Thank you." [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 11/20/25]

[@RepFinstad, Twitter, 11/20/25]

Minnesota Health Care Providers Said Rural Hospital Transformation Fund Grants Would Not "Come Close" To Counteracting The One Big Beautiful Bill's Cuts To Medicaid, And Could Not Be Spent To Support Basic Operations Or Uncompensated Care

According To The Minnesota Hospital Association, The Funds The State Would Receive Through The Rural Health Transformation Program Would Not Cover The Amount Lost Due To The Republican Budget Bill Cuts. According to MPR News, "The Minnesota Department of Health applied for $1 billion over five years. Its 62-page application lays out detailed plans for the funds, including fellowships aimed at getting more medical students training and working in rural areas, adding more telehealth opportunities and providing more preventative care screenings in local venues, such as schools, pharmacies and tribal clinics. […] The Minnesota Hospital Association estimates that the state could lose $2.4 billion in federal health care funding in the first year alone, fiscal year 2028. The MHA also finds that 140,000 Minnesotans on Medicaid could lose their healthcare coverage while another 60,000 Minnesotans will likely drop their ACA health insurance because of the rising costs." [MPR News, 11/18/25]

Rachelle Schultz, President And CEO Of Winona Health, Said The Rural Health Transformation Grant Program Was "Not Going To Do Anything To Help With The Medicaid Situation…It Doesn't Even Come Close." "The Rural Health Transformation grant program is not meant to fund basic operations or uncompensated care, but to sponsor innovations that help deliver care more effectively in rural areas. A CMS spokesperson described it to MPR News as 'catalytic, forward-looking funding to help states and providers transition to more sustainable models of care.' […] 'It's not going to do anything to help with the Medicaid situation that's coming down the pike,' said Rachelle Schultz, president and CEO of Winona Health in southeast Minnesota. 'It doesn't even come close.' And Bjerga of Lakewood Health System said the mandate seems to ignore the dire realities rural health facilities face. 'They're saying, 'Oh, here's some free money we gave you for transformation, but yet we took away way more than that,' Bjerga said. 'It's really hard to be in a space of transformation when we're in survival mode.'" [MPR News, 6/22/26]

- **Winona City Was Located In Minnesota's First Congressional District.** [Minnesota Legislature Legislative Coordinating Commission, Congressional District Information, accessed 5/7/26]

Lisa Bjerga, President And CEO Of Lakewood Health System On The One Big Beautiful Bill And The Rural Health Transformation Grant Program: "They're Saying, 'Oh, Here's Some Free Money We Gave You For Transformation, But Yet We Took Away Way More Than That." "Lisa Bjerga, president and CEO of Lakewood Health System about an hour north of St. Cloud, said she heard from some peer hospitals during the application process that they planned to skip it all together. […] The Rural Health Transformation grant program is not meant to fund basic operations or uncompensated care, but to sponsor innovations that help deliver care more effectively in rural areas. A CMS spokesperson described it to MPR News as 'catalytic, forward-looking funding to help states and providers transition to more sustainable models of care.' […] 'It's not going to do anything to help with the Medicaid situation that's coming down the pike,' said Rachelle Schultz, president and CEO of Winona Health in southeast Minnesota. 'It doesn't even come close.' And Bjerga of Lakewood Health System said the mandate seems to ignore the dire realities rural health facilities face. 'They're saying, 'Oh, here's some free money we gave you for transformation, but yet we took away way more than that,' Bjerga said. 'It's really hard to be in a space of transformation when we're in survival mode.'" [MPR News, 6/22/26]

June 2026: The Rural Hospital Transformation Fund Money, "Which Comes With Strict Guardrails, Won't Help Where Hospitals Say They Need It Most: Offsetting The Impending Medicaid Losses." "The Trump administration offered $50 billion in federal funding to states over the course of five years to 'transform' the rural health care delivery ecosystem, referred to as the Rural Health Transformation Program. But, six months after those grants were supposed to roll out, rural health facilities in Minnesota are still waiting on the promised money. And they say the money, which comes with strict guardrails, won't help where hospitals say they need it most: offsetting the impending Medicaid losses. 'It's sort of like they're in a boat that's full of water, and somebody throws them an oar, so they can row faster instead of throwing them a life preserver,' said Joe Schindler, vice president of finance policy at the Minnesota Hospital Association." [MPR News, 6/22/26]

- **The Rural Health Transformation Grant Program Was Not Meant To "Fund Basic Operations Or Uncompensated Care, But To Sponsor Innovations That Help Deliver Care More Effectively In Rural Areas."** "The Rural Health Transformation grant program is not meant to fund basic operations or uncompensated care, but to sponsor innovations that help deliver care more effectively in rural areas. A CMS spokesperson described it to MPR News as 'catalytic, forward-looking funding to help states and providers transition to more sustainable models of care.' Rural health care providers told MPR News their biggest frustration is the Trump administration developed the grant to pass the tax and spending cuts. But, grant restrictions forbid grantees from spending where they need it most." [MPR News, 6/22/26]

June 2026: Six Months After Rural Hospital Transformation Fund Grants Were Supposed To Roll Out, Rural Health Facilities In Minnesota Were Still Waiting On The Promised Money

June 2026: MPR News Headline: "The Feds Promised Minnesota's Rural Hospitals Grant Money To Ease Massive Medicaid Cuts. Hospitals Are Still Waiting." [MPR News, 6/22/26]

June 2026: Six Months After Rural Hospital Transformation Fund Grants Were Supposed To Roll Out, Rural Health Facilities In Minnesota Were Still Waiting On The Promised Money. "The Trump administration offered $50 billion in federal funding to states over the course of five years to 'transform' the rural health care delivery ecosystem, referred to as the Rural Health Transformation Program. But, six months after those grants were supposed to roll out, rural health facilities in Minnesota are still waiting on the promised money. And they say the money, which comes with strict guardrails, won't help where hospitals say they need it most: offsetting the impending Medicaid losses. 'It's sort of like they're in a boat that's full of water, and somebody throws them an oar, so they can row faster instead of throwing them a life preserver,' said Joe Schindler, vice president of finance policy at the Minnesota Hospital Association." [MPR News, 6/22/26]

- **June 2026: Six Months Into The Program, Minnesota Rural Health Providers Had Yet To See A Penny From The Fund.** "But, rural health providers are frustrated. Six months into the program, none of them have seen a penny. The health department said they don't know when the approval process will conclude. 'This all took way more time than we expected, given what was talked about back at the end of last year, [when] the federal government said, 'Hey, we're going to send this money after the first of the year, and you should have your money in hand fairly quickly after that,'' Schindler said. 'That was not the case.'" [MPR News, 6/22/26]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Enacted The Largest SNAP Cuts In History, Causing 18,000 Minnesotans To Lose Benefits And Threatening Benefits For More Than 21,000 SNAP Recipients In MN-01

The One Big Beautiful Bill Enacted The Largest SNAP Cuts In History, Cutting Funding To The Program By Around $186 Billion

The One Big Beautiful Bill Reduced SNAP Funding By Approximately $186 Billion Over 10 Years, "A 20% Cut That Marks The Largest Reduction In The History Of The Program." "One of the most significant changes to the SNAP program is the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which passed earlier this year. This legislation will reduce SNAP funding by approximately $186 billion over 10 years—a 20% cut that marks the largest reduction in the history of the program. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act also imposes stricter work requirements on SNAP participants. For the first time, adults between the ages of 55 and 64, as well as adults with children over the age of 14, are subject to these rules. They must work a minimum of 20 hours a week or only get benefits for a maximum of three months over three years. Preciously, such requirements applied only to able-bodied adults without dependents aged 18 to 54. These expanded work requirements create a significant paperwork burden, as affected individuals must submit monthly documentation to the state, which must then review and process that information." [Explainer, Harvard Kennedy School, 11/10/25]

July 2026: 18,000 Minnesotans Lost SNAP Benefits Since The One Big Beautiful Bill Passed

July 2026: According To Minnesota State Auditor Julie Blaha, 18,000 Minnesotans Lost SNAP Benefits Since The One Big Beautiful Bill Passed. "On top of the cost of benefits, the state will now have to cover 75% of the administrative costs of the program — a jump from the previous 50/50 cost-sharing arrangement with the federal government, which is likely to cost Minnesota an additional tens of millions of dollars. Counties, which do the day-to-day administrative work of registering people for benefits and managing cases, are likely to bear some of the costs, state Auditor Julie Blaha said Wednesday. […] In May, the Minnesota Legislature appropriated $75 million to upgrade the outdated computer systems that county workers rely on, and funded additional training for county and tribal workers aimed at combatting fraud and lowering the error rate. Blaha said at least 18,000 Minnesotans have lost SNAP benefits since Trump signed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act on Independence Day last year." [SC Times, 7/6/26]

2024: 21,145 Households Participated In SNAP In MN-01

2024: According To The U.S. Department Of Agriculture, 21,145 Households Participated In Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) In MN-01. [USDA, 2024]

SNAP provides nutrition benefits to supplement the food budgets of low-income families so they can purchase healthy food.

In MN District 1, SNAP serves...

21,145

HOUSEHOLDS

[USDA, 2024]

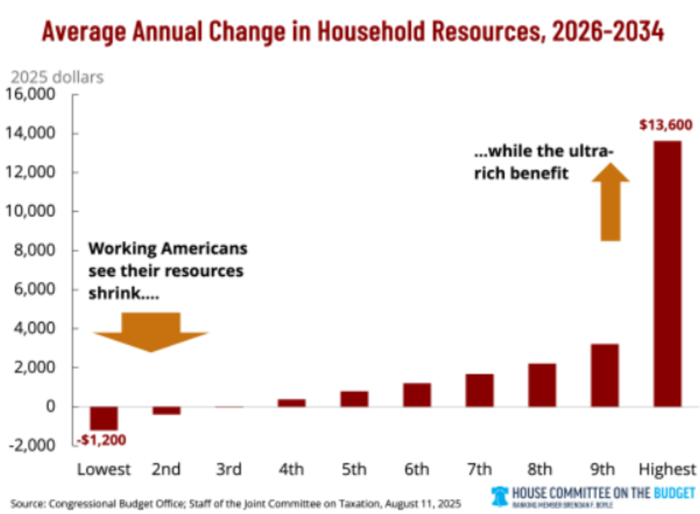
The One Big Beautiful Bill Handed More Than $1.5 Trillion In Tax Cuts To Wealthy Americans Like Finstad At The Expense Of Lower-Income Households

The One Big Beautiful Bill Handed More Than $1.5 Trillion In Tax Cuts To The Wealthiest Americans At The Expense Of Lower-Income Households

Center For American Progress: Under The One Big Beautiful Bill, "Millionaires Would See A Larger Tax Cut Than The Bottom Half Of Americans Combined—With More Than $1.5 Trillion In Tax Cuts Going To The Top 5 Percent." "The One Big Beautiful Bill Act would issue the largest transfer of wealth from working-class Americans to the ultrawealthy in the nation's history. To do so, House Republicans are proposing to cut programs that are essential to people, especially in states that voted for Trump in the last election, in order to pay for tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans. Under this proposal, millionaires would see a larger tax cut than the bottom half of Americans combined—with more than $1.5 trillion in tax cuts going to the top 5 percent. In total, households that make at least $1 million per year would receive roughly twice as much in tax breaks as the bottom 50 percent of the nation combined. Roughly 57 million households in the bottom 60 percent would see a tax increase or a negligible tax change ($100 in either direction) under the House Republican proposal. Not only does this proposal extend the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act's tax breaks for the wealthy, but it also adds additional loopholes that skew the tax code even more in favor of the ultrawealthy." [Center for American Progress, 6/13/25]

CNN: Under The One Big Beautiful Bill, "Low-Income Americans Will Feel The Effect Of Changes To Aid Programs, While The Wealthy Will See Most Of The Windfall From Tax Cuts, According To Multiple Assessments." "It took intense lobbying from President Donald Trump, an all-nighter, and a vote on a bill for which many people did not yet have a clear grasp of the final changes, but House Republicans got it done this week. They passed their version of the 'one big, beautiful bill,' a behemoth that pairs tax cuts with new provisions that will push people off Medicaid and food assistance. Low-income Americans will feel the effect of changes to aid programs, while the wealthy will see most of the windfall from tax cuts, according to multiple assessments." [CNN, 5/24/25]

- **House Committee On The Budget Minority: "Everyone In The Bottom Twenty Percent Of The Income Distribution, Or Those Making Less Than $43,000 A Year, Will See A Net Decline In Household Resources."** "CBO analyzed the combined effects of the tax policies and spending reductions and found that working families will experience a net loss in household resources, while the ultra-rich will get richer. Specifically: Families already struggling to make ends meet lose the most. Households in the lowest income decile, making $24,000 a year or less, lose about $1,200 every year, mostly due to deep cuts to Medicaid and food assistance. That amounts to over 3 percent of their total income, a devastating hit for people who can afford it the least. Everyone in the bottom twenty percent of the income distribution, or those making less than $43,000 a year, will see a net decline in household resources. Middle-class families get next to nothing. For those in the 5th and 6th decile, or the middle of the distribution, they will experience a resource gain of only 0.8 to 1 percent. That is barely enough to keep up with rising costs due to President Trump's reckless actions. The ultra-rich get a windfall. Families making over $700,000 a year will see a $13,600 boost, almost entirely from tax cuts. That figure does not even count the massive estate tax giveaways for the ultra-rich." [House Committee On The Budget Minority, 8/11/25]



[House Committee On The Budget Minority, 8/11/25]

2025: Finstad Reported A Net Worth Between $2,532,012 And $11,380,000 On His Federal Personal Financial Disclosure

2025: Finstad Reported Assets Between $2,632,012 And $11,430,000 On His Federal Personal Financial Disclosure. [Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Brad Finstad Financial Disclosure, 5/13/26]

2025: Brad Finstad Reported Assets		
Asset	**Asset Min Value**	**Asset Max Value**
AB Global Risk Allocation Fund, Inc. - Class A (CABNX) [MF]	$1,001	$15,000
CREF Core Bond Account - Class R1 (QCBMRX) [MF]	$1,001	$15,000
CREF Equity Index Account - R1 (QCEQRX) [MF]	$100,001	$250,000
CREF Global Equities Account - R1 (QCGLRX) [MF]	$50,001	$100,000
CREF Growth Account - R1 (QCGRRX) [MF]	$100,001	$250,000
CREF Stock Account - R1 (QCSTRX) [MF]	$50,001	$100,000
Finstad Farms [FA] (Brown, MN, US - Land, buildings, equipment)	$1,000,001	$5,000,000
Frontier Labs [OL] (Brown, MN, US - Land, building, business)	$1,000,001	$5,000,000
South Point Credit Union Account [BA]	$250,001	$500,000
State Street Target Retirement 2040 Fund Class I (SSCNX) [MF]	$50,001	$100,000
TIAA Real Estate Account (QREARX) [MF]	$15,001	$50,000
TIAA Traditional [FN]	$15,001	$50,000
TOTAL:	**$2,632,012**	**$11,430,000**

[Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Brad Finstad Financial Disclosure, 5/13/26]

Finstad Reported Between $50,001 And $100,000 Owed On A Home Mortgage As His Only Liability. [Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Brad Finstad Financial Disclosure, 5/13/26]

2025: Brad Finstad Reported Liabilities			
Creditor	**Date Incurred**	**Type**	**Amount Of Liability**
South Point Credit Union	June 2020	Home Mortgage	$50,001 - $100,000

[Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Brad Finstad Financial Disclosure, 5/13/26]

Finstad Said The One Big Beautiful Bill Was "The Largest Deficit Reduction In Nearly 30 Years," But The Bill Would Add $3.4 Trillion To The National Debt Over The Next Decade

Finstad: The One Big Beautiful Bill Was "The Largest Deficit Reduction In Nearly 30 Years"

Finstad Claimed The One Big Beautiful Bill Was "The Largest Deficit Reduction In Nearly 30 Years." "The U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, the Working Families Tax Cut, historic legislation that unleashes economic growth for southern Minnesota families, farmers, and small businesses. I was proud to give my strong support for this once-in-a-generation legislation that secures $1.2 trillion in savings for American taxpayers and delivers the real, long-term reform that Americans voted for.   Since my first day in Congress, I have worked to support policies that grow our economy, let hardworking families keep more of their paychecks, and rein in Washington's out-of-control spending. The Working Families Tax Cuts does exactly that.   Here's a look at just some of the ways this bill delivers real results for Minnesota's First Congressional District: […] Reining in Waste and Reducing the Deficit Delivers the largest deficit reduction in nearly 30 years Strengthens Medicaid for the traditional population that the program was intended for: children, pregnant women, and individuals with disabilities. Creates the Rural Transformation Fund, a $50 billion fund for state investments in rural health, and provides additional support to rural health providers. Defunds Big Abortion providers and redirects funds to community-based, qualified healthcare providers that support both mothers and children. Encourages pathways to financial independence for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid beneficiaries by strengthening work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents. Restores SNAP program integrity by curbing waiver abuse and requiring states to have skin in the game for the first time through a cost-share tied to error rates. Restores Congressional oversight over the Thrifty Food Plan to prevent unchecked spending increases by federal agencies." [Rep. Brad Finstad, accessed 7/14/26]

Reining in Waste and Reducing the Deficit
Delivers the largest deficit reduction in nearly 30 years

- Strengthens Medicaid for the traditional population that the program was intended for: children, pregnant women, and individuals with disabilities.
- Creates the Rural Transformation Fund, a $50 billion fund for state investments in rural health, and provides additional support to rural health providers.
- Defunds Big Abortion providers and redirects funds to community-based, qualified healthcare providers that support both mothers and children.
- Encourages pathways to financial independence for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid beneficiaries by strengthening work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents.
- Restores SNAP program integrity by curbing waiver abuse and requiring states to have skin in the game for the first time through a cost-share tied to error rates.
- Restores Congressional oversight over the Thrifty Food Plan to prevent unchecked spending increases by federal agencies.

[Rep. Brad Finstad, accessed 7/14/26]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Add $3.4 Trillion To The National Debt Over The Next Decade

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Add $3.4 Trillion To The National Debt Over The Next Ten Years. "President Donald Trump's 'big, beautiful bill,' which he signed into law this month, will add $3.4 trillion to the U.S. national debt over the next decade, according to a report the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office published Monday." [NBC News, 7/21/25]

Finstad Supported Policies That Dramatically Increased Costs For Minnesotans On Everyday Goods And Energy, Including Tariffs And The Iran War, While Accepting Tens Of Thousands Of Dollars From Defense Contractors And Companies That Raised Energy Rates On Minnesotans

2026: Finstad Claimed That "Inflation Has Declined Significantly" Under Trump Even Though Inflation Was At Its Highest Level Since May 2023, And Said Trump's Policies Were "The Right Direction For The Country Despite The Current Price Of Gas"

February 2026: Finstad Claimed That "Inflation Has Declined Significantly" Under Trump And Said Trump's Policies Were "The Right Direction For The Country Despite The Current Price Of Gas"

February 2026: Finstad Claimed That "Inflation Has Declined Significantly" Under Trump. "Rep. Brad Finstad (MN-01) issued the following statement after attending President Trump's State of the Union address: 'Since President Trump's return to office, we have seen strong economic momentum return after four years of poor Democrat leadership. President Trump has proven that his America First policies truly put Americans first. Gas prices have fallen to their lowest level in nearly five years, private-sector job growth has accelerated, inflation has declined significantly and new global trade agreements have expanded opportunities for American workers and producers.'" [Caledonia Argus, 2/25/26]

June 2026: Finstad Said He Thought Trump's Policies Were "The Right Direction For The Country Despite The Current Price Of Gas." "Finstad said in a district that voted for Trump in three straight elections, he believes the president's policies are the right direction for the country despite the current price of gas. He pointed to tariffs and trade. 'We were at a four-year ag-trade deficit in this country,' he said, pointing to the Biden administration. 'The last time we as a country have been in an ag-trade deficit is the Jimmy Carter era.'" [Rochester Post Bulletin, 6/2/26]

May 2026: Inflation Was At Its Highest Level Since May 2023

May 2026: CNBC Headline: "Consumer Prices Rose 3.8% Annually In April, The Highest Since May 2023."

[CNBC, 5/12/26]

June 2026: "Inflation Reached 4.2% Last Month, Its Highest Level In Three Years." "At southern Minnesota's largest street festival, Randy Sell said food and summer activities still motivated him to attend despite rising costs. 'It's definitely more expensive, but yeah, it's good food,' Sell said. Inflation reached its highest level in three years last month, and experts said that is affecting how people make spending decisions. They said consumers are cutting back where they can while continuing to pay more for necessities. Inflation reached 4.2% last month, its highest level in three years. Paul Vaaler, a professor at the University of Minnesota Law School and Carlson School of Management, said the higher costs are influencing consumer behavior. 'Where people have choices, it looks like they're tightening up their pocketbook. Where they don't, they're spending more. Like I think you said, that could be a function of just the nominal price going up,' Vaaler said." [ABC6 News, 6/19/26]

June 2026: MN-01 Residents Said They Were Feeling The Impact Of Rising Goods Prices

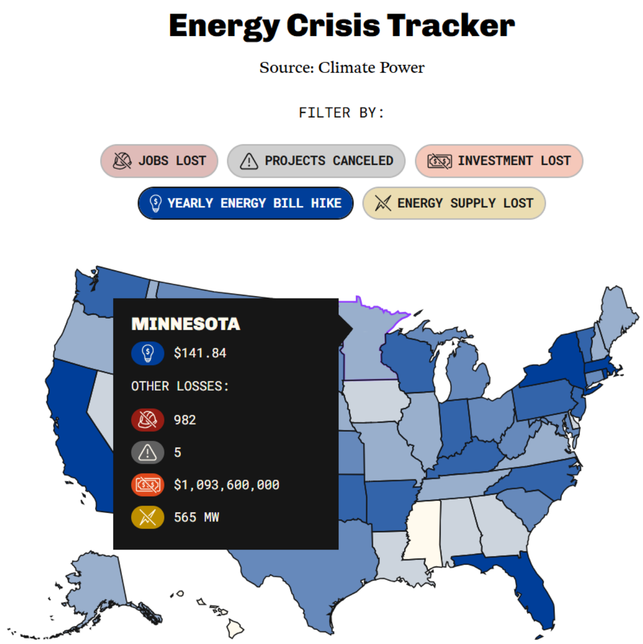
June 2026: ABC6 News Headline: "Rochester Shoppers Spend More But Tighten Budgets Amid Inflation." [ABC6 News, 6/19/26]

- **June 2026: Rochester Residents Said They Were Feeling The Impact Of Rising Prices.** "People in Rochester also said they are thinking more carefully about major purchases as prices continue to rise nationwide. 'If it's going to last me longer, I'd probably spring for something a little more expensive,' said Aadi Pardeshi, who was attending Thursday's Downtown Street Festival. Vaaler said changing consumer habits could also affect hiring decisions. Employers may hesitate to add workers if spending patterns remain uncertain. 'Firms don't hire unless they're confident they can pay for these individuals because it's hard to fire people,' Vaaler said. 'One of the things I think is important is to think about what this current set of signals about expenditures tells an employer, like a hotelier, about whether they should hire someone.'" [ABC6 News, 6/19/26]

2026: Minnesotans' Energy Bills Rose By An Average Of $141.84 Dollars Year-Over-Year Due To Rising Utility Prices And Changes To Federal Policy, Resulting In A 27.43% Increase In The Number Of Involuntary Electricity Disconnections

June 2026: Energy Bills Rose In Minnesota By An Average Of $141.84 Dollars Year-Over-Year

June 2026: Energy Bills Rose In Minnesota By An Average Of $141.84 Dollars Year-Over-Year. As of June 2026, Climate Power reported that Minnesota's yearly energy bills had increased by $141.84. [Climate Power, updated 6/8/26]



[Climate Power, 6/8/26]

December 2025: Changing Federal Policies, As Well As Rising Natural Gas And Electricity Rates, Raised Utility Costs For Minnesotans, Leading To A More Than 27% Increase In Disconnections And Straining Household Budgets

December 2025: MinnPost Headline: "As Minnesotans Brace For The Long, Cold Winter, Heating Costs Are On The Rise: Increasing Natural Gas And Energy Prices Are Leading To More Disconnections And Squeezing Household Budgets." [MinnPost, 12/24/25]

December 2025: The National Energy Assistance Directors Association Reported That The Cost Of Electricity In Minnesota Rose By 15% From January To September. "In a recent report, the National Energy Assistance Directors Association (NEADA) painted a grim picture of the spike in energy prices, which it says will continue to balloon into next year. […] But Greater Minnesota Gas has had a rate increase of 7.7% approved since then and the PUC approved an Xcel gas 6.8% interim rate hike that will begin on Jan. 1. Meanwhile, the cost of electricity in Minnesota rose by 15% from January to September, NEADA said. And Xcel Energy, which won a rate increase this year, will boost rates again next year." [MinnPost, 12/24/25]

December 2025: Changing Federal Policies, As Well As Rising Natural Gas And Electricity Rates, Raised Utility Costs For Minnesotans As They Entered A Harsh Winter. "Still, Douglas worries that this winter, forecast to be bitter cold and long, will test her careful planning. 'Absolutely I'll pay more in energy costs,' she said. So will most Minnesotans. The perfect storm of a harsh winter along with costs for natural gas and electricity that are rising at a much higher rate than inflation — as well as changing federal policies — have already raised utility costs and those are expected to continue to climb. Analysts say the pain will not be limited to lower-income Minnesotans, but to those in the middle class, as well." [MinnPost, 12/24/25]

- **Minnpost: "Analysts Say The Pain Will Not Be Limited To Lower-Income Minnesotans, But To Those In The Middle Class, As Well."** "Still, Douglas worries that this winter, forecast to be bitter cold and long, will test her careful planning. 'Absolutely I'll pay more in energy costs,' she said. So will most Minnesotans. The perfect storm of a harsh winter along with costs for natural gas and electricity that are rising at a much higher rate than inflation — as well as changing federal policies — have already raised utility costs and those are expected to continue to climb. Analysts say the pain will not be limited to lower-income Minnesotans, but to those in the middle class, as well." [MinnPost, 12/24/25]

According To The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, The Number Of Households In The State That Had Their Utilities Involuntarily Disconnected In September Through November Of This Year Rose By 27.43% Over The Same Period Last Year. "According to an analysis of the major investor-owned utilities in the state by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC), the number of households in the state that had their utilities involuntarily disconnected by those utilities in September through November of this year rose by 27.43% over the same period last year. And the number of Minnesotans who sought protection from a shutoff of heat and light from those utilities through the state's 'Cold Weather Rule,' which protects residential gas and electric customers from winter disconnections under certain circumstances, has also jumped, by a little more than 25%. Residential customers can revoke a cutoff under the Cold Weather Rule if they set up a payment plan with their utility company and stay current on their payments." [MinnPost, 12/24/25]

- **The Number Of Minnesotans Who Sought Protection Through The State's 'Cold Weather Rule,' Which Protects Residential Gas And Electric Customers From Winter Disconnections Under Certain Circumstances Jumped By More Than 25% Over The Same Period.** "According to an analysis of the major investor-owned utilities in the state by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC), the number of households in the state that had their utilities involuntarily disconnected by those utilities in September through November of this year rose by 27.43% over the same period last year. And the number of Minnesotans who sought protection from a shutoff of heat and light from those utilities through the state's 'Cold Weather Rule,' which protects residential gas and electric customers from winter disconnections under certain circumstances, has also jumped, by a little more than 25%. Residential customers can revoke a cutoff under the Cold Weather Rule if they set up a payment plan with their utility company and stay current on their payments." [MinnPost, 12/24/25]

Finstad Repeatedly Praised And Voted To Protect Trump's Tariffs, Which Were Expected To Cost Consumers More Than $2,500 Per Household Annually, Increasing Prices In Minnesota On Everything From Groceries, To Energy, To Hockey Gear

2025-2026: Finstad Voted Four Times For A Procedural Trick To Block The House From Voting To End Tariffs Imposed By Executive Order

2025-2026: Trump Imposed Tariffs On U.S. Trading Partners Under A National Emergency Declaration, A Move The Supreme Court Later Ruled Was Illegal

February 2025: The Trump Administration Announced Tariffs On Canada, Mexico, And China Under The International Emergency Economic Powers Act, Citing Authority To Impose Tariffs Due To A National Emergency. "On Saturday, February 1, 2025, the Trump Administration initially announced U.S. import tariffs on Canadian, Chinese, and Mexican origin products. These tariffs would have subjected many Canadian and Mexican origin products to a 25% import duty, while Chinese-origin products will be subject to a 10% import duty. U.S. President Donald Trump invoked his authority under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act ('IEEPA') to impose these sweeping tariffs, citing a national emergency relating to fentanyl trafficking and illegal border crossings. By Monday mid-day, Canada, Mexico, and the Trump White House reported border security assurances that led to the postponement of tariffs and countermeasures until March 4, 2025. By contrast, the 10% tariff on Chinese origin products (including goods of Hong Kong), took effect on Tuesday, February 4, 2025." [Dorsey Whitney LLP, 2/6/25]

April 2025: Trump Imposed Sweeping Tariffs On Every Country Worldwide By Declaring A National Emergency, Invoking The International Emergency Economic Powers Act. "President Donald Trump declared a national emergency last week to address what he described as harmful foreign trade and economic practices. Invoking the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, he announced new, sweeping tariffs — taxes that are paid by U.S. importers and then typically passed on to customers. A baseline 10 percent tariff on goods from almost every country worldwide took effect on Saturday, and higher rates for goods from dozens of countries started on Wednesday. Leaving aside the economic policy concerns, using an emergency declaration to impose tariffs is a clear abuse of presidential emergency powers. It's the latest in a long list of overreach and lawlessness by the current administration. Several lawsuits have been filed challenging the tariffs on various grounds, and the Brennan Center has filed a friend-of-the-court brief in one of them." [Brennan Center, 4/9/25]

February 2026: The Supreme Court Ruled That Trump Lacked The Authority To Impose Tariffs By Claiming A National Emergency. "The Supreme Court on Friday struck down President Donald Trump's emergency tariffs, dealing a sharp blow to the centerpiece of his economic agenda and setting firm limits on how far presidents can go in using emergency powers to reshape global trade. In a 6-to-3 decision that cut across ideological lines, the Justices ruled that Trump lacked the authority to impose sweeping import taxes by claiming a national emergency. The ruling immediately invalidates a broad set of tariffs that Trump imposed last year on nearly all imports, including so-called reciprocal duties on dozens of countries and additional levies tied to the fentanyl crisis." [Time, 2/20/26]

2025-2026: House Republicans Repeatedly Used A Procedural Trick To Block Votes On Trump's Tariffs In Order To Shield Their Members From Having To Take A Vote On The Politically Contentious Issue

2025-2026: Republican Leadership Led A Year-Long Effort "To Shield Its Members From Politically Difficult Votes On Tariffs, As Voters And Businesses Tire From The Uncertainty Fomented By Trump's Favorite Geopolitical Tool." "House Speaker Mike Johnson's bid to block future votes on President Donald Trump's tariffs failed Tuesday after an internal GOP revolt. Three Republican lawmakers, Thomas Massie of Kentucky, Kevin Kiley of California and Don Bacon of Nebraska, joined Democrats to defeat a key procedural measure 217-214. That gives Democrats the opportunity to force a vote as soon as this week on a resolution disapproving of the president's 25 percent duties on Canadian goods. House Republican leadership spent most of Tuesday whipping votes after a small group of tariff-skeptic Republicans led by Massie and Kiley pushed back against the procedural maneuver, which would keep the House from voting on resolutions disapproving of Trump's tariffs through July. A previous GOP measure blocking tariff votes expired on Jan. 31. Tuesday's defeat appears to end a nearly year-long effort by Republican leadership to shield its members from politically difficult votes on tariffs, as voters and businesses tire from the uncertainty fomented by Trump's favorite geopolitical tool." [Politico, 2/10/26]

House Republican Leadership Repeatedly Used A Procedural Measure To Block Efforts To Force A Vote On The National Emergency Trump Used To Implement Tariffs. "House leaders used the procedural measure last March to block efforts to force a vote on the national emergency Trump used to implement the tariffs on Canada, China and Mexico. House Republicans voted to extend it a second time in September. In that time, the Senate has passed four resolutions disapproving of the tariffs — two related to the tariffs on Canadian goods, one on tariffs on Brazil and one on the 'reciprocal' tariffs Trump has imposed on nearly every country. Johnson on Tuesday urged his members to support the procedural measure, arguing that any disapproval vote should wait until after the Supreme Court determines whether Trump has the authority to use a 1977 economic powers law to impose sweeping tariffs across the globe. That ruling could come as late as the end of June or beginning of July." [Politico, 2/10/26]

- **New York Times: The National Emergencies Act Created A Fast-Track Process For Congress To Consider A Resolution Ending A Presidential Emergency, Requiring Committee Consideration Within 15 Calendar Days After One Was Introduced And A Floor Vote Within Three Days After That.** "The national emergency law lays out a fast-track process for Congress to consider a resolution ending a presidential emergency, requiring committee consideration within 15 calendar days after one is introduced and a floor vote within three days after that. But the language House Republicans inserted in their measure on Tuesday declared that,'Each day for the remainder of the 119th Congress shall not constitute a calendar day' for the purposes of the emergency that Mr. Trump declared on Feb. 1." [New York Times, 3/11/25]

- **House Republicans Declared The Rest Of The Year One Long Day For The Purposes Of The National Emergency Declaration That Enabled Trump's Tariffs, Effectively Nullifying The Requirement To Consider Resolutions Ending The Emergency Within Fifteen Calendar Days.** "House Republican leaders on Tuesday quietly moved to shield their members from having to vote on whether to end President Trump's tariffs on Mexico, Canada and China, tucking language into a procedural measure that effectively removed their chamber's ability to undo the levies. The maneuver was a tacit acknowledgment of how politically toxic the issue had become for their party, and another example of how the all-Republican Congress is ceding its power to the executive branch. In this case, Republican leaders did so using a particularly unusual contortion: They essentially declared the rest of the year one long day, nullifying a law that allows the House and Senate to jointly put an end to a disaster declared by the president. […] The national emergency law lays out a fast-track process for Congress to consider a resolution ending a presidential emergency, requiring committee consideration within 15 calendar days after one is introduced and a floor vote within three days after that. But the language House Republicans inserted in their measure on Tuesday declared that, 'Each day for the remainder of the 119th Congress shall not constitute a calendar day" for the purposes of the emergency that Mr. Trump declared on Feb. 1.'" [New York Times, 3/11/25]

March 2025: Finstad Voted For H.Res.211, Which Used The Aforementioned Procedural Measure To Block The Chamber From Voting To Reverse Trump's Tariffs On Mexico, Canada, And China For The Next Year

March 2025: Finstad Voted For H. Res. 211. In March 2025, Finstad voted for: "A resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H J Res 25) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service relating to 'Gross Proceeds Reporting by Brokers That Regularly Provide Services Effectuating Digital Asset Sales'; providing for consideration of the bill (HR 1156) to amend the CARES Act to extend the statute of limitations for fraud under certain unemployment programs, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (HR 1968) making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; and for other purposes." Resolution agreed to in the House by roll call vote, 216-214. [H. Res. 211, Vote #67, 3/11/25; CQ, 3/11/25]

- **H.Res.211 Blocked "The Ability Of Congress To Quickly Challenge Tariffs Imposed By President Donald Trump."** "The Republican-controlled U.S. House of Representatives voted on Tuesday to block the ability of Congress to quickly challenge tariffs imposed by President Donald Trump that have rattled financial markets. The 216-214 vote, largely along party lines, delays lawmakers' ability for the rest of the year to force a vote that could revoke Trump's tariffs and immigration actions." [Reuters, 3/11/25]

- **New York Times: House Republicans Used A Procedural Measure To Block The Chamber From Voting To Reverse Trump's Tariffs On Mexico, Canada, And China For The Next Year.** "House Democrats had planned to force a vote on resolutions to end the tariffs on Mexico and Canada, a move allowed under the National Emergencies Act, which provides a mechanism for Congress to terminate an emergency like the one Mr. Trump declared when he imposed the tariffs on Feb. 1. That would have forced Republicans — many of whom are opposed to tariffs as a matter of principle — to go on the record on the issue at a time when Mr. Trump's commitment to tariffs has spooked the financial markets and spiked concerns of reigniting inflation. But Republican leaders on Tuesday slipped language into a procedural measure that would prevent any resolution to end the tariffs on Mexico, Canada and China from receiving a vote this year. It passed on party lines as part of a resolution that cleared the way for a vote later Tuesday on a government spending bill needed to prevent a shutdown at the end of the week." [New York Times, 3/11/25]

April 2025: Finstad Cast The Deciding Vote To Block Votes On The Reversal Of Trump's Tariffs Through September 2025

April 2025: Finstad Cast The Deciding Vote For A Procedural Trick To Block Votes On The Reversal Of Trump's Tariffs Through September 2025. In April 2025, Finstad voted for, "adoption of the rule (H Res 313) that would provide for floor consideration of the Senate amendment to the fiscal 2025 budget resolution (H Con Res 14). The rule would provide up to one hour of debate on a motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the measure. It also would block the expedited consideration of joint resolutions terminating President Donald Trump's tariff actions under the April 2 executive order by providing that each day during the period from April 9, 2025 through Sept. 30, 2025, will not constitute a calendar day under the federal law pertaining to terminating national emergencies." The vote was on the rule. The underlying legislation was the FY 2025 budget resolution. The House agreed to the rule by a vote of 216 to 215. [H. Res. 313, Vote #94, 4/9/25; CQ, 4/9/25]

- **ABC News: The Vote Was The Second Use Of The Procedural Tactic To Block Votes On The Tariffs, The First Use Of It Being In March 2025.** "House Democrats, led by Rep. Gregory Meeks, D-N.Y., moved to force a vote on Tuesday on terminating the national emergency authority and blocking Trump's sweeping tariffs. Now, that vote is unlikely to occur. This is the second time Johnson has moved to stop the legislative calendar to prevent votes on Trump's authority on tariffs. Under House rules, these votes would typically come up within 15 calendar days but now will not if the 'rule' passes during the vote series Wednesday afternoon." [ABC News, 4/9/25]

- **The Measure Considered In House Vote 94 Passed By A Vote Of 216 "Ayes" To 215 "Nos," Which Meant If One Aye Vote Had Switched To A No Vote The Measure Would Have Failed.** [H. Res. 313, Vote #94, 4/9/25; CQ, 4/9/25]

September 2025: Finstad Voted For H. Res. 707, Which Extended The Use Of The Procedural Measure Used In March To Block House Votes On Trump's Tariffs

September 2025: Finstad Voted For H. Res. 707. In September 2025, Brad Finstad voted for: "A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (HR 4922) to limit youth offender status in the District of Columbia to individuals 18 years of age or younger, to direct the Attorney General of the District of Columbia to establish and operate a publicly accessible website containing updated statistics on juvenile crime in the District of Columbia, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to prohibit the Council of the District of Columbia from enacting changes to existing criminal liability sentences, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (HR 5143) to establish standards for law enforcement officers in the District of Columbia to engage in vehicular pursuits of suspects, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (HR 5140) to lower the age at which a minor may be tried as an adult for certain criminal offenses in the District of Columbia to 14 years of age; providing for consideration of the bill (HR 5125) to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to terminate the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (HR 1047) to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reform the interconnection queue process for the prioritization and approval of certain projects, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (HR 3015) to reestablish the National Coal Council in the Department of Energy to provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy on matters related to coal and the coal industry, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (HR 3062) to establish a more uniform, transparent, and modern process to authorize the construction, connection, operation, and maintenance of international border-crossing facilities for the import and export of oil and natural gas and the transmission of electricity; and for other purposes." The resolution agreed to in the House by roll call vote, 213-211. [H. Res. 707, Vote #268, 9/16/25; CQ, 9/16/25]

- **September 2025: House Republicans Voted To Extend The Procedural Measure Used In March To Block Efforts To Force A Vote On The National Emergency Trump Used To Implement The Tariffs On Canada, China And Mexico.** "'That's what this does, so I think it's important for the House as an institution,' he added. House leaders used the procedural measure last March to block efforts to force a vote on the national emergency Trump used to implement the tariffs on Canada, China and Mexico. House Republicans voted to extend it a second time in September. In that time, the Senate has passed four resolutions disapproving of the tariffs — two related to the tariffs on Canadian goods, one on tariffs on Brazil and one on the 'reciprocal' tariffs Trump has imposed on nearly every country. Johnson on Tuesday urged his members to support the procedural measure, arguing that any disapproval vote should wait until after the Supreme Court determines whether Trump has the authority to use a 1977 economic powers law to impose sweeping tariffs across the globe. That ruling could come as late as the end of June or beginning of July." [Politico, 2/10/26]

- **September 2025: Politico: The Resolution Ceded Congressional Power Over Tariffs To Trump By Effectively Blocking Challenges To His Tariff Declarations Through March 2026.** "House Republicans voted in near lockstep Tuesday to again cede congressional power over tariffs to President Donald Trump. A measure that effectively blocks challenges to Trump's sweeping global tariff declarations through March 2026 was adopted on a 213-211 vote. The vote was gaveled down only after GOP whips had a drawn-out struggle on the floor with a band of Republicans who initially opposed the legislation before flipping to yes." [Politico, 9/16/25]

February 2026: Finstad Voted To Prevent Tariff Repeals From Being Introduced In Congress

February 2026: Finstad Voted For H. Res. 1042. In February 2026, Finstad voted for "the rule (H Res 1042) providing for floor consideration of the Law-Enforcement Innovate to De-Escalate Act (HR 2189), the Undersea Cable Protection Act (HR 261), and the Securing America's Critical Minerals Supply Act (HR 3617). […] It also would block the expedited consideration of joint resolutions terminating President Donald Trump's 2025 tariff actions under the Feb. 1, April 2, July 30, and Aug. 6 executive orders by providing that each day during the period from Feb. 10, 2026 through July 31, 2026, will not constitute a calendar day under the federal law pertaining to terminating national emergencies." The vote was on the rule. The House rejected the rule by a vote of 214 to 217. [H. Res. 1042, Vote #60, 2/10/26; CQ, 2/10/26]

- **2026: The Legislation, Which Aimed To Continue House Republican Leadership's Blockade Of Floor Votes On Trump's Tariffs, Failed After Three Republicans Voted Nay.** "House Speaker Mike Johnson's bid to block future votes on President Donald Trump's tariffs failed Tuesday after an internal GOP revolt. Three Republican lawmakers, Thomas Massie of Kentucky, Kevin Kiley of California and Don Bacon of Nebraska, joined Democrats to defeat a key procedural measure 217-214. That gives Democrats the opportunity to force a vote as soon as this week on a resolution disapproving of the president's 25 percent duties on Canadian goods. House Republican leadership spent most of Tuesday whipping votes after a small group of tariff-skeptic Republicans led by Massie and Kiley pushed back against the procedural maneuver, which would keep the House from voting on resolutions disapproving of Trump's tariffs through July. A previous GOP measure blocking tariff votes expired on Jan. 31. Tuesday's defeat appears to end a nearly year-long effort by Republican leadership to shield its members from politically difficult votes on tariffs, as voters and businesses tire from the uncertainty fomented by Trump's favorite geopolitical tool." [Politico, 2/10/26]

Politico: "Three Republican Lawmakers, Thomas Massie Of Kentucky, Kevin Kiley Of California And Don Bacon Of Nebraska, Joined Democrats To Defeat A Key Procedural Measure 217-214" Paving The Way For The House To Vote On Ending The Tariffs Imposed Under The Emergency Declaration. "House Speaker Mike Johnson's bid to block future votes on President Donald Trump's tariffs failed Tuesday after an internal GOP revolt. Three Republican lawmakers, Thomas Massie of Kentucky, Kevin Kiley of California and Don Bacon of Nebraska, joined Democrats to defeat a key procedural measure 217-214. That gives Democrats the opportunity to force a vote as soon as this week on a resolution disapproving of the president's 25 percent duties on Canadian goods. House Republican leadership spent most of Tuesday whipping votes after a small group of tariff-skeptic Republicans led by Massie and Kiley pushed back against the procedural maneuver, which would keep the House from voting on resolutions disapproving of Trump's tariffs through July. A previous GOP measure blocking tariff votes expired on Jan. 31. Tuesday's defeat appears to end a nearly year-long effort by Republican leadership to shield its members from politically difficult votes on tariffs, as voters and businesses tire from the uncertainty fomented by Trump's favorite geopolitical tool." [Politico, 2/10/26]

February 2026: Finstad Voted To Continue Tariffs On Canada

February 2026: Finstad Voted Against Terminating The National Emergency Declaration That Imposed Tariffs On Canada. In February 2026, Finstad voted against "the joint resolution that would terminate the Feb. 1, 2025, national emergency that imposed tariffs on goods from Canada." The vote was on passage. The House passed the joint resolution by a vote of 219 to 211. [H.J. Res. 72, Vote #65, 2/11/26; CQ, 2/11/26]

- **The Resolution To Disapprove Of The National Emergency Trump Declared To Raise Tariffs On Canada Was Approved 219-211, With Six Republicans Voting In Favor.** "The House on Wednesday voted to block President Donald Trump's tariffs on Canada, with six Republicans joining the Democrats in the symbolic rebuke. The resolution to disapprove of the national emergency Trump declared to raise tariffs on Canada, was approved 219-211. Republican Reps. Kevin Kiley of California, Thomas Massie of Kentucky, Don Bacon of Nebraska, Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania, Jeff Hurd of Colorado and Dan Newhouse of

Washington voted for the resolution. Rep. Jared Golden of Maine was the only Democrat to vote against the measure." [Politico, 2/11/26]

February 2026: Finstad Voted Against Ending Tariffs On Canada And Said The Vote "Amounted To Only 'Political Posturing' By Democrats." "Rep. Brad Finstad, a southern Minnesota Republican, whose district includes a large swath of corn and soybean country, as well as hog and dairy farms, opposed the resolution. In a statement, Finstad acknowledged that trading with Canada was 'vital' for the ag economy, but said the vote amounted to only 'political posturing' by Democrats. The measure, Finstad said, would have terminated Trump's 'authority to address serious national security concerns, from fentanyl trafficking to illegal immigration' and would've weakened border protections." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 2/12/26]

2026: Finstad Praised Tariffs Extensively, And Claimed That "New Global Trade Agreements Have Expanded Opportunities For American Workers And Producers"

June 2026: Finstad Praised Tariffs As A Way To "Rip The Band-Aid Off" Of US Trade Policies. "Finstad said farmers he has talked to across the district have said 'they want a market; they don't want a government program; they don't want a handout. They want to be able to make their living on a good price at the market.' Tariffs, he said, are a way to 'rip the Band-Aid off.' Because of tariffs, the EU and UK have bought more ethanol and biodiesel. New markets have opened in Vietnam and Japan for farmers. And while China is back at the negotiating table for soybeans, the U.S. can't rely on China forever for agricultural sales." [Rochester Post Bulletin, 6/2/26]

- **Finstad Claimed The Tariffs Showed The U.S. Was Serious About Addressing Trade Barriers Put Up By Foreign Nations.** "Finstad defended the use of tariffs against U.S. allies and trading partners, because it showed that the U.S. was serious about addressing barriers to trade that other countries had erected against the U.S. 'There was a need to get the Philippines, South Korea and Vietnam to the table,' Finstad said. 'If you looked at the tariffs, it was not an even playing field. So the tariff decisions he made on that day, he had 70 some countries reach out to him. He's at 15 deals on the table right now.' Finstad said that it would behoove the Trump administration to lock in those deals as quickly as possible to show progress, given the disruption and uncertainty the tariffs had created." [Post Bulletin, 4/16/25]

March 2026: Finstad Praised Trump's Tariffs For Bringing "People To The Table" For Trade Deals. HOST: "How is trade right now?" FINSTAD: "So we're seeing more and more opportunities. You know, the big lever of tariffs that the President pulled created a little bit of instability and uncertainty in the short term, but what it did is it brought people to the table, and we're seeing opportunities now that we haven't seen before." [Made In Minnesota Podcast, 06:45, 3/21/26] (AUDIO)

- **April 2025: Finstad Defended Trump's Tariffs, Claiming They Were The "Shake-Up Needed To Get People Back To The Table."** "GOP Congressman Brad Finstad defended President Donald Trump's imposition of tariffs against other countries, arguing that Trump was seeking to address an uneven playing field between the U.S. and other countries that had long been neglected. 'There was a shake-up needed to get people back to the table,' Finstad said during a 45-minute interview at the Post Bulletin, referring to the sweeping 'Liberation Day' tariffs imposed last week on allies and adversaries around the world. The move rattled stock and bond markets." [Post Bulletin, 4/16/25]

February 2026: Finstad: "New Global Trade Agreements Have Expanded Opportunities For American Workers And Producers." "Rep. Brad Finstad (MN-01) issued the following statement after attending President Trump's State of the Union address: 'Since President Trump's return to office, we have seen strong economic momentum return after four years of poor Democrat leadership. President Trump has proven that his America First policies truly put Americans first. Gas prices have fallen to their lowest level in nearly five years, private-sector job growth has accelerated, inflation has declined significantly and new global trade agreements have expanded opportunities for American workers and producers.'" [Caledonia Argus, 2/25/26]

Finstad Dodged An Interview Question On The Impact Of Tariffs On American Businesses, And Later Said

They Were Creating "A Little Bit Of Instability And Uncertainty In The Short Term"

April 2025: Finstad Dodged A Question Asking About The Uneven Application Of Trump's Tariffs And Their Impact On American Businesses. "During the interview, Finstad was asked about the uneven application of Trump's tariffs and the uneven playing field it had created among domestic businesses. […] Finstad said the question raised a bigger issue that 'we don't make things in this country anymore that we have become reliant on.' 'What are we doing as a country from a national security perspective to make sure that we still can do some of these things — whether it's pharmaceuticals, whether it's vitamins for our animal feed?' Finstad said. 'We have put ourselves in a 20-year slump where we don't know how to produce that anymore. So there is a bigger conversation that has to happen about, 'How did we get to this point?''" [Post Bulletin, 4/16/25]

March 2026: Finstad Admitted Trump's Tariffs "Created A Little Bit Of Instability And Uncertainty In The Short Term." HOST: "How is trade right now?" FINSTAD: "So we're seeing more and more opportunities. You know, the big lever of tariffs that the President pulled created a little bit of instability and uncertainty in the short term, but what it did is it brought people to the table, and we're seeing opportunities now that we haven't seen before." [Made In Minnesota Podcast, 06:45, 3/21/26] (AUDIO)

2026: Tariffs Were Expected To Cost Americans More Than $2,500 Per Household In "The Largest U.S. Tax Increase As A Percent Of GDP Since 1993"

March 2026: The Joint Economic Committee Minority Projected That "American Families Will Pay More Than $2,500 Each In Tariff Costs In 2026." "Even though the Supreme Court ruled that the bulk of President Trump's tariff agenda was illegal, the administration moved immediately to enact new tariffs that Treasury Secretary Bessent claims will result in 'virtually unchanged tariff revenue in 2026'. If Bessent's estimates hold true, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority estimates that American families will pay more than $2,500 each in tariff costs in 2026. Building on its previous tariff cost estimates, the Committee combined official data from the U.S. Treasury Department on the amount of tariff revenue collected since the start of 2025 with independent estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office of the percent of each tariff dollar that is ultimately paid by American consumers. The Committee found that if tariff revenue stays at the level recorded in January 2026 for the rest of the year, American families would in total pay more than $330 billion in tariff costs in 2026, an average of more than $2,500 per household in tariff costs this year. This is substantially higher than the more than $1,700 in average tariff costs that the JEC – Minority previously estimated that families paid during the first year of Trump's second term." [Joint Economic Committee Minority, Fact Sheet, March 2026]

The Tax Foundation, A Nonpartisan Organization, Described Trump's Tariffs As "The Largest U.S. Tax Increase As A Percent Of GDP Since 1993." "President Donald Trump's tariffs cost the average American household $1,000 last year, according to new research from the nonpartisan Tax Foundation…The research called Trump's tariffs 'the largest U.S. tax increase as a percent of GDP since 1993.' It suggests the president's signature economic policy is exacerbating cost of living concerns at a time when many households are grappling with persistently high prices. According to the research think tank Tax Foundation, the federal government collected $264 billion in total tariff revenues in 2025 -- far short of the trillions regularly touted by the White House. The research also finds the tariffs will offset most of the economic benefits of the new tax cuts from Trump's signature tax law that took effect this year." [ABC News, 2/9/26]

2025-2026: Tariffs Raised Prices Across The Country, Worsening Inflation And Straining Americans' Pocketbooks

March 2026: Reuters Headline: "Powell Says Tariffs Keeping Inflation Elevated, Fed Watching Energy Prices Closely." [Reuters, 3/18/26]

March 2026: Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell Estimated That "A Big Chunk Of" The Current High Inflation Rate "Is Actually Tariffs." "Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Wednesday described significant challenges in bringing inflation down, from persistent tariff-driven price hikes to Iran war-driven energy price hikes that the U.S. central bank may not be able to 'look through' as a transitory shock. Powell, speaking in a press conference after the end of the Fed's latest two-day policy meeting, said the central bank needs to see core inflation come down this year as the one-time impact of President Donald Trump's tariffs pass through the economy. Inflation, as measured by the Fed's preferred gauge, has remained well above the central bank's 2% target, at about 3%, and 'some big chunk of that, between a half and three-quarters is actually tariffs, so we're looking for progress on that,' Powell said." [Reuters, 3/18/26]

- **Reuters: "Inflation [...] Has Remained Well Above The Central Bank's 2% Target, At About 3%, And 'Some Big Chunk Of That, Between A Half And Three-Quarters Is Actually Tariffs'," According To Fed Chair Jerome Powell.** "Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Wednesday described significant challenges in bringing inflation down, from persistent tariff-driven price hikes to Iran war-driven energy price hikes that the U.S. central bank may not be able to 'look through' as a transitory shock. Powell, speaking in a press conference after the end of the Fed's latest two-day policy meeting, said the central bank needs to see core inflation come down this year as the one-time impact of President Donald Trump's tariffs pass through the economy. Inflation, as measured by the Fed's preferred gauge, has remained well above the central bank's 2% target, at about 3%, and 'some big chunk of that, between a half and three-quarters is actually tariffs, so we're looking for progress on that,' Powell said." [Reuters, 3/18/26]

September 2025: Axios Headline: "Grocery Inflation Highest Since 2022 As Trump Tariffs Pile Up." [Axios, 9/11/25]

- **Trump's Tariffs Contributed To Prices Rising For Groceries.** "President Donald Trump pledged to bring down grocery costs. But his administration's policies are contributing to an acceleration in prices, food economists and companies say. Grocery prices last month rose at their fastest pace in three years, stoked by Trump's tariffs, a crackdown on immigration, and extreme weather hurting food production. Prices jumped 0.6% in August from the month prior, according to the latest reading from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and they are up 2.7% from a year ago. Food prices are deeply personal to consumers, and weekly grocery bills shape their overall perceptions of the economy. More than half of Americans count grocery costs as a major stress in their lives. Low-income and middle-income Americans, hit the hardest by rising grocery costs, are changing where they shop and what they buy. Companies are also taking extreme measures to appeal to shoppers strained by higher prices, such as bringing back paper coupons." [CNN, 9/20/25]

August 2025: New York Times Headline: "Key Inflation Gauge Sped Up In July As Companies Grappled With Tariffs." [New York Times, 8/12/25]

March 2025: CBS News: Trump's Tariffs Threatened To Raise The Price Of Hockey Gear In Minnesota. "Calls from the U.S. to Roustan Hockey headquarters in Canada in recent weeks have been anything but routine, as bulk orders of name-brand sticks have suddenly become complicated conversations. 'These customers want to know: When their orders ship, will they have to pay an additional 25% tariff? And we respond by saying, 'Well, right now we don't know, so they postpone their order or cancel their order because they want to know before they order what the cost is going to be,' said Graeme Roustan, who owns the company that makes and sells more than 100,000 hockey sticks annually to the U.S. market. The prospect of 25% tariffs by President Donald Trump on Canadian imports, currently paused for some goods but facing full implementation on Wednesday, has caused headaches if not havoc throughout the commercial ecosystem. The sports equipment industry is certainly no exception, with so many of the products manufactured for sports-loving Americans outside of the U.S." [CBS News, 3/31/25]

Energy Prices In Minnesota Were Projected To Rise Due To Tariffs On Canada, As The State Was "Heavily Reliant" On Canadian Oil And Natural Gas

March 2025: MPR News Headline: "State Officials Forecast Higher Energy Prices Because Of Trump Tariffs." [MPR News, 3/5/25]

May 2025: MinnPost Headline: "Tariffs Are Likely To Mean Higher Electricity Prices And A Minnesota Industry In 'Limbo.'" [MinnPost, 5/1/25]

State Officials Warned That Minnesotans Would See Higher Energy Prices Due To Trump's 10% Tariff On Canadian Energy Imports. "State economic officials are predicting higher prices in Minnesota because of a 10 percent tariff imposed on Canadian energy imports this week by the Trump administration. Minnesota, along with several other northern states, is heavily reliant on Canada to meet its energy needs. 'Minnesota is kind of disproportionately impacted here, and so while we have long term plans to make us less vulnerable to this, right now we're really going to see some strain on pocketbooks,' Minnesota Department of Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold said. Five of the six pipelines that carry natural gas to Minnesota come from Canada, Arnold said. That natural gas is used to heat tens of thousands of homes and buildings across the state. Several pipelines also carry Canadian crude oil to two refineries in the Twin Cities region, along with a third refinery in Superior, Wis., that convert that oil into gasoline, diesel, jet fuel and other products used by Minnesota consumers. Those refineries are specifically configured to process the heavier crude from Canada's oil sands region in Alberta and therefore couldn't pivot quickly to take lighter oil from elsewhere." [MPR News, 3/5/25]

- **March 2025: Gas Prices Were Predicted To Rise By 5 To 20 Cents Per Gallon Due To Trump's Tariffs On Canada.** "State economic officials are predicting higher prices in Minnesota because of a 10 percent tariff imposed on Canadian energy imports this week by the Trump administration. […] Those refineries are specifically configured to process the heavier crude from Canada's oil sands region in Alberta and therefore couldn't pivot quickly to take lighter oil from elsewhere. Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis for the website GasBuddy, predicts that gas prices in Minnesota and elsewhere in the Midwest will rise by 5 to 20 cents per gallon, but not immediately. 'Since crude oil must first be refined into fuel products, we'll likely see a lag of a couple weeks before prices begin to climb,' De Haan said." [MPR News, 3/5/25]

- **In Response To Trump's Tariffs, The CEO Of A St. Paul, Minnesota Energy Company Warned, "This Is Going To Raise Costs For All Electricity Consumers."** "Minnesotans are already seeing higher prices on electronics, groceries and a host of other product categories due to the Trump administration's sweeping import tariffs. Industry experts say electricity prices could follow. 'We believe that this is going to raise costs for all electricity consumers,' said Michael Allen, co-founder and CEO of St. Paul-based All Energy Solar, which installs solar, battery and EV charging systems for residential and commercial customers. On April 2, President Donald Trump announced tariffs on goods imported from nearly every country, including manufacturing powerhouses China, Vietnam and Mexico, with exemptions for hundreds of raw materials, manufacturing inputs and finished goods." [MinnPost, 5/1/25]

MPR News: Minnesota Was "Heavily Reliant" On Canada To Meet Its Energy Needs, As Five Of The Six Pipelines That Carried Natural Gas To Minnesota Came From Canada And Were Used To Heat "Tens Of Thousands Of Homes And Buildings Across The State." "State economic officials are predicting higher prices in Minnesota because of a 10 percent tariff imposed on Canadian energy imports this week by the Trump administration. Minnesota, along with several other northern states, is heavily reliant on Canada to meet its energy needs. 'Minnesota is kind of disproportionately impacted here, and so while we have long term plans to make us less vulnerable to this, right now we're really going to see some strain on pocketbooks,' Minnesota Department of Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold said. Five of the six pipelines that carry natural gas to Minnesota come from Canada, Arnold said. That natural gas is used to heat tens of thousands of homes and buildings across the state. Several pipelines also carry Canadian crude oil to two refineries in the Twin Cities region, along with a third refinery in Superior, Wis., that convert that oil into gasoline, diesel, jet fuel and other products used by Minnesota consumers. Those refineries are specifically configured to process the heavier crude from Canada's oil sands region in Alberta and therefore couldn't pivot quickly to take lighter oil from elsewhere." [MPR News, 3/5/25]

Several Pipelines Carried Canadian Crude Oil To Refineries In Minnesota And Wisconsin That Converted That Oil Into Gasoline, Diesel, Jet Fuel And Other Products Used By Minnesota Consumers. "State economic officials are predicting higher prices in Minnesota because of a 10 percent tariff imposed on Canadian energy imports this week by the Trump administration. Minnesota, along with several other northern states, is heavily reliant on Canada to meet its energy needs. 'Minnesota is kind of disproportionately impacted here, and so while we have long term plans to make us less vulnerable to this, right now we're really going to see some strain on pocketbooks,' Minnesota Department of Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold said. Five of the six pipelines that carry natural gas to Minnesota come from Canada, Arnold said. That natural gas is used to heat tens of thousands of homes and buildings across the state. Several pipelines also carry Canadian crude oil to two refineries in the Twin Cities region, along with a third refinery in Superior, Wis., that convert that oil into gasoline, diesel, jet fuel and other products used by Minnesota consumers. Those refineries are specifically configured to process the heavier crude from Canada's oil sands region in Alberta and therefore couldn't pivot quickly to take lighter oil from elsewhere." [MPR News, 3/5/25]

- **The Refineries Were Specifically Configured To Process The Heavier Crude From Canada's Oil Sands Region In Alberta And Therefore Couldn't Pivot Quickly To Take Lighter Oil From Elsewhere.** "State economic officials are predicting higher prices in Minnesota because of a 10 percent tariff imposed on Canadian energy imports this week by the Trump administration. Minnesota, along with several other northern states, is heavily reliant on Canada to meet its energy needs. 'Minnesota is kind of disproportionately impacted here, and so while we have long term plans to make us less vulnerable to this, right now we're really going to see some strain on pocketbooks,' Minnesota Department of Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold said. Five of the six pipelines that carry natural gas to Minnesota come from Canada, Arnold said. That natural gas is used to heat tens of thousands of homes and buildings across the state. Several pipelines also carry Canadian crude oil to two refineries in the Twin Cities region, along with a third refinery in Superior, Wis., that convert that oil into gasoline, diesel, jet fuel and other products used by Minnesota consumers. Those refineries are specifically configured to process the heavier crude from Canada's oil sands region in Alberta and therefore couldn't pivot quickly to take lighter oil from elsewhere." [MPR News, 3/5/25]

Minnesota Department Of Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold: "This Is Something That We Can Avoid. […] The Federal Government Is Putting Minnesotans In This Position That Is Going To Increase Costs That Will Get Passed On To You In A Variety Of Ways, Whether It's At The Gas Pump Or The Grocery Store." "'Minnesota is kind of disproportionately impacted here, and so while we have long term plans to make us less vulnerable to this, right now we're really going to see some strain on pocketbooks,' Minnesota Department of Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold said. […] Because energy plays a significant role in all sectors of the economy, the state expects the price of consumer goods to also tick up, Arnold said. 'This is something that we can avoid,' Arnold added. 'The federal government is putting Minnesotans in this position that is going to increase costs that will get passed on to you in a variety of ways, whether it's at the gas pump or the grocery store.'" [MPR News, 3/5/25]

- **Because Energy Plays A Significant Role In All Sectors Of The Economy, The State Expected The Price Of Consumer Goods To Also Tick Up.** "'Because energy plays a significant role in all sectors of the economy, the state expects the price of consumer goods to also tick up, Arnold said. 'This is something that we can avoid,' Arnold added. 'The federal government is putting Minnesotans in this position that is going to increase costs that will get passed on to you in a variety of ways, whether it's at the gas pump or the grocery store.'" [MPR News, 3/5/25]

2025-2026: Tariffs Strained Minnesota Businesses

Minneapolis Star Tribune Headline: "A Year In, Trump's Tariffs Take Toll On Minnesota Companies." [Minneapolis Star Tribune, 4/3/26]

ABC 5 Headline: "Changes In Trump Tariffs Have Minnesota Consumers, Farmers And Entrepreneurs Feeling Uncertain About The Future." [ABC 5, 2/21/26]

June 2025: Minnesota Star Tribune Headline: "Minnesota Factories See Orders Tank On Continued Trade Uncertainty" [Minnesota Star Tribune, 6/6/25]

CBS News Headline: "Minnesota Small Businesses Struggling To 'Survive The Tariff Crisis.'" [CBS News, 5/9/25]

Many Minnesota Businesses Were Unable To Avoid Purchasing Materials From China And Were Forced To Pay Inflated Costs Due To The Tariffs. "She couldn't think of any clients who exclusively source their materials in the United States. 'They may be buying from distributors and suppliers that are in the U.S.,' she says. 'But the materials they're buying certainly come from out of the U.S. as well. In a lot of cases, it's China. So that doesn't save them from the tariff impacts. Their suppliers are just going to increase the prices to cover the tariffs.' Trump stated repeatedly that he wanted his tariff strategy to force companies to do their manufacturing in the United States. But LeVasseur said that shift is hard to achieve. She cited the case of a manufacturer headquartered in Minnesota, which sells a consumer product. 'It's all made in China, and they own that plant,' she says. 'What are they going to do? Build a new plant in India? That's two or three years probably [to build elsewhere].'" [Twin Cities Business, 6/6/25]

The Co-Owner Of Twin Cities Die Castings In Minneapolis Said He Was Forced To Freeze Hiring, Terminate 10 Contract Workers, And Increase Prices Twice Because Of Trump's Tariffs. "Todd Olson , co-owner of Twin Cities Die Castings in Minneapolis, said the tariff increases create another round of the uncertainty that has plagued his metal parts components factory since Trump's trade war began. In the past few months, supply costs surged while sales flattened. His aerospace and ag component orders have slowed. And his car-making customers are once again putting off redesigning vehicle models because of the metal tariffs, Olson said. 'It's like oil,' he said. 'Just the uncertainty of this world market with the tariffs has raised prices.'Last year, Olson added 25 workers, boosting his staff to 175. Over the past few months, he froze hiring and terminated 10 contract workers. The company also had to increase prices twice in the last 90 days, even though the thousands of tons of aluminum and magnesium he buys are all domestically sourced." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 6/6/25]

Finstad Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Was Projected To Spike Annual Household Energy Costs In Minnesota By $410 By 2035

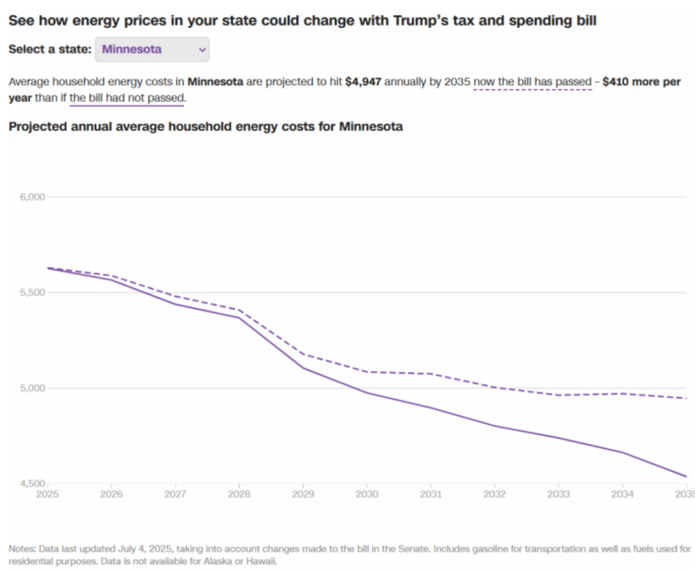
July 2025: Finstad Voted For The One Big Beautiful Bill

July 2025: Finstad Voted For Final Passage Of The One Big Beautiful Bill Act. In July 2025, Congressman Brad Finstad voted for: "Motion to concur in the Senate amendment to the bill that would permanently extend nearly $4 trillion in expiring individual and business tax cuts, create several new tax breaks and fund border and immigration enforcement and air traffic control upgrades. It would cut Medicaid and other safety net programs to partly offset the cost. Among other provisions, it would raise the statutory debt ceiling by $5 trillion and appropriate more than $448 billion in mandatory funding for Trump administration priorities and other needs, including $153 billion for defense, $89 billion for immigration enforcement, and $89.5 billion for border control and security. It also would increase the state and local tax deduction cap to $40,000 annually for five years for households making up to $500,000 a year until 2030, when it would permanently revert to $10,000." The motion was agreed to by a vote of 218-214. [H.R. 1, Vote #190, 7/3/25; CQ, 7/3/25]

- **May 2025: Finstad Voted For H.R. 1, The One Big Beautiful Bill Act.** In May 2025, Finstad voted for: "Passage of the bill that would provide for approximately $3.8 trillion in net tax cuts and $321 billion in military, border enforcement and judiciary spending, offset by $1.5 trillion in spending reductions, as instructed in the fiscal 2025 budget resolution (H Con Res 14). It would raise the statutory debt limit by $4 trillion and provide for increased spending on defense and border security, spending cuts on social safety net programs, such as Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. It also includes a mix of tax breaks for businesses and individuals; tax increases on universities and foundations; and a phase-down of clean energy tax credits. It would reduce spending on Medicaid by $625 billion over a 10-year period and modify eligibility and cost provisions for enrollees and health providers and impose work, volunteer and education requirements on adults ages 19 to 64 who are covered by the program. It would appropriate "such sums as necessary" for reducing cost-sharing payments for low-income individuals who've purchased "silver" plans on the 2010 health care law's exchanges. But payments to plans that cover abortions would be mostly barred. It would extend and make permanent individual tax brackets and rates included in the 2017 tax overhaul law (PL 115-97) and provide for the adjustment of the lower bounds of each tier based on inflation. It would reduce federal spending on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program by requiring states to shoulder more of the cost, expand work requirements for SNAP, extend programs authorized under the 2018 farm bill, and prohibit the U.S. Department of Agriculture from increasing the cost of the Thrifty Food Program. As amended, it would cap state and local tax deductions at $40,000 for households with incomes below $500,000 and prohibit Medicaid funding for gender transition therapies or procedures for minors and adults, among other provisions." The bill passed by a vote of 215-214. [H.R. 1, Vote #145, 5/22/25; CQ, 5/22/25]

July 2025: The One Big Beautiful Bill Was Projected To Raise Annual Household Energy Costs In Minnesota By $410 By 2035

July 2025: Energy Innovation Projected That Decreased Energy Capacity Due To Cuts To Clean Energy Tax Credits In The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Increase Annual Household Energy Bills In Minnesota By An Average Of $410 By 2035. "When combined with the electric vehicle consumer tax credit being cut (you can still get the EV tax credit through September 30, 2025) annual electricity and transportation costs in every state in the continental United States will be higher than they would have if the tax credits stayed intact, analysis from think tank Energy Innovation found. Energy Innovation did not model data for Hawaii and Alaska. Energy Innovation modeled transportation costs like gasoline for cars, as well as household electricity and heating costs in their analysis." [CNN, 7/4/25]



[CNN, 7/4/25]

July 2025: Energy Innovation: "By Quickly Phasing Out Technology-Neutral Clean Energy Tax Credits And Adding Complex Material Sourcing Requirements," The One Big Beautiful Bill "Will Significantly Hamper The Development Of Domestic Electricity Generation Capacity." "By quickly phasing out technology-neutral clean energy tax credits and adding complex material sourcing requirements, the bill will significantly hamper the development of domestic electricity generation capacity. By 2035, we forecast a 3.5 gigawatt decrease in generation capacity in Minnesota due to the measures in the reconciliation bill." [Energy Innovation, 7/1/25]

- **Cuts To Clean Energy Tax Credits Would Cause Factories To Close And Decrease The Likelihood Of Future Project Development.** "President Donald Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act ends long-standing federal support for solar and wind power, while creating a friendly environment for oil, gas and coal production. [...] A related tax credit for using U.S.-made components in solar and wind farms ends for projects that enter service after 2027. A carveout allows projects that start construction within one year of the law's enactment to claim the credit. The credit was designed to spur demand at U.S. factories in order to break the nation's dependence on equipment from China. 'If nothing changes, factories start to close,' Michael Carr, executive director of the Solar Energy Manufacturers Association, told CNBC. 'Factories that are on the drawing board that probably penciled [favorably] two weeks ago, maybe don't pencil now. We'll see investment slow down in the sector going forward.'" [CNBC, 7/3/25]

July 2025: Canary Media: Increasing The Nation's Energy Supply Was Critical To Preventing Energy Price Hikes, As Demand For Electricity Rose Nationwide Due In Large Part To Data Centers. "Clean energy is the cheapest and easiest way to get power onto the grid. With demand for electricity nationwide rising due in large part to AI data centers, swiftly bringing affordable energy online is more crucial than ever. But if tax incentives are repealed, fewer solar, wind, and storage projects will be built. Between now and 2035, the U.S. could see 57% to 72% less new clean-energy capacity come online than it would have with the tax credits in place, according to Rhodium Group. Meanwhile, new gas construction likely can't make up the difference in the near term: Developers who want to build new gas power plants face wait times of up to five to seven years for turbines." [Canary Media, 7/3/25]

Finstad Was A Strong Supporter Of The War In Iran, Which Dramatically Increased Gas And Diesel Prices For Minnesotans, And Accepted More Than $100,000 From Defense Companies That Served To Benefit From The War

March 2026-July 2026: Finstad Consistently Voted Against House Efforts To End The War In Iran

July 2026: Finstad Voted No On The War Powers Resolution To Direct The President To Remove Armed Forces From Hostilities With Iran. In July 2026, Finstad voted against: "H. Con. Res. 89 – Directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran." The resolution passed in the House 214-208. [H. Con. Res. 89, Vote #282, 7/23/26; CQ, 7/23/26]

- **July 2026: Associated Press: The House Passed A Resolution To Halt U.S. Military Action In Iran In A Bipartisan Vote.** "The House on Thursday narrowly passed a resolution to halt U.S. military action in Iran, sending a warning to President Donald Trump for the second time as the war has escalated and the future of the conflict is increasingly uncertain. The 214-208 vote requiring congressional approval for the war comes as the Senate is expected to consider a similar resolution later Thursday morning. Though the votes forced by Democrats are largely symbolic, they are meant as a strong signal to the Republican president that his support on Capitol Hill is chipping away as the war drags on and lawmakers in both parties have questioned his administration's endgame." [Associated Press, 7/23/26]

June 2026: Finstad Voted Against The Iran War Powers Resolution. On June 3, 2026, Finstad voted against "H.Con.Res.86 - Directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities with Iran." The bill was passed by a vote of 215-208. [H. Con. Res. 86, Vote #199; CQ, 6/3/26]

- **TIME Headline: "Four Republicans Join Democrats In House Vote To Rein In Trump's Iran War Powers"** [TIME, 6/3/26]

May 2026: Finstad Cast The Deciding Vote Against The Iran War Powers Resolution. On May 14, 2026, Finstad voted against: "Directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution, to remove the United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran" The bill was rejected by a vote of 212-212." [H. Con. Res. 75, Vote #170, 5/28/26; CQ, 5/14/26]

- **Reuters Headline: "US House Narrowly Rejects Bid To Rein In Trump Iran War Powers"** [Reuters, 5/14/26]

April 2026: Finstad Voted Against The Iran War Powers Resolution. In April 2026, Finstad voted against: "Passage of the concurrent resolution that would direct the president to terminate the use of U.S. armed forces from hostilities against Iran unless explicitly authorized by a declaration of war or specific authorization for use of military force against Iran. The measure would exempt the use of U.S. armed forces that may be necessary to defend the U.S. or a U.S. ally or partner from imminent attack." The bill was rejected by a vote of 213-214. [H Con Res 40, Vote #114, 4/16/26; CQ, 4/16/26]

- **NBC News Headline: "House Effort To End Trump's War With Iran Fails By One Vote"** [NBC News, 4/16/26]

- **Mankato Free Press: Finstad "Voted Against A Proposal In The House That Would Order President Trump To Remove Troops From Iran."** "Those are the first public comments Finstad has made on the war since celebrating the rescue of a U.S. airman from Iran on April 6. The two comments also mark the only times he has commented on the Iran War in any Facebook post, press release or weekly email update since March 5 when he voted against a war powers resolution that would have declared the war unconstitutional. Finstad also voted against a proposal in the House that would order President Trump to remove troops from Iran on Thursday." [Mankato Free Press, 4/17/26]

March 2026: Finstad Voted No On Removing The U.S. Armed Forces From Unauthorized Hostilities In Iran. In March 2026, Finstad voted NO on "H.Con.Res.38 - Directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to remove United States Armed Forces from unauthorized hostilities in the Islamic Republic of Iran." The bill failed in the House 212-219. [H. Con. Res. 38, Vote #85, 3/5/26; CQ, 3/5/26]

- **The War Powers Resolution Would Have Required President Trump To Obtain Congressional Authorization For His Air War In Iran.** "The U.S. House of Representatives rejected an effort on Thursday to stop President Donald Trump's air war on Iran and require that any hostilities against Iran be authorized by Congress, backing the Republican president's military campaign on the sixth day of the expanding conflict. The vote was 219 to 212, largely along party lines, in the House, where Trump's fellow Republicans control a narrow majority of seats. Two Republicans voted in favor of the resolution and four Democrats voted against it. […] Supporters said the resolution, by requiring Trump to come to Congress for a war authorization, would force him to explain to Americans why the U.S. is fighting and how it might end." [Reuters, 3/6/26]

Finstad Was A Consistent Supporter Of The War With Iran, Saying It Was "Really Important" And Supporting The President's "Decisive Action"

June 2026: Finstad Praised The War With Iran As A Way To "Rip The Band-Aid" Off. "He said the war in Iran will be over — or at least the Strait of Hormuz opened — before he and other farmers must replenish their supplies. The war, Finstad said, is another 'rip the Band-Aid' issue where Trump has shown leadership, and where Finstad has voted to support the administration. Allowing Iran, a country that has shouted 'death to America' for nearly five decades, he said, to develop nuclear weapons is a direct threat to America and its allies. The evidence ranges from the hostage crisis in 1979-80 to the Iranian regime killing 30,000 of its own civilians recently." [Rochester Post Bulletin, 6/2/26]

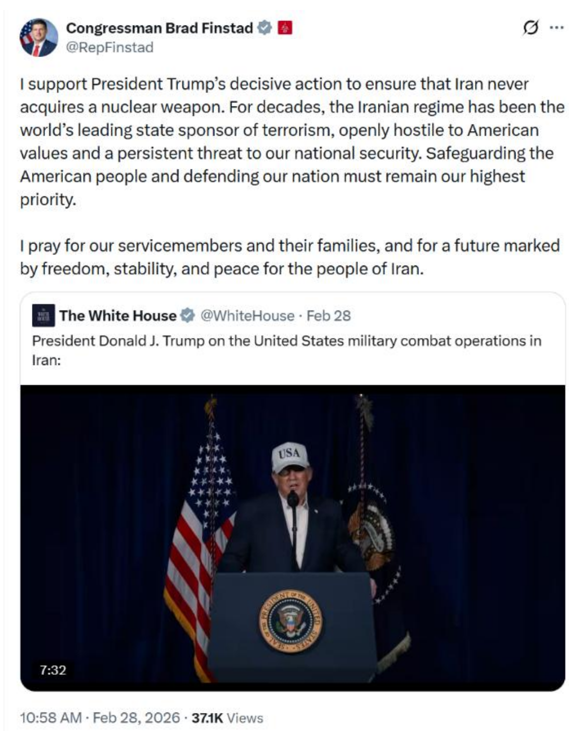
April 2026: Finstad Praised Trump For Deciding To "Deal With" Iran. FINSTAD: "The race to nuclear arms in Iran and has not been secret what they have done to try to expand their scope, in regards to their hypersonic their mid and long range missile capabilities, on top of their enriching of uranium and building up a nuclear arsenal as they were chanting Death to America. This isn't new. This has been going on for 47 years. Every president said that we need to deal with it. This president decided to deal with it now. It is a testament to the amazing men and women that we have serving." [KAAL TV, 04:23, 4/10/26] (VIDEO)

March 2026: Finstad Agreed With Congressman Pete Stauber That The War With Iran Was "Really Important" And Would Make The US "Safer" If Successful. "Stauber opened by expressing support for President Donald Trump's war in Iran, saying it was prudent 'because they have been at war with us for years.' To keep Iran from increasing its military strength and possibly getting nuclear weapons, it was 'really important that we took this step,' and, if successful, 'we will be safer.' Finstad agreed, stating that as Iran was increasing its military capacity, it was developing missiles that 'could reach Duluth, if they wanted to.' He also stated there are dangerous, terroristic-inclined 'sleeper cells' in this country, and 'we don't know where they are and what their intentions are.'" [Duluth News Tribune, 3/17/26]

- **Duluth News Tribune: Finstad Agreed, Stating That As Iran Was Increasing Its Military Capacity, It Was Developing Missiles That "Could Reach Duluth, If They Wanted To."** "Stauber opened by expressing support for President Donald Trump's war in Iran, saying it was prudent 'because they have been at war with us for years.' To keep Iran from increasing its military strength and possibly getting nuclear weapons, it was 'really important that we took this step,' and, if successful, 'we will be safer.' Finstad agreed, stating that as Iran was increasing its military capacity, it was developing missiles that 'could reach Duluth, if they wanted to.' He also stated there are dangerous, terroristic-inclined 'sleeper cells' in this country, and 'we don't know where they are and what their intentions are.'" [Duluth News Tribune, 3/17/26]

- **Duluth News Tribune: "[Finstad] Also Stated There Are Dangerous, Terroristic-Inclined 'Sleeper Cells' In This Country, And 'We Don't Know Where They Are And What Their Intentions Are.'"** "Stauber opened by expressing support for President Donald Trump's war in Iran, saying it was prudent 'because they have been at war with us for years.' To keep Iran from increasing its military strength and possibly getting nuclear weapons, it was 'really important that we took this step,' and, if successful, 'we will be safer.' Finstad agreed, stating that as Iran was increasing its military capacity, it was developing missiles that 'could reach Duluth, if they wanted to.' He also stated there are dangerous, terroristic-inclined 'sleeper cells' in this country, and 'we don't know where they are and what their intentions are.'" [Duluth News Tribune, 3/17/26]

February 2026: Finstad On War In Iran: "I Support President Trump's Decisive Action." "I support President Trump's decisive action to ensure that Iran never acquires a nuclear weapon. For decades, the Iranian regime has been the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism, openly hostile to American values and a persistent threat to our national security. Safeguarding the American people and defending our nation must remain our highest priority. I pray for our servicemembers and their families, and for a future marked by freedom, stability, and peace for the people of Iran." [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 2/28/26]



[@RepFinstad, Twitter, 2/28/26]

May 2026: Finstad Said He Hoped The War In Iran Would End "As Soon As Possible," And Cited Concerns About How High Gas Prices Would Affect His Re-Election Chances

May 2026: Finstad Said He Wanted To See The Iran War "Ended As Soon As Possible." FINSTAD: "I mean, this just as it exposes the issue that we are so vulnerable on the global, global whims of the volatility that some of these conflicts can create. We need to, we need to really focus on becoming energy dominant again in this country and relying on our neighbors versus the unknown players around the globe. But you know, it is, it is my hope that this Iran conflict is is addressed and ended as soon as possible." [WCCO Radio Morning News, 06:38, 5/20/26] (AUDIO)

May 2026: Finstad Said He Was Partly Concerned About High Gas Prices Because Of How It Would Affect His Re-Election Chances, "From A Political Perspective." TOM HAUSER: "Speaking of gas prices, the war in Iran is has caused prices to spike. How concerned are you about that going into the midterm elections, we're looking at gas approaching $5 a gallon in Minnesota. How concerned are you for Republicans who are standing for reelection in November?" FINSTAD: "Well, I'm concerned, not just from a political perspective, just for my neighbors, right. So it's, you know, the opportunities for us to address any sort of affordability issue is very important." [WCCO Radio Morning News, 05:51, 5/20/26] (AUDIO)

July 2026: The Joint Economic Committee Minority Found That Minnesotans Had Paid An Average Of $403 More Per Household For Gas Since The Start Of The War With Iran On February 28th

July 2026: The Joint Economic Committee Minority Found That Minnesotans Had Paid An Average Of $403 More Per Household For Gas Since The Start Of The War With Iran On February 28th. "As President Trump declares that the war with Iran has resumed, the Joint Economic Committee - Minority issued new data today that shows the extent to which the President's war has driven up gas costs in all 50 states. Since the war began on February 28, Americans have paid a total of $56.4 billion more, or $477 more per household, on the gas they need to commute to work, run errands, pick up their kids, and live their daily lives. Additionally, today's national average gas price sits at $3.87 per gallon, which is about 30 percent higher than before the start of the war. 'As President Trump declares that he's ended his ceasefire with Iran, gas costs have already started rising again, at a time when Americans continue to face the squeeze of higher costs overall from Trump's war, tariffs, and other actions. Yet President Trump says he doesn't even think about the financial situation of Americans,' said U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan, Ranking Member of the Committee." [Joint Economic Committee Minority, 7/13/26]

Excess Spending On Gas Since The Start Of The War With Iran		
State	**Increase In Total Gasoline Spending Since Feb. 28**	**Increase In Household Gasoline Spending Since Feb. 28**
Minnesota	+$867,765,709	+$403

[Joint Economic Committee Minority, 7/13/26]

May 2026: The Iran War Was Expected To Drive Diesel Prices To "An All-Time High," Which Raised Costs On Everyday Goods

May 2026: Politico: "Diesel Fuel Costs Are Also Poised To Set An All-Time High In The U.S., Which In Turn Is Expected To Drive Up Prices For Everything From Groceries To Postage." "Most Americans are focused on the cost of gasoline at the station up the street — but diesel fuel costs are also poised to set an all-time high in the U.S., which in turn is expected to drive up prices for everything from groceries to postage. A spike in diesel fuel affects a wide array of commodities that need to move across the country – including for home building, manufacturing and much more. And it couldn't come at a worse time for President Donald Trump and Republicans, just months ahead of the contentious midterm election season in which Democrats are expected to take back the House and possibly the Senate amid intensifying voter anger over the rising cost of living and the unpopular war in Iran." [Politico, 5/6/26]

- **Politico: The "Inflationary Impact Of High Diesel" Affected "The Cost Of Everything From Eggs To Sneakers," And Results In Price Raises That Are "Passed Along To Consumers."** "Beyond the impacts to the cost of everything from eggs to sneakers, the inflationary impact of high diesel fuel lasts much longer in the economy than gasoline prices, said John Auers, analyst at consulting firm RBN Energy. Trucking, rail and freight companies sign long-term supply contracts for their diesel, meaning that a higher price will be baked into their costs – and passed along to consumers — for months at a time." [Politico, 5/6/26]

May 2026: Politico: Increases In Fuel Prices, Including Diesel, Were "Largely Due To The U.S. And Israel Attack On Iran And The Subsequent Closure Of Hormuz." "When fuel prices hit record highs under Biden, it was largely due to post-Covid supply disruptions and because Russia's war on Ukraine threatened global energy markets. The current price increase is largely due to the U.S. and Israel attack on Iran and the subsequent closure of Hormuz. Diesel prices in February, before U.S. and Israeli forces attacked Iran, were about $3.75." [Politico, 5/6/26]

2022-2026: Finstad Took Nearly $100,000 In Campaign Donations From Defense Contractors That Stood To Benefit From The War

2022-2026: Finstad Took Nearly $100,000 In Campaign Donations From Defense Contractors

2022-2026: According To The Federal Election Commission Finstad Took $98,500 In Campaign Donations From Defense Contractors. [FEC, Finstad For Congress, accessed 7/13/26]

2026: Defense Contractors Served To Benefit Massively From The War In Iran

March 2026: TIME Headline: "'It Takes Money To Kill Bad Guys': Trump's Iran War Set To Boost Profits For These Defense Contractors." [TIME, 3/19/26]

July 2026: Financial Times Headline: "US Weapons Makers' Sales Soar As Iran War Boosts Order Backlog." [Financial Times, 7/23/26]

July 2026: Financial Times: American Weapons Manufacturers Reported Surging Sales As The United States Military Sought To Replenish Its Missile Stockpiles, Which Had Been Depleted By The War In Iran. "American weapons manufacturers are reporting surging sales as the US expands spending to replenish its missile stockpiles and shift its defence industrial base to 'war footing'. Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and Raytheon's parent company RTX have raised profit forecasts as they reported record order backlogs. Lockheed reported second-quarter revenues for its missile business rose 19 per cent on the year before to $4.1bn, as it steps up production of its Patriot and Precision Strike missiles, which the US has used this year in its Iran war. A $35bn order from the US Missile Defense Agency to quadruple production of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense anti-ballistic missile system helped power the Maryland-based contractor's backlog to $230bn. The Center for Strategic and International Studies think-tank in Washington in May noted the US had expended between 1,000-1,400 Patriot missiles in Iran, which, combined with aid to Ukraine, had created 'deep order bottlenecks' that would take until mid-2029 to clear. Raytheon's second-quarter sales also rose 18 per cent. It produces the Tomahawk missile, which has featured prominently in the US military campaign against Iran. Having procured an average of 86 Tomahawk missiles a year over the past 10 years, the Pentagon has requested 785 Tomahawks for the 2027 budget alone. Scott Mikus, analyst at Melius Research, said 'hostilities between Iran and the US will further deplete inventories of missiles and interceptors that RTX sells'. He also noted international demand remains strong, with 48 per cent of Raytheon's order backlog coming from overseas customers. Much of the backlog came from demand for Patriot, Aim-120 Amraam and Gem-T missiles. Lockheed's shares rose more than 11 per cent on Thursday morning. Shares in RTX, which also reported sales surges at its commercial aerospace divisions, rose 9 per cent." [Financial Times, 7/23/26]

2023-2025: Finstad Accepted More Than $5,000 In Contributions From Xcel Energy, The Leading Minnesota Utility Which Sought Large Rate Hikes From Consumers

2023-2025: Finstad's Congressional Campaign Committee Received $5,500 In Contributions From Xcel Energy

2023-2025: Finstad's Congressional Campaign Committee Received $5,500 In Contributions From Xcel Energy. [FEC, Finstad For Congress, accessed 7/13/26]

2023-2025: Donations Received From Xcel Energy			
Source Name	**Recipient**	**Date Received**	**Amount**
Xcel Energy Employee Political Action Committee (XPAC)	Finstad For Congress	9/8/25	$1,000.00
Xcel Energy Employee Political Action Committee (XPAC)	Finstad For Congress	11/5/24	$1,000.00
Xcel Energy Employee Political Action Committee (XPAC)	Finstad For Congress	3/29/23	$1,000.00
Xcel Energy Employee Political Action Committee (XPAC)	Finstad For Congress	9/30/22	$2,500.00
Total:			$5,500.00

[FEC, Finstad For Congress, accessed 7/13/26]

Xcel Energy On Political Contributions: "We Believe Interaction With The Legislative And Policymaking Environments Is Important To Our Business." "We believe interaction with the legislative and policymaking environments is important to our business. Employees, officers and directors of Xcel Energy have the opportunity to join together in political action committees on both the federal and state levels and to have those voluntary contributions donated, through the votes of their respective boards of directors, to candidates and office holders. Our political action committees are required to publicly disclose receipts and contributions to the Federal Election Commission and in states where contributions are made." [Xcel Energy, accessed 7/13/26]

Xcel Energy Was A Regulated Public Utility Providing Energy To Half Of The Homes And Businesses In Minnesota As The State's Largest Energy Supplier

Xcel Energy Was Minnesota's Largest Energy Supplier. "Minnesota's largest energy supplier, Xcel Energy, has proposed new electricity rate increases of nearly 10% for customers that would begin in 2025 and 2026. The public can now weigh in on the proposals, with a public hearing scheduled on Sept. 15." [Fox 9 KMSP, 9/15/25]

Xcel Energy Was "An Investor-Owned, Regulated Public Utility Serving Half Of The Homes And Businesses In Minnesota." "Xcel Energy is an investor-owned, regulated public utility serving half of the homes and businesses in Minnesota. The company has existed for over 100 years, employs more than 5,000 people across the region and maintains its corporate headquarters in Minneapolis. Under the regulatory compacts in the states it serves, Xcel Energy provides efficient, safe, reliable electric service to communities across Minnesota and in portions of North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Colorado, Texas and New Mexico." [Xcel Energy via Minnesota House of Representatives, 2022]

- **Xcel Energy Was A Minneapolis-Based Utility Holding Company Whose Subsidiaries Served Residential, Commercial, And Industrial Customers In Eight States, Including Minnesota.** "Xcel Energy Inc (Xcel Energy) is an energy holding company. Through its subsidiaries, it has a presence in the entire energy vertical, including generation, procurement, transmission, distribution, and resale of electricity. The company produces electric energy using coal, nuclear, natural gas, wind, hydro, biomass, and solar sources. Xcel Energy also transports, stores, distributes, and resells natural gas. It procures natural gas from independent suppliers, based on market indices. Xcel Energy also provides home appliance repair, maintenance, and replacement services. The company serves residential, commercial, and industrial customers in South Dakota, Michigan, Minnesota, Colorado, North Dakota, New Mexico, Texas, and Wisconsin. Xcel Energy is headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the US." [Global Data, accessed 7/13/26]

2026: Xcel Energy Was Approved For Five Percent Rate Hikes On Minnesota Electricity And Natural Gas Customers, Significantly Below What They Originally Requested

June 2026: Xcel Energy Was Approved For A 5.8% Rate Hike On Minnesota Electricity Customers, Which Could Spike Utility Bills In Fall 2026

June 2026: ABC6 News Headline: "Xcel Energy Rate Hike Could Raise Minnesota Utility Bills This Fall." [ABC6 News, 6/27/26]

June 2026: Xcel Energy Was Approved For A 5.8% Electricity Rate Increase On Minnesota Customers. "Minnesota's Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has approved electricity rate increases for Xcel Energy customers throughout the state. Xcel energy rate increases What we know: On Thursday, the PUC issued a verbal decision on Xcel's request for an electric rate increase. The decision will allow Xcel to collect about 5.8% more from its Minnesota customers. As part of its decision, the PUC granted a request by the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) to limit Xcel's electric late fees and reconnection fees. Currently, Xcel applies a charge of 1.5% per month to customers' past-due balances. The PUC adopted CUB's recommendation to reduce late fees to 0.45% per month, equal to Xcel's cost of carrying customers' utility debt, and will waive the fees entirely for low-income customers. Low-income customers whose service has been disconnected for nonpayment will no longer be charged an additional fee to reconnect service. Big picture view: Xcel has similarly proposed rate increases for gas usage from its customers, asking for an additional 9.6% to 10.65%. The PUC says it plans to review the settlement this fall, with a final decision still pending." [Fox 9, 6/26/26]

June 2026: Minnesotan's Utility Bills Could Begin Increasing As Soon As Fall 2026 Due To Xcel Energy's Electric Rate Increases. "A decision by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) could mean higher electric bills later this year for customers across the state. The MPUC's verbal decision means utility bills could begin increasing as soon as this fall, according to the Citizens Utility Board (CUB), a utility customer advocacy group. The agreement comes as many Olmsted County residents, including Frank Westbrook, say they are already struggling with high electric bills. 'Everything in my house is run by electricity, and the bill is getting ridiculous,' Westbrook said. According to the National Energy Assistance Directors Association, the average monthly electricity bill increased from about $121 to $156 in 2025. […] Despite those promises, Westbrook said many residents are focused on the bills they are paying today. 'You'll be broke by the time you can pay that bill. You can't do anything else — buy food, clothing, whatever,' Westbrook said. The MPUC is expected to issue a written order by the end of next month. If no party petitions the commission to reconsider any aspect of the order, the new rates could take effect this fall." [ABC6 News, 6/27/26]

Olmsted County Residents Said They Were Already Struggling With High Utility Bills, With Frank Westbrook Saying "Everything In My House Is Run By Electricity, And The Bill Is Getting Ridiculous." "A decision by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) could mean higher electric bills later this year for customers across the state. The MPUC's verbal decision means utility bills could begin increasing as soon as this fall, according to the Citizens Utility Board (CUB), a utility customer advocacy group. The agreement comes as many Olmsted County residents, including Frank Westbrook, say they are already struggling with high electric bills. 'Everything in my house is run by electricity, and the bill is getting ridiculous,' Westbrook said. According to the National Energy Assistance Directors Association, the average monthly electricity bill increased from about $121 to $156 in 2025. […] Despite those promises, Westbrook said many residents are focused on the bills they are paying today. 'You'll be broke by the time you can pay that bill. You can't do anything else — buy food, clothing, whatever,' Westbrook said. The MPUC is expected to issue a written order by the end of next month. If no party petitions the commission to reconsider any aspect of the order, the new rates could take effect this fall." [ABC6 News, 6/27/26]

May 2026: Xcel Energy Was Approved For A Nearly 5% Rate Increase On Natural Gas Customers After Originally Seeking An 8.2% Increase And Charging Consumers At An Interim 6.8% Rate Since The Start Of The Year, Forcing The Company To Refund Customers

May 2026: MPR News Headline: "Xcel Customers To See Gas Rates Increase By Nearly 5 Percent." [MPR News, 5/27/26]

May 2026: Xcel Energy Was Approved For A 4.9% Increase In Rates For Natural Gas Customers,

Significantly Lower Than The 8.2% Increase The Utility Requested In September. "Xcel Energy customers will be paying more in gas rates this year, according to the independent nonprofit group Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota. But it's less than what the utility requested last September. Gas rates will rise by 4.9 percent. Xcel had requested an increase of 8.2 percent, or $63 million a year. Residential customers would see a lower increase of 4.1 percent. The Public Utilities Commission must approve the settlement for it to become binding. The board also said that it, along with Xcel, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Suburban Rate Authority and the Laborers' union, have filed a settlement stipulation to resolve the case. 'Today's settlement resolves all issues for the signatories,' the board said in a press release. Attorney General Keith Ellison did not join the settlement and will continue to litigate the case. If state regulators approve the settlement, customers who have been paying an interim rate increase of 6.8 percent since January will receive refunds with interest, the board said." [MPR News, 5/27/26]

- **May 2026: Fox 9 KMSP: Xcel Energy And Several Consumer Advocate Groups Agreed On A Proposed Gas Rate Increase Of 4.88%, Down From An Initial 8.2% Request.** "Xcel Energy and several consumer advocate groups have agreed on a proposed gas rate increase of 4.88%, down from an initial 8.2% request. If approved, residential customers would see a 4.1% increase and receive refunds for interim rate hikes paid since January. The Public Utilities Commission will review the settlement this fall, with a final decision still pending." [Fox 9 KMSP, 5/26/26]

May 2026: Fox 9 KMSP: Xcel Energy Agreed To Provide Refunds To Residential Customers Who Had Been Paying A Temporary 6.8% Rate Hike Since January Following The Settlement. "Xcel Energy, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota, the Suburban Rate Authority, and LIUNA filed a settlement to resolve the utility's gas rate case. The agreement would set the overall rate increase at 4.88%, with a smaller 4.1% increase for residential customers. The settlement also means customers who have been paying a temporary 6.8% rate hike since January, would get refunds with interest if the deal is approved. While Xcel originally asked for a boost from 9.6% to 10.65%, the deal points to an implied return of 9.55%." [Fox 9 KMSP, 5/26/26]

- **December 2025: Xcel Energy Was Approved For A 6.8% Interim Rate Hike For Gas Customers Beginning January 1st.** "But Greater Minnesota Gas has had a rate increase of 7.7% approved since then and the PUC approved an Xcel gas 6.8% interim rate hike that will begin on Jan. 1. Meanwhile, the cost of electricity in Minnesota rose by 15% from January to September, NEADA said. And Xcel Energy, which won a rate increase this year, will boost rates again next year." [Minn Post, 12/24/25]

- **December 2025: Xcel Energy Was Approved For An Interim Rate Increase For All Natural Gas Customers, Raising Bills By An Average Of $5.84 Per Month.** "Energy users will see an increase in their Xcel Energy bills as the Public Utilities Commission has approved a rate hike. The commission's decision includes an interim rate increase for all Xcel Energy natural gas customers, raising bills by an average of $5.84. Additionally, the Minneapolis City Council approved an increase to its gas and electric franchise fee, adding about $1 a month to energy bills. 'I don't think it's sustainable, right? We're going to have to figure out a solution,' said Seton McClellan, a Minneapolis homeowner, expressing concern over the rising costs of homeownership. McClellan also mentioned that property taxes are one of the toughest financial burdens, and now energy bills are becoming more challenging. He worries about the payoff as the bills continue to rise." [ABC 5 KSTP, 12/13/25]

- **May 2026: Following Final Approval By State Regulators Of The Settlement, Customers Who Had Been Paying The Interim 6.8% Increase Since January Would Receive Refunds With Interest.** "Xcel Energy customers will be paying more in gas rates this year, according to the independent nonprofit group Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota. But it's less than what the utility requested last September. Gas rates will rise by 4.9 percent. Xcel had requested an increase of 8.2 percent, or $63 million a year. Residential customers would see a lower increase of 4.1 percent. The Public Utilities Commission must approve the settlement for it to become binding. The board also said that it, along with Xcel, the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Suburban Rate Authority and the Laborers' union, have filed a settlement stipulation to resolve the case. 'Today's settlement resolves all issues for the signatories,' the board said in a press release. Attorney General Keith Ellison did not join the settlement and will continue to litigate the case. If state regulators approve the settlement, customers who have been paying an interim rate increase of 6.8 percent since January will receive refunds with interest, the board said." [MPR News, 5/27/26]

After Finstad Toured Xcel Energy's Prairie Island Nuclear Plant And Praised The Company For Providing "Reliable And Affordable Energy To Millions Of Households Across Minnesota," Xcel Energy Was Forced To Refund Customers $40.6 Million Following An 103-Day Long Outage At Prairie Island

Finstad Toured The Prairie Island Nuclear Plant And Praised The Company For Being "Reliable And Affordable"

June 2025: Finstad Toured Xcel Energy's Prairie Island Nuclear Plant And Posted About His Visit On Twitter. "During last week's district work period, I toured the @xcelenergy Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant and heard from their team about the innovative things Xcel is doing to power our #MN01 communities. Nuclear reactors generate about 20% of U.S. commercial electric power and I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn more about how the folks at the Prairie Island plant do the big job of delivering reliable and affordable energy to millions of households across Minnesota and our surrounding states." [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 6/4/25]

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June 2025: Finstad Said He Was "Grateful For The Opportunity To Learn More About How The Folks At The Prairie Island Plant Do The Big Job Of Delivering Reliable And Affordable Energy To Millions Of Households Across Minnesota." "During last week's district work period, I toured the @xcelenergy Prairie Island Nuclear Generating Plant and heard from their team about the innovative things Xcel is doing to power our #MN01 communities. Nuclear reactors generate about 20% of U.S. commercial electric power and I'm grateful for the opportunity to learn more about how the folks at the Prairie Island plant do the big job of delivering reliable and affordable energy to millions of households across Minnesota and our surrounding states." [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 6/4/25]

May 2026: The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Directed Xcel Energy To Refund Customers $40.6 Million Following An 103-Day Long Outage At The Company's Prairie Island Nuclear Plant

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Headline: "Minnesota Public Utilities Commission Directs Xcel To Refund Customers $40.6 Million After Prairie Island Outage." [Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Press Release, 5/7/26]

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission: "The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Ordered Xcel Energy To Refund $40.6 Million, Plus Interest, To Minnesota Ratepayers After Determining That The 2023 Prairie Island Nuclear Plant Outage Resulted From Imprudent Actions By The Company." "The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) ordered Xcel Energy to refund $40.6 million, plus interest, to Minnesota ratepayers after determining that the 2023 Prairie Island Nuclear Plant outage resulted from imprudent actions by the company. A 103-day outage at the plant resulted when contractors mistakenly severed direct current control cables in October of 2023. The mistake forced both Prairie Island units offline, requiring Xcel to purchase replacement energy on the market to meet customer demand. Those excess power costs were passed directly into customer bills through the automatic fuel clause adjustment. The Commission agreed with Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) report that Xcel bears responsibility for the incident and that customers must be held harmless for the company's error. The Commission also rejected Xcel's proposals to substantially reduce the refund amount." [Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Press Release, 5/7/26]

- **Minnesota Public Utilities Commission: "A 103-Day Outage At The Plant Resulted When Contractors Mistakenly Severed Direct Current Control Cables In October Of 2023 […] The Mistake Forced Both Prairie Island Units Offline, Requiring Xcel To Purchase Replacement Energy On The Market To Meet Customer Demand."** "The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) ordered Xcel Energy to refund $40.6 million, plus interest, to Minnesota ratepayers after determining that the 2023 Prairie Island Nuclear Plant outage resulted from imprudent actions by the company. A 103-day outage at the plant resulted when contractors mistakenly severed direct current control cables in October of 2023. The mistake forced both Prairie Island units offline, requiring Xcel to purchase replacement energy on the market to meet customer demand. Those excess power costs were passed directly into customer bills through the automatic fuel clause adjustment. The Commission agreed with Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) report that Xcel bears responsibility for the incident and that customers must be held harmless for the company's error. The Commission also rejected Xcel's proposals to substantially reduce the refund amount." [Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Press Release, 5/7/26]

- **Minnesota Public Utilities Commission: "Excess Power Costs Were Passed Directly Into Customer Bills Through The Automatic Fuel Clause Adjustment."** "The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) ordered Xcel Energy to refund $40.6 million, plus interest, to Minnesota ratepayers after determining that the 2023 Prairie Island Nuclear Plant outage resulted from imprudent actions by the company. A 103-day outage at the plant resulted when contractors mistakenly severed direct current control cables in October of 2023. The mistake forced both Prairie Island units offline, requiring Xcel to purchase replacement energy on the market to meet customer demand. Those excess power costs were passed directly into customer bills through the automatic fuel clause adjustment. The Commission agreed with Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) report that Xcel bears responsibility for the incident and that customers must be held harmless for the company's error. The Commission also rejected Xcel's proposals to substantially reduce the refund amount." [Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, Press Release, 5/7/26]

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Finstad Failed Farmers, Letting The Farm Bill Lapse And Supporting Tariffs And Policies That Hurt Minnesota Farmers In Crisis

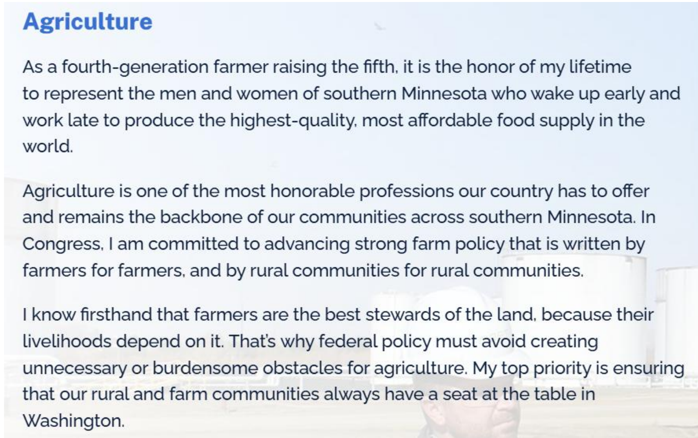
Finstad Said Advancing Strong Farm Policy That Benefitted Rural Communities Was One Of His Priorities In Congress

Finstad Said Advancing Strong Farm Policy That Benefitted Rural Communities Was One Of His Priorities In Congress

July 2026: Facebook: Finstad Emphasized His "Commitment To Taking Care Of American Farmers In Congress." "I recently joined Brownfield Ag News to discuss my commitment to taking care of American farmers in Congress. Listen here." [Congressman Brad Finstad, Facebook, 7/20/26]

[Congressman Brad Finstad, Facebook, 7/20/26]

Finstad: "In Congress, I Am Committed To Advancing Strong Farm Policy That Is Written By Farmers For Farmers, And By Rural Communities For Rural Communities." "As a fourth-generation farmer raising the fifth, it is the honor of my lifetime to represent the men and women of southern Minnesota who wake up early and work late to produce the highest-quality, most affordable food supply in the world. Agriculture is one of the most honorable professions our country has to offer and remains the backbone of our communities across southern Minnesota. In Congress, I am committed to advancing strong farm policy that is written by farmers for farmers, and by rural communities for rural communities. I know firsthand that farmers are the best stewards of the land, because their livelihoods depend on it. That's why federal policy must avoid creating unnecessary or burdensome obstacles for agriculture. My top priority is ensuring that our rural and farm communities always have a seat at the table in Washington." [Rep. Brad Finstad, accessed 7/14/26]



Agriculture

As a fourth-generation farmer raising the fifth, it is the honor of my lifetime to represent the men and women of southern Minnesota who wake up early and work late to produce the highest-quality, most affordable food supply in the world.

Agriculture is one of the most honorable professions our country has to offer and remains the backbone of our communities across southern Minnesota. In Congress, I am committed to advancing strong farm policy that is written by farmers for farmers, and by rural communities for rural communities.

I know firsthand that farmers are the best stewards of the land, because their livelihoods depend on it. That's why federal policy must avoid creating unnecessary or burdensome obstacles for agriculture. My top priority is ensuring that our rural and farm communities always have a seat at the table in Washington.

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April 2026: Finstad Declined To Be Interviewed Ahead Of Growing Season About "The Economic Challenges Facing Farmers"

April 2026: Finstad Declined To Be Interview Ahead Of Growing Season About "The Economic Challenges Facing Farmers." "Federal lawmakers are back in Washington following their two week spring recess. Ahead of the pause on Capitol Hill, KTTC reached out to Congressman Brad Finstad to meet up with the First District representative during his time in southern Minnesota. That meeting did not happen. KTTC viewed the invitation as a timely one given the economic challenges facing farmers as the spring planting season gets underway, with the ongoing war in Iran impacting the costs of doing business." [KTTC, 4/14/26]

- **KTTC Headline: "KTTC Offers Rep. Finstad Interview Opportunity Ahead Of Planting Season For Southern Minnesota Farmers."** [KTTC, 4/14/26]

KTTC Wanted To Ask Finstad About "The Economic Challenges Facing Farmers … With The Ongoing War In Iran Impacting The Costs Of Doing Business." "Federal lawmakers are back in Washington following their two week spring recess. Ahead of the pause on Capitol Hill, KTTC reached out to Congressman Brad Finstad to meet up with the First District representative during his time in southern Minnesota. That meeting did not happen. KTTC viewed the invitation as a timely one given the economic challenges facing farmers as the spring planting season gets underway, with the ongoing war in Iran impacting the costs of doing business." [KTTC, 4/14/26]

KTTC Wanted To Ask Finstad About His Support Of The Iran War, What He Was Hearing From Farmers, And If There Would Be More Federal Assistance For Them. "Finstad often mentions he is a fourth-generation farmer—growing crops in the New Ulm area. Questions KTTC planned on asking the second-term Republican included: What are you hearing from First District farmers? How are you directly being impacted by current economic factors? Is additional federal assistance for farmers likely? Do you support President Donald Trump's handling of Iran? Are you concern about election implications in November?" [KTTC, 4/14/26]

2026: Minnesota Was In A Farm Crisis Due To Skyrocketing Costs And Plummeting Prices, Partially Due To The Tariffs And Iran War That Finstad Supported

Finstad Voted To Protect Tariffs And Continue The Iran War

July 2026: American Journal News Headline: "Finstad Backed Trump Tariffs As Minnesota Farmers Paid The Price." [American Journal News, 7/29/26]

American Journal News: "Finstad Has Cast Multiple Votes In The House To Protect Trump's Tariffs. "Finstad has cast multiple votes in the House to protect Trump's tariffs. He also voted against a resolution to end the Iran war. Finstad is running for a third term this year. His Democratic challenger will be chosen in an Aug. 11 primary." [American Journal News, 7/29/26]

American Journal News: "Finstad […] Voted Against A Resolution To End The Iran War. "Finstad has cast multiple votes in the House to protect Trump's tariffs. He also voted against a resolution to end the Iran war. Finstad is running for a third term this year. His Democratic challenger will be chosen in an Aug. 11 primary." [American Journal News, 7/29/26]

2026: Minnesota Was In A Farm Crisis Due To Skyrocketing Costs And Plummeting Prices Fueled By Tariffs And The Iran War

March 2026: 5 ABC KSTP Headline: "Skyrocketing Costs And Plummeting Prices: Minnesota's Farm Crisis." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/16/26]

- **Agriculture, A $26 Billion Industry, Was The Foundation Of Minnesota's Economy.** "Uncertainty looms over Minnesota's soybean industry as President Trump hints at delaying a trip to China, affecting potential trade deals. Monday's news further compounded a years-long struggle for Minnesota farmers, and a recent rise in fuel and fertilizer costs. Agriculture, a $26 billion industry, is the foundation of the state's economy, according to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. 'It's going to be about survival. I mean, farmers might not be able to survive this for too long,' said Ryan Mackenthun, vice president of the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/16/26]

July 2026: Minnesota Star Tribune: Many Farmers Will Struggle This Year To Break Even Amid Low Crop Prices That Followed Rounds Of Trade Wars, As Well Inflated Fertilizer And Fuel Costs Due To The War With Iran. "Farmers own valuable assets such as land and equipment, yet they can struggle to have cash on-hand to pay down debts when income is low, said Erik Ahlgren, a bankruptcy lawyer. Several years of geopolitical events have taken a toll on parts of the economy that affect agriculture. Many farmers will struggle this year to break even amid low crop prices that followed rounds of trade wars, which weakened international demand for U.S.-grown crops. This spring, producers took another hit when the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran inflated costs of inputs such as fertilizer and fuel." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 7/10/26]

May 2026: Axios Headline: "Minnesota Farmers Face Rising Costs, Trade Woes As Planting Begins." [Axios, 5/1/26]

May 2026: Axios: "Increased Costs And Other Economic Headwinds Are Sowing Uncertainty And Stress For Minnesota Farmers As Planting Season Begins." "Increased costs and other economic headwinds are sowing uncertainty and stress for Minnesota farmers as planting season begins. What's happening: The Iran conflict is driving up fuel and fertilizer prices, adding pressure after 'several consecutive years of losses,' American Farm Bureau Federation economist Faith Parum said on a recent media call. At the same time, commodity prices for crops have fallen from pandemic-era highs. Bird flu remains a concern for the state's prominent poultry industry. Plus: Tariffs and other impacts of President Trump's trade policies remain a 'big problem,' especially for Minnesota's many soybean farmers, Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen told Axios. 'Our trade is really struggling in some areas and just the uncertainty of it is still there,' he said. 'There's a lot of headwinds right now.' Threat level: Advocates worry the latest setbacks could push more farmers to the brink. Bankruptcies rose nationwide in 2025, a new analysis from the American Farm Bureau Federation shows." [Axios, 5/1/26]

July 2026: American Journal News: Matt Purfeerst, A Fifth-Generation Farmer From Finstad's District Claimed, "Tariffs Had Created Volatility In The Soybean Market, Making It 'Extremely Challenging' For Family Farms Like His To Thrive." "Last year, the White House imposed sweeping tariffs on imports from most countries, triggering a sharp rise in fertilizer and machinery costs. These prices have remained stubbornly high even after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down those tariffs in February. Matt Purfeerst, a fifth-generation farmer from Finstad's district, experienced this pain firsthand. He told the Guardian in October 2025 that Trump's tariffs had created volatility in the soybean market, making it 'extremely challenging' for family farms like his to thrive." [American Journal News, 7/29/26]

March 2026: Gary Wertish, President Of The Minnesota Farmers Union Said "Farmers Are Very Stressed Right Now" Due To The Impacts Of The War In Iran. "Minnesota farmers are facing a challenging season due to the war in Iran, which has led to the shutdown of the Strait of Hormuz. The closure of this vital oil shipping channel is causing gas and diesel prices to rise, impacting Minnesota's 65,000 farmers who rely on these prices for their livelihood. 'This is the worst possible time for this to happen,' said Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. 'Oh, farmers are very stressed right now. There's no doubt,' said Gary Wertish, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

Wertish Warned About The Potential Longterm Effects Of Minnesota's Farm Crisis: "This Is Not A One-And-Done Thing, And It's Very Damaging." "'If an average farmer has, we'll just say 1,000 acres… That's another 35% increase in his cost. So you could be running another $40,000 right there out of the pocket,' said Wertish. 'And that — the money's not there.' Wertish expressed particular concern about the impact on smaller and medium-sized farmers, as well as young beginning farmers, and fears some farms won't survive what he described as a compounding crisis. 'So it's got a long-term effect,' said Wertish. 'This is not a one-and-done thing, and it's very damaging.' He expects a ripple effect, potentially impacting the food supply and leading to higher prices at the grocery store and beyond." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

- **Wertish Warned About The Impact On Smaller And Medium-Sized Farmers As Well As Young Beginning Farmers, And Said He Feared Some Farms Would Not Survive What He Described As A Compounding Crisis.** "'If an average farmer has, we'll just say 1,000 acres… That's another 35% increase in his cost. So you could be running another $40,000 right there out of the pocket,' said Wertish. 'And that — the money's not there.' Wertish expressed particular concern about the impact on smaller and medium-sized farmers, as well as young beginning farmers, and fears some farms won't survive what he described as a compounding crisis. 'So it's got a long-term effect,' said Wertish. 'This is not a one-and-done thing, and it's very damaging.' He expects a ripple effect, potentially impacting the food supply and leading to higher prices at the grocery store and beyond." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

July 2026: Minnesota Farm Bankruptcies Spiked Due To Economic Struggles

July 2026: Civic Media: "Minnesota Bankruptcies Rise As A 'Perfect Storm' Of Challenges Roils Farm Country." [Civic Media, 7/13/26]

July 2026: Minnesota Star Tribune Headline: "Minnesota Farm Bankruptcies Rise As Farm Economy Turns 'Uneasy'" [Minnesota Star Tribune, 7/10/26]

July 2026: Seven Minnesota Farms Had Filed For Chapter 12 Bankruptcy So Far This Year, Putting The State On Pace For The Most Farm Bankruptcies In Five Years. "Money is running low on Donovan Fank's farm in the corn belt, where profits seem increasingly hard to come by. Bankers are trying to collect debt from the Sunburg, Minn., farm, and Fank may have to hand over some of his cattle, tractors and a chunk of his nearly 300-acre crop-growing operation — important assets laden with decades of history. 'The farm runs you,' Fank said during a phone interview. 'When you wake up in the morning, you think you can do one thing and you're doing something else because the farm tells you, 'I'm the boss.'' Fank's operation is one of seven farms in Minnesota that has filed for Chapter 12 bankruptcy so far this year, putting the state on pace for the most farm bankruptcies in five years. It's the latest signal of growing instability for the state's growers and producers, who serve a central role in the state's economy and identity." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 7/10/26]

During Finstad's Tenure, Congress Failed To Enact A New Farm Bill

2026: As A Member Of The House Committee On Agriculture, Finstad Has Failed To Enact A New Farm Bill For Three Years After The Last Bill Originally Expired In 2023

2022-2025: Finstad Had Served On The House Committee On Agriculture Since His First Term In Congress. "Today, Congressman Brad Finstad (MN-01) announced his committee appointments for the 119th Congress. Congressman Finstad will continue serving on the House Committee on Agriculture and the House Armed Services Committee and was also appointed to serve on the House Committee on Small Business. 'Since my first day in office, I have worked to ensure that farm policy isn't handed down by Washington but built from the ground up – shaped by farmers, for farmers. As one of the few active farmers in Congress, I am grateful to continue serving on the House Agriculture Committee and building on our work to deliver a Farm Bill that prioritizes our nation's agricultural producers and rural communities,' said Congressman Finstad." [Press Release, Rep. Brad Finstad, 1/24/25]

- **2022: Finstad Was Appointed To The House Committee On Agriculture.** "Congressman Brad Finstad (MN-01) today received his House committee assignments for the remainder of the 117th Congress. He will serve on the Committee on Agriculture, as well as the Committee on Education & Labor. 'I am excited to get to work for Minnesota's First District, serving on these committees and being a true voice for southern Minnesota,' said Congressman Finstad." [Press Release, Rep. Brad Finstad, 9/1/22]

The House Agriculture Committee Was Responsible For Introducing The Farm Bill. "On February 13, House Agriculture Committee Chairman G.T. Thompson (R-Pa.-15) introduced the House version of the 2026 Farm Bill, the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026. Please see the House's summary and full text of the bill for more information on the bill's provisions. The U.S. Farm Bill is a sweeping legislative package that shapes federal policy on agriculture, nutrition assistance, rural development, conservation and more. In addition to establishing the farm safety net, the Farm Bill authorizes programs that serve as cornerstones of county-led initiatives related to community development, land stewardship, infrastructure investment and nutrition access. The most recent Farm Bill, the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018, initially expired in 2023 and has been extended multiple times following stalled negotiations in Congress." [National Association of Counties, 6/24/26]

National Association Of Counties: "The Most Recent Farm Bill, The Agricultural Improvement Act Of 2018, Initially Expired In 2023 And Has Been Extended Multiple Times Following Stalled Negotiations In Congress." "On February 13, House Agriculture Committee Chairman G.T. Thompson (R-Pa.-15) introduced the House version of the 2026 Farm Bill, the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026. Please see the House's summary and full text of the bill for more information on the bill's provisions. The U.S. Farm Bill is a sweeping legislative package that shapes federal policy on agriculture, nutrition assistance, rural development, conservation and more. In addition to establishing the farm safety net, the Farm Bill authorizes programs that serve as cornerstones of county-led initiatives related to community development, land stewardship, infrastructure investment and nutrition access. The most recent Farm Bill, the Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018, initially expired in 2023 and has been extended multiple times following stalled negotiations in Congress. The law is currently extended through September 30, 2026. In 2025, H.R. 1 (P.L. 119-21) enacted several provisions traditionally addressed through Farm Bill reauthorization, including updates to commodity support programs and reforms to SNAP that affect state and local governments." [National Association of Counties, 6/24/26]

2024: The American Farm Bureau Warned That Failure To Pass A New Farm Bill Had "Measurable Consequences," Including The Likely Relying On The "Antiquated" 2018 Farm Bill Would "Likely Loss Of More Family Farms In The U.S."

American Farm Bureau Headline: "Failure To Modernize Farm Bill Has Measurable Consequences." [American Farm Bureau, 7/25/24]

2024: American Farm Bureau: Congress' Failure To Pass A Modernized Farm Bill Had "Very Real And Damaging Consequences." "The very real and damaging consequences of Congress' failure to pass a modernized farm bill are brought to light in a new analysis by American Farm Bureau Federation economists. It provides a clearer picture of major impacts of relying on the antiquated 2018 farm bill, including the likely loss of more family farms in the U.S., all of which impact the country's ability to produce the food, fuel and fiber America's families rely on. The Market Intel highlights five specific impacts of the failure to pass a new farm bill: a weakened farmer safety net, less future funding for sustainability efforts, a gap in coverage for dairy farmers, further erosion of U.S.

leadership in public agricultural research as China takes the lead, and reduced overall economic and national security." [American Farm Bureau, 7/25/24]

- **Failure To Pass A Modernized Farm Bill Resulted In A "Weakened Farmer Safety Net, Less Future Funding For Sustainability Efforts, A Gap In Coverage For Dairy Farmers, Further Erosion Of U.S. Leadership In Public Agricultural Research As China Takes The Lead, And Reduced Overall Economic And National Security."** "The very real and damaging consequences of Congress' failure to pass a modernized farm bill are brought to light in a new analysis by American Farm Bureau Federation economists. It provides a clearer picture of major impacts of relying on the antiquated 2018 farm bill, including the likely loss of more family farms in the U.S., all of which impact the country's ability to produce the food, fuel and fiber America's families rely on. The Market Intel highlights five specific impacts of the failure to pass a new farm bill: a weakened farmer safety net, less future funding for sustainability efforts, a gap in coverage for dairy farmers, further erosion of U.S. leadership in public agricultural research as China takes the lead, and reduced overall economic and national security." [American Farm Bureau, 7/25/24]

2024: American Farm Bureau: Relying On The "Antiquated" 2018 Farm Bill Would Likely Lead To The "Loss Of More Family Farms In The U.S." "The very real and damaging consequences of Congress' failure to pass a modernized farm bill are brought to light in a new analysis by American Farm Bureau Federation economists. It provides a clearer picture of major impacts of relying on the antiquated 2018 farm bill, including the likely loss of more family farms in the U.S., all of which impact the country's ability to produce the food, fuel and fiber America's families rely on. The Market Intel highlights five specific impacts of the failure to pass a new farm bill: a weakened farmer safety net, less future funding for sustainability efforts, a gap in coverage for dairy farmers, further erosion of U.S. leadership in public agricultural research as China takes the lead, and reduced overall economic and national security." [American Farm Bureau, 7/25/24]

Finstad Supported Reckless Tariffs, Which Devastated Minnesota Farmers As China Retaliated By Boycotting American Soybeans

February 2026: Finstad Voted To Protect Tariffs; Refusing To Vote In Favor Of Terminating Tariffs On Canada, Despite Acknowledging That Trading With Canada Was "Vital" For The Ag Economy

February 2026: Finstad Voted Against Terminating Tariffs On Canada Despite Acknowledging That Trade With Canada Was "Vital" For The Ag Economy

February 2026: Finstad Voted Against Terminating The National Emergency Declaration That Imposed Tariffs On Canada. In February 2026, Finstad voted against "the joint resolution that would terminate the Feb. 1, 2025, national emergency that imposed tariffs on goods from Canada." The vote was on passage. The House passed the joint resolution by a vote of 219 to 211. [H.J. Res. 72, Vote #65, 2/11/26; CQ, 2/11/26]

- **The Resolution To Disapprove Of The National Emergency Trump Declared To Raise Tariffs On Canada Was Approved 219-211, With Six Republicans Voting In Favor.** "The House on Wednesday voted to block President Donald Trump's tariffs on Canada, with six Republicans joining the Democrats in the symbolic rebuke. The resolution to disapprove of the national emergency Trump declared to raise tariffs on Canada, was approved 219-211. Republican Reps. Kevin Kiley of California, Thomas Massie of Kentucky, Don Bacon of Nebraska, Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania, Jeff Hurd of Colorado and Dan Newhouse of Washington voted for the resolution. Rep. Jared Golden of Maine was the only Democrat to vote against the measure." [Politico, 2/11/26]

Minnesota Star Tribune : "Finstad Acknowledged That Trading With Canada Was 'Vital' For The Ag Economy, But Said The Vote "Amounted To Only 'Political Posturing' By Democrats." "Rep. Brad Finstad, a southern Minnesota Republican, whose district includes a large swath of corn and soybean country, as well as hog and dairy farms, opposed the resolution. In a statement, Finstad acknowledged that trading with Canada was 'vital' for the ag economy, but said the vote amounted to only 'political posturing' by Democrats. The measure, Finstad said, would have terminated Trump's 'authority to address serious national security concerns, from fentanyl trafficking to illegal immigration' and would've weakened border protections." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 2/12/26]

NOTE: See section below for more information about Finstad's repeated votes and praise for reckless tariffs.

March 2026: Finstad Claimed "We're Starting To See That Dam Break" To Open Up Corn And Soybean Export Markets

March 2026: Finstad Said "We're Starting To See That Dam Break" To Open Up Corn And Soybean Export Markets. FINSTAD: "It's hopefully we're going to start seeing that on the market. We're going to start seeing that on the Chicago Board. We're going to, you know, hopefully get to a day where we can have five, $6 corn again, or $14 beans. But right now where we're at with $4 corn and $10 beans, it's not cutting it. So we need, we need more people wanting and interested in buying our products. We have a surplus right now in our country. We're pretty good at growing corn and soybeans, so we're gonna have to domestically, figure out how to expand that market, but then also internationally. And so we're started to see that dam break." [Made In Minnesota Podcast, 07:27, 3/21/26] (AUDIO)

2025-2026: After The U.S. Imposed New Tariffs On China, China Issued Tariffs On U.S. Agricultural Products And The Two Countries "Engaged In A Series Of Retaliatory Measures, With Tariff Rates Climbing To Unprecedented Levels"

February 2025: The Trump Administration Announced A 10% Tariff On Chinese Goods. "On Saturday, February 1, 2025, the Trump Administration initially announced U.S. import tariffs on Canadian, Chinese, and Mexican origin products. These tariffs would have subjected many Canadian and Mexican origin products to a 25% import duty, while Chinese-origin products will be subject to a 10% import duty. U.S. President Donald Trump invoked his authority under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act ('IEEPA') to impose these sweeping tariffs, citing a national emergency relating to fentanyl trafficking and illegal border crossings. By Monday mid-day, Canada, Mexico, and the Trump White House reported border security assurances that led to the postponement of tariffs and countermeasures until March 4, 2025. By contrast, the 10% tariff on Chinese origin products (including goods of Hong Kong), took effect on Tuesday, February 4, 2025." [Dorsey Whitney LLP, 2/6/25]

After The United States Imposed Sweeping Tariffs On All Chinese Imports, China Responded With Retaliatory Tariffs, Including On U.S. Agricultural Products. "The trade dispute began with the US imposing sweeping tariffs on all Chinese imports, citing the need for stronger action against illicit synthetic opioid distribution and broader trade imbalances. China responded immediately, targeting key American exports such as coal, liquefied natural gas and agricultural equipment, and escalating with additional tariffs on US agricultural products and restrictions on American firms. As the months progressed, both countries engaged in a series of retaliatory measures, with tariff rates climbing to unprecedented levels." [World Economic Forum, 1/5/26]

World Economic Forum: "As The Months Progressed, Both Countries Engaged In A Series Of Retaliatory Measures, With Tariff Rates Climbing To Unprecedented Levels." "The trade dispute began with the US imposing sweeping tariffs on all Chinese imports, citing the need for stronger action against illicit synthetic opioid distribution and broader trade imbalances. China responded immediately, targeting key American exports such as coal, liquefied natural gas and agricultural equipment, and escalating with additional tariffs on US agricultural products and restrictions on American firms. As the months progressed, both countries engaged in a series of retaliatory measures, with tariff rates climbing to unprecedented levels." [World Economic Forum, 1/5/26]

May 2025-October 2025: China Boycotted U.S. Soybeans Due To Tariffs, Instead Pivoting To South American Markets

May 2025: China, The World's Largest Soybean Importer, Began Boycotting U.S. Soybeans In Protest Of Tariffs

Reuters: China Was The World's Largest Soybean Importer. "Shipments fell because of the high tariffs China has imposed on U.S. imports and as previously harvested U.S. supplies, known as old-crop beans, have already been traded. China is the world's biggest soybean importer. 'This is mainly due to tariffs. In a typical year, some old-crop beans would still enter the market,' said Wan Chengzhi, an analyst at Capital Jingdu Futures. Brazil arrivals last month jumped 29.9% year-on-year to 10.96 million tons, accounting for 85.2% of China's total imports of the oilseed, customs data showed, while shipments from Argentina rose 91.5% to 1.17 million tons, or 9% of the total." [Reuters, 10/19/25]

May 2025: China Began Boycotting U.S. Soybeans In Protest Of Tariffs. "China has been boycotting purchases of U.S. soybeans since late May to show displeasure with President Trump's imposition of tariffs on imports from China. The pain is being felt in Midwest states, especially Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Indiana. For the first time in many years, American farmers are preparing to harvest their crop this fall with no purchase orders from China." [New York Times, 9/4/25]

2024: Farm Bureau: Soybeans Accounted For 47% Of All U.S. Agricultural Exports To China. "China remains a critical export market for U.S. agriculture. U.S. agricultural exports to China reached a record $40.9 billion in 2022 before falling sharply as trade tensions and shifting sourcing patterns disrupted flows. Soybeans accounted for 47% of all U.S. agricultural exports to China in 2024, underscoring how concentrated the relationship remains in a single commodity. Stable trade relationships matter in a depressed farm economy. With farmers facing continued margin pressure, reliable export demand is essential to supporting farm income." [Farm Bureau, 5/14/26]

2025: China Pivoted To Purchasing Soybeans From South America Due To U.S. Tariffs

September 2025: China Purchased Soybeans From Brazil And Argentina After It Cut Off Purchases From The US In "Response To The Tariff War." "China has not purchased any U.S. soybeans since May, according to the American Soybean Association. Beijing has pivoted to suppliers in Brazil and Argentina — logging huge orders for Latin American beans and leaving U.S. farmers in the cold and panicking. The dramatic shift echoes China's response to the tariff war during Trump's first term when the value of U.S. soybean exports plunged to $3.1 billion in 2018 from $14 billion in 2016." [Politico, 9/28/25]

2025: The Soybean Boycott Was Devastating For Minnesota Farmers

October 2025: PBS News Headline: "Minnesota Farmers Struggle To Stay Afloat As China Boycotts U.S. Soybeans." [PBS News, 10/12/25]

October 2025: Straight Arrow News Headline: "Trump's Tariffs Are Hurting Farmers As Chinese Soybean Imports Drop To Zero." [Straight Arrow News, 10/21/25]

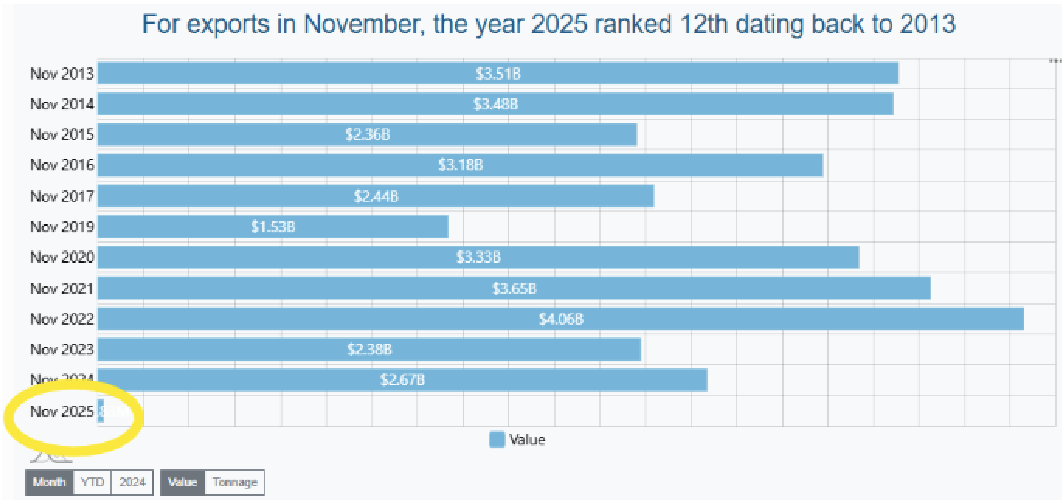
2025: New York Times: The Pain From China's Boycott Of Soybeans Was Particularly Felt In Minnesota. "China has been boycotting purchases of U.S. soybeans since late May to show displeasure with President Trump's imposition of tariffs on imports from China. The pain is being felt in Midwest states, especially Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Indiana. For the first time in many years, American farmers are preparing to harvest their crop this fall with no purchase orders from China." [New York Times, 9/4/25]

Even After China Officially Ended Its Boycott On U.S. Soybeans, The Country Largely Kept Its Imports In South America

Forbes Headline: "China Ends Longest Boycott Of U.S. Soybeans, Still A 99% Decline." [Forbes, 2/5/26]

November 2025: Forbes: China Bought 99% Fewer Soybeans In November 2025 Than The Same Month A Year Prior. "China ended an unprecedented five months without buying U.S. soybeans, according to the latest

U.S. Census Bureau data. But the $21.83 million total last November was more than 99% less than the same month in 2024. A drop in the bucket – a pittance – as China, the world's largest consumer of soybeans, which are used primarily to feed pigs to sate the country's increasing desire for animal-based protein, now increasingly looks to Brazil for its soybeans." [Forbes, 2/5/26]



U.S. soybean exports ended a five-month boycott in November, according to the latest U.S. Census Bureau data available, but with a whimper, the total down more than 99% from re ... **More**
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[Forbes, 2/5/26]

July 2026: China Had Committed To Buying At Least 25 Million Tons Of US Soybeans A Year Through 2028, But Had So Far Only Purchased 200,000 Tons Of Beans For The Marketing Year That Begins In September. "The remarks came after Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi had a phone call with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Wednesday, with the two sides agreeing to expand areas of cooperation while narrowing the list of disputes and managing risks, according to a statement from China's foreign ministry. China has committed to buy at least 25 million tons of US soybeans a year through 2028, and in addition, will purchase at least $17 billion per year of American agricultural products in 2026 (prorated), 2027, and 2028, according to the White House. However, commitments from Chinese buyers so far only amount to 200,000 tons of beans for the marketing year that begins in September. The higher tariff still in place on American products and political uncertainty have largely kept the private crushers on the sidelines." [Bloomberg, 7/2/26]

- **July 2026: U.S. Soybean Prices Remained Higher Than Prices In Brazil Due To Tariffs.** "Soybean futures drifted between small gains and losses as traders weighed a statement by China's government on rolling back tariffs on US agricultural products, a move that could pave the way for purchases by the Asian country. China's Ministry of Commerce said Thursday the two sides agreed in principal on reducing tariffs following recent talks, with the statement coming after Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi had a phone call with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio on Wednesday. Such a move could potentially bring American soybeans below the cost of Brazilian supplies. 'If China drops their 10% tariff on US goods, it would certainly make the US much more competitive with South America," said Randy Place, an analyst at Hightower Report.'" [Bloomberg, 7/2/26]

Tariffs Increased The Price Of Seeds, Fertilizer, And Farm Equipment, Further Squeezing Minnesota Farmers

New York Times: Tariffs Had Increased The Price Of Seeds And Fertilizer. "Growers are also contending with tariff-induced price increases on seeds and fertilizer, some of which is imported from Russia and Canada. Prices for monoammonium phosphate, a fertilizer with both nitrogen and phosphorus, are up 14 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture." [New York Times, 10/26/25]

- **HEADLINE: "Farmers Are Feeling The Heat As Trump's Tariffs Spike Fertilizer Prices**." [Politico, 8/20/25]

- **Tariffs Had Increased The Price Of The Fertilizer Monoammonium Phosphate By 14 Percent.** "Growers are also contending with tariff-induced price increases on seeds and fertilizer, some of which is imported from Russia and Canada. Prices for monoammonium phosphate, a fertilizer with both nitrogen and phosphorus, are up 14 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture." [New York Times, 10/26/25]

- **Bloomberg: Tariffs Had Increased The Costs Of Potash And Nitrogen Based Fertilizer.** "Fertilizer prices are surging, eroding American farmers' profits and adding pressure on the Trump administration to slash tariffs on key crop nutrients. Tightening supplies and tariff concerns have driven up costs for potash-, nitrogen-, and phosphate-based products just as farmers are earning less for their harvests. A North American benchmark of fertilizer prices recently surged to its highest level since at least 2016 relative to a basket of grain and oilseed futures — topping even the highs seen at the time of Russia's invasion of Ukraine." [Bloomberg, 8/28/25]

August 2025: Two Farm Equipment Makers Warned Of Higher Prices For Tractors And Combines Due To Tariffs. "Farmers will soon start feeling the impact from President Donald Trump's tariffs in the form of higher prices for the machines used to plant, treat and harvest fields. That's the warning from AGCO Corp. and CNH Industrial NV. With duties on the rise, the equipment makers will increasingly be forced to pass along the extra costs — both to farmers in the U.S. and to those elsewhere in the world. For instance, some of AGCO's high-end Fendt tractors and combines are built in Europe, where the E.U. bloc accepted a 15% tariff on most of its exports to the U.S. Rather than letting the price of one model spike, AGCO is instead moving to smooth it out across its offerings." [Bloomberg, 8/1/25]

2026: Tariffs Remained A Big Problem For Minnesota Farmers As China's Pivot To South America Threatened U.S. Farm Dominance

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May 2026: Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen: Tariffs Were A "Big Problem" For Agriculture In Minnesota, Particularly Soybean Farmers. "Increased costs and other economic headwinds are sowing uncertainty and stress for Minnesota farmers as planting season begins. What's happening: The Iran conflict is driving up fuel and fertilizer prices, adding pressure after 'several consecutive years of losses,' American Farm Bureau Federation economist Faith Parum said on a recent media call. At the same time, commodity prices for crops have fallen from pandemic-era highs. Bird flu remains a concern for the state's prominent poultry industry. Plus: Tariffs and other impacts of President Trump's trade policies remain a 'big problem,' especially for Minnesota's many soybean farmers, Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen told Axios. 'Our trade is really struggling in some areas and just the uncertainty of it is still there,' he said. 'There's a lot of headwinds right now.' Threat level: Advocates worry the latest setbacks could push more farmers to the brink. Bankruptcies rose nationwide in 2025, a new analysis from the American Farm Bureau Federation shows." [Axios, 5/1/26]

- **May 2026: Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen: "Our Trade Is Really Struggling In Some Areas And Just The Uncertainty Of It Is Still There."** "Increased costs and other economic headwinds are sowing uncertainty and stress for Minnesota farmers as planting season begins. What's happening: The Iran conflict is driving up fuel and fertilizer prices, adding pressure after 'several consecutive years of losses,' American Farm Bureau Federation economist Faith Parum said on a recent media call. At the same time, commodity prices for crops have fallen from pandemic-era highs. Bird flu remains a concern for the state's prominent poultry industry. Plus: Tariffs and other impacts of President Trump's trade policies remain a 'big problem,' especially for Minnesota's many soybean farmers, Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen told Axios. 'Our trade is really struggling in some areas and just the uncertainty of it is still there,' he said. 'There's a lot of headwinds right now.' Threat level: Advocates worry the latest setbacks could push more farmers to the brink. Bankruptcies rose nationwide in 2025, a new analysis from the American Farm Bureau Federation shows." [Axios, 5/1/26]

July 2026: Newsmax Headline: "US Farm Dominance Wanes As China Pivots To Brazil." [Newsmax, 7/21/26]

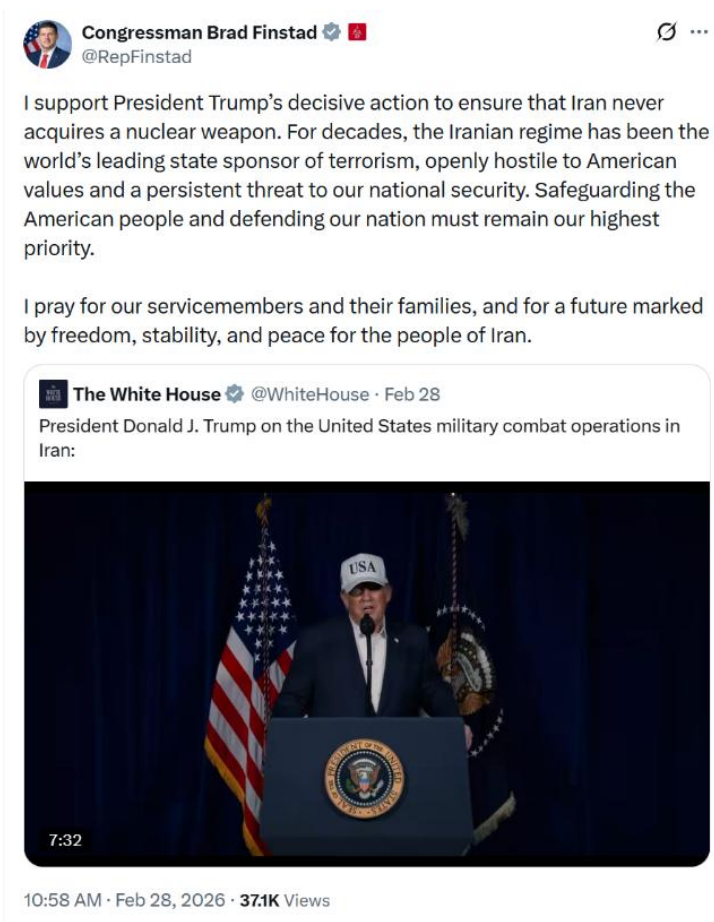
July 2026: Newsmax: Americas Position As The Leader Of The Global Agriculture Trade Was In Danger Due To Unpredictable Tariffs. "American farmers can still produce enormous harvests, but increasingly struggle to make money doing it. For more than a century, the United States benefitted from its fertile soil, mechanized farms, and transportation network to dominate global agricultural trade. That position is now under threat as shrinking margins, unpredictable tariffs, and Brazil's rapid expansion reshape the market." [Newsmax, 7/21/26]

July 2026: Newsmax: "The American Farm Bureau Federation Projects Farmers Could Lose $138 An Acre On Soybeans Next Year, $167 On Corn, $145 On Wheat And $406 On Cotton." "That position is now under threat as shrinking margins, unpredictable tariffs, and Brazil's rapid expansion reshape the market. The American Farm Bureau Federation projects farmers could lose $138 an acre on soybeans next year, $167 on corn, $145 on wheat and $406 on cotton." [Newsmax, 7/21/26]

Finstad Was A Strong Supporter Of The War In Iran, Which Dramatically Increased Diesel And Fertilizer Prices For MN-01 Farmers

Finstad Supported The War In Iran And Said It Was A "Misconception" That Minnesota Farmers Would Pay The High Diesel Prices Caused By The Iran War

February 2026: Finstad On War In Iran: "I Support President Trump's Decisive Action." "I support President Trump's decisive action to ensure that Iran never acquires a nuclear weapon. For decades, the Iranian regime has been the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism, openly hostile to American values and a persistent threat to our national security. Safeguarding the American people and defending our nation must remain our highest priority. I pray for our servicemembers and their families, and for a future marked by freedom, stability, and peace for the people of Iran." [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 2/28/26]



[@RepFinstad, Twitter, 2/28/26]

June 2026: Finstad Said It Was A "Misconception" To Say That Minnesota Farmers Would Pay The High Diesel Prices Caused By The Iran War. "Another misconception, he said, is that fuel prices today — diesel ranged from $4.16 to $4.49 a gallon across CD1 on Thursday — are what farmers are paying out in the field. 'Most farmers have on-farm storage, and we are prebuying our inputs,' he said. Those inputs range from fuel to fertilizer to pesticides and seeds. 'That's the one untold story of the great farmers in southern Minnesota and all across this country. We are small, independent businesses.' He said the war in Iran will be over — or at least the Strait of Hormuz opened — before he and other farmers must replenish their supplies." [Rochester Post Bulletin, 6/2/26]

2026: The War In Iran Spiked Diesel Prices, "Impacting Minnesota's 65,000 Farmers Who Rely On These Prices For Their Livelihood"

April 2026: Minnesota Star Tribune Headline: "As Planting Begins, Minnesota Farmers Wary Of War's Impact: Prices For Corn, Soybeans, Wheat And Sugar Beets Are Low, While Expenses Are High, Partly Because Of The War In Iran." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/27/26]

March 2026: 5 ABC KSTP Headline: "War In Iran Increases Costs On Minnesota Farms At 'Worst Possible Time.'" [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

The Closure Of The Strait Of Hormuz Caused Gas And Diesel Prices To Rise, "Impacting Minnesota's 65,000 Farmers Who Rely On These Prices For Their Livelihood." "Minnesota farmers are facing a challenging season due to the war in Iran, which has led to the shutdown of the Strait of Hormuz. The closure of this vital oil shipping channel is causing gas and diesel prices to rise, impacting Minnesota's 65,000 farmers who rely on these prices for their livelihood. 'This is the worst possible time for this to happen,' said Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. 'Oh, farmers are very stressed right now. There's no doubt,' said Gary Wertish, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

- **The War In Iran Caused The Closure Of The Strait Of Hormuz, A Vital Oil Shipping Channel.** "Minnesota farmers are facing a challenging season due to the war in Iran, which has led to the shutdown of the Strait of Hormuz. The closure of this vital oil shipping channel is causing gas and diesel prices to rise, impacting Minnesota's 65,000 farmers who rely on these prices for their livelihood. 'This is the worst possible time for this to happen,' said Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. 'Oh, farmers are very stressed right now. There's no doubt,' said Gary Wertish, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

March 2026: The Iran War Spiked Fertilizer Prices By An Average Of $40 Per Acre, Straining Minnesota Farms Just As Planting Season Was Approaching

March 2026: The Iran War Spiked Fertilizer Prices In Minnesota Just As Planting Season Was Approaching

March 2026: Minnesota Star Tribune Headline: "Minnesota Corn Farmers Withstood A Trade War. The War In Iran Is The Next Cost Challenge: The Conflict Is Increasing The Cost Of An Essential Fertilizer. With Corn Prices Already Down, It's Another Financial Headache For Farmers." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 3/16/26]

March 2026: Fertilized Prices Had Spiked 20-25%. "'So hopefully when things like this happen, it's not such a knee-jerk reaction to our supply chain,' Mackenthun said. 'You know, I look back to Hurricane Katrina, back in 2005, the Mississippi River was shut down, and we had infrastructure that wasn't capable of holding more than, like, two days of product.' Despite having a storage facility, many farmers hesitated to stock up due to market uncertainties about existing tariffs. Mackenthun took a calculated risk in January, buying before the Strait of Hormuz closure affected diesel and fertilizer supplies. 'And fortunately, I did. And now, here we sit, and the prices obviously have elevated, you know, 20-25%,' Mackenthun said. 'When I booked, [fertilizer] prices were around that $560 a ton, and now they're closer to that $750 a ton range in our area.'" [5 ABC KSTP, 3/16/26]

Ryan Mackenthun, Vice President Of The Minnesota Soybean Growers Association Said Prices Had Risen By 20-25%,' Since January: "When I Booked, [Fertilizer] Prices Were Around That $560 A Ton, And Now They're Closer To That $750 A Ton Range In Our Area.'" "'It's going to be about survival. I mean, farmers might not be able to survive this for too long,' said Ryan Mackenthun, vice president of the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association. Mackenthun is also a fifth-generation soybean farmer in Brownton, Minn. We interviewed him at the nearby Central United Cooperative, built nine years ago, in part, to give farmers a place to stock up on fertilizer. 'So hopefully when things like this happen, it's not such a knee-jerk reaction to our supply chain,' Mackenthun said. 'You know, I look back to Hurricane Katrina, back in 2005, the Mississippi River was shut down, and we had infrastructure that wasn't capable of holding more than, like, two days of product.' Despite having a storage facility, many farmers hesitated to stock up due to market uncertainties about existing tariffs. Mackenthun took a calculated risk in January, buying before the Strait of Hormuz closure affected diesel and fertilizer supplies. 'And fortunately, I did. And now, here we sit, and the prices obviously have elevated, you know, 20-25%,' Mackenthun said. 'When I booked, [fertilizer] prices were around that $560 a ton, and now they're closer to that $750 a ton range in our area.'" [5 ABC KSTP, 3/16/26]

Fertilizer Costs Had Increased By About $40 Per Acre For The Average Minnesota Farmer. "This is the worst possible time for this to happen," said Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. Oh, farmers are very stressed right now. There's no doubt," said Gary Wertish, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union. "Petersen says that a third or more of the world's fertilizer supply is cut off, and Minnesota farmers need to buy it in bulk despite high prices. 'You know, farmers aren't going to be able to delay planting season… If the weather's good, they're going to have to go and pay what they're going to have to pay,' said Petersen. Wertish noted that fertilizer costs have increased by about $40 per acre for the average Minnesota farmer. 'If an average farmer has, we'll just say 1,000 acres… That's another 35% increase in his cost. So you could be running another $40,000 right there out of the pocket,' said Wertish. 'And that — the money's not there.' Wertish expressed particular concern about the impact on smaller and medium-sized farmers, as well as young beginning farmers, and fears some farms won't survive what he described as a compounding crisis. 'So it's got a long-term effect,' said Wertish. 'This is not a one-and-done thing, and it's very damaging.' He expects a ripple effect, potentially impacting the food supply and leading to higher prices at the grocery store and beyond." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

- **Wertish: "If An Average Farmer Has, We'll Just Say 1,000 Acres… That's Another 35% Increase In His Cost. So You Could Be Running Another $40,000 Right There Out Of The Pocket, […] 'And That — The Money's Not There.'"** This is the worst possible time for this to happen," said Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. Oh, farmers are very stressed right now. There's no doubt," said Gary Wertish, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union. "Petersen says that a third or more of the world's fertilizer supply is cut off, and Minnesota farmers need to buy it in bulk despite high prices. 'You know, farmers aren't going to be able to delay planting season… If the weather's good, they're going to have to go and pay what they're going to have to pay,' said Petersen. Wertish noted that fertilizer costs have increased by about $40 per acre for the average Minnesota farmer. 'If an average farmer has, we'll just say 1,000 acres… That's another 35% increase in his cost. So you could be running another $40,000 right there out of the pocket,' said Wertish. 'And that — the money's not there.' Wertish expressed particular concern about the impact on smaller and medium-sized farmers, as well as young beginning farmers, and fears some farms won't survive what he described as a compounding crisis. 'So it's got a long-term effect,' said Wertish. 'This is not a one-and-done thing, and it's very damaging.' He expects a ripple effect, potentially impacting the food supply and leading to higher prices at the grocery store and beyond." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

March 2026: Minnesota Star Tribune: "The U.S. War With Iran Is Wreaking Havoc On The Global Fertilizer Market And Stressing Minnesota Corn Farmers Who Are Already Managing Tense Balance Sheets." "The U.S. war with Iran is wreaking havoc on the global fertilizer market and stressing Minnesota corn farmers who are already managing tense balance sheets. Corn prices remain much lower than 2022's peak of roughly $348 per ton because of big harvests and lower demand. Meanwhile, the price of a widely used fertilizer, one of farmers' main expenses, has shot up in the past few weeks. Those two elements could spell a difficult growing season, even though many farmers purchased most of their fertilizer before the price increase. If fertilizer is more expensive, and farmers can't afford to buy as much as demand increases during the season, there could be a smaller yield of crop that results in higher prices for consumers." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 3/16/26]

March 2026: Minnesota Department Of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen Said A Third Or More Of The World's Fertilizer Supply Was Cut Off, But Minnesota Farmers Needed To Buy It In Bulk Despite High Prices Due To The Upcoming Planting Season. "This is the worst possible time for this to happen," said Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. Oh, farmers are very stressed right now. There's no doubt," said Gary Wertish, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union. "Petersen says that a third or more of the world's fertilizer supply is cut off, and Minnesota farmers need to buy it in bulk despite high prices. 'You know, farmers aren't going to be able to delay planting season… If the weather's good, they're going to have to go and pay what they're going to have to pay,' said Petersen. Wertish noted that fertilizer costs have increased by about $40 per acre for the average Minnesota farmer. 'If an average farmer has, we'll just say 1,000 acres… That's another 35% increase in his cost. So you could be running another $40,000 right there out of the pocket,' said Wertish. 'And that — the money's not there.' Wertish expressed particular concern about the impact on smaller and medium-sized farmers, as well as young beginning farmers, and fears some farms won't survive what he described as a compounding crisis. 'So it's got a long-term effect,' said Wertish. 'This is not a one-and-done thing, and it's very damaging.' He expects a ripple effect, potentially impacting the food supply and leading to higher prices at the grocery store and beyond." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

- **March 2026: Minnesota Department Of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen: "You Know, Farmers Aren't Going To Be Able To Delay Planting Season… If The Weather's Good, They're Going To Have To Go And Pay What They're Going To Have To Pay."** "This is the worst possible time for this to happen," said Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. Oh, farmers are very stressed right now. There's no doubt," said Gary Wertish, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union. "Petersen says that a third or more of the world's fertilizer supply is cut off, and Minnesota farmers need to buy it in bulk despite high prices. 'You know, farmers aren't going to be able to delay planting season… If the weather's good, they're going to have to go and pay what they're going to have to pay,' said Petersen. Wertish noted that fertilizer costs have increased by about $40 per acre for the average Minnesota farmer. 'If an average farmer has, we'll just say 1,000 acres… That's another 35% increase in his cost. So you could be running another $40,000 right there out of the pocket,' said Wertish. 'And that — the money's not there.' Wertish expressed particular concern about the impact on smaller and medium-sized farmers, as well as young beginning farmers, and fears some farms won't survive what he described as a compounding crisis. 'So it's got a long-term effect,' said Wertish. 'This is not a one-and-done thing, and it's very damaging.' He expects a ripple effect, potentially impacting the food supply and leading to higher prices at the grocery store and beyond." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

- **March 2026: Minnesota Department Of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen Said The Iran War Was Spiking Fertilizer Prices At "The Worst Possible Time."** "This is the worst possible time for this to happen," said Minnesota Department of Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. Oh, farmers are very stressed right now. There's no doubt," said Gary Wertish, president of the Minnesota Farmers Union. "Petersen says that a third or more of the world's fertilizer supply is cut off, and Minnesota farmers need to buy it in bulk despite high prices. 'You know, farmers aren't going to be able to delay planting season… If the weather's good, they're going to have to go and pay what they're going to have to pay,' said Petersen. Wertish noted that fertilizer costs have increased by about $40 per acre for the average Minnesota farmer. 'If an average farmer has, we'll just say 1,000 acres… That's another 35% increase in his cost. So you could be running another $40,000 right there out of the pocket,' said Wertish. 'And that — the money's not there.' Wertish expressed particular concern about the impact on smaller and medium-sized farmers, as well as young beginning farmers, and fears some farms won't survive what he described as a compounding crisis. 'So it's got a long-term effect,' said Wertish. 'This is not a one-and-done thing, and it's very damaging.' He expects a ripple effect, potentially impacting the food supply and leading to higher prices at the grocery store and beyond." [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

A Survey Of 5,000 Farmers Conducted By The American Farm Bureau Federation In March Showed That 70% Of The Respondents Said They Could Not Afford To Purchase All Of The Fertilizer They Needed. "Cameron Castillo, associate economist for the American Farm Bureau Federation, said increased Chapter 12 filings are an indicator of ‘a depressed farm economy.’ […] Those would include the imposition of tariffs on countries that once purchased plenty of U.S. farm products but don’t anymore to retaliate against the U.S. levies. Tariffs also increased the cost of other farm inputs. The war in Iran, which resulted in blocking oil and fertilizer shipments from passing through the Strait of Hormuz, was also an unexpected blow. ‘It’s kind of a perfect storm,’ Castillo said of the challenges facing American agriculture. He said a survey of 5,000 farmers the American Farm Bureau Federation conducted in March showed that 70% of the respondents said they could not afford to purchase all of the fertilizer they needed.” [Civic Media, 7/13/26]

Fertilizer Price Increases Could Cause A Ripple Effect, “Potentially Impacting The Food Supply And Leading To Higher Prices At The Grocery Store And Beyond”

March 2026: 5 ABC KSTP: Fertilizer Price Increases Could Cause A Ripple Effect, “Potentially Impacting The Food Supply And Leading To Higher Prices At The Grocery Store And Beyond.” “‘If an average farmer has, we’ll just say 1,000 acres… That’s another 35% increase in his cost. So you could be running another $40,000 right there out of the pocket,’ said Wertish. ‘And that — the money’s not there.’ Wertish expressed particular concern about the impact on smaller and medium-sized farmers, as well as young beginning farmers, and fears some farms won’t survive what he described as a compounding crisis. ‘So it’s got a long-term effect,’ said Wertish. ‘This is not a one-and-done thing, and it’s very damaging.’ He expects a ripple effect, potentially impacting the food supply and leading to higher prices at the grocery store and beyond.” [5 ABC KSTP, 3/12/26]

March 2026: Minnesota Star Tribune: “If Fertilizer Is More Expensive, And Farmers Can’t Afford To Buy As Much As Demand Increases During The Season, There Could Be A Smaller Yield Of Crop That Results In Higher Prices For Consumers.” “The U.S. war with Iran is wreaking havoc on the global fertilizer market and stressing Minnesota corn farmers who are already managing tense balance sheets. Corn prices remain much lower than 2022’s peak of roughly $348 per ton because of big harvests and lower demand. Meanwhile, the price of a widely used fertilizer, one of farmers’ main expenses, has shot up in the past few weeks. Those two elements could spell a difficult growing season, even though many farmers purchased most of their fertilizer before the price increase. If fertilizer is more expensive, and farmers can’t afford to buy as much as demand increases during the season, there could be a smaller yield of crop that results in higher prices for consumers.” [Minnesota Star Tribune, 3/16/26]

Finstad Repeatedly Voted To Raise Health Care Costs And Reduce Coverage For Minnesotans, Forcing Tens Of Thousands Of Minnesotans To Drop Their Insurance Coverage As Their Monthly Premiums Were Expected To Rise By More Than $3,000

January 2026: Finstad Voted Against Bipartisan Legislation Extending Affordable Care Act Advanced Premium Tax Credits For Three Years, Dramatically Increasing Health Insurance Costs For Minnesotans On Marketplace Plans

January 2026: Finstad Voted Against Bipartisan Legislation Extending Affordable Care Act Advanced Premium Tax Credits For Three Years

January 2026: Finstad Voted Against Extending Affordable Care Act Tax Credits For Three Years. In January 2026, Finstad voted against “the bill, as amended, that would extend for three years, through the end of calendar year 2028, the enhanced tax credits to subsidize premiums for health insurance purchased on the Affordable Health Care Act health insurance markets. It would allow taxpayers whose household income exceeds 400 percent of the federal poverty line to receive tax credits for three more years. The measure would retroactively take effect Jan. 1, 2026.” The vote was on passage. The House passed the bill by a vote of 230 to 196. [H.R. 1834, Vote #11, CQ, 1/8/26]

- **Politico: 17 Republicans Voted For Passage Of The “Clean” Extension, Following A Procedural Vote The Day Before That Had Support From Nine Republicans.** “Seventeen Republicans joined Democrats in passing legislation Thursday that would revive enhanced Affordable Care Act subsidies for three years, rebuffing opposition from GOP leadership. The 230-196 vote follows a procedural vote Wednesday to advance the bill, where nine Republicans joined Democrats in favor of moving forward." [Politico, 1/8/26]

January 2026: Affordable Care Act Enhanced Premium Tax Credits Expired. "The Affordable Care Act (ACA) enhanced premium tax credits expired on January 1st, 2026, causing premium payments to increase significantly for many Americans enrolled in ACA exchange plans. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projected that a permanent extension of the enhanced tax credits would increase the number of people with health insurance by 3.8 million in 2035. Without the extension, the CBO anticipated insurers on the individual market would raise rates with the expectation that some healthier people would drop coverage rather than pay a significantly higher monthly amount. The total number of people who have enrolled in the ACA Marketplaces and paid for at minimum one month of coverage won't be available until the summer of 2026." [Peterson-KFF Health System Tracker, 1/14/26]

Failure To Extend ACA Tax Credits Was Projected To Increase Premium Payments By More Than $3,400 For MN-01 Residents On ACA Marketplace Plans

Minneapolis Star Tribune Reported People Across Minnesota Could See Average Price Increases Of $3,400 As A Result Of ACA Premium Tax Credits Expiring. "While the Blue Earth County example might be an extreme case, health care advocates worry that if enhanced tax credits aren't renewed, people across Minnesota will see price increases averaging about $3,400. Nearly 20,000 will lose all subsidies, and some likely will go without insurance. They could get sicker from delaying treatments or create stress on hospital budgets by seeking free or discounted care. 'If you don't have coverage, it doesn't mean that you're not going to get sick,' said Lynn Blewett, a health policy professor at the University of Minnesota." [Minneapolis Star Tribune, 11/21/25]

ABC 5 Headline: "ACA Marketplace Health Insurance Premiums To Rise 21.5% On Average In Minnesota, Expert Says" [ABC 5, 11/4/25]

- **August 2025: The Majority Of Insurers Assumed Enhanced Tax Credits Would Expire At The End Of 2025, Which Caused Them To Raise Their Rates.** "Uncertainty over federal policy changes has forced insurers to make some assumptions when developing their rates for 2026. Commonly mentioned by insurers is the impact of the expiration of enhanced premium tax credits, which are scheduled to sunset at the end of 2025, unless extended by Congress. The majority of insurers have assumed that enhanced tax credits will expire at the end of this year, driving rates an average of 4 percentage points higher than they otherwise would be. These increased rates are due to insurers anticipating that some healthier members will leave the ACA Marketplaces when their subsidies decrease, creating an enrollee base that is less healthy and more expensive on average." [Health System Tracker, 8/6/25]

2025: KFF: Without Affordable Care Act Advanced Premium Tax Credits, A 60-Year Old Couple On A Benchmark Silver Plan Making $85,000 In MN-01 Was Projected To See Their Monthly Premiums Rise By 310%, Or $1,867. [KFF, 10/9/25]

2026: Premium Increase For A 60-Year Old Couple On A Benchmark Silver Plan Making $85,000 Without ACA Advanced Premium Tax Credits		
District	**Average Percent Increase**	**Average Cost Increase**
MN-01	310%	$1,867

[KFF, 10/9/25]

2025: More Than 16,000 Individuals In MN-01 Were Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans. [KFF, 10/3/25]

Number Of MN-01 Residents Enrolled In ACA Marketplace Plans In 2025	
District	**ACA Marketplace Enrollees**
MN-01	16,456

[KFF, 10/3/25]

July 2026: 17,000 Minnesotans Had Dropped Their Health Insurance Coverage Due To Soaring Costs Following The Expiration Of ACA Advanced Premium Tax Credits

July 2026: MPR News Headline: "Soaring Costs And End Of Tax Credit Leads 17,000 Minnesotans To Drop MNsure Health Coverage." [MPR News, 7/12/26]

July 2026: MPR News: "Faced With Sharply Rising Premiums And The Loss Of Key Tax Credit That Helped Many Afford The Coverage, About 17,000 Minnesotans This Year Have Dropped The MNsure Health Insurance Coverage They Had Previously Purchased Through The State's Affordable Care Act Marketplace." "Faced with sharply rising premiums and the loss of key tax credit that helped many afford the coverage, about 17,000 Minnesotans this year have dropped the MNsure health insurance coverage they had previously purchased through the state's Affordable Care Act marketplace. MNsure, Minnesota's marketplace for Affordable Care Act insurance, announced recently that 125,700 Minnesotans were enrolled in one of its health insurance plans as of May 2026. That's down 12 percent from the 142,977 people who were enrolled in May of last year. And MNsure officials say the trend of people dropping their insurance plans will likely continue. MNsure provides health insurance plans for people who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, but don't have access to employer provided health insurance plans. The drop in enrollment comes at a time when insurance premiums are skyrocketing and after a valuable federal tax credit that helped offset the cost of the policies expired." [MPR News, 7/12/26]

May 2026: KFF: ACA Enrollment In Minnesota Decreased By 8% Between 2025 And 2026. "Marketplace plan selections declined in 41 states in 2026. In percentage terms, plan selections fell the most in North Carolina (22%), Ohio (20%), West Virginia (17%) and Indiana, Delaware, and Arizona (all 16%). A smaller number of states saw stable or modestly increasing sign-ups, in some cases reflecting state-specific policy decisions that helped offset the loss of enhanced federal premium tax credits. Notably, New Mexico experienced an 18% increase in plan selections, likely due in part to the state's supplemental financial assistance program, which temporarily backfills the entirety of the lost federal premium assistance." [KFF, 5/19/26]

2025-2025: Decrease In ACA Marketplace Sign-Ups In Minnesota		
2025 Enrollment	**2026 Enrollment**	**Percent Decrease**
151,512	139,251	8%

[KFF, 5/19/26]

- **MinnPost: "The Decline Does Not Account For Tens Of Thousands Minnesotans Who Signed Up For A Less Encompassing Plan."** "When the enrollment period opened Nov. 1, MNsure officials warned that enrollees' monthly premiums would soar 57% due to the expiration of a federal subsidy, among other cost factors. Enrollment closed Jan. 15, and, according to MNsure, 139,251 Minnesotans signed up, an 8% drop compared with 2025. Given the eye-popping increase in monthly premiums, this 8% dip seems modest. But the decline does not account for tens of thousands Minnesotans who signed up for a less encompassing plan. Plus, it is too early to know how many people will lose coverage for not making premium payments. 'What I suspect and fear is that as we get further into the year, the number of Minnesotans who do not have coverage will climb,' said Libby Caulum, CEO for MNsure." [MinnPost, 2/18/26]

2026: The Minnesota Hospital Association Estimated Around 60,000 Minnesotans Will Likely Drop Their Affordable Care Act Health Insurance Because Of Rising Costs Due To The One Big Beautiful Bill. "The Minnesota Hospital Association estimates Minnesota will miss out on more than $2 billion in federal health care funding just in the first fiscal year alone, 2028, under Trump's bill. It also estimates around 140,000 Minnesotans will lose Medicaid eligibility and another 60,000 will likely drop their Affordable Care Act health insurance because of rising costs. That means more uncompensated care, emergency room visits and requests for hospital financial assistance." [MPR News, 6/22/26]

December 2025: Finstad Voted For H.R. 6703, The Lower Health Care Premiums For All Americans Act, A Republican Bill That Would Chip Away At The Affordable Care Act And Cause 100,000 People To Lose Care

December 2025: Finstad Voted For H.R. 6703, The Lower Health Care Premiums For All Americans Act

December 2025: Finstad Voted For H.R. 6703, **The Lower Health Care Premiums For All Americans Act.** In December 2025, Brad Finstad voted for: "Passage of the bill that would expand the ability of small businesses to establish association health plans and bars states from preventing small businesses from obtaining stop-loss insurance for self-funded health insurance plans. It would codify and expand rules governing employer-funded health reimbursement arrangements and would allow employees in such arrangements to pay Affordable Care Act health insurance premiums through salary reductions. It would provide funding for ACA policy cost sharing reduction payments that reduce deductibles and copayments. It would prohibit plans from providing abortion-related care. It also would require pharmacy benefit managers to provide transparency regarding prescription drug costs and the drug rebates they receive." The bill passed by a vote of 216-211. [H.R. 6703, Vote #349, 12/17/25; CQ, 12/17/25]

- **Finstad: "Today, I Voted Yes On The Lower Health Care Premiums For All Americans Act To Help Small Businesses, Farmers, And Families Afford Coverage That Works For Them."** "Lower health care costs matter in southern Minnesota. Today, I voted yes on the Lower Health Care Premiums for All Americans Act to help small businesses, farmers, and families afford coverage that works for them." He also posted a statement on a graphic that read: "For too long, Washington has pushed a one-size-fits-all health care system. Farmers, small business owners, and working families are paying more every year while options keep shrinking. By passing this legislation today, we are lowering costs and expanding options that put patients first. This ensures hardworking Americans, especially in southern Minnesota's rural communities, can access the affordable health care that works for them." [Congressman Brad Finstad, Facebook, 12/17/25]

[Congressman Brad Finstad, Facebook, 12/17/25]

The "Lower Health Care Premiums For All Americans Act" Was A Republican Effort To Chip Away At

The Affordable Care Act, Raising Costs For Many Marketplace Enrollees And Weakening Protections For People With Pre-Existing Conditions

The "Lower Health Care Premiums For All Americans Act" Was A Republican Effort To Chip Away At The Affordable Care Act. "As states like Virginia begin implementing their share of the Rural Health Transformation Fund's $50 billion nationwide allocation, Congress is advancing the 'Lower Health Care Premiums For All Americans Act.' Spearheaded by U.S. Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, R-Iowa, the legislation would expand association health plans by allowing small businesses and self-employed people to band together to purchase insurance. […] The debate ties back to a longstanding Republican critique of the ACA's treatment of preexisting conditions. Before the law, private insurers and association health plans could deny coverage based on factors such as chronic illness or a history of cancer. The ACA prohibited those practices and required broader risk pooling, meaning older or less healthy individuals are grouped with younger, healthier enrollees. Corlette said that factor effectively results in healthier people paying the similar premiums to those who are older or managing chronic conditions. 'They are subsidizing sicker folks, that's just a fact,' she said. Corlette said Republicans aim to lower premiums for healthier individuals by allowing risk-based pricing, while Democrats generally approach the issue from a broader social protection standpoint. 'We all get older and sicker,' she said. '(The Democrats' approach) is recognizing that you might be subsidizing a sicker person today, but someone else will be subsidizing you down the road.' Healthinsurance.org analyst Louise Norris described the bill as 'a solid wishlist' for Republicans seeking to expand private consumer choice in health care and chip away at the ACA. She added that both parties are correct in highlighting the risks and rewards of Miller-Meeks' proposal, as some consumers could benefit from lower premiums while others may face higher costs." [Virginia Mercury, 4/20/26]

AFL-CIO Director Of Government Affairs Jody Calemine: H.R. 6703 Would "Steer Workers Into Association Health Plans (AHPs), Expanding Plans That Evade ACA Requirements To Cover Essential Health Benefits." "On behalf of the AFL-CIO, a federation of 64 affiliate unions representing 15 million working people across our economy, I urge you to oppose the Lower Health Care Premiums for All Americans Act (H.R. 6703) when it is considered on the House floor […] The bill will steer workers into association health plans (AHPs), expanding plans that evade ACA requirements to cover essential health benefits. Providing skimpier coverage will lower premiums for employers but increase costs for people who find that needed services are not covered. In addition, AHPs have a track record of poor management and insolvency, and plan bankruptcies have left thousands of working people with unpaid medical bills." [AFL-CIO, Press Release, 12/16/25]

Center On Budget And Policy Priorities: The Republican Health Bill Would "Raise Costs Even Higher For Many Marketplace Enrollees And Weaken Pre-Existing Condition Protections For Individuals And Small Businesses." "The health bill House Republicans are preparing to bring to the floor this week not only fails to prevent imminent premium spikes for more than 20 million people in marketplace plans, but would raise costs even higher for many marketplace enrollees and weaken pre-existing condition protections for individuals and small businesses. […] The bill includes several recycled Republican provisions that would expand coverage options for some people by making marketplace coverage more expensive for many others. It would expand association health plans (AHPs), a type of health plan that trade associations, professional groups, and other organizations may offer their members, to cover self-employed individuals and small businesses as if they were large employers. By allowing more people to enroll in coverage not subject to ACA standards and consumer protections, this would segment insurance risk pools: individuals who are younger and healthier, or small businesses with younger or healthier employees, could get plans with lower premiums because they would be priced separately from ACA-compliant coverage and wouldn't have to meet ACA standards such as having to cover a set of essential health benefits. As a result, individuals and small businesses remaining in ACA-regulated markets would see higher underlying premiums. In addition, the bill would undermine protections for people with pre-existing conditions. While it would bar AHPs from rejecting individuals or charging them more based on certain health factors, it would give them greater ability to base a small group's or self-employed person's costs on their health risk compared to individual or small-group coverage. This would likely lead to higher premiums for older and sicker small groups and self-employed individuals, making such arrangements more attractive to healthier individuals and groups." [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 12/16/25]

- **The December 2025 Republican Health Care Bill Would Expand Association Health Plans, Which Would Result In Higher Underlying Premiums For Individuals And Small Businesses That Remained In ACA-Regulated Markets.** According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, "It would expand association health plans (AHPs), a type of health plan that trade associations, professional groups, and other organizations may offer their members, to cover self-employed individuals and small businesses as if they were large employers. By allowing more people to enroll in coverage not subject to ACA standards and consumer protections, this would segment insurance risk pools: individuals who are younger and healthier, or small businesses with younger or healthier employees, could get plans with lower premiums because they would be priced separately from ACA-compliant coverage and wouldn't have to meet ACA standards such as having to cover a set of essential health benefits. As a result, individuals and small businesses remaining in ACA-regulated markets would see higher underlying premiums." [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 12/16/25]

- **The December 2025 Republican Health Care Bill Would Likely Lead To Higher Premiums For Older And Sicker Small Groups And Self-Employed People, Thereby Undermining Protections For People With Pre-Existing Conditions.** According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, "In addition, the bill would undermine protections for people with pre-existing conditions. While it would bar AHPs from rejecting individuals or charging them more based on certain health factors, it would give them greater ability to base a small group's or self-employed person's costs on their health risk compared to individual or small-group coverage. This would likely lead to higher premiums for older and sicker small groups and self-employed individuals, making such arrangements more attractive to healthier individuals and groups." [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, **12/16/25**]

The Congressional Budget Office Estimated H.R. 6703 Would Cause 100,000 People To Lose Their Health Insurance

Congressional Budget Office: "CBO Estimates That Enacting The Bill Would Decrease The Number Of People With Health Insurance By An Average Of 100,000 Over The 2027-2035 Period." "H.R. 6703 would establish new rules for association health plans, modify requirements for individual and group health coverage, require contracts between plan sponsors and pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) to meet certain standards, and appropriate funding for reductions in cost sharing. CBO and the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) estimate that enacting the bill would reduce the deficit by $35.6 billion over the 2026-2035 period. CBO estimates that enacting the bill would decrease the number of people with health insurance by an average of 100,000 over the 2027-2035 period." [Congressional Budget Office, 12/16/25]

December 2025: The Republican Health Care Bill Would "Leave 100,000 Fewer People With Health Coverage On Top Of The 4 Million Expected To Lose Coverage Due To The Expiration Of The Premium Tax Credits." "As more than 20 million people face imminent spikes in their health care premiums, House Republicans passed a bill today that does nothing to address this health care affordability crisis. Without congressional action, premium tax credit enhancements will expire at the end of this year, the premiums everyday people have to pay for 2026 marketplace plans will rise for nearly all marketplace enrollees, and 4 million people, including many self-employed workers and small business owners, will lose coverage […] In fact, the House Republicans' answer to these problems was to pass a bill that, overall, will leave 100,000 fewer people with health coverage on top of the 4 million expected to lose coverage due to the expiration of the premium tax credits. And it will raise the premiums for millions of people with marketplace coverage even beyond the increases caused by the expiration of the premium tax credit enhancements." [Center On Budget And Policy Priorities, 12/17/25]

December 2023: Finstad Voted Against H.R. 5378, The Bipartisan "Lower Costs, More Transparency Act," Which Increased Funding For Health Programs To Increase Price Transparency For Hospitals, Health Insurance Companies, And Pharmacies

December 2023: Finstad Voted Against H.R. 5378, The Bipartisan "Lower Costs, More Transparency Act"

December 2023: Finstad Voted Against H.R. 5378, The Bipartisan Lower Costs, More Transparency Act. In

December 2023, Congressman Brad Finstad voted against: "Rodgers, R-Wash., motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended, that would extend, for just over two years, funding for several public health programs, including community health centers, and it includes a wide range of provisions intended to help reduce consumer health care and drug costs by increasing pricing transparency and requiring certain other actions. Among other provisions, it would require health insurance companies and pharmacy benefit managers to regularly provide detailed information on prescription drug costs and the drug rebates they receive to provide pricing transparency, and it codifies and expands two sets of Trump administration pricing transparency rules — one dealing with hospital pricing transparency, which it extends to other medical facilities while incorporating new enforcement mechanisms, and the other focused on pricing transparency for employer-based group health plans and insurers. The bill would also prohibit certain pharmacy benefit manager pricing practices with respect to Medicaid, and it includes provisions intended to reduce health care costs for individuals, employer-sponsored health plans, and the federal government. To implement the bill's provisions, the measure would provide a total of $65 million for the Health and Human Services and Treasury departments, and $35 million for the Labor Department." The motion was agreed to by a vote of 320-71. [H.R. 5378, Vote #708, 12/11/23; CQ, 12/11/23]

- **December 2023: Healthcare Dive Headline: "House Passes Bill Targeting Price Transparency, Site-Neutral Payments, PBMs."** [Healthcare Dive, 12/12/23]

H.R. 5738 Banned Pharmaceutical Benefit Managers From "Spread Pricing," Where PBMs Charge More Than They Pay For Drugs In Medicaid

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Healthcare Dive: "The Legislation Also Includes Price Transparency Reforms For PBMs […] PBMs Would Be Banned From Spread Pricing, When The PBMs Charge More Than They Pay For Drugs In Medicaid." "The legislation also includes price transparency reforms for PBMs — the drug middlemen that sit between health insurers, drug manufacturers and pharmacies. PBMs negotiate drug rebates with manufacturers in exchange for placing them on payer clients' formularies. PBMs would be banned from spread pricing, when the PBMs charge more than they pay for drugs in Medicaid. They would also be required to disclose rebates, fees or other types of compensation to brokers. The drug middlemen have been the target of federal scrutiny recently for their role in rising drug prices. Several Congressional committees and the Federal Trade Commission have launched investigations into PBMs." [Healthcare Dive, 12/12/23]

- **U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee: The Lower Costs, More Transparency Act "Would Ban Spread Pricing In Medicaid And Ensure The Accuracy Of The National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) Survey In Medicaid […] The Policy Would Require Pharmacies To Complete The Survey And Report Actual Acquisition Costs For Drugs."** "Introduced as H.R. 1613 by Reps. Carter (R-GA-1), Gonzalez (D-TX-34), Stefanik (R-NY21), Ross (D-NC-2), Allen (R-GA-12), and Auchincloss (D-MA-4), this section would ban spread pricing in Medicaid and ensure the accuracy of the National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC) survey in Medicaid. Specifically, this section would prohibit PBMs that contract with Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) from spread pricing. In lieu of spread pricing, the language would clarify that states should reimburse PBMs contracting with MCOs for an administrative fee for managing the pharmacy benefit for Medicaid beneficiaries. Additionally, this section supports NADAC pricing in Medicaid. Many states use the NADAC price survey to determine actual acquisition costs, with accuracy of the survey contingent on pharmacies filling out the data requested by the survey. The policy would require pharmacies to complete the survey and report actual acquisition costs for drugs." [U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid: "If Spread Pricing Is Not Appropriately Monitored And Accounted For, A PBM Can Profit From Charging Health Plans An Excess Amount Above The Amount Paid To The Pharmacy Dispensing A Drug, Which Increases Medicaid Costs For Taxpayers." "Spread pricing occurs when health plans contract with pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) to manage their prescription drug benefits, and PBMs keep a portion of the amount paid to them by the health plans for prescription drugs instead of passing the full payments on to pharmacies. Thus, there is a spread between the amount that the health plan pays the PBM and the amount that the PBM reimburses the pharmacy for a beneficiary's prescription. If spread pricing is not appropriately monitored and accounted for, a PBM can profit from charging health plans an excess amount above the amount paid to the pharmacy dispensing a drug, which increases Medicaid costs for taxpayers." [U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid, Press Release, 5/15/19]

H.R. 5738 Would Grant The Community Health Center Fund $4.4 Billion Per Year Through 2025, Including More Than $9 Million In Federal Investment For 3 Federal Community Health Centers Serving More Than 86,000 Patients In MN-01

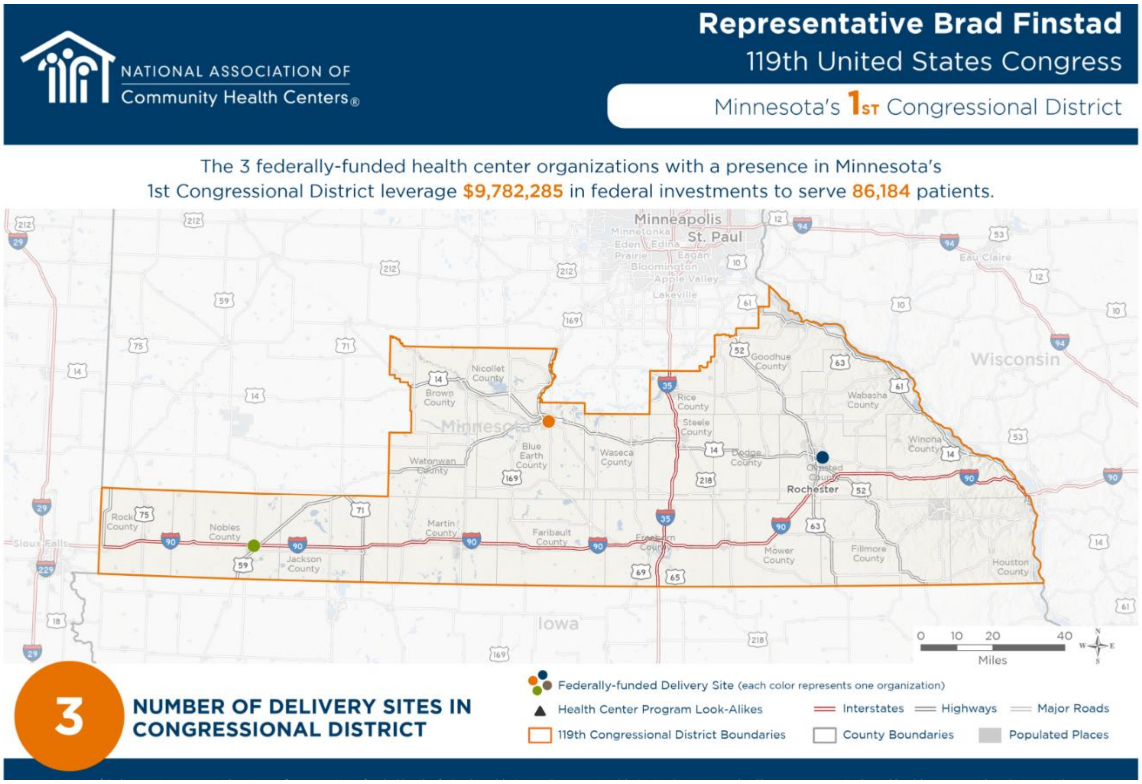
H.R. 2738 Would Grant The Community Health Center Fund $4.4 Billion Per Year Through 2025

U.S. House Energy and Commerce: The Lower Costs, More Transparency Act "Would Extend The Community Health Center Fund Through Calendar Year 2025 At $4.4 Billion Per Year And National Health Service Corps Through Calendar Year 2025 At $350 Million Per Year." "Sec. 301. Extension for Community Health Centers, the National Health Service Corps, and Teaching Health Centers that Operate GME Programs. Introduced as H.R. 2559 by Reps. Joyce (R-PA-13), Blunt Rochester (D-DE-At-Large), Stefanik (R-NY-21), and Fletcher (D-TX-7), this section would extend the Community Health Center Fund through calendar year 2025 at $4.4 billion per year and National Health Service Corps through calendar year 2025 at $350 million per year. This section would also extend the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program for FY24-30, beginning at $175 million in FY24 and increasing to $300 million for each of FY28, 29, and 30. This section also allows HRSA to utilize carryover funds for the THCGME program for FY24 and FY25." [U.S. House Energy and Commerce, accessed 7/9/26]

- **National Association Of Community Health Centers: "The Federal Community Health Center Fund (CHCF) […] Supports Qualified Community Healthcare Facilities That Provide Care In Medically Underserved Areas Or To Medically Underserved Populations."** "The federal Community Health Center Fund (CHCF), operated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), supports qualified community healthcare facilities that provide care in medically underserved areas or to medically underserved populations. Community Health Centers receive funding from a variety of sources, including Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, self-pay, state and local grants, federal CHCF grants, and other grants. CHCF funding is the largest dedicated source of funding and the second-largest funding source overall, after Medicaid." [National Association of Community Health Centers, Press Release, March 2023]

November 2024: Minnesota's 1st Congressional District Received More Than $9 Million In Federal Investment For Its Three Federal Community Health Centers, Which Served More Than 86,000 Patients

November 2024: Minnesota's 1st Congressional District Received More Than $9 Million In Federal Investment For Its Three Federal Community Health Centers, Which Served More Than 86,000 Patients. [National Association of Community Health Centers, Minnesota's 1st Congressional District, November 2024]



[National Association of Community Health Centers, Minnesota's 1st Congressional District, November 2024]

November 2024: Minnesota's 1st Congressional District Received $9,782,285 In Federal Investment For Its Three Federal Community Health Centers. [National Association of Community Health Centers, Minnesota's 1st Congressional District, November 2024]

Federal Community Health Center In Minnesota's 1st Congressional District		
Federal Community Health Center	**City**	**Zip Code**
Community Health Service Inc	Rochester	55904
Open Door Health Center	Mankato	56001
Rural Health Care, Inc	Worthington	56187
	Total Federal Investment:	**$9,782,285**

[National Association of Community Health Centers, Minnesota's 1st Congressional District, November 2024]

H.R. 5738 Would Increase Hospital Price Transparency, Requiring Clear Price Disclosures

Healthcare Dive: "The House Of Representatives Voted On Monday Night To Pass A Bipartisan Healthcare Policy Bill To Make Hospital Prices More Transparent And Ban Some Practices By Pharmacy Benefit Managers." "The House of Representatives voted on Monday night to pass a bipartisan healthcare policy bill to make hospital prices more transparent and ban some practices by pharmacy benefit managers. The bill, called the Lower Costs, More Transparency Act, would also equalize payments for drugs in Medicare regardless if they're administered in an hospital outpatient departments or doctor's offices. It would also delay payment cuts for hospitals that treat high volumes of uninsured patients. The cuts, which were expected to come due next year, are now delayed until 2026." [Healthcare Dive, 12/12/23]

- **Healthcare Dive: "The Bill Would Also Require Hospitals, Insurers And Imaging Providers To Disclose Prices For Services In Consumer-Friendly Formats."** "The House of Representatives voted on Monday night to pass a bipartisan healthcare policy bill to make hospital prices more transparent and ban some practices by pharmacy benefit managers. The bill, called the Lower Costs, More Transparency Act, would also equalize payments for drugs in Medicare regardless if they're administered in an hospital outpatient departments or doctor's offices. […] The bill would also require hospitals, insurers and imaging providers to disclose prices for services in consumer-friendly formats." [Healthcare Dive, 12/12/23]

Republican Chair Of The House Energy And Commerce Committee Rep. Cathy Rodgers: "This Bipartisan Legislation Delivers On Our Commitment To Lowering Health Care Costs And Providing Increased Transparency For Patients Something 95 Percent Of Americans Support." "The bill now heads to the Senate. Lawmakers praised the bill, which passed on a 320-71 vote. 'This bipartisan legislation delivers on our commitment to lowering health care costs and providing increased transparency for patients — something 95 percent of Americans support,' said Rep. Cathy Rodgers, R-Wash., chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, in a statement." [Healthcare Dive, 12/12/23]

In The State Legislature, Finstad Co-Authored An Omnibus Health Finance Bill That Made Drastic Changes To MinnesotaCare And Was Projected To Leave 25,000 People Without Health Insurance, And Voted For A Separate Bill That Was Projected To Kick 27,000 People Off Their Insurance

February 2005: Finstad Co-Authored HF 1422, An Omnibus Health Finance Bill That Made Drastic Changes To MinnesotaCare And Was Projected To Leave 25,000 People Without Health Insurance

February 2005: Finstad Co-Authored HF 1422, An Omnibus Health Finance Bill. In February 2005, Finstad co-authored: "Omnibus health finance bill modifying license fees, state-operated services, nursing facility reimbursement, children and families programs, and other provisions; providing positive abortion alternatives; and appropriating money." [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 1422, 2/28/05]

April 2005: Finstad Voted For HF 1422, An Omnibus Health Finance Bill. In February 2005, Finstad co-authored: "Omnibus health finance bill modifying license fees, state-operated services, nursing facility reimbursement, children and families programs, and other provisions; providing positive abortion alternatives; and appropriating money." The legislation passed the House 74-59. [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 1422, 4/29/05]

- **Minnesota Star Tribune: The Minnesota House Passed An $8 Billion Health Finance Bill That Would Leave 25,000 People Without Health Insurance.** "Sweeping changes in who is eligible for state-sponsored health care passed the Minnesota House on Friday. Supporters say it's an attempt to rein in spiraling costs, while opponents call it a move that would leave 25,000 more people without health insurance. The focus of the changes in the $8 billion health finance bill is MinnesotaCare, the state-sponsored health insurance program for lower-income Minnesotans. The bill, which passed 74 to 59 after more than five hours of debate, also has several sections supported by groups opposed to abortion. They include requiring doctors to submit reports when they have performed abortions on minors without parental consent through judicial bypasses, and providing $2.5 million a year to programs that provide services to pregnant women through childbirth, an effort to discourage abortions. Rep. Fran Bradley called the bill a way to protect the state's most vulnerable while restraining costs. The bill is estimated to reduce the growth in the state's health care costs from 19 percent a year to about 15 percent." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/30/05]

Minnesota Star Tribune: The House Health Finance Bill Made Drastic Changes To MinnesotaCare, Including Lowering The Eligibility Threshold For Adults With Children From 275 Percent Of The Federal Poverty Line To 175 Percent. "Opponents said the end result of the measure would be to force some people without insurance to show up at emergency rooms for basic medical care, which will ultimately increase costs. 'You don't solve the health care crisis by kicking another 30,000 people off their health care,' said Rep. Tom Huntley, DFL-Duluth. The House plan would no longer allow childless adults to get MinnesotaCare, requiring them to spend down their own money until they were eligible for General Assistance Medical Care. It would lower MinnesotaCare income eligibility for adults with children from 275 percent of the federal poverty line to 175 percent. Under the plan, a household with a combined wage of $13.50 an hour would earn too much to qualify for MinnesotaCare." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/30/05]

- **Minnesota Star Tribune: "Under The Plan, A Household With A Combined Wage Of $13.50 An Hour Would Earn Too Much To Qualify For MinnesotaCare."** "Opponents said the end result of the measure would be to force some people without insurance to show up at emergency rooms for basic medical care, which will ultimately increase costs. 'You don't solve the health care crisis by kicking another 30,000 people off their health care,' said Rep. Tom Huntley, DFL-Duluth. The House plan would no longer allow childless adults to get MinnesotaCare, requiring them to spend down their own money until they were eligible for General Assistance Medical Care. It would lower MinnesotaCare income eligibility for adults with children from 275 percent of the federal poverty line to 175 percent. Under the plan, a household with a combined wage of $13.50 an hour would earn too much to qualify for MinnesotaCare." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/30/05]

- **Minnesota Star Tribune: "The House Plan Would No Longer Allow Childless Adults To Get MinnesotaCare, Requiring Them To Spend Down Their Own Money Until They Were Eligible For General Assistance Medical Care."** "Opponents said the end result of the measure would be to force some people without insurance to show up at emergency rooms for basic medical care, which will ultimately increase costs. 'You don't solve the health care crisis by kicking another 30,000 people off their health care,' said Rep. Tom Huntley, DFL-Duluth. The House plan would no longer allow childless adults to get MinnesotaCare, requiring them to spend down their own money until they were eligible for General Assistance Medical Care. It would lower MinnesotaCare income eligibility for adults with children from 275 percent of the federal poverty line to 175 percent. Under the plan, a household with a combined wage of $13.50 an hour would earn too much to qualify for MinnesotaCare." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/30/05]

Minnesota Star Tribune: "Opponents Said The End Result Of The Measure Would Be To Force Some People Without Insurance To Show Up At Emergency Rooms For Basic Medical Care, Which Will Ultimately Increase Costs." "Opponents said the end result of the measure would be to force some people without insurance to show up at emergency rooms for basic medical care, which will ultimately increase costs. 'You don't solve the health care crisis by kicking another 30,000 people off their health care,' said Rep. Tom Huntley, DFL-Duluth. The House plan would no longer allow childless adults to get MinnesotaCare, requiring them to spend down their own money until they were eligible for General Assistance Medical Care. It would lower MinnesotaCare income eligibility for adults with children from 275 percent of the federal poverty line to 175 percent. Under the plan, a household with a combined wage of $13.50 an hour would earn too much to qualify for MinnesotaCare. 'Contrary to the claims of our well-insured governor, who calls this 'welfare health care,' MinnesotaCare is for people who are working,' said Minority Leader Matt Entenza, DFL-St. Paul. 'Under this bill we would deny them health care. When we drive people away from going to the doctor, we're increasing costs.' But supporters said the changes in eligibility would affect only 3.7 percent of the people on the state insurance programs while addressing burgeoning costs. Even with the changes, they said, Minnesota would continue to have the lowest proportion of uninsured people of any state in the country. 'This is not the end of the world, people,' said Rep. Tim Wilkin, R-Eagan." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/30/05]

May 2003: Finstad Voted For The Minnesota Budget Reconciliation Package, Which Was Projected To Throw Nearly 27,000 Minnesotans Off Their Health Insurance And Raise Copays And Premiums For People Who Retained Coverage

May 2003: Finstad Voted For HF 3, The Minnesota Budget Reconciliation Package. In May 2003, State Rep. Brad Finstad Voted For: "A bill for an act relating to appropriations; appropriating money, authorizing bonding, and transferring or canceling appropriations made for fiscal year 2003; making conforming changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, sections 16B.27, subdivision 3; 127A.45, subdivision 7a; Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 9, article 17, section 10, subdivision 1. BE it enacted by the legislature of the state of Minnesota" The bill passed by a vote of 82-45. [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 3, 5/24/03]

- **The 2003 Minnesota Budget Reconciliation Package Included $2.1 Billion In Service Cuts.** "In the 2003 Legislative Session, Minnesota faced a serious budget deficit. The $4.5 billion solution that policymakers passed for the 2004-05 biennium relied heavily on service cuts ($2.1 billion) and shifts and transfers ($1.7 billion), most notably from the Tobacco Endowment." [Minnesota Budget Project, February 2004]

Minnesota Budget Project: Under The 2003 Minnesota Budget Reconciliation Package, Nearly 27,000 Minnesotans Were Expected To Lose Their Health Coverage From One Of The Minnesota Health Care Programs By FY 2005. "Minnesota's families face a range of budget impacts that make it more difficult to make ends meet and to provide high quality care for their children. 13,554 Minnesotans including parents, children, pregnant women, and adults without children are expected to lose their health coverage from one of the Minnesota health care programs (General Assistance Medical Care, Medical Assistance, and MinnesotaCare) in FY 2004. This number grows to 26,646 in FY 2005. Those who continue to have health care coverage will pay new copayments for most office visits, eyeglasses, and prescriptions. Families and individuals on MinnesotaCare with incomes above the poverty line have been assessed higher premiums." [Minnesota Budget Project, February 2004]

Minnesota Budget Project: Due To The Budget Cuts, Minnesotans Who Continued To Have State Health Care Coverage Would See New Copayments "For Most Office Visits, Eyeglasses, And Prescriptions" And Families And Individuals On MinnesotaCare Above The Poverty Line Were Assessed Higher Premiums. "Minnesota's families face a range of budget impacts that make it more difficult to make ends meet and to provide high quality care for their children. 13,554 Minnesotans including parents, children, pregnant women, and adults without children are expected to lose their health coverage from one of the Minnesota health care programs (General Assistance Medical Care, Medical Assistance, and MinnesotaCare) in FY 2004. This number grows to 26,646 in FY 2005. Those who continue to have health care coverage will pay new copayments for most office visits, eyeglasses, and prescriptions. Families and individuals on MinnesotaCare with incomes above the poverty line have been assessed higher premiums." [Minnesota Budget Project, February 2004]

- **MinnesotaCare A Health Care Program For Minnesotans With Low Incomes Operated By The Minnesota Department Of Human Services.** "When you apply for health coverage through MNsure and select the application WITH financial help, you will find out if you qualify for no-cost or low-cost coverage, either through Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) manages these two programs […] MinnesotaCare is a program for Minnesotans with low incomes who do not have access to affordable health care coverage. MinnesotaCare may require you to pay a monthly premium, and it is based on your household size and income. MinnesotaCare members may have small co-pays." [MNsure, accessed 7/24/26]

The 2003 Minnesota Budget Reconciliation Bill Ended Coverage Of Blood Sugar Testing Strips For Diabetics On State-Funded Health Programs. "While some have argued that everyone should help solve the budget deficit, the most vulnerable persons in our communities have been asked to pay for a large share of the budget solution. Fees have increased for parents who receive services that enable them to care for their disabled children in their own homes. These fee increases can be several thousand dollars a year. More than 300 families appear to have stopped receiving services due to increased fees. More than 6,800 low-income families with disabled family members participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) have lost at least $125 per month in assistance a total of $1,500 a year. Persons with diabetes who are covered by state-funded health programs no longer have coverage for testing strips, which they need to monitor their blood sugar and manage their insulin levels. This is expected to lead to serious, and more costly, complications." [Minnesota Budget Project, February 2004]

Finstad Was An Anti-Abortion Extremist Who Co-Founded A Crisis Pregnancy Center And Co-Sponsored A National Abortion Ban With No Exceptions

2023-2025: Finstad Co-Sponsored And Voted For Extreme Anti-Abortion Bills In Congress, Including A National Abortion Ban That Could Also Ban Birth Control And IVF, And Legislation That Could Jail Abortion Providers

January 2023: Finstad Cosponsored The "Life At Conception Act," A National Abortion Ban That Could Also Ban Birth Control And IVF

January 2023: Finstad Cosponsored H.R. 431, The "Life At Conception Act," Which Would Ban Grant Fetuses Equal Rights Under The 14th Amendment And Ban Abortions With No Exceptions

January 2023: Finstad Cosponsored The Life At Conception Act. [H.R. 431, "Life at Conception Act," Introduced 1/20/23, Cosponsored 4/27/23]

- **The Life At Conception Act Would Implement Equal Protection Under The 14th Amendment For Unborn Fetuses Based On The Idea That Human Life Begins At The Moment Of Conception.** "U.S. Senator Rand Paul today introduced the Life at Conception Act. The legislation would implement equal protection under the 14th Amendment for the right to life of each born and unborn human. […] 'The Life at Conception Act legislatively declares what most Americans believe and what science has long known - that human life begins at the moment of conception, and therefore, is entitled to legal protection from that point forward." [Press Release, U.S. Senator Rand Paul, 1/26/16]

- **Rewire: The Life At Conception Act "Would Effectively Ban Abortion With No Exception For Rape, Incest, Or To Save The Life Of The Pregnant Person."** "H.R. 616 would grant equal protection under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States for the right to life of each born and 'preborn' human person. […] It would effectively ban abortion with no exception for rape, incest, or to save the life of the pregnant person. It would also ban birth control pills, IUDs, and emergency contraception. In addition, it would eliminate certain medical choices for women, including some cancer treatments and in vitro fertilization." [Rewire via Internet Archive, 9/28/19]

The Life At Conception Act Could Result In Criminal Charges For Women Who Miscarried, Had A Stillbirth, Or Self-Induced Abortions, As Well As Anyone That Assisted A Women In Obtaining An Abortion, Including Health Care Providers

Granting Fetuses Full Rights Through "Fetal Personhood" Laws Could Allow For The Prosecution Of Women Who Lose Pregnancies Through Miscarriage Or Stillbirth Under Murder Laws. "These so-called 'fetal harm' laws enhance penalties for crimes against a pregnant person. By treating a fetus as a separate crime victim, these laws recognize crimes against pregnant people as two separate crimes. But, in practice, they have been used to investigate and prosecute different forms of pregnancy loss, including miscarriages, stillbirths and self-induced abortions. Fetal personhood, anti-abortionist's argument that the fetus deserves the full rights and protections as people, are at the heart of these fetal harm laws and other traditional murder laws being applied to pregnant people. Applying these laws in this manner criminalizes a pregnant person's behavior during the course of their pregnancy. And now that federal abortion protections have been abrogated, more people can be at risk of criminal charges for what they do — or don't do — while pregnant." [NPR, 7/3/22]

Fetal Personhood Laws Would Put Women Who Self-Induce Abortions At Risk For Criminal Prosecution. "Establishing fetal personhood could put people who self-induce abortions at risk for criminal prosecution, says Jolynn Dellinger, a senior lecturing fellow at Duke Law School. It could also impact people who miscarry. Leslie J. Reagan, a professor of history at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, says prior to Roe, if someone went to the hospital or called a doctor about a miscarriage, they were often questioned on whether they had induced an abortion. Reagan's research found that beginning in the early 1900s and running up until Roe in the 1970s, doctors and nurses sometimes functioned as the arm of the police, even threatening to deny care to patients if they did not provide information. 'They were all suspects,' says Reagan. '[Doctors] couldn't tell if it was a natural miscarriage or whether they had induced it, and they came to assume that anyone who came in bleeding, miscarrying, had induced it—and began to ask questions.'" [TIME, 6/28/22]

The Life At Conception Act Could Result In Criminal Charges Against People Who Helped Women Get Abortions, Including Health Care Providers

Cedar Rapids Gazette: The Life At Conception Act Would Outlaw All Abortions With No Exceptions, And "Could Result In Criminal Charges Against People Who Help Women Get Abortions, Including Health Care Providers." "With the idea that life begins at conception, personhood laws grant fertilized eggs, zygotes, embryos and fetuses the same status as victims in other scenarios. Because of this, some legal experts — as well as Mathis's campaign — have argued abortion could result in criminal charges, such as homicide. The Life at Conception Act specifically states that nothing within the bill 'shall be construed to authorize the prosecution of any woman for the death of her unborn child.' But the bill does not explicitly protect anyone else from criminal charges, such as abortion providers or those who help others obtain an abortion. The freshman representative from Iowa has not publicly stated whether she would support criminal charges in this scenario. […] The Life at Conception Act, co-sponsored by Hinson, would outlaw all abortions with no exceptions in cases of rape, incest or risk to the pregnant person. The bill in question does eliminate the possibility for criminal charges for individuals who receive an abortion, but it does not provide the same guarantees for others. Hinson has never publicly stated she would support legislation that includes criminal penalties for abortions. But the broad scope of the personhood law does have implications for criminalization of abortion." [Cedar Rapids Gazette, 7/11/22]

The Life At Conception Act Could Ban Birth Control And IVF

The Life At Conception Act Would Ban Birth Control Pills, IUDs, Emergency Contraception, And Some In Vitro Fertilization And Cancer Treatments. "The bill would grant constitutional rights to fertilized eggs, embryos, fetuses, and clones. It would effectively ban abortion with no exception for rape, incest, or to save the life of the pregnant person. It would also ban birth control pills, IUDs, and emergency contraception. In addition, it would eliminate certain medical choices for women, including some cancer treatments and in vitro fertilization." [Rewire News Group, archived 6/15/22]

- **Reuters: "Those Who Believe That Life Begins At Conception" Considered The Function Of IUDs To Block Implantation To Be "Terminating A Pregnancy."** "IUDs work primarily by preventing sperm from reaching an egg. But they have come under fire from anti-abortion groups because, in rare instances, they can prevent a fertilized egg from implanting in the uterus. Those who believe that life begins at conception consider blocking implantation to be terminating a pregnancy rather than preventing pregnancy. 'IUDs are a life-ending device,' said Mailee Smith, staff counsel for the Americans United for Life, which filed an amicus brief in support of the challenge before the high court. 'The focus of these cases is that requiring any life-ending drug is in violation of the Religious Freedom Act.'" [Reuters, 12/1/15]

The Life At Conception Act Would Grant Equal Protection Under The 14th Amendment To Fetuses, Effectively Eliminating In Vitro Fertilization. "H.R. 616 would grant equal protection under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States for the right to life of each born and 'preborn' human person. 'Human person' is defined as: […] each and every member of the species homo sapiens at all stages of life, including the moment of fertilization, cloning, or other moment at which an individual member of the human species comes into being. The bill would grant constitutional rights to fertilized eggs, embryos, fetuses, and clones. It would effectively ban abortion with no exception for rape, incest, or to save the life of the pregnant person. It would also ban birth control pills, IUDs, and emergency contraception. In addition, it would eliminate certain medical choices for women, including some cancer treatments and in vitro fertilization. The bill would not allow for prosecution of any pregnant person for the 'death' of their 'unborn child.'" [Rewire, 9/28/19]

- **Personhood Bills That Define Human Life To Begin At Conception Would Severely Impact Infertility Treatments, Especially IVF.** "Personhood bills aim to define human life to begin at the moment of fertilization or conception and grant constitutional rights and privileges to all persons from that moment. If these proposals were to become personhood laws, they would severely impact infertility treatments, especially IVF." [Arc Fertility, What Do Personhood Bills & Laws Mean in IVF, accessed 7/29/26]

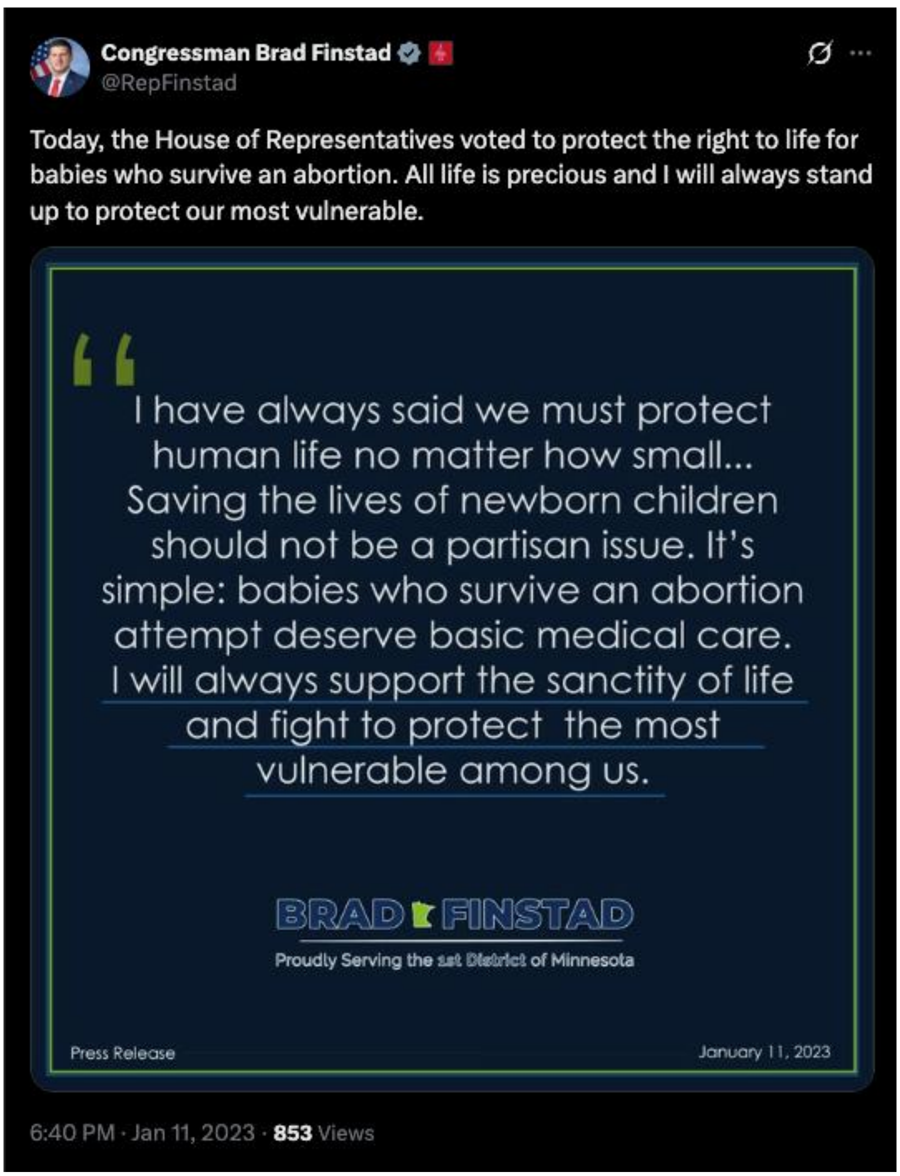
NOTE: As of 7/14/26, Finstad had not co-sponsored The Life At Conception Act (H.R. 722) in the 119th Congress.

January 2023: Finstad Voted For The So-Called "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act," Which Threatened Health Care Providers With Jail Time

January 2023: Finstad Voted For The So-Called "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act"

2023: Finstad Voted For The So-Called "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act," Which Would Allow Criminal Fines And Penalties For Clinic Practitioners And Hospital Employees For Failing To Meet Certain Requirements. In January 2023 Finstad voted for Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which would 'require health care practitioners to provide the same care to a child that is 'born alive' after an abortion or attempted abortion as they would for a child born at the same gestational age and to ensure the child is immediately transported and admitted to a hospital; require hospital and clinic practitioners and employees to report any knowledge of failures to provide such care; and impose criminal fines and penalties for failures to meet these requirements. It would state that a child born alive under these conditions is a legal person under U.S. law, entitled to the protections of U.S. law, and it would specifically make any act that kills or attempts to kill such a child punishable as murder or attempted murder. The bill would also prohibit the prosecution of the mother of a child born alive after an abortion or attempted abortion and permit such mothers to seek relief through civil action against any person who violates the bill's requirements, including monetary and punitive damages." The vote was on passage. The House passed the bill by a vote of 220-210, thus the bill was sent to the Senate. [H.R. 26, Vote #29, 1/11/23; CQ, 1/11/23]

January 2023: Finstad Touted His Vote For The So Called "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act" And Vowed To "Always Support The Sanctity of Life." Rep. Brad Finstad tweeted, "Today, the House of Representatives voted to protect the right to life for babies who survive an abortion. All life is precious and I will always stand up to protect our most vulnerable." [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 1/11/23]



[@RepFinstad, Twitter, 1/11/23]

"Born Alive" Bills Threatened Health Care Providers With Jail Time Based On False Claims That Perpetuated Myths About People Getting Abortions And The Providers Who Cared For Them

Federal "Born Alive" Legislation Would Establish Criminal Penalties For Doctors Who Did Not Follow Existing Federal Law Requiring Medical Care Be Given To Infants In The Very Unlikely Event Of A Failed Abortion. "Live births during an abortion procedure are exceedingly rare, experts said, and federal law already requires that a baby who survives an attempted abortion receive emergency medical care. The new bill would clarify the standard of care to which doctors are held and lay out penalties for violators. Policy organizations supporting abortion rights said the measure was an effort to discourage women from seeking abortions and doctors from performing them." [New York Times, 1/11/23]

- **KFF: "Claims Of Abortions Occurring 'Moments Before Birth' Or Even 'After Birth' Are False. These Scenarios Do Not Occur, Nor Are They Legal In The United States."** According to KFF, "Claims of abortions occurring 'moments before birth' or even 'after birth' are false. These scenarios do not occur, nor are they legal in the United States." [KFF, **2/21/24**]

The So-Called "Born-Alive" Bill Would Penalize Doctors Who Violated It With A Fine And/Or Up To Five Years In Prison. "(b) Penalties.— (1) IN GENERAL.—Whoever violates subsection (a) shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both." [Congress.gov, HR 26, Text, introduced 1/9/23]

Later Abortion Initiative: "'Born-Alive' Bills Are Based On False Claims That Create And Perpetuate Myths About People Getting Abortions And The Providers Who Care For Them; They Are A Transparent Attempt By Anti-Abortion Advocates To Further Reduce Abortion Access." "The 'Born-Alive Infants Protection Act' of 2002 granted any infant born alive at any stage of development and by any method (natural or induced labor, cesarean section, or induced abortion) the rights of a person. In the years since, Republican senators have proposed several 'Born-Alive' bills at the federal and state levels that attempt to expand on the 2002 law by mandating that physicians perform lifesaving medical interventions on those infants born alive after an abortion attempt and institute felony charges, incarceration, and/or steep fines for providers who do not comply and witnesses who fail to report them. The 'Born-Alive' bills are based on false claims that create and perpetuate myths about people getting abortions and the providers who care for them; they are a transparent attempt by anti-abortion advocates to further reduce abortion access. In mandating medical interventions for infants born alive after an abortion attempt, some of whom may have a condition that would result in neonatal death, 'Born-Alive' bills require clinicians to perform unnecessary medical procedures that often prevent families from spending what little time they may have with their infants bonding and providing comfort measures." [Later Abortion Initiative, August 2021]

- **HuffPost Reported The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act Was "Chock-Full Of Misinformation And Creates More Barriers To Care."** "The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which passed 220-210 on Wednesday, would require physicians to provide life-sustaining care to infants born after an attempted abortion and threatens doctors with criminal penalties if they don't comply. […] But similar to other anti-choice legislation, the bill is chock-full of misinformation and creates more barriers to care. Reproductive rights advocates and physicians critical of the bill argue that it's nearly impossible for infants to be born alive during abortions later in pregnancy. Bills like this are also redundant: Murder is already illegal in the U.S. If that's not enough, the rights of an infant or newborn are already protected by a 2002 law that codified that infants have the same rights as any other human." [HuffPost, 1/11/23]

September 2025: Finstad Cosponsored The "Second Chance At Life Act," Which Would Mandate Patients Be Told Misinformation About The Possible Reversal Of Medication Abortions

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September 2025: Finstad Was An Original Cosponsor Of H.R. 5485, The "Second Chance At Life Act Of 2025." [Congress.gov, H.R. 5485: The Second Chance At Life Act Of 2025, "Cosponsors," 9/18/25]

Cosponsors: H.R.5485 — 119th Congress (2025-2026) All Information (Except Text)

Sponsor: Rep. Pfluger, August [R-TX-11] | Cosponsor statistics: 23 current - includes 15 original

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* = Original cosponsor

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Party of Cosponsor

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Republican	[23]

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South Carolina	[2]
Tennessee	[2]
Alabama	[1]
California	[1]
Florida	[1]
Georgia	[1]
Illinois	[1]
Kansas	[1]
Louisiana	[1]
Michigan	[1]
Minnesota	[1]
Mississippi	[1]
Oklahoma	[1]
Virginia	[1]

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Cosponsor	Date Cosponsored
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Estes, Ron [R-KS-4]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Moore, Barry [R-AL-1]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Stutzman, Marlin A. [R-IN-3]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Biggs, Sheri [R-SC-3]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Rose, John W. [R-TN-6]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Cammack, Kat [R-FL-3]*	09/18/2025
Rep. McGuire, John J. [R-VA-5]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Guest, Michael [R-MS-3]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Finstad, Brad [R-MN-1]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Weber, Randy K. Sr. [R-TX-14]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Goldman, Craig A. [R-TX-12]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Moolenaar, John R. [R-MI-2]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Crenshaw, Dan [R-TX-2]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12]*	09/18/2025
Rep. Kustoff, David [R-TN-8]	09/23/2025
Rep. Williams, Roger [R-TX-25]	09/26/2025
Rep. Self, Keith [R-TX-3]	10/03/2025
Rep. Messmer, Mark B. [R-IN-8]	10/17/2025
Rep. Fry, Russell [R-SC-7]	10/17/2025
Rep. Bice, Stephanie I. [R-OK-5]	10/31/2025
Rep. Loudermilk, Barry [R-GA-11]	11/12/2025
Rep. Letlow, Julia [R-LA-5]	07/13/2026

[Congress.gov, H.R. 5485: The Second Chance At Life Act Of 2025, "Cosponsors," 9/18/25]

The "Second Chance At Life Act," Would Require Women Seeking Medication Abortion Be Informed That It Was "Possible To Reverse The Effects" Of Medication Abortion If They Changed Their Mind. "As first reported in The Daily Signal, Congressman August Pfluger (TX-11) introduced legislation today to provide unborn children facing abortion a 'second chance at life' by establishing federal informed consent requirements for women seeking to take the abortion pill. The Second Chance at Life Act will ensure every single woman seeking this option knows it is possible to reverse the effects if they change their mind. […] The bill is co-sponsored in the House by Representatives Doug LaMalfa (CA-01), Ron Estes (KS-04), Barry Moore (AL-01), Marlin Stutzman (IN-03), Sheri Biggs (SC-03), Craig Goldman (TX-12), John Moolenaar (MI-04), John Rose (TN-06), Kat Cammack (FL-03), John McGuire (VA-05), Rep. Michael Guest (MS-03), Rep. Brad Finstad (MN-01)…" [Press Release, Rep. August Pfluger, 9/18/25]

The American College Of Obstetricians And Gynecologists Said Claims About Medication Abortion Reversal Treatments Were "Not Based In Science And Do Not Meet Clinical Standards." "Facts are important, especially when it comes to policies and discussions that impact patients. Claims regarding abortion 'reversal' treatment are not based on science and do not meet clinical standards. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) ranks its recommendations on the strength of the evidence and does not support prescribing progesterone to stop a medication abortion. Despite this, in states across the country, politicians are advancing legislation to require physicians to recite a script that a medication abortion can be 'reversed' with doses of progesterone, to cause confusion and perpetuate stigma, and to steer women to this unproven medical approach. Unfounded legislative mandates like this one represent dangerous political interference and compromise patient care and safety." [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, accessed 5/16/24]

Finstad Cosponsored A Bill Prohibiting The Use Of Federal Funds For Abortions Or Health Coverage That Includes Abortions And Celebrated The Passage Of The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which Cut Medicaid Funds To Organizations That Provide Abortions

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January 2023: Finstad Cosponsored A Bill Prohibiting The Use Of Federal Funds For Abortions Or Health Coverage That Includes Abortions

January 2023: Finstad Cosponsored A Bill Prohibiting The Use Of Federal Funds For Abortions Or Health Coverage That Includes Abortions. "This bill modifies provisions relating to federal funding for, and health insurance coverage of, abortions. Specifically, the bill prohibits the use of federal funds for abortions or for health coverage that includes abortions. Such restrictions extend to the use of funds in the budget of the District of Columbia. Additionally, abortions may not be provided in a federal health care facility or by a federal employee. Historically, language has been included in annual appropriations bills for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that prohibits the use of federal funds for abortions—such language is commonly referred to as the Hyde Amendment. Similar language is also frequently included in appropriations bills for other federal agencies and the District of Columbia. The bill makes these restrictions permanent and extends the restrictions to all federal funds (rather than specific agencies). The bill's restrictions regarding the use of federal funds do not apply in cases of rape, incest, or where a physical disorder, injury, or illness endangers a woman's life unless an abortion is performed. The Hyde Amendment provides the same exceptions. The bill also prohibits qualified health plans from including coverage for abortions. Currently, qualified health plans may cover abortion, but the portion of the premium attributable to abortion coverage is not eligible for subsidies." The legislation did not receive a vote in the House of Representatives. [H.R. 7, Summary, 1/9/23; H.R. 7, Cosponsors, 1/9/23]

National Right To Life: "Finstad Opposes Using Tax Dollars To Pay For Abortion Or To Fund Abortion Providers. He Supports The Longstanding Hyde Amendment, Which Bars Federal Tax Dollars From Being Used For Abortions In Many Federal Programs." "Brad Finstad supports pro-life protections to safeguard the lives of unborn babies and their mothers. Brad Finstad opposes using tax dollars to pay for abortion or to fund abortion providers. He supports the longstanding Hyde Amendment, which bars federal tax dollars from being used for abortions in many federal programs. The Hyde Amendment has saved an estimated 2.5 million lives since its passage in 1976." [Press Release, National Right to Life, 6/1/22]

January 2023: Finstad Cosponsored H.R. 371, A Bill To Defund Planned Parenthood

January 2023: Finstad Cosponsored A Bill To Defund Planned Parenthood. In January 2023, Finstad cosponsored H.R. 371: "This bill restricts federal funding for Planned Parenthood Federation of America Inc. or any of its affiliates or clinics for one year. Specifically, it prohibits funding those entities unless they certify that the affiliates and clinics will not perform, and will not provide funds to entities that perform, abortions during that year. If the certification requirement is not met, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Agriculture must recoup any federal assistance received by those entities. However, the bill's funding restriction does not apply to abortions performed in cases of rape or incest or when necessary to resolve a physical condition that endangers a woman's life. The bill also provides additional funding for community health centers for the one-year period. These funds are subject to the same abortion-related restrictions and exceptions." [H.R. 371, Summary, 1/17/23; H.R. 371, Cosponsors, 1/17/23]

Finstad Emphasized On His Campaign Website That The One Big Beautiful Bill "Defunds Big Abortion Providers," And Planned Parenthood Warned The Bill Would Devastate Clinics Across The Country

Finstad Supported The One Big Beautiful Bill, Which He Said "Defunds Big Abortion Providers." "The U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1, the Working Families Tax Cut, historic legislation that unleashes economic growth for southern Minnesota families, farmers, and small businesses. I was proud to give my strong support for this once-in-a-generation legislation that secures $1.2 trillion in savings for American taxpayers and delivers the real, long-term reform that Americans voted for. Since my first day in Congress, I have worked to support policies that grow our economy, let hardworking families keep more of their paychecks, and rein in Washington's out-of-control spending. The Working Families Tax Cuts does exactly that. Here's a look at just some of the ways this bill delivers real results for Minnesota's First Congressional District: […] Creates the Rural Transformation Fund, a $50 billion fund for state investments in rural health, and provides additional support to rural health providers. Defunds Big Abortion providers and redirects funds to community-based, qualified healthcare providers that support both mothers and children. Encourages pathways to financial independence for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid beneficiaries by strengthening work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents." [Rep. Brad Finstad, accessed 7/14/26]

Reining in Waste and Reducing the Deficit
Delivers the largest deficit reduction in nearly 30 years

- Strengthens Medicaid for the traditional population that the program was intended for: children, pregnant women, and individuals with disabilities.
- Creates the Rural Transformation Fund, a $50 billion fund for state investments in rural health, and provides additional support to rural health providers.
- Defunds Big Abortion providers and redirects funds to community-based, qualified healthcare providers that support both mothers and children.
- Encourages pathways to financial independence for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid beneficiaries by strengthening work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents.
- Restores SNAP program integrity by curbing waiver abuse and requiring states to have skin in the game for the first time through a cost-share tied to error rates.
- Restores Congressional oversight over the Thrifty Food Plan to prevent unchecked spending increases by federal agencies.

[Rep. Brad Finstad, accessed 7/14/26]

The One Big Beautiful Bill Would Cut Medicaid Funds To Organizations That Provide Abortions. "While most Americans were still sleeping in the early morning hours of May 22, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1 in a slim 215-214 vote, electing to push forward President Donald Trump's sweeping 1,000-page legislative package. The bill includes billions of dollars in cuts to Medicaid, which would lead to reduced access for millions of people to reproductive health care. The bill, called the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," includes provisions that would cut Medicaid funds to organizations that provide abortions, including Planned Parenthood." [Pennsylvania Independent, 5/27/25]

Planned Parenthood Action Warned The One Big Beautiful Bill Would "Defund" Planned Parenthood. "The bill would 'defund' Planned Parenthood, decimating access to basic reproductive care for more than 1.1 million people, including for birth control, wellness exams, STI tests and treatment, and lifesaving cancer screenings. People who rely on Medicaid to get these services often have no other alternative provider and wouldn't be able to afford to access health care." [Planned Parenthood Action, 6/6/25]

- **A Federal Judge Found That A Provision In Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Forced Planned Parenthood To Choose Between Continuing To Offer Abortion Services, Or Face A "Catastrophic Loss Of Revenue."** "A federal judge on Monday indefinitely blocked the Trump administration from enforcing a policy that would prevent many Planned Parenthood clinics from receiving federal Medicaid reimbursements if they continue to offer abortion services. The order, issued by Judge Indira Talwani in Federal District Court in Massachusetts, extended a temporary block she had placed on the government earlier this month. She found that the policy retaliated against Planned Parenthood in violation of its First Amendment rights and could amount to an unconstitutional 'legislative punishment.' The lawsuit, filed earlier this month, came in response to a provision introduced in the sprawling policy bill that President Trump signed into law early this month. The bill imposed a one-year ban on state Medicaid payments to any health care nonprofit that offers abortions and received more than $800,000 in Medicaid funding in 2023. Many clinics affiliated with Planned Parenthood, which provide a range of services unrelated to abortion, immediately faced a choice between altering their operations and retaining millions of dollars in funding, or facing a potentially catastrophic loss of revenue. Because almost no other nonprofits or national networks meet the $800,000 threshold set in the bill, Judge Talwani found it was "easily ascertainable" that the provision was targeted and intended to force Planned Parenthood's hand." [New York Times, 7/28/25]

June 2026: 57 Planned Parenthood Clinics Across 20 States Had Closed Since January 2025 As The Trump Administration Restricted Funding For Medicaid And The Title X Family Planning Program. "Planned Parenthood clinics are consolidating or closing their doors because of Trump administration restrictions on funding for Medicaid and the Title X family planning program, according to an analysis published Monday by KFF. Since January 2025, 57 clinics across 20 states have either shut down or combined with another care site, the health policy research group found. Only 247 Planned Parenthood clinics across 29 states now participate in the Title X program, which provides free or low-cost family planning services to low-income patients. Last year, nearly 300 clinics in 34 states and Washington, D.C. were Title X grantees." [Healthcare Dive, 6/10/26]

Defunding Planned Parenthood Would Impact Access To Preventative Health Care, Birth Control, STI Testing, And Cancer Screenings, Especially For Lower Income Patients

CNN: "The Vast Majority" Of Federal Funds Received By Planned Parenthood Went Toward Preventative Health Care, Pregnancy Tests, Birth Control, And Other Women's Health Services. "The vast majority of federal money that Planned Parenthood does receive goes toward preventive health care, birth control, pregnancy tests and other women's health services." [CNN, 8/1/17]

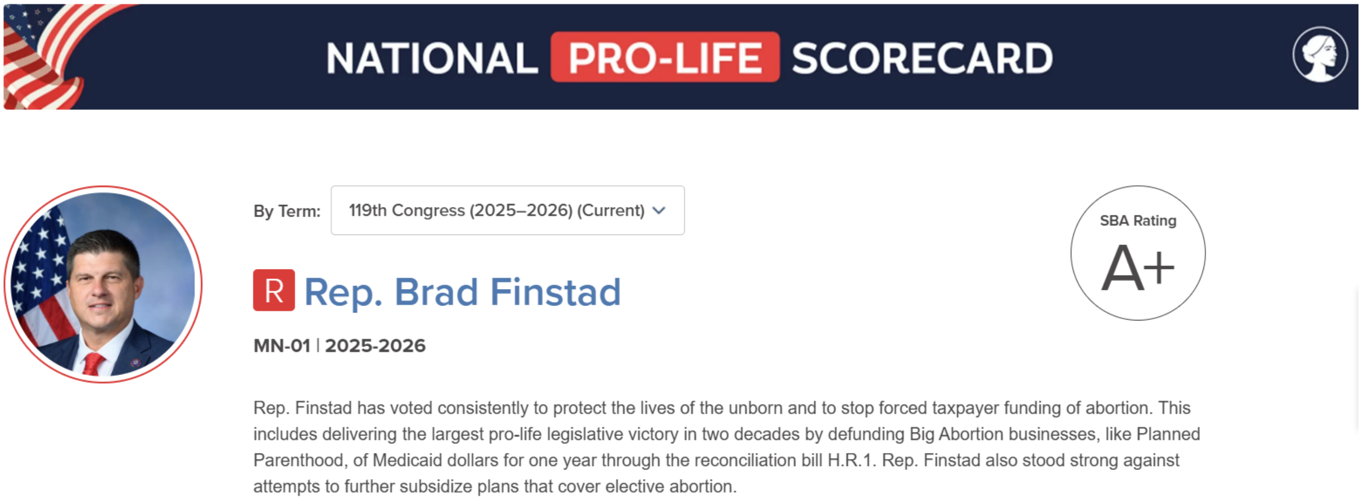
- **February 2021: Planned Parenthood Reported Only 25 Percent Of Their Services Were Contraceptive Services.** [Planned Parenthood, Planned Parenthood by the numbers, Updated February 2021]

February 2021: 85 Percent Of Planned Parenthood's Patients Were 20 Years Or Older And Nearly 70 Percent Had Income At Or Below 150 Percent Of Poverty. According to Planned Parenthood, 85 percent of their patients were 20 years or older and 70 percent of had income at or below 150 percent of poverty. [Planned Parenthood, Planned Parenthood by the numbers, Updated February 2021]

Finstad Received An A+ Rating From Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America And Celebrated The Supreme Court Decision To Overturn Roe V. Wade

July 2026: Finstad Received An A+ Rating From Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America

July 2026: Finstad Received An A+ Rating From Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America For His Votes In The 119th Congress. "Rep. Finstad has voted consistently to protect the lives of the unborn and to stop forced taxpayer funding of abortion. This includes deliveringthe largest pro-life legislative victory in two decades by defunding Big Abortion businesses, like Planned Parenthood, of Medicaid dollars for one year through the reconciliation bill H.R.1. Rep. Finstad also stood strong against attempts to further subsidize plans that cover elective abortion." [Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, accessed 7/14/26]



NATIONAL PRO-LIFE SCORECARD

By Term: 119th Congress (2025–2026) (Current)

SBA Rating
A+

R Rep. Brad Finstad

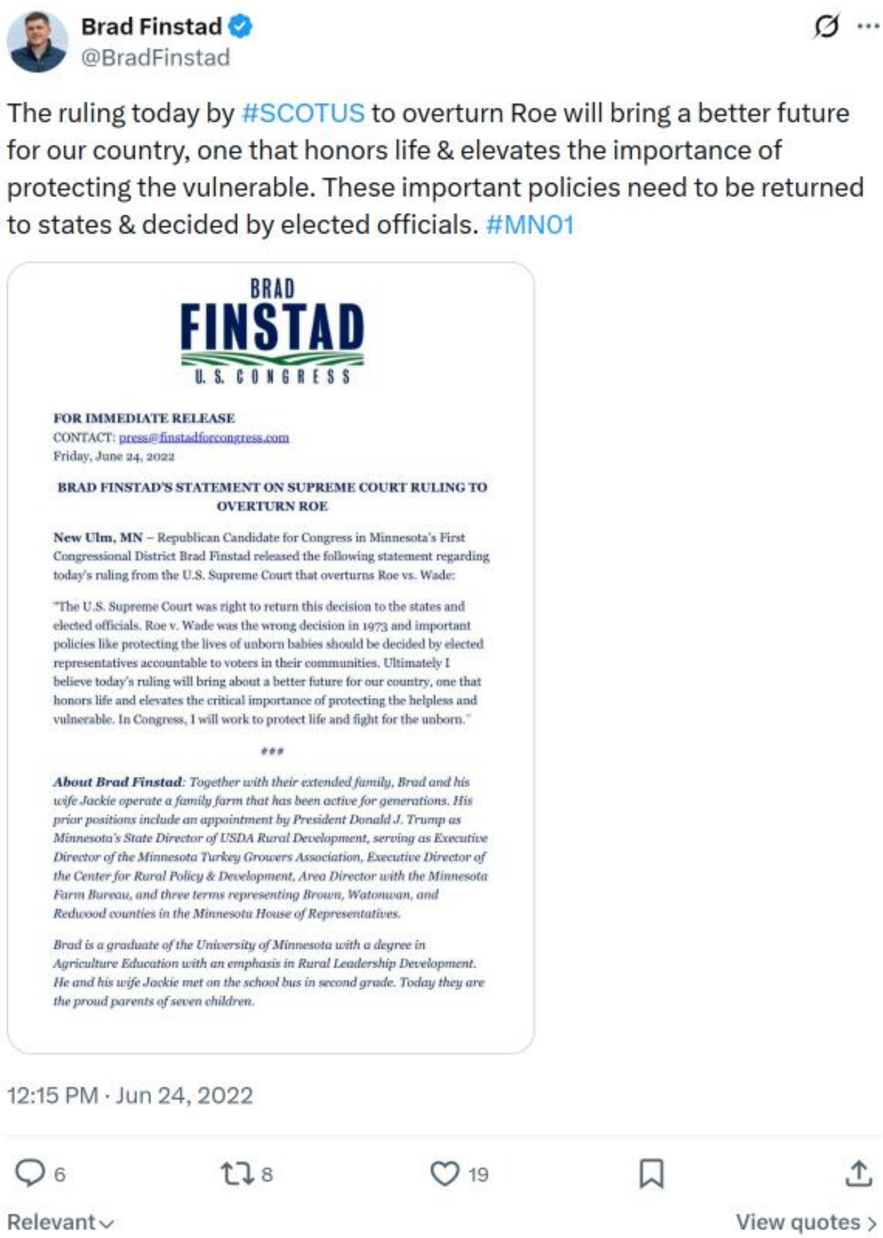
MN-01 | 2025-2026

Rep. Finstad has voted consistently to protect the lives of the unborn and to stop forced taxpayer funding of abortion. This includes delivering the largest pro-life legislative victory in two decades by defunding Big Abortion businesses, like Planned Parenthood, of Medicaid dollars for one year through the reconciliation bill H.R.1. Rep. Finstad also stood strong against attempts to further subsidize plans that cover elective abortion.

[Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, accessed 7/14/26]

June 2022: Finstad Celebrated The Supreme Court Decision To Overturn Roe V. Wade

June 2022: Finstad: "The Ruling Today By #SCOTUS To Overturn Roe Will Bring A Better Future For Our Country." "The ruling today by #SCOTUS to overturn Roe will bring a better future for our country, one that honors life & elevates the importance of protecting the vulnerable. These important policies need to be returned to states & decided by elected officials. #MN01." [Brad Finstad, Twitter, 6/24/22]



Brad Finstad
@BradFinstad

The ruling today by #SCOTUS to overturn Roe will bring a better future for our country, one that honors life & elevates the importance of protecting the vulnerable. These important policies need to be returned to states & decided by elected officials. #MN01

BRAD FINSTAD U.S. CONGRESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: press@finstadforcongress.com
Friday, June 24, 2022

BRAD FINSTAD'S STATEMENT ON SUPREME COURT RULING TO OVERTURN ROE

New Ulm, MN – Republican Candidate for Congress in Minnesota's First Congressional District Brad Finstad released the following statement regarding today's ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court that overturns Roe vs. Wade:

"The U.S. Supreme Court was right to return this decision to the states and elected officials. Roe v. Wade was the wrong decision in 1973 and important policies like protecting the lives of unborn babies should be decided by elected representatives accountable to voters in their communities. Ultimately I believe today's ruling will bring about a better future for our country, one that honors life and elevates the critical importance of protecting the helpless and vulnerable. In Congress, I will work to protect life and fight for the unborn."

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About Brad Finstad*: Together with their extended family, Brad and his wife Jackie operate a family farm that has been active for generations. His prior positions include an appointment by President Donald J. Trump as Minnesota's State Director of USDA Rural Development, serving as Executive Director of the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association, Executive Director of the Center for Rural Policy & Development, Area Director with the Minnesota Farm Bureau, and three terms representing Brown, Watonwan, and Redwood counties in the Minnesota House of Representatives.*

Brad is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in Agriculture Education with an emphasis in Rural Leadership Development. He and his wife Jackie met on the school bus in second grade. Today they are the proud parents of seven children.

12:15 PM · Jun 24, 2022

6 8 19

Relevant View quotes

[@BradFinstad, Twitter, 6/24/22]

June 2022: The Supreme Court Overturned Roe V. Wade, Denying "The Constitutional Right To Abortion" And Returning "The Power To Determine Whether Abortion" Was Legal To The States. "Today's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade is a stain on our country's history and an affront to basic values of freedom and dignity. The Supreme Court has denied the constitutional right to abortion and threatens the ability of all people to make private, personal decisions that shape their futures. In a 6-3 decision, a radical majority on the Supreme Court overturned nearly 50 years of precedent. The power to determine whether abortion will be legal now returns to the states, where more than half appear poised to enact near-total bans. Many states have already acted to do so, often not allowing for care in cases of rape, incest, or the health of the patient. Meanwhile, politicians in other states, such as Virginia, are calling for new restrictions in light of the court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization." [Center For American Progress, 6/24/22]

In The State Legislature, Finstad Was Chief Author Of A Bill That Allocated State Funds To Crisis Pregnancy Centers, While He And His Wife Were Co-Founders Of A Crisis Pregnancy Center In New Ulm

February 2005: Finstad Was Chief Author Of The "Positive Alternatives Act," Which Allocated State Funds To Crisis Pregnancy Centers

February 2005: Finstad Was Chief Author Of HF 952, The "Positive Alternatives Act." In February 2005, Finstad was the Chief Author of: "Abortion alternative grants and public information provided, 'Positive Alternatives Act' adopted, and money appropriated." [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 952, introduced 2/10/05]

- **May 2005: Finstad Voted For SF 917, The Senate Version Of HF 952, The "Positive Alternatives Act.** In April 2005, Finstad voted in favor of: "Abortion alternative grants provided, 'Positive Alternatives Act' adopted, and money appropriated." The legislation as amended passed the House and Senate by a combined vote of 112-17. [Minnesota State Legislature, SF 917, 5/23/05]

- **SF 917 Was The Senate Version Of HF 952, "The Positive Alternatives Act."** [Minnesota State Legislature, 5/11/05]

Actions

Separated | Chronological

House

02/10/2005	Introduction and first reading, referred to Health Policy and Finance	pg. 340 Intro
03/14/2005	Committee report, to pass as amended and re-refer to Civil Law and Elections	pg. 856a
03/23/2005	Committee report, to pass as amended and re-refer to Health Policy and Finance	pg. 1168a
04/11/2005	Committee report, to pass as amended and re-refer to Ways and Means	pg. 1674a
04/20/2005	Committee report, to pass	pg. 2414
04/20/2005	Joint rule 2.03, Deadlines, re-referred to Rules and Legislative Administration	pg. 2414
04/27/2005	Committee report, to pass	pg. 3255
04/27/2005	Second reading	pg. 3263
05/10/2005	Referred to Chief Clerk for comparison with SF917	pg. 3885
05/11/2005	Bills not identical, SF substituted on General Register	pg. 3890
05/11/2005	HF indefinitely postponed	pg. 3890

[Minnesota State Legislature, 5/11/05]

The "Positive Alternatives Act" Sought To Prevent Abortions By Granting State Money To Crisis Pregnancy Centers. "A bill designed to help pregnant women, once seen as possible common ground in the bitter abortion debate, ended up highlighting the divisions Thursday in a House committee hearing. The bill, dubbed the 'Positive Alternatives Act,' passed the House Health Policy and Finance Committee by an 11-5 vote. So many co-authors have already signed on in both House and Senate that the bill's passage seems guaranteed. In a new tactic by anti-abortion groups, the bill seeks to prevent abortions by giving pregnant women support that encourages them to bear their children. The state would have $2 million in 2007 to give pregnancy crisis centers that help women with medical care, housing, adoption services and parenting education. 'An unplanned pregnancy may be a detour on the road of life, but it is our responsibility to help each other,' said Andrea Rau, a lobbyist for Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life." [Associated Press, 3/11/05]

- **Minnesota Star Tribune: The Positive Alternatives Act Would Create A State Fund For A Network Of Agencies Across The State That Discourage Pregnant Women And Teens From Having Abortions.** "The Positive Alternatives Act would create a state fund for a network of agencies across the state that discourage pregnant women and teens from having abortions. The agencies vary, from health clinics offering direct services to the women to small offices that mainly offer counseling and referrals. The provision has been the top priority of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL), and has the support of House and Senate leadership. Supporters say it would reduce abortions by letting pregnant women and teens know about the resources available to them. Opponents say centers sometimes have offered inaccurate and misleading information to women. And they say that respected organizations such as Lutheran Social Service would be barred from getting funding because they do not take a stand on abortion." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/30/05]

The "Positive Alternatives Act" Appropriated $2,500,000 Annually To Fund A Grant Program For "Positive Abortion Alternatives." "This act may be cited as the 'Positive Alternatives Act.' […] $2,500,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of health for positive abortion alternatives under new Minnesota Statutes, section 127A.145. Of this amount, $50,000 is available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, and $100,000 is available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, for administrative costs of implementing the grant program. The balance of the appropriation is available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007. The base funding for fiscal years 2008 and 2009 is $2,500,000 per year." [Minnesota State Legislature, SF 917, 5/23/05]

The "Positive Alternatives Act" Would "Bar Money To Groups That Mention Abortion When Counseling Pregnant Women." "A bill designed to help pregnant women, once seen as possible common ground in the bitter abortion debate, ended up highlighting the divisions Thursday in a House committee hearing. The bill, dubbed the 'Positive Alternatives Act,' passed the House Health Policy and Finance Committee by an 11-5 vote. […] But the bill from Rep. Brad Finstad, R-New Ulm, would bar money to groups that mention abortion when counseling pregnant women, and that provision led Planned Parenthood, the state's largest provider of family planning services, to testify against it. 'We would love to find common ground to support women to be healthy moms and have healthy kids,' said Tina Smith, a Planned Parenthood spokeswoman. 'The devil is in the details on this legislation and it doesn't accomplish that.' Smith said her group worried that such a law would send state money to organizations that have 'a specific ideological agenda.' 'When any of us seeks medical care, we expect all the facts, not just some of them,' she said." [Associated Press, 3/11/05]

The "Positive Alternatives Act" Received Criticism From Opponents Because The Centers Funded By The Act Had "Offered Inaccurate And Misleading Information To Women." "The Positive Alternatives Act would create a state fund for a network of agencies across the state that discourage pregnant women and teens from having abortions. The agencies vary, from health clinics offering direct services to the women to small offices that mainly offer counseling and referrals. The provision has been the top priority of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL), and has the support of House and Senate leadership. Supporters say it would reduce abortions by letting pregnant women and teens know about the resources available to them. Opponents say centers sometimes have offered inaccurate and misleading information to women. And they say that respected organizations such as Lutheran Social Service would be barred from getting funding because they do not take a stand on abortion." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/30/05]

2010: Finstad And His Wife Co-Founded First Choice Pregnancy Services, A Crisis Pregnancy Center Located In New Ulm

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Finstad And His Wife Played "Key Roles" In Getting First Choice Pregnancy Services Established

2022: Minnesota Star Tribune: Finstad Touted His "Work To Help Start A Crisis Pregnancy Center In New

Ulm Called First Choice Pregnancy Services." "As the U.S. Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade ripples throughout the country, Finstad touts his past work to help start a crisis pregnancy center in New Ulm called First Choice Pregnancy Services. And when asked about his policy goals, Finstad said 'it all starts with family pocketbook issues.' He views himself as a conservative who knows he won't see eye to eye at times with someone in the middle. But he thinks there could be issues where they can work together, which he sees as a different mindset than 'I'm right, you're wrong, we'll never be able to talk again.'" [Minnesota Star Tribune, 7/30/22]

- **January 2024: Finstad Said He And His Wife Were "Proud Co-Founders Of A Pregnancy Center In New Ulm."** "My wife Jackie and I are proud co-founders of a pregnancy center in New Ulm. Today, I voted in support of HR 6918 & HR 6914, which will help ensure expectant mothers across the country have access to the resources they need to choose life for their child." [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 1/18/24]

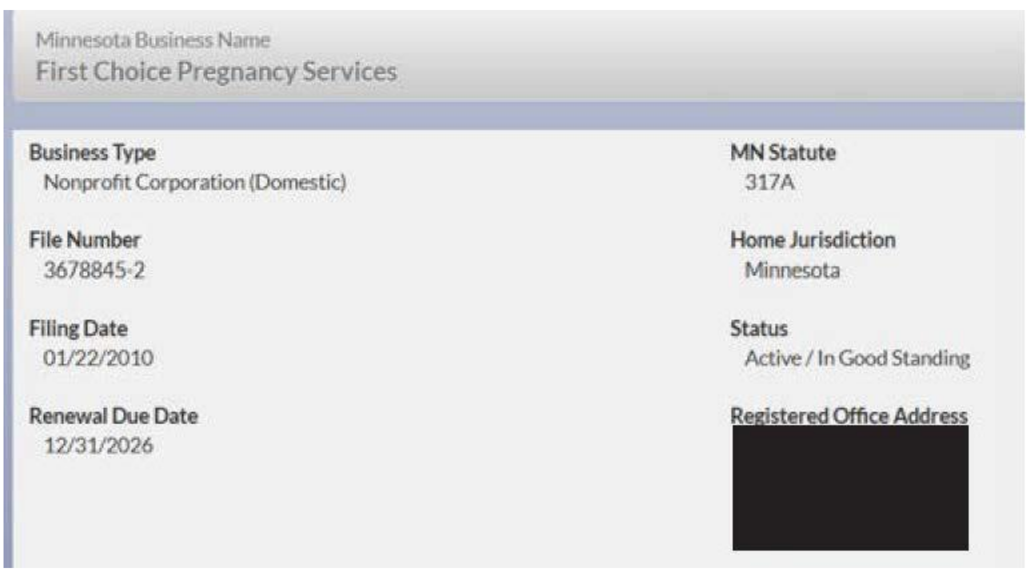

Congressman Brad Finstad
@RepFinstad

My wife Jackie and I are proud co-founders of a pregnancy center in New Ulm. Today, I voted in support of HR 6918 & HR 6914, which will help ensure expectant mothers across the country have access to the resources they need to choose life for their child.

5:32 PM · Jan 18, 2024 · 628 Views

[@RepFinstad, Twitter, 1/18/24]

January 2010: First Choice Pregnancy Services Was Established In Minnesota. [Minnesota Secretary of State, accessed 7/23/26]


Minnesota Business Name
First Choice Pregnancy Services

Business Type
Nonprofit Corporation (Domestic)

MN Statute
317A

File Number
3678845-2

Home Jurisdiction
Minnesota

Filing Date
01/22/2010

Status
Active / In Good Standing

Renewal Due Date
12/31/2026

Registered Office Address
[redacted]

[Minnesota Secretary of State, accessed 7/23/26]

- **2010: New Ulm Journal: First Choice Pregnancy Services Was Established.** "First Choice Pregnancy Services celebrated their 3rd annual banquet on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Eagles Orchid Inn in Sleepy Eye. With nearly 200 people in attendance, the evening included dinner, a silent auction, recognition of this year's recipients of the Heroes for Life Award, and the featured speaker, Ann Marie Cosgrove. The recipients of the Heroes for Life Award were Brad and Jackie Finstad of New Ulm. The award is given to individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to the sanctity of human life, by both assisting with the Center, and participating in other pro-life activities. Brad's work on pro-life issues while in the State Legislature, especially making grants available for pregnancy resource centers, was acknowledged, along with the key roles both he and Jackie played in getting First Choice Pregnancy Services established." [New Ulm Journal, 11/9/13]

New Ulm Journal: Finstad And His Wife Jackie Played "Key Roles" In Getting First Choice Pregnancy Services Established. "First Choice Pregnancy Services celebrated their 3rd annual banquet on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Eagles Orchid Inn in Sleepy Eye. With nearly 200 people in attendance, the evening included dinner, a silent auction, recognition of this year's recipients of the Heroes for Life Award, and the featured speaker, Ann Marie Cosgrove. The recipients of the Heroes for Life Award were Brad and Jackie Finstad of New Ulm. The award is given to individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to the sanctity of human life, by both assisting with the Center, and participating in other pro-life activities. Brad's work on pro-life issues while in the State Legislature, especially making grants available for pregnancy resource centers, was acknowledged, along with the key roles both he and Jackie played in getting First Choice Pregnancy Services established." [New Ulm Journal, 11/9/13]

During His Time In Congress, Finstad Frequently Referenced His Work To Found A Crisis Pregnancy Center When Discussing Reproductive Health Issues

January 2023: Finstad Said: "My Wife Jackie And I Helped Start A Pregnancy Center In New Ulm Because We Believe All Life Is Precious." "H. Con. Res. 3, legislation which condemns the recent attacks on pro-life facilities, groups, and churches, was adopted by the House with Congressman Finstad's support. 'My wife Jackie and I helped start a pregnancy center in New Ulm because we believe all life is precious,' said Congressman Finstad. 'Unfortunately, pro-life pregnancy centers nationwide have experienced violence, threats, and intimidation in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. These acts are reprehensible, and I stand with my colleagues who voted in support of this bill to condemn violence and intimidation against the pro-life community.'" [Press Release, Rep. Brad Finstad, 1/11/23]

January 2024: Finstad Said He And His Wife Were "Proud Co-Founders Of A Pregnancy Center In New Ulm." "My wife Jackie and I are proud co-founders of a pregnancy center in New Ulm. Today, I voted in support of HR 6918 & HR 6914, which will help ensure expectant mothers across the country have access to the resources they need to choose life for their child." [@RepFinstad, Twitter, 1/18/24]

[@RepFinstad, Twitter, 1/18/24]

November 2013: Finstad And His Wife Jackie Received The "Heroes For Life" Award At First Choice Pregnancy Services' Third Annual Banquet For Their Work Assisting With The Center And His Support Of Crisis Pregnancy Centers While In The State Legislature

November 2013: New Ulm Journal: Finstad And His Wife Jackie Received The "Heroes For Life" Award At First Choice Pregnancy Services' Third Annual Banquet. "First Choice Pregnancy Services celebrated their 3rd annual banquet on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Eagles Orchid Inn in Sleepy Eye. With nearly 200 people in attendance, the evening included dinner, a silent auction, recognition of this year's recipients of the Heroes for Life Award, and the featured speaker, Ann Marie Cosgrove. The recipients of the Heroes for Life Award were Brad and Jackie Finstad of New Ulm. The award is given to individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to the sanctity of human life, by both assisting with the Center, and participating in other pro-life activities. Brad's work on pro-life issues while in the State Legislature, especially making grants available for pregnancy resource centers, was acknowledged, along with the key roles both he and Jackie played in getting First Choice Pregnancy Services established." [New Ulm Journal, 11/9/13]

November 2013: New Ulm Journal: The "Heroes For Life" Award Was Given To "Individuals Who Have Demonstrated Their Commitment To The Sanctity Of Human Life, By Both Assisting With The Center, And Participating In Other Pro-Life Activities." "First Choice Pregnancy Services celebrated their 3rd annual banquet on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Eagles Orchid Inn in Sleepy Eye. With nearly 200 people in attendance, the evening included dinner, a silent auction, recognition of this year's recipients of the Heroes for Life Award, and the featured speaker, Ann Marie Cosgrove. The recipients of the Heroes for Life Award were Brad and Jackie Finstad of New Ulm. The award is given to individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to the sanctity of human life, by both assisting with the Center, and participating in other pro-life activities. Brad's work on pro-life issues while in the State Legislature, especially making grants available for pregnancy resource centers, was acknowledged, along with the key roles both he and Jackie played in getting First Choice Pregnancy Services established." [New Ulm Journal, 11/9/13]

- **November 2013: New Ulm Journal: In The Award Ceremony, Finstad's "Work On Pro-Life Issues While In The State Legislature, Especially Making Grants Available For Pregnancy Resource Centers, Was Acknowledged."** "First Choice Pregnancy Services celebrated their 3rd annual banquet on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Eagles Orchid Inn in Sleepy Eye. With nearly 200 people in attendance, the evening included dinner, a silent auction, recognition of this year's recipients of the Heroes for Life Award, and the featured speaker, Ann Marie Cosgrove. The recipients of the Heroes for Life Award were Brad and Jackie Finstad of New Ulm. The award is given to individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to the sanctity of human life, by both assisting with the Center, and participating in other pro-life activities. Brad's work on pro-life issues while in the State Legislature, especially making grants available for pregnancy resource centers, was acknowledged, along with the key roles both he and Jackie played in getting First Choice Pregnancy Services established." [New Ulm Journal, 11/9/13]

Crisis Pregnancy Centers' Primary Purpose Was To Discourage Abortion, "Often Through Manipulative And Misleading Tactics"

National Institute Of Health: Crisis Pregnancy Centers' Primary Purpose Was To Discourage Abortion, "Often Through Manipulative And Misleading Tactics." "Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs) are nonprofit organizations that present themselves as healthcare clinics while providing counseling explicitly intended to discourage and limit access to abortion. These facilities, sometimes referred to as 'pregnancy resource centers' or 'pregnancy support centers,' attract patients by offering free services such as onsite ultrasounds and STI testing; however, their primary purpose is to discourage abortion, often through manipulative and misleading tactics. Most CPCs have strong ties to evangelical Christian organizations and often further their goal of religious proselytism by promoting anti-abortion and anti-contraception propaganda not supported by medical evidence." [National Library of Medicine, 6/8/22]

- **American Medical Association Journal Of Ethics: Crisis Pregnancy Centers "Should Be Regarded As An Ethical Violation That Undermines Women's Health."** "Although crisis pregnancy centers enjoy First Amendment rights protections, their propagation of misinformation should be regarded as an ethical violation that undermines women's health." [American Medical Association Journal of Ethics, 3/2018]

National Institute Of Health: Crisis Pregnancy Centers Often Promoted "Anti-Abortion And Anti-Contraception Propaganda Not Supported By Medical Evidence." "Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs) are nonprofit organizations that present themselves as healthcare clinics while providing counseling explicitly intended to discourage and limit access to abortion. These facilities, sometimes referred to as 'pregnancy resource centers' or 'pregnancy support centers,' attract patients by offering free services such as onsite ultrasounds and STI testing; however, their primary purpose is to discourage abortion, often through manipulative and misleading tactics. Most CPCs have strong ties to evangelical Christian organizations and often further their goal of religious proselytism by promoting anti-abortion and anti-contraception propaganda not supported by medical evidence." [National Library of Medicine, 6/8/22]

2003-2009: Finstad Was A Staunch Anti-Abortion Advocate In The State Legislature, Co-Authoring A Bill Prohibiting State Funds From Going Towards Abortions That Included Possible Criminal Charges For Abortion Providers

2003-2009: During His Time In The State Legislature, Finstad Voted Against Abortion 100% Of The Time

2003-2009: Minnesota Citizens Concerned For Life: Finstad "Cast 63 Different Pro-Life Votes And Compiled A Perfect 100 Percent Pro-Life Voting Record" During His Time In The Minnesota State House. "From 2003-2009, Finstad served in the Minnesota House, where he cast 63 different pro-life votes and compiled a perfect 100 percent pro-life voting record. He authored the Positive Alternatives Act, which created a grant program to provide practical support and alternatives to abortion for pregnant women and new mothers; through 2020, the program has helped close to 80,000 families. Finstad voted for the Woman's Right to Know informed consent law and the Unborn Child Pain Prevention Act, and he cast numerous votes against taxpayer funding of abortion. He also proposed amendments that would allow abortion-seeking women to see their ultrasounds and prevent groups that perform or promote abortion from receiving taxpayer dollars." [Press Release, Minnesota Citizens Concerned For Life, 6/1/22]

March 2006: Finstad Co-Authored And Voted For HF 3258, Which Would "Prohibit State-Funded Abortions Except In Cases Of Rape Or Incest" And Could Result In Misdemeanor Charges For Physicians Who Induced Abortions

March 2006: Finstad Co-Authored HF 3258. In April 2006, Finstad voted in favor of: "A bill for an act relating to health; requiring reporting on notification that is required before an abortion is performed on a minor or certain other women; providing civil penalties; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 13.3806, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 144; 145." The legislation passed the House 81-50 and died in the Senate. [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 3258, introduced 3/8/06]

- **HF 3258 Would "Prohibit State-Funded Abortions Except In Cases Of Rape Or Incest" And Could Result In Misdemeanor Charges For Physicians Who Induced Abortions.** "If passed, HF3258, sponsored by Rep. Laura Brod (R-New Prague), would prohibit state-funded abortions except in cases of rape or incest. Furthermore, it requires data collection and reporting on the already existing requirement for minors seeking to have abortions. Physicians, without privilege, could also be charged with a misdemeanor if they perform or induce an abortion at a hospital that offers obstetrical or gynecological care." [Minnesota House of Representatives Session Weekly, 3/3/06]

- **March 2006: Finstad Co-Authored "A Comprehensive Proposal Highlighted By The Prohibition Of Taxpayer-Funded Abortions."** "Minnesota State Rep. Brad Finstad, R-District 21B, issued the following news release: State Rep. Brad Finstad (R-New Ulm) reports the Abortion Regulation Act, which is a comprehensive proposal highlighted by the prohibition of taxpayer-funded abortions, is making significant progress in Minnesota House committees. 'The legislation has already sailed through both our health and civil law committees,' said Finstad, who is co-authoring the legislation. 'I think the sentiment among committee members has been clear: Minnesota tax dollars should not be used for funding abortions.' According to a report from the Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL), 29% of abortions performed in Minnesota are paid for with state taxpayer dollars. The report also states that Minnesota taxpayers have paid more than $8 million for elective abortions since 1995. The bill Finstad is co-authoring would ban taxpayer funding of abortions, as well as require hospital admitting privileges and require the reporting of parental notification data. 'The Abortion Regulation Act will help protect the lives of the unborn, as well as Minnesota citizens who don't want their tax dollars spent on abortions,' Finstad said. Finstad said the next stop for the legislation will be the House Public Safety Policy and Finance Committee." [Press Release, State Rep. Brad Finstad, 3/23/06]

April 2006: Finstad Voted For HF 3258. In April 2006, Finstad voted in favor of: "A bill for an act relating to health; requiring reporting on notification that is required before an abortion is performed on a minor or certain other women; providing civil penalties; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 13.3806, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 144; 145." The legislation passed the House 81-50 and died in the Senate. [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 3258, 4/27/06]

March 2006: Finstad On The "Abortion Regulation Act" Passing Through The Health And Civil Committees: "I Think The Sentiment Among Committee Members Has Been Clear: Minnesota Tax Dollars Should Not Be Used For Funding Abortions." "Minnesota State Rep. Brad Finstad, R-District 21B, issued the following news release: State Rep. Brad Finstad (R-New Ulm) reports the Abortion Regulation Act, which is a comprehensive proposal highlighted by the prohibition of taxpayer-funded abortions, is making significant progress in Minnesota House committees. 'The legislation has already sailed through both our health and civil law committees,' said Finstad, who is co-authoring the legislation. 'I think the sentiment among committee members has been clear: Minnesota tax dollars should not be used for funding abortions.' According to a report from the Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL), 29% of abortions performed in Minnesota are paid for with state taxpayer dollars. The report also states that Minnesota taxpayers have paid more than $8 million for elective abortions since 1995. The bill Finstad is co-authoring would ban taxpayer funding of abortions, as well as require hospital admitting privileges and require the reporting of parental notification data. 'The Abortion Regulation Act will help protect the lives of the unborn, as well as Minnesota citizens who don't want their tax dollars spent on abortions,' Finstad said. Finstad said the next stop for the legislation will be the House Public Safety Policy and Finance Committee." [Press Release, State Rep. Brad Finstad, 3/23/06]

April 2003: Finstad Voted In Favor Of The "Woman's Right To Know Act," Which Required All Women Seeking An Abortion Receive Certain Information From A Licensed Physician And Then Wait 24 Hours Before The Procedure, And Changed The Legal Definition Of "Unborn Child" To Begin At The Time Of Fertilization

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April 2003: Finstad Voted In Favor Of SF 187, The "Woman's Right To Know Act.". In April 2003, Finstad voted in favor of: "Woman's Right to Know Act, abortion informed consent requirements." The legislation passed the House 90-39. [Minnesota State Legislature, SF 187, 4/7/03]

- **The Woman's Right To Know Act Required All Women Seeking An Abortion To "Receive Certain Information From A Licensed Physician A Minimum Of 24 Hours Prior To Their Procedure" Or Have Their Appointment Canceled.** "In July of 2003, Minnesota passed a law known as The Woman's Right to Know Act. This law affects anyone seeking an abortion in Minnesota, Minnesota Statutes 145.4241-145.4249; and requires them to receive certain information from a licensed physician a minimum of 24 hours prior to their procedure. WE Health Clinic provides this information over the telephone at no cost to the patient. The phone call with this information is typically five minutes in length. The patient must be available at the time WE Health Clinic staff schedules this physician phone call. If the patient does not receive this information at least 24 hours prior to the abortion appointment the appointment will be cancelled and will need to be rescheduled." [We Health Clinic, accessed 7/23/26]

- **Minnesota Citizens Concerned For Life: In The State Legislature, "Finstad Voted For The Woman's Right To Know Informed Consent Law."** "From 2003-2009, Finstad served in the Minnesota House, where he cast 63 different pro-life votes and compiled a perfect 100 percent pro-life voting record. He authored the Positive Alternatives Act, which created a grant program to provide practical support and alternatives to abortion for pregnant women and new mothers; through 2020, the program has helped close to 80,000 families. Finstad voted for the Woman's Right to Know informed consent law and the Unborn Child Pain Prevention Act, and he cast numerous votes against taxpayer funding of abortion. He also proposed amendments that would allow abortion-seeking women to see their ultrasounds and prevent groups that perform or promote abortion from receiving taxpayer dollars." [Press Release, Minnesota Citizens Concerned For Life, 6/1/22]

2022: Mankato Free Press: In The State Legislature, Finstad "Strongly Backed" A Bill Requiring A 24-Hour Waiting Period Before Abortions Could Be Performed. "The website, which consisted of just a single page Monday, didn't mention any details of his work in St. Paul, where he quickly rose in the leadership ranks, finishing as an assistant minority leader in the House. A town team baseball player, Finstad was the House sponsor of the

2006 bill that created the $435 million Target Field, the Minnesota Twins home ballpark in downtown Minneapolis. He also was chief sponsor of legislation that assisted women who needed support after an unwanted pregnancy and strongly backed another bill requiring a 24-hour waiting period before abortions could be performed." [Mankato Free Press, 3/7/22]

The "Women's Right To Know" Act Included Penalties For Physicians Who Failed To Comply With The Legislation And New Reporting Requirements. "The 'Women's Right to Know' bill was signed into law Monday, marking the most significant change in Minnesota abortion policy in nearly two decades. Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed the bill just hours after the Minnesota Senate approved it. He called it a 'moderate, reasonable piece of legislation.' The law requires doctors to give specified abortion information to women seeking an abortion at least 24 hours before they undergo the procedure. It also sets new reporting requirements and penalties for physicians who don't comply. Abortion opponents have struggled for a decade to pass such a bill. Twice, the legislation reached the governor's desk, only to be vetoed." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/15/03]

The Law Would Require Abortion Providers To Give Women Seeking An Abortion Information And Photographs On "Health Risks, Fetal Development And Possible Psychological Problems Linked To Abortion" And Mandated The Creation Of A Website To Display The Information. "Opponents say the bill is unnecessary because an informed consent law already is on the books in Minnesota, that the bill is a way for the state to dictate what a doctor says to the patient. The law would require abortion providers to give women seeking an abortion certain information and photographs about the procedure at least 24 hours beforehand. The materials would include information on health risks, fetal development and possible psychological problems linked to abortion. The bill also calls for the creation of a state Web site to display the information. Doctors would have to report their compliance to the state and face financial penalties for failure to comply. This year's bill differs from previous versions by adding two other provisions. One would require that women receive estimates of the pain a fetus might feel. Another changes the definition of an unborn child to start with the moment of fertilization until birth." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/15/03]

The Bill Changed The Definition Of "Unborn Child" To "Start With The Moment Of Fertilization Until Birth." "Opponents say the bill is unnecessary because an informed consent law already is on the books in Minnesota, that the bill is a way for the state to dictate what a doctor says to the patient. The law would require abortion providers to give women seeking an abortion certain information and photographs about the procedure at least 24 hours beforehand. The materials would include information on health risks, fetal development and possible psychological problems linked to abortion. The bill also calls for the creation of a state Web site to display the information. Doctors would have to report their compliance to the state and face financial penalties for failure to comply. This year's bill differs from previous versions by adding two other provisions. One would require that women receive estimates of the pain a fetus might feel. Another changes the definition of an unborn child to start with the moment of fertilization until birth." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/15/03]

DFL Sen. Linda Scheid: "This Bill's Pleasant-Sounding Title Is Misleading… This Is Not Your Right To Know; It's What A Certain Group Wants You To Know." "But abortion rights supporters argued that the way the bill landed in the Senate, and its contents, were deceptive. 'This bill's pleasant-sounding title is misleading,' said Sen. Linda Scheid, DFL-Brooklyn Park. 'This is not your right to know; it's what a certain group wants you to know.' In between were several legislators who oppose abortion, but also opposed the bill's attachment to the circus legislation. 'The way we do business in the Senate got some dents in it today,' said Sen. Dean Johnson, DFL-Willmar. 'Historically, the public has looked to the Senate for common sense and fairness. We lacked some fairness today.'" [Minnesota Star Tribune, 4/15/03]

NOTE: The Woman's Right To Know Act's 24-hour "informed consent" requirement was ruled illegal by a Ramsey County District Court in 2022.

Finstad Was A Career Politician Of More Than Twenty Years Who Was In And Out Of The "Revolving Door" Of Politics; Less Than A Year After He Worked At The USDA, Finstad Headed An Agriculture Lobbying Firm In Minnesota

2002: Finstad's Republican Opponent For A Minnesota House Seat, Cody Schreyer, Filed An Unfair Campaign Practices Complaint Against Finstad, Claiming Finstad Offered Schreyer Future Employment And Election Assistance In Exchange For Dropping Out

Brainerd Dispatch Headline: "House Candidate Says Opponent Made Offer For Him To Drop Out." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

Brainerd Dispatch: "A Republican House Candidate Has Filed An Unfair Campaign Practices Complaint Against His Opponent, Claiming His Foe Offered Him Help In Future Campaigns If He Dropped Out Of This Year's Race." "A Republican House candidate has filed an unfair campaign practices complaint against his opponent, claiming his foe offered him help in future campaigns if he dropped out of this year's race. Cody Schreyer, who is running as a Republican in District 21B, claims the alleged offer from Brad Finstad was a violation of campaign rules and filed the complaint in Watonwon County. Finstad defeated Schreyer for the GOP endorsement in the New Ulm district. Finstad said there's no truth to the accusations. 'He completely lied. These are false allegations,' he said." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

2002: Cody Schreyer And Brad Finstad Ran In The Republican Primary For Minnesota House District 21B. [Ballotpedia, Minnesota House of Representative Elections 2002, accessed 7/24/26]

District 21B

September 10 Democratic primary:

- Mark Wiger ✔

September 10 Republican primary:

- Brad Finstad: 1,827 ✔
- Cody W. Schreyer: 313

[Ballotpedia, Minnesota House of Representative Elections 2002, accessed 7/24/26]

Brainerd Dispatch: "Schreyer Said Sunday That Finstad Promised Him A Job In His Legislative Office If Finstad Won The Race." "Schreyer said Sunday that Finstad promised him a job in his legislative office if Finstad won the race. Finstad and state Rep. James Clark, R-New Ulm, also promised help in future campaigns if Schreyer dropped out of the election, Schreyer said. 'They were going to give me what I wanted if I dropped out,' he said. Clark, who is not running for reelection, did not immediately return a phone call left at his home Sunday. Schreyer said he went public with his complaint because 'I believe Finstad is guilty, and the public should know that.' County Attorney LaMar Piper said Schreyer filed the complaint nearly a month ago. 'I can only confirm that a complaint has been made, and that the matter is still under investigation,' he said." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

- **Brainerd Dispatch: "Finstad And State Rep. James Clark, R-New Ulm, Also Promised Help In Future Campaigns If Schreyer Dropped Out Of The Election."** "Schreyer said Sunday that Finstad promised him a job in his legislative office if Finstad won the race. Finstad and state Rep. James Clark, R-New Ulm, also promised help in future campaigns if Schreyer dropped out of the election, Schreyer said. 'They were going to give me what I wanted if I dropped out,' he said. Clark, who is not running for reelection, did not immediately return a phone call left at his home Sunday. Schreyer said he went public with his complaint because 'I believe Finstad is guilty, and the public should know that.' County Attorney LaMar Piper said Schreyer filed the complaint nearly a month ago. 'I can only confirm that a complaint has been made, and that the matter is still under investigation,' he said." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

Schreyer: "They Were Going To Give Me What I Wanted If I Dropped Out." "Schreyer said Sunday that Finstad promised him a job in his legislative office if Finstad won the race. Finstad and state Rep. James Clark, R-New Ulm, also promised help in future campaigns if Schreyer dropped out of the election, Schreyer said. 'They were going to give me what I wanted if I dropped out,' he said. Clark, who is not running for reelection, did not immediately return a phone call left at his home Sunday. Schreyer said he went public with his complaint because 'I believe Finstad is guilty, and the public should know that.' County Attorney LaMar Piper said Schreyer filed the complaint nearly a month ago. 'I can only confirm that a complaint has been made, and that the matter is still under investigation,' he said." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

Brainerd Dispatch: Schreyer "Claims The Alleged Offer From Brad Finstad Was A Violation Of Campaign Rules And Filed The Complaint In Watonwon County." "A Republican House candidate has filed an unfair campaign practices complaint against his opponent, claiming his foe offered him help in future campaigns if he dropped out of this year's race. Cody Schreyer, who is running as a Republican in District 21B, claims the alleged offer from Brad Finstad was a violation of campaign rules and filed the complaint in Watonwon County. Finstad defeated Schreyer for the GOP endorsement in the New Ulm district. Finstad said there's no truth to the accusations. 'He completely lied. These are false allegations,' he said." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

Brainerd Dispatch: "Schreyer Said He Went Public With His Complaint Because 'I Believe Finstad Is Guilty, And The Public Should Know That.'" "Schreyer said Sunday that Finstad promised him a job in his legislative office if Finstad won the race. Finstad and state Rep. James Clark, R-New Ulm, also promised help in future campaigns if Schreyer dropped out of the election, Schreyer said. 'They were going to give me what I wanted if I dropped out,' he said. Clark, who is not running for reelection, did not immediately return a phone call left at his home Sunday. Schreyer said he went public with his complaint because 'I believe Finstad is guilty, and the public should know that.' County Attorney LaMar Piper said Schreyer filed the complaint nearly a month ago. 'I can only confirm that a complaint has been made, and that the matter is still under investigation,' he said. Schreyer said he provided a tape recording of the alleged violation to a county investigator." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

Schreyer Claimed He Provided A Tape Recording Of The Alleged Violation To Investigators

Brainerd Dispatch: "Schreyer Said He Provided A Tape Recording Of The Alleged Violation To A County Investigator." "County Attorney LaMar Piper said Schreyer filed the complaint nearly a month ago. 'I can only confirm that a complaint has been made, and that the matter is still under investigation,' he said. Schreyer said he provided a tape recording of the alleged violation to a county investigator." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

August 2002: Watonwan County Attorney LaMar Piper Stated Schreyer Filed The Complaint And That It Was Under Investigation

County Attorney LaMar Piper: "I Can Only Confirm That A Complaint Has Been Made, And That The Matter Is Still Under Investigation." "Schreyer said Sunday that Finstad promised him a job in his legislative office if Finstad won the race. Finstad and state Rep. James Clark, R-New Ulm, also promised help in future campaigns if Schreyer dropped out of the election, Schreyer said. 'They were going to give me what I wanted if I dropped out,' he said. Clark, who is not running for reelection, did not immediately return a phone call left at his home Sunday. Schreyer said he went public with his complaint because 'I believe Finstad is guilty, and the public should know that.' County Attorney LaMar Piper said Schreyer filed the complaint nearly a month ago. 'I can only confirm that a complaint has been made, and that the matter is still under investigation,' he said. Schreyer said he provided a tape recording of the alleged violation to a county investigator." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

- **Brainerd Dispatch: "County Attorney Lamar Piper Said Schreyer Filed The Complaint Nearly A Month Ago."** "Schreyer said Sunday that Finstad promised him a job in his legislative office if Finstad won the race. Finstad and state Rep. James Clark, R-New Ulm, also promised help in future campaigns if Schreyer dropped out of the election, Schreyer said. 'They were going to give me what I wanted if I dropped out,' he said. Clark, who is not running for reelection, did not immediately return a phone call left at his home Sunday. Schreyer said he went public with his complaint because 'I believe Finstad is guilty, and the public should know that.' County Attorney LaMar Piper said Schreyer filed the complaint nearly a month ago. 'I can only confirm that a complaint has been made, and that the matter is still under investigation,' he said. Schreyer said he provided a tape recording of the alleged violation to a county investigator." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

NOTE: Further research is needed to determine the outcome of this case; public records request filed with Watonwan County Attorney Office and Minnesota Secretary of State.

Finstad Denied The Allegations, Claiming His Accuser Lied

Brainerd Dispatch: "Finstad Said There's No Truth To The Accusations." "A Republican House candidate has filed an unfair campaign practices complaint against his opponent, claiming his foe offered him help in future campaigns if he dropped out of this year's race. Cody Schreyer, who is running as a Republican in District 21B, claims the alleged offer from Brad Finstad was a violation of campaign rules and filed the complaint in Watonwon County. Finstad defeated Schreyer for the GOP endorsement in the New Ulm district. Finstad said there's no truth to the accusations. 'He completely lied. These are false allegations,' he said." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

Finstad: "He Completely Lied. These Are False Allegations." "A Republican House candidate has filed an unfair campaign practices complaint against his opponent, claiming his foe offered him help in future campaigns if he dropped out of this year's race. Cody Schreyer, who is running as a Republican in District 21B, claims the alleged offer from Brad Finstad was a violation of campaign rules and filed the complaint in Watonwon County. Finstad defeated Schreyer for the GOP endorsement in the New Ulm district. Finstad said there's no truth to the accusations. 'He completely lied. These are false allegations,' he said." [Brainerd Dispatch, 8/26/02]

2001-2021: Finstad Spent More Than Twenty Years In Political And Policy Roles Including In The Minnesota State House And At The USDA

2001-2002: Finstad Was Agriculture And Rural Policy Adviser/Liaison To Former Congressman Mark Kennedy

Center For Rural Policy And Development: Finstad "Served As The Agriculture And Rural Policy Adviser/Liaison For Former Congressman Mark Kennedy." "In the public sector, Finstad served on the Minnesota House's agriculture, finance and health and human services committees and for the past two years served as assistant minority leader. He gained statewide attention in 2006 when he authored and successfully shepherded passage of legislation authorizing public financing of the new Twins ballpark. He previously served as the Agriculture and Rural Policy Adviser/Liaison for former Congressman Mark Kennedy. In the private sector, Finstad has held numerous management positions dealing with business development and human resources. Finstad also has been involved in numerous ag organizations, including the Minnesota Corn Growers Association, the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, the Minnesota Pork Producers, the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association and the Minnesota Association of Cooperatives. He is also a member of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce." [Center For Rural Policy And Development, 11/10/08]

April 2001-December 2002: Finstad Served As Agriculture District Representative For Rep. Mark Kennedy. [Legistorm, Accessed 7/22/26]

Employment History

- Frontier Labs (Minnesota) (Jan. 2010-2022)
  President
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Development (Nov. 2017-Feb. 2021)
  Director for Minnesota
- Finstad Farms
  Co-Operator
- Rep. Mark Kennedy (R-MN) (April 2001-Dec. 2002)
  Agriculture District Representative

[Legistorm, Accessed 7/22/26]

- **Congressman Mark Kennedy Served On The House Agriculture Committee.** "Former Rep. Mark Kennedy, R-Minn., has been named director of the Graduate School of Political Management and professor of political management in GW's College of Professional Studies. Mr. Kennedy brings to the position vital firsthand experience in electoral politics and public service, as well as a background as a business leader who has taught at leading academic institutions on the intersection of business and politics […] Mr. Kennedy was elected to three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, serving Minnesota's Second District from 2001to 2003 and Sixth District from 2003 to 2007. He was noted for reaching across the aisle, leading 20 bipartisan bills. During his service in Congress, Mr. Kennedy served on the financial services, transportation and agriculture committees." [GW Today, 1/16/12]

2003-2009: Finstad Served In The Minnesota State House For Three Terms, Rising To Assistant Minority Leader

2003-2009: Finstad Served As The Minnesota State Representative Of District 21B. [Legistorm, Accessed 7/22/26]

Office History

Congressional Offices:

- U.S. House of Representatives (Aug. 12, 2022-) In Office
  Member, 1st Congressional District of Minnesota

State Legislature Offices:

- Minnesota House of Representatives (Feb. 2003-Jan. 2009)
  R Representative, District 21B

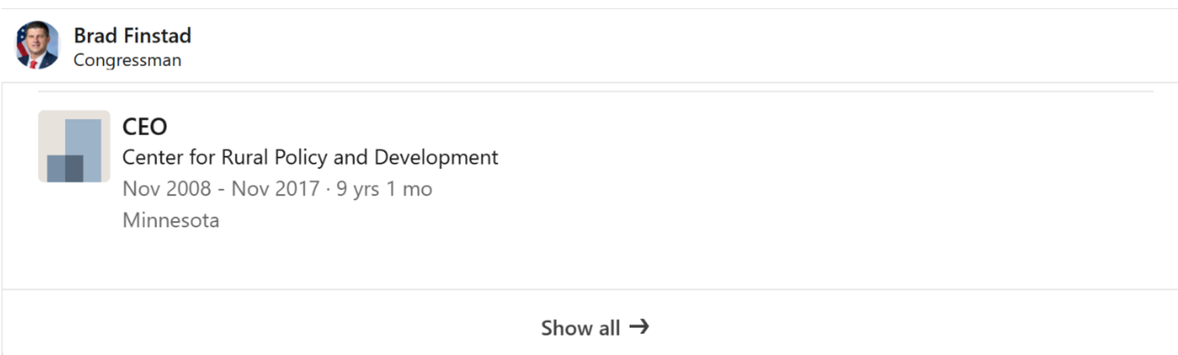
[Legistorm, Accessed 7/22/26]

Center For Rural Policy And Development: "Finstad Served On The Minnesota House's Agriculture, Finance And Health And Human Services Committees." "In the public sector, Finstad served on the Minnesota House's agriculture, finance and health and human services committees and for the past two years served as assistant minority leader. He gained statewide attention in 2006 when he authored and successfully shepherded passage of legislation authorizing public financing of the new Twins ballpark. He previously served as the Agriculture and Rural Policy Adviser/Liaison for former Congressman Mark Kennedy. In the private sector, Finstad has held numerous management positions dealing with business development and human resources. Finstad also has been involved in numerous ag organizations, including the Minnesota Corn Growers Association, the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation, the Minnesota Pork Producers, the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association and the Minnesota Association of Cooperatives. He is also a member of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce." [Center For Rural Policy And Development, 11/10/08]

Roll Call: Finstad "Spent Three Terms In The State House, Rising To Assistant Minority Leader." "Finstad started his political career with a two-year stint as a district aide for then-Rep. Mark Kennedy, R-Minn. He left that job to run for and win a seat in the state House of Representatives in 2002. He spent three terms in the state House, rising to assistant minority leader before he left to work at the Center for Rural Policy and Development, a small policy research organization based in Minnesota. He said his time there was critical in developing a wider approach to legislating and taught him to tailor policy solutions to specific problems." [Roll Call, 8/10/22]

2008-2017: Finstad Was CEO Of The Center For Rural Policy And Development

Brad Finstad Posted On LinkedIn That He Was CEO Of The Center For Rural Policy And Development From November 2008 To November 2017. [Brad Finstad, LinkedIn, Accessed 7/23/26]



[Brad Finstad, LinkedIn, Accessed 7/23/26]

Center For Rural Policy And Development: "The Center For Rural Policy And Development Is A Non-Partisan, Not-For-Profit Policy Research Organization Dedicated To Benefiting Minnesota By Providing Its Policy Makers With Unbiased Information And Evaluation Of Issues From A Rural Perspective." "The Center for Rural Policy and Development is a non-partisan, not-for-profit policy research organization dedicated to benefiting Minnesota by providing its policy makers with unbiased information and evaluation of issues from a rural perspective. The Center's board members come from all over the state, representing a variety of interests. Thirteen are appointed by the Governor and two are appointed by the House and Senate leadership; all members represent different aspects of rural Minnesota. Remaining members consist of five at-large positions chosen by the board members themselves." [Center For Rural Policy And Development, Accessed 7/24/26]

2017-2021: Finstad Was State Director For USDA Rural Development In Minnesota

Office Of Brad Finstad: Finstad "Served As State Director For USDA Rural Development In Minnesota." "Brad is proud to have served as State Director for USDA Rural Development in Minnesota where he worked to support infrastructure improvements, business development, homeownership, community services such as schools, public safety, health care, and high-speed internet access in rural areas. He previously served three terms in the

Minnesota Legislature. He also held executive positions with the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association and the Center for Rural Policy and Development." [Rep. Brad Finstad, Congressional Website, accessed 7/22/26]

Finstad Served As State Director For USDA Rural Development In Minnesota From November 2017 To January 2021. [Legistorm, Accessed 7/22/26]

Employment History

- Frontier Labs (Minnesota) (Jan. 2010-2022)
  President
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Development (Nov. 2017-Feb. 2021)
  Director for Minnesota
- Finstad Farms
  Co-Operator
- Rep. Mark Kennedy (R-MN) (April 2001-Dec. 2002)
  Agriculture District Representative

[Legistorm, Accessed 7/22/26]

2021-2022: After Leaving The USDA, Finstad Served As Executive Director For A State-Registered Lobbying Firm For Minnesota Turkey Farmers

2021-2022: Finstad Was Executive Director For The Minnesota Turkey Growers Association

Office Of Brad Finstad: Finstad "Held Executive Positions With The Minnesota Turkey Growers Association." "Brad is proud to have served as State Director for USDA Rural Development in Minnesota where he worked to support infrastructure improvements, business development, homeownership, community services such as schools, public safety, health care, and high-speed internet access in rural areas. He previously served three terms in the Minnesota Legislature. He also held executive positions with the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association and the Center for Rural Policy and Development." [Rep. Brad Finstad, Congressional Website, accessed 7/22/26]

Finstad Served As Executive Director For The Minnesota Turkey Growers Association From October 2021 To March 2022. [Legistorm, accessed 7/22/26]

- Minnesota Turkey Growers Association (Oct. 2021-March 2022)
  Executive Director
- Center for Rural Policy and Development (Nov. 2008-Nov. 2017)
  CEO

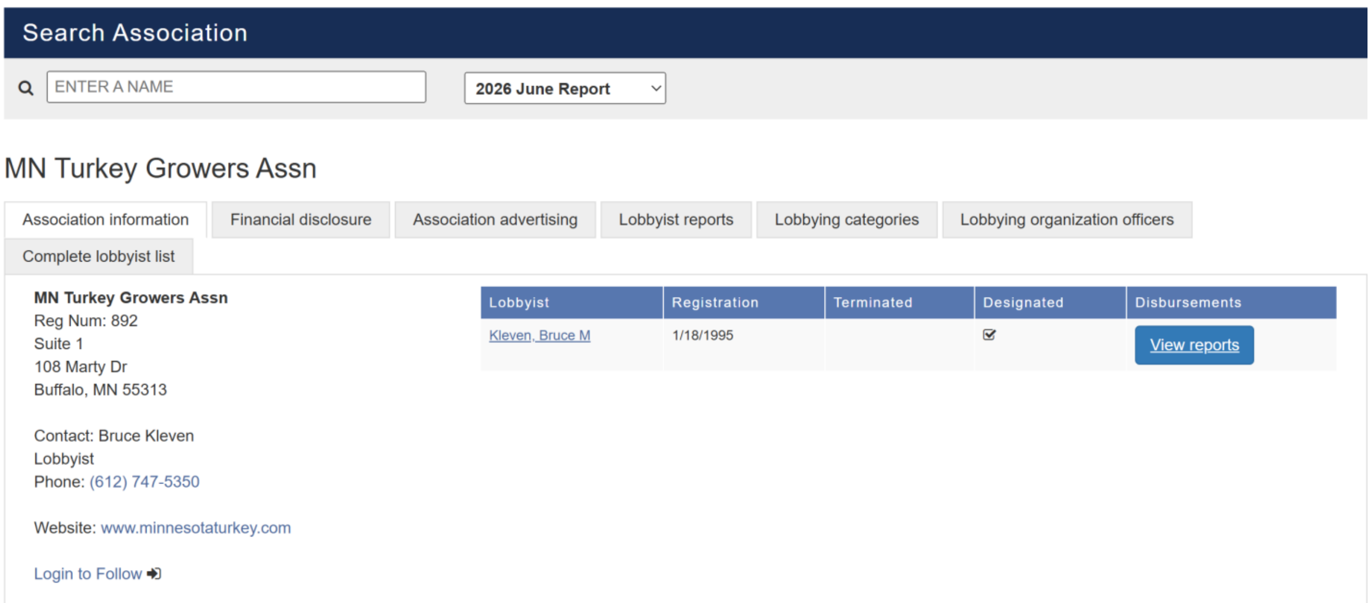
[Legistorm, accessed 7/22/26]

NOTE: According to USDA policy, within one year of leaving a senior personnel position with USDA, former USDA SP are not allowed to represent outside firms during business in front of the USDA. Minnesota Turkey Growers Association was not registered to lobby federally and did not seem to do business in front of the USDA.

The Minnesota Turkey Growers Association Was A State-Registered Lobbying Firm For Minnesota Turkey Farmers

Minnesota Turkey Growers Association: "The Minnesota Turkey Growers Association (MTGA) […] Advocates For The Industry Through Lobbying Efforts, Media Relations, Communications Efforts And Materials." "The Minnesota Turkey Growers Association (MTGA) was formed in 1939 and has a long and rich history of representing the state's turkey farmers. MTGA advocates for the industry through lobbying efforts, media relations, communications efforts and materials, website/social media and special projects. The wisdom gained from decades of experience is an incredible asset to MTGA members. MTGA members pay annual dues to join the organization, and in return, are eligible for a myriad of benefits." [Minnesota Turkey Growers Association, LinkedIn, accessed 7/22/26]

As Of July 2026, The Minnesota Turkey Growers Association Was Registered With The Minnesota Campaign Finance Board As A Lobbying Organization. [Minnesota Campaign Finance Board, accessed 7/22/26]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MN Turkey Growers Assn

Association information | Financial disclosure | Association advertising | Lobbyist reports | Lobbying categories | Lobbying organization officers | Complete lobbyist list

MN Turkey Growers Assn
Reg Num: 892
Suite 1
108 Marty Dr
Buffalo, MN 55313

Contact: Bruce Kleven
Lobbyist
Phone: (612) 747-5350

Website: www.minnesotaturkey.com

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Lobbyist	Registration	Terminated	Designated	Disbursements
Kleven, Bruce M	1/18/1995		☑	View reports

[Minnesota Campaign Finance Board, accessed 7/22/26]

- **2021-2022: The Minnesota Turkey Growers Association Spent $81,210 On Total Lobbying.** [Minnesota Campaign Finance Board, accessed 7/22/26]

MN Turkey Growers Assn

Association information | Financial disclosure | Association advertising | Lobbyist reports | Lobbying categories | Lobbying organization officers | Complete lobbyist list

Starting in 2024, lobbyist principals report the amount spent to lobby in Minnesota in four categories;

- The amount spent to influence the official actions of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC).
- The amount spent to influence legislative action (which includes attempts to influence the Governor to support or veto legislation).
- The amount spent to influence the adoption, repeal, or modification of administrative rules by a state agency.
- The amount spent to influence the official actions of Metropolitan Governmental Units (MGU).

In each of these categories the lobbyist principal may round the amount reported to the nearest $5,000.

Prior to 2024, lobbyist principals reported the amount spent to lobby in Minnesota in two categories;

- The amount spent to influence the official actions of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC).
- All other lobbying expenditure in the state (General Lobbying).

Year	PUC lobbying amount	Legislative lobbying amount	Administrative lobbying amount	MGU lobbying amount	General lobbying amount	Total spent
2025	$0.00	$42,500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$42,500.00
2024	$0.00	$42,500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$42,500.00
2023	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$43,016.00	$43,016.00
2022	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$40,743.00	$40,743.00
2021	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$40,467.00	$40,467.00
2020	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$40,915.00	$40,915.00

[Minnesota Campaign Finance Board, accessed 7/22/26]

Finstad Was The Owner Of Frontier Labs, Which Filed For More Than $300,000 In Tax Abatements From Local Municipalities And Had A $62,499 Business Subsidy Rescinded After Failing To Build The Agreed Upon Project

Finstad Was The Owner Of Frontier Labs, Which He Reported As An Asset Of More Than $1 Million Even Though The Company's Assets Were Acquired By A Canadian Company In 2022

Finstad And His Family Owned Frontier Labs, An Agronomic Testing and Consulting Company

Minnesota Star Tribune: "Finstad And His Family Own Agronomy Company Frontier Labs." "The 46-year-old Finstad was the U.S. Department of Agriculture's state director for rural development in Minnesota during the Trump administration and served in the Minnesota House from 2003-2009. He also spent time as executive director of the Center for Rural Policy and Development, and in a leading role with the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association. Finstad and his family own agronomy company Frontier Labs and have a farm where they grow soybeans and corn." [Minnesota Star Tribune, 8/10/22]

Frontier Labs: "Frontier Labs We Are Soil Health And Crop Fertility Experts, Specializing In Agronomic Testing And Consulting." "At Frontier Labs we are Soil Health and Crop Fertility Experts, Specializing in Agronomic Testing and Consulting We offer the perfect combination of soil testing and consulting for any size operation or producer. We are dedicated to your success!" [Frontier Labs, accessed 7/29/26]

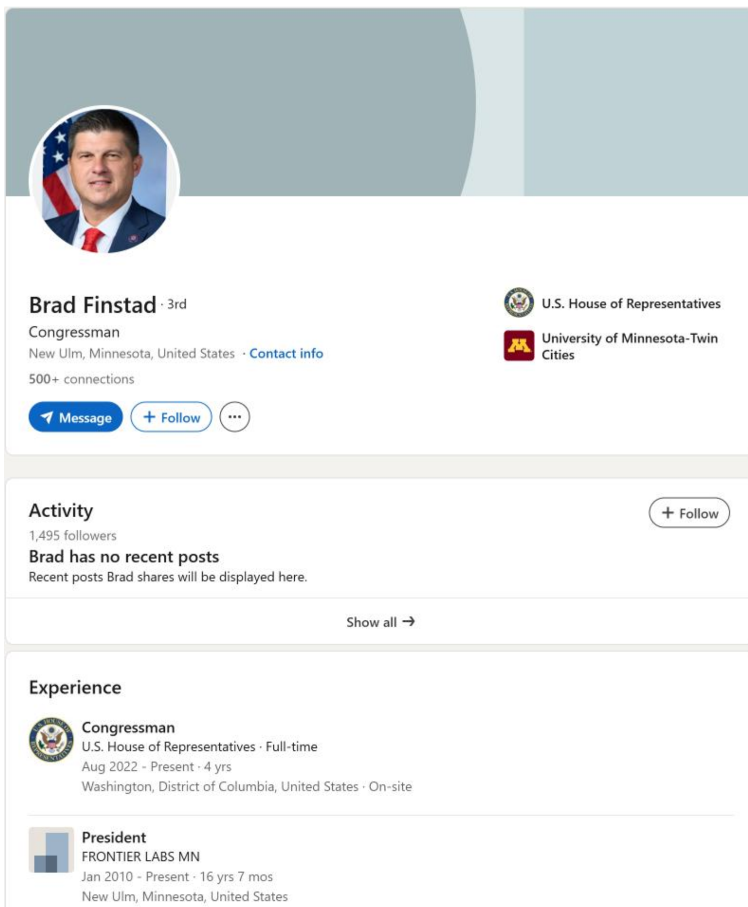
Frontier Labs: "At Frontier Labs We Offer A Complete Line Of Services For Any Soil Testing Needs […] Through Our Use Of The Latest Testing Methods And Technologies." "At Frontier Labs we offer a complete line of services for any soil testing needs. We offer high quality, fast, and reliable service through our use of the latest testing methods and technologies. Generally we turn around samples in 24 hours. If samples are in the lab by 4:00PM they are generally available the following afternoon. All of our soil testing, nematode and spring nitrate test results are available online through a Customer Login." [Frontier Labs, accessed 7/29/26]

Frontier Labs: "At Frontier Labs We Have The Latest Software And The Best Staff To Meet Your GIS Needs […] If You Need Someone To Process Your Yield Data We Can Help." "At Frontier Labs we have the latest software and the best staff to meet your GIS needs. If you need help converting data for use in your software we can help. If you need someone to process your yield data we can help. If you want help analyzing data that you have collected we can help. If you took your own samples but need to make a VRT disk we can help." [Frontier Labs, accessed 7/29/26]

- **Cornell Small Farms Program: "A Geographic Information System (GIS) Is A Tool That Creates Visual Representations Of Data And Performs Spatial Analyses In Order To Make Informed Decisions."** "Geographic Information System (GIS) is a tool that creates visual representations of data and performs spatial analyses in order to make informed decisions. It is a technology that combines hardware, software, and data. The data can represent almost anything imaginable so long as it has a geographic component. The hardware can be anything from a desktop computer or laptop to satellites, drones, and handheld GPS units." [Cornell Small Farms Program, 4/3/17]

2010-2026: Finstad Has Been President Of Frontier Labs MN Since January 2010

Finstad Posted On LinkedIn That He Had Been President Of Frontier Labs MN Since January 2010. [Brad Finstad, LinkedIn, Accessed 7/23/26]



[Brad Finstad, LinkedIn, Accessed 7/23/26]

2022: Frontier Labs Inc.'s Assets Were Acquired By Deveron Corp., A Canadian Company

2022: Deveron Corp. Announced It Had Acquired All The Assets Of Frontier Labs Inc. "Toronto, Ontario--(Newsfile Corp. - November 1, 2022) - Deveron Corp. (TSXV: FARM) ('Deveron' or the 'Company'), a leading agriculture data company in North America, is pleased to announce that further to its press release of October 4, 2022, the Company has acquired (the 'Acquisition') all of the assets of Frontier Labs Inc. ('Frontier Labs') pursuant to an arm's length definitive agreement (the 'Definitive Agreement') dated October 4, 2022 between the Company and Frontier Labs. Frontier Labs is a leading soil lab and agronomy company, based in Iowa, that services Iowa and Minnesota." [Deveron Corp., Press Release, 11/1/22]

- **Deveron Paid Frontier Labs $825,000, Agreed To Pay $412,500 For Two Years, Issued Common Shares OF Stock, And Agreed To Issue More Common Shares.** "As consideration for the Acquisition, Deveron has: (i) paid Frontier Labs an initial cash payment of US$825,000 upon closing of the Acquisition; (ii) will make further payments in the aggregate of US$412,500 on each of the first two anniversaries on the closing date of the Acquisition (the 'Closing Date'); (iii) issued 746,570 Common Shares (the 'Common Shares') in the capital of the Company at a price of $0.50 per Common Share upon receipt of final approval of the Acquisition; and (iv) will issue 373,285 Common Shares at a price of $0.50 per Common Share on each of the first two anniversaries following the signing of the Definitive Agreement." [Deveron Corp., Press Release, 11/1/22]

2011: Deveron Corp. Was Incorporated And Based In Toronto, Canada. "The company was formerly known as Deveron UAS Corp. and changed its name to Deveron Corp. in September 2020. Deveron Corp. was incorporated in 2011 and is based in Toronto, Canada." [Yahoo Finance, Deveron Corp., accessed 7/31/26]

- **Deveron Corp. Provided Data Collection And Analytics Services To The Agricultural Industry In Canada And The U.S.** "Deveron Corp. provides data collection and analytics services to the agricultural industry in Canada and the United States. The company offers data acquisition services and data analytics based on digital recommendations and data interpretations. It also provides data collection services, including data collection for soil sampling and drone data, etc. In addition, the company offers soil testing and analysis services comprising plant tissue testing, soil health, and compost analysis; and field services, including soil fertility sampling, soil mapping, agricultural drone, and field boundary mapping. It serves growers, AG retailers, academia, and enterprises.a" [Yahoo Finance, Deveron Corp., accessed 7/31/26]

2025: Finstad Reported That He Was Owner-Member Of Frontier Labs, Which He Reported As An Asset Worth More Than $1 Million Dollars

Finstad Listed On His 2025 Personal Financial Disclosure That He Was Owner-Member Of Frontier Labs. [U.S. House Clerk, Rep. Brad Finstad 2025 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed 5/13/26]

SCHEDULE E: POSITIONS

Position	Name of Organization
Owner - Member	Frontier Labs

[U.S. House Clerk, Rep. Brad Finstad 2025 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed 5/13/26]

Brad Finstad Listed Frontier Labs On His 2025 Personal Financial Disclosure As An Asset Worth More Than $1 Million Dollars. [U.S. House Clerk, Rep. Brad Finstad 2025 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed 5/13/26]

Finstad Farms [FA] LOCATION: Brown, MN, US DESCRIPTION: Farm in Brown County MN. Land, buildings, and equipment.	$1,000,001 - $5,000,000	None	☐
Frontier Labs [OL]	$1,000,001 -	None	☐

[U.S. House Clerk, Rep. Brad Finstad 2025 Personal Financial Disclosure, filed 5/13/26]

2012: Frontier Labs Attempted To Receive More Than $80,000 In City And County Property Tax Abatements In Exchange For Promising To Provide Just Four Jobs That Paid At Least $14 An Hour

Finstad Represented Frontier Labs As They Planned To Renovate And Expand A Building In The Airport Industrial Park For Offices And Lab Space

Frontier Labs Proposed The "Renovation And Expansion Of An Existing Building" In The Airport Industrial Park. "Brown County commissioners unanimously denied an economic development tax abatement request Tuesday for the Frontier Labs Project proposed in the airport industrial park. On Dec. 18, 2012, the New Ulm City Council unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the use of a property tax abatement for the project that includes renovation and expansion of an existing building at 6 Somsen Street. Estimated to cost $84,871, the project would increase the market value of the property from $257,200 to an estimated $546,400, according to a Jan. 3, 2013 letter to the county board from New Ulm Community Development Director David Schnobrich. The city's share of the abatement payment would be about $4,114 a year from 2015 through 2028 based on the estimated project market value and 2012 city property tax rates. The county's abatement share would be about $2,655 a year for a $33,291 total county contribution." [New Ulm Journal, 1/9/13]

New Ulm Journal: "Brad Finstad […] Said Plans Call For Offices And Lab Space To Serve Southern Minnesota And Iowa Farmers And Seed Companies With Soil And Manure Testing And Related Custom Work." "The letter said the tax abatement program would be done on a 'pay-as-you go' basis with Frontier Labs initially paying all project expenses and the city and county reimbursing them as tax abatement revenue is received. If the project does not generate sufficient tax abatement revenue, Frontier Labs would be financially responsible for any deficiencies. Frontier Labs agreed to provide at least four jobs paying at least $14 an hour plus benefits within two years of building occupancy. Brad Finstad, representing the project, said plans call for offices and lab space to serve southern Minnesota and Iowa farmers and seed companies with soil and manure testing and related custom work." [New Ulm Journal, 1/9/13]

The Frontier Labs Renovation Project Was Estimated To Cost $84,871. "Brown County commissioners unanimously denied an economic development tax abatement request Tuesday for the Frontier Labs Project proposed in the airport industrial park. On Dec. 18, 2012, the New Ulm City Council unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the use of a property tax abatement for the project that includes renovation and expansion of an existing building at 6 Somsen Street. Estimated to cost $84,871, the project would increase the market value of the property from $257,200 to an estimated $546,400, according to a Jan. 3, 2013 letter to the county board from New Ulm Community Development Director David Schnobrich." [New Ulm Journal, 1/9/13]

December 2012: The New Ulm City Council Unanimously Approved A Property Tax Abatement Of More Than $53,000 For The Frontier Labs Project, In Exchange For Frontier Labs Agreeing "To Provide At Least Four Jobs Paying At Least $14 An Hour" Within Two Years

On Dec. 18, 2012, The New Ulm City Council Unanimously Approved A Resolution Authorizing The Use Of A Property Tax Abatement For The Frontier Labs Project Proposed In The Airport Industrial Park Of About $4,114 A Year From 2015 Through 2028. "Brown County commissioners unanimously denied an economic development tax abatement request Tuesday for the Frontier Labs Project proposed in the airport industrial park. On Dec. 18, 2012, the New Ulm City Council unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the use of a property tax abatement for the project that includes renovation and expansion of an existing building at 6 Somsen Street. Estimated to cost $84,871, the project would increase the market value of the property from $257,200 to an estimated $546,400, according to a Jan. 3, 2013 letter to the county board from New Ulm Community Development Director David Schnobrich. The city's share of the abatement payment would be about $4,114 a year from 2015 through 2028 based on the estimated project market value and 2012 city property tax rates. The county's abatement share would be about $2,655 a year for a $33,291 total county contribution." [New Ulm Journal, 1/9/13]

New Ulm Journal: "Frontier Labs Agreed To Provide At Least Four Jobs Paying At Least $14 An Hour Plus Benefits Within Two Years Of Building Occupancy." "The letter said the tax abatement program would be done on a 'pay-as-you go' basis with Frontier Labs initially paying all project expenses and the city and county reimbursing them as tax abatement revenue is received. If the project does not generate sufficient tax abatement revenue, Frontier Labs would be financially responsible for any deficiencies. Frontier Labs agreed to provide at least four jobs paying at least $14 an hour plus benefits within two years of building occupancy. Brad Finstad, representing the project, said plans call for offices and lab space to serve southern Minnesota and Iowa farmers and seed companies with soil and manure testing and related custom work." [New Ulm Journal, 1/9/13]

January 2013: Brown County Commissioners Unanimously Denied Frontier Labs' Request For A Economic Development Tax Abatement Of More Than $33,000, Citing Concerns About Financial Feasibility And Unfair Competitive Advantage

January 2013: Brown County Commissioners Unanimously Denied The Economic Development Tax Abatement Request Of $33,291 For The Frontier Labs Project Proposed In The Airport Industrial Park. "Brown County commissioners unanimously denied an economic development tax abatement request Tuesday for the Frontier Labs Project proposed in the airport industrial park. On Dec. 18, 2012, the New Ulm City Council unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the use of a property tax abatement for the project that includes renovation and expansion of an existing building at 6 Somsen Street. Estimated to cost $84,871, the project would increase the market value of the property from $257,200 to an estimated $546,400, according to a Jan. 3, 2013 letter to the county board from New Ulm Community Development Director David Schnobrich. The city's share of the abatement payment would be about $4,114 a year from 2015 through 2028 based on the estimated project market value and 2012 city property tax rates. The county's abatement share would be about $2,655 a year for a $33,291 total county contribution." [New Ulm Journal, 1/9/13]

A Brown County Commissioner Said He Was Concerned The Frontier Labs Project Would Not Financially Feasible If Not For The Use Of The Tax Abatement. "Frontier Labs agreed to provide at least four jobs paying at least $14 an hour plus benefits within two years of building occupancy. Brad Finstad, representing the project, said plans call for offices and lab space to serve southern Minnesota and Iowa farmers and seed companies with soil and manure testing and related custom work. Commissioner Scott Windschitl said he had two concerns and cited excerpts from the Brown County Tax Abatement Policy: (first) C. 6. Business assistance shall not be provided in cases where it would create an unfair competitive advantage for the assisted project; and (second) D. 1. That the project is not financially feasible but – for the use of tax abatement." [New Ulm Journal, 1/9/13]

2021: After Receiving Nearly $220,000 In Property Tax Abatements And A $62,000 Business Subsidy From The City Of Sleepy Eye, Frontier Labs Failed To Build Their Project By The Agreed-Upon Timeline And Had Their Development Agreement Terminated

April 2018: The Sleepy Eye City Council Unanimously Approved A Property Tax Abatement Of Up To $218,379 For A Frontier Labs Expansion Project In The Snow Farm Property

April 2018: "The Sleepy Eye City Council Unanimously Approved A Resolution Granting A Property Tax Abatement Of Up To $218,379 For A Frontier Labs Expansion Project In The Snow Farm Property." "The Sleepy Eye City Council unanimously approved a resolution granting a property tax abatement of up to $218,379 for a Frontier Labs expansion project in the Snow Farm property April 10. The resolution, approved on a motion by councilor Dick Zinniel seconded by Doug Pelzel, was grant the abatement for 15 years. No public comments were made at a hearing. Business subsidy and purchase agreements are being drafted. Frontier Labs said the expansion is due to growth in the research and precision agricultural fields and will bring full-time jobs to the city. The project is in the planning phase. Ground breaking will take place late this spring or early this summer, according to a Frontier Labs release." [New Ulm Journal, 4/11/18]

Frontier Labs Planned To Construct A Two-Story Laboratory And Agricultural Warehouse With Office Space On The Snow Farm Property. "The city council also approved: A $1,000 donation from the Sleepy Eye

Sportsmen's Club for police department body cameras, motion by Pelzel, seconded by Nate Stevermer. A resolution terminating a development agreement between the City and Frontier Labs, MN LLC which entered into a contract for a private development/business subsidy agreement on July 15, 2018 for the planned construction of a two-story laboratory and agricultural warehouse with office space on the Snow Farm property on the east edge of town. The City would have transferred property with a fair market value estimate of $62,500 for $1 to Frontier Labs, granting them a $62,499 business subsidy. Frontier Labs failed to build the project on the property by Aug. 1, 2021 as required by the agreement; and agreed to transfer the property back to the City." [New Ulm Journal, 9/15/21]

Frontier Labs Promised The Expansion Would Bring Full-Time Jobs To The City Of Sleepy Eye. "The Sleepy Eye City Council unanimously approved a resolution granting a property tax abatement of up to $218,379 for a Frontier Labs expansion project in the Snow Farm property April 10. The resolution, approved on a motion by councilor Dick Zinniel seconded by Doug Pelzel, was grant the abatement for 15 years. No public comments were made at a hearing. Business subsidy and purchase agreements are being drafted. Frontier Labs said the expansion is due to growth in the research and precision agricultural fields and will bring full-time jobs to the city. The project is in the planning phase. Ground breaking will take place late this spring or early this summer, according to a Frontier Labs release." [New Ulm Journal, 4/11/18]

July 2018: Sleepy Eye Entered A Private Development That Would Transfer A Property Valued At $62,500 To Frontier Labs For Just $1, Essentially Granting Them A $62,499 Business Subsidy

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New Ulm Journal: "The City Would Have Transferred Property With A Fair Market Value Estimate Of $62,500 For $1 To Frontier Labs, Granting Them A $62,499 Business Subsidy." "The city council also approved: A $1,000 donation from the Sleepy Eye Sportsmen's Club for police department body cameras, motion by Pelzel, seconded by Nate Stevermer. A resolution terminating a development agreement between the City and Frontier Labs, MN LLC which entered into a contract for a private development/business subsidy agreement on July 15, 2018 for the planned construction of a two-story laboratory and agricultural warehouse with office space on the Snow Farm property on the east edge of town. The City would have transferred property with a fair market value estimate of $62,500 for $1 to Frontier Labs, granting them a $62,499 business subsidy. Frontier Labs failed to build the project on the property by Aug. 1, 2021 as required by the agreement; and agreed to transfer the property back to the City." [New Ulm Journal, 9/15/21]

September 2021: The Sleepy Eye City Council Approved A Resolution Terminating The Development Agreement Between The City And Frontier Labs, With The New Ulm Journal Reporting That Frontier Labs Had Failed To Build The Project By The Agreed-Upon Deadline

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September 2021: Sleepy Eye City Council Approved A Resolution Terminating The Development Agreement Between The City And Frontier Labs For The Planned Construction Of A Two-Story Laboratory And Agricultural Warehouse With Office Space On The Snow Farm Property." "The city council also approved: A $1,000 donation from the Sleepy Eye Sportsmen's Club for police department body cameras, motion by Pelzel, seconded by Nate Stevermer. A resolution terminating a development agreement between the City and Frontier Labs, MN LLC which entered into a contract for a private development/business subsidy agreement on July 15, 2018 for the planned construction of a two-story laboratory and agricultural warehouse with office space on the Snow Farm property on the east edge of town. The City would have transferred property with a fair market value estimate of $62,500 for $1 to Frontier Labs, granting them a $62,499 business subsidy. Frontier Labs failed to build the project on the property by Aug. 1, 2021 as required by the agreement; and agreed to transfer the property back to the City." [New Ulm Journal, 9/15/21]

New Ulm Journal: "Frontier Labs Failed To Build The Project On The Property By Aug. 1, 2021 As Required By The Agreement; And Agreed To Transfer The Property Back To The City." "The city council also approved: A $1,000 donation from the Sleepy Eye Sportsmen's Club for police department body cameras, motion by Pelzel, seconded by Nate Stevermer. A resolution terminating a development agreement between the City and Frontier Labs, MN LLC which entered into a contract for a private development/business subsidy agreement on July 15, 2018 for the planned construction of a two-story laboratory and agricultural warehouse with office space on the Snow Farm property on the east edge of town. The City would have transferred property with a fair market value estimate of $62,500 for $1 to Frontier Labs, granting them a $62,499 business subsidy. Frontier Labs failed to build the project on the property by Aug. 1, 2021 as required by the agreement; and agreed to transfer the property back to the City." [New Ulm Journal, 9/15/21]

As A Member Of Congress, Finstad Was Part Of A Legislative Group That Proposed Raising The Retirement Age And Slashing Social Security And Medicare Benefits

Finstad Was A Member Of Leadership For The Republican Study Committee, Which Proposed Raising The Retirement Age And Slashing Social Security Benefits As Well As Increasing Medicare Costs For Beneficiaries Through A "Premium Support" Structure

2026: Finstad Served On The Steering Committee Of The Republican Study Committee After Previously Being A Member Of The Caucus During The 118th Congress

July 2026: Finstad Served On The Steering Committee Of The Republican Study Committee. [Republican Study Committee, accessed 7/23/26]

[Republican Study Committee, accessed 7/23/26]

The Republican Study Committee Was The Largest Caucus Of House Conservatives. "Hegseth is set to meet behind closed doors on Wednesday with the Republican Study Committee, the largest caucus of House conservatives, and he has been spotted on Capitol Hill meeting with other lawmakers as he tries to build support. He made a public case Tuesday in an op-ed in the New York Post, arguing that pro-defense lawmakers and fiscal hardliners should be on the same side." [NOTUS, 6/24/26]

- **2023: Three-Fourths Of The House GOP Were Members Of The RSC.** "A large group of conservative House Republicans are preparing a proposed budget that could exacerbate rifts within the party with proposals to reduce Social Security and Medicare benefits. The blueprint by the Republican Study Committee, whose membership includes three-fourths of House GOP, comes as party leaders are struggling to reach consensus on spending reductions which they want to tie to raising the debt limit in negotiations with the White House. The plan is expected to be released in early May." [Bloomberg Government, 4/12/23]

December 2024: Finstad Was A Member Of The Republican Study Committee. Finstad was listed on the "Membership" page of the Republican Study Committee website. [Republican Study Committee via Internet Archive, 12/29/24]

MINNESOTA
Rep. Tom Emmer
Rep. Brad Finstad
Rep. Michelle Fischbach
Rep. Pete Stauber

[Republican Study Committee via Internet Archive, 12/29/24]

2023-2024: The RSC FY 2024 And FY 2025 Budgets Proposed Raising The Retirement Age, Which Would Cut Benefits For New Retirees By Up To Nearly $100,000 When Fully Phased-In

March 2024: The Republican Study Committee's Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Proposal Included "Significant Cuts To Social Security"

2024: Center For American Progress: The Republican Study Committee Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Proposal Included "Significant Cuts To Social Security." "In March, the Republican Study Committee (RSC) released its fiscal year 2025 budget proposal, which includes significant cuts to Social Security. For years, the RSC has included proposals for raising the full retirement age (FRA), or the age at which seniors become eligible to access Social Security retirement benefits without a financial penalty. These far-right plans are similar to those put forward by Project 2025's authors and would threaten low- and moderate-income workers with economic insecurity once they leave the workforce." [Center for American Progress, 7/31/24]

- **March 2024: The RSC's FY24 Budget Called For Raising The Retirement Age For Social Security.** According to the Republican Study Committee Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Proposal, "For instance, the RSC Budget would make modest changes to the primary insurance amount (PIA) benefit formula for individuals who are not near retirement and earn more than the wealthiest PIA benefit factor. It would also make modest adjustments to the retirement age for future retirees to account for increases in life expectancy. Finally, for these individuals, it would limit and phase out auxiliary benefits for high income earners." [Republican Study Committee FY 2025 Budget Proposal, 3/20/24]

2023: The Republican Study Committee's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Proposal Included Cuts To Social Security Benefits

June 2023: Bloomberg Headline: "Social Security Benefits Targeted For Cuts By House Conservatives." [Bloomberg, 6/14/23]

- **2023: The RSC's FY24 Budget Called For Raising The Retirement Age For Social Security.** The RSC Budget would "[…] make modest adjustments to the retirement age for future retirees to account for increases in life expectancy." "Every Social Security retirement reform supported by the RSC Budget was previously offered in a bipartisan fashion. For instance, the RSC Budget would make modest changes to the primary insurance amount (PIA) benefit formula for individuals who are not near retirement and earn more than the wealthiest PIA benefit factor. It would also make modest adjustments to the retirement age for future retirees to account for increases in life expectancy. Finally, for these individuals, it would limit and phase out auxiliary benefits for high income earners." [Republican Study Committee, Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, 6/14/23]

2023-2024: The Republican Study Committee Proposed Raising The Full Retirement Age From 67 To 69

The RSC's FY 2024 And FY 2025 Budgets Did Not Include Specific Details On Raising The Retirement Age, But RSC Budget And Spending Task Force Chairman Rep. Ben Cline Told Roll Call That The Plan Included Raising The Full Retirement Age From 67 To 69. "The RSC's FY 2025 budget proposal borrows much of its language on Social Security from its FY 2024 counterpart. Nonetheless, specific details on the plan to increase the FRA did not come from the FY 2024 budget proposal itself, but rather Roll Call's reporting on comments made by RSC Budget and Spending Task Force Chairman Rep. Ben Cline (R-VA) on behalf of the RSC. This is important because despite dedicating six pages to a section on Social Security, the document's policy proposals for the program were given just one paragraph, with the increase to the FRA mentioned in just one sentence on page 108: 'For instance, the RSC Budget would … also make modest adjustments to the retirement age for future retirees to account for increases in life expectancy.' Fortunately, Rep. Cline's comments provided additional insight. He stated that the FRA would increase by three months per year, starting with those turning 62 in 2026, until it rises by two years—from 67 to 69. Then, the new FRA of 69 would be fully phased in for those turning 62 in 2033. Considering the language for this proposal has remained the same between years, it is likely that this timeline would simply be pushed back a year with the FY 2025 version. This means the phase-in would begin with those turning 62 in 2027 and finish with those turning 62 in 2034." [Center for American Progress, 7/31/24]

- **Cline Told Roll Call The Retirement Age Would Reach 69 For Those Who Turn 62 In 2033.** "Cline said the group has proposed gradually raising the Social Security retirement age, but not for current retirees or those nearing retirement. He said those now aged 59 would see an increase in the retirement age of three months per year beginning in 2026. The retirement age would reach 69 for those who turn 62 in 2033." [Roll Call, 6/14/23]

July 2024: Center For American Progress: One Policy That Has "Continually Been Included In RSC Budget Proposals For Years" Is An Increase To Social Security's Full Retirement Age (FRA) From 67 To 69. "One policy that has continually been included in RSC budget proposals for years is an increase to Social Security's full retirement age (FRA), the age at which seniors become eligible to access Social Security retirement benefits without a financial penalty for retiring early. The FRA is 67 under current law, but the RSC plan would push it back to 69, leading to drastic benefit cuts for a large majority of Americans. While raising the FRA is overwhelmingly unpopular among the American people, it has enjoyed the support of some of the most extreme far-right groups in Washington, D.C., including the Heritage Foundation, which is spearheading the authoritarian playbook known as Project 2025." [Center for American Progress, 7/31/24]

Raising The Retirement Age For Social Security Would Cut Benefits By Thousands Of Dollars Each Year

Center For American Progress Headline: "Raising The Retirement Age For Social Security Would Cut Benefits By Thousands Of Dollars Each Year." [Center for American Progress, 7/31/24]

Center For American Progress: "An FRA Of 69 Would Cut Benefits For All New Retirees Between Roughly 12.5 Percent And 14.3 Percent By The Time It Is Fully Phased In." "This higher FRA would cut Social Security benefits. According to Center for American Progress analysis, an FRA of 69 would cut benefits for all new retirees between roughly 12.5 percent and 14.3 percent by the time it is fully phased in. In addition, it would cost a median-wage retiree who earned $70,000 in 2022 and turns 62 in 2034 thousands of dollars every year." [Center for American Progress, 7/31/24]

Under An FRA Of 69, "The Median-Wage Retiree Would Lose Between $46,104 And $99,252 After 10 Years Of Receiving Social Security." "Increasing the FRA to 69 would raise this maximum penalty from 30 percent to

39 percent, cutting benefits by nearly 13 percent.This would affect all ages at which someone could claim Social Security. In the example above, the median-wage retiree turning 62 in 2034 would have their monthly benefit cut between $345 and $741, depending on the age at which they claimed benefits. After just one year, they would lose between $4,140 and $8,892. However, the dollar amount of the cut would not be static each year. To account for inflation, Social Security benefits are updated with cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs), which the Social Security Administration expects to equal 2.4 percent each year after 2025, according to its intermediate cost projections. After accounting for these COLAs, the median-wage retiree would lose between $46,104 and $99,252 after 10 years of receiving Social Security. (see Figure 1) For context, these losses equal about 25 to 54 percent of the median retirement account balance for those ages 55 to 64 and would create a significant gap in a typical retiree's finances. These retirement accounts also vary widely in accessibility and account balance by income, so low- and middle-income retirees, who are likely to rely more heavily on Social Security as a source of retirement income, would be most affected by these cuts." [Center for American Progress, 7/31/24]

2023-2024: The Republican Study Committee's Budget Proposals Included A Proposal To Switch Medicare To A "Premium Support" System, Which Would Raise Costs For Beneficiaries

March 2024: The Republican Study Committee's Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Proposed A "Premium Support" Model For Medicare Beneficiaries

The Republican Study Committee's Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Proposed A "Premium Support" Model For Medicare Beneficiaries. "The RSC budget would implement a premium support model where private, Medicare Advantage (MA) plans would compete with a federal Medicare plan (the 'Fed Plan') that would offer the traditional Medicare benefits received through Part A, B, and D. Medicare Advantage (MA) plans provide the same services as Medicare but are administered by private health insurance providers. Under this plan, Medicare's trust funds would be merged into a singular fund that would be responsible for paying premium support subsidies to cover the vast majority of their premium costs. This new singular trust fund would be funded with revenues from existing payroll taxes, Part B premiums, and Part B and D cost sharing—which would help ensure continued traditional Medicare benefits remain available. This framework would ensure seniors, whether they choose a private plan or the Fed Plan, receive more affordable, high-quality coverage." [Republican Study Committee, FY 2025 Budget Proposal, 3/20/24]

June 2023: The Republican Study Committee's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Proposed A "Premium Support" Model For Medicare Beneficiaries

The Fiscal Year 2024 RSC Budget Would Reform Medicare By Implementing A Premium Support Model. "To achieve this, the RSC budget would implement a premium support model where private plans would compete with a federal Medicare plan (the 'Fed Plan') that would offer the traditional Medicare benefits received through Part A, B, and D." [Republican Study Committee, FY 2024 Budget Proposal, 6/14/23]

Under A Premium Support Model, Medicare Would Compete With Private Plans, Shifting Costs Onto Beneficiaries

Under A Premium Support Model, Medicare Would Compete With Private Plans. "The new budget also calls for converting Medicare to a 'premium support model,' echoing a proposal that Republican former Speaker Paul Ryan had rallied support for. Under the new RSC plan, traditional Medicare would compete with private plans and beneficiaries would be given subsidies to shop for the policies of their choice. The size of the subsidies could be pegged to the 'average premium' or 'second lowest price' in a particular market, the budget says." [NBC News, 3/20/24]

- **KFF: "Premium Support" Was A General Term To Describe An Approach To Reforming Medicare By Increasing Competition Among Health Plans.** "Premium support is a general term used to describe an approach to reform Medicare that aims to reduce the growth in Medicare spending by increasing competition among health plans and providing a stronger incentive for beneficiaries to be cost-conscious in their plan selection. On June 22, 2016, the House Republicans included in their health care reform plan a proposal to gradually transform Medicare into a system of premium supports, building on proposals of the Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan, when he was Chair of the House Committee on Budget, as well as the proposals of many other policymakers." [KFF, 7/19/16]

Premium Support Models Shifted Costs Onto Beneficiaries. "In areas where Medicare incurs relatively high costs, the amount of the premium-support payment would equal the cost of a relatively inexpensive private plan, and beneficiaries would have to pay higher premiums to participate in traditional Medicare. In areas with relatively low Medicare spending, beneficiaries who wanted to enroll in a private plan would face higher premiums or fewer benefits, or might find that no private plan was available. […] The vouchers would purchase less coverage with each passing year, pushing more costs on to beneficiaries. Over time, seniors would have to pay more to keep the health plans and the doctors they like, or they would get fewer benefits." [Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, 3/28/12]

- **Republicans' Proposal To Switch To A Medicare "Premium Support" System Would Result In Most Beneficiaries Paying More For Health Care Than They Do Under Current Laws.** "Under premium support, Medicare would make a fixed-dollar payment (often called a voucher) for each beneficiary to defray part of the cost of health insurance — either through a private plan or a form of traditional Medicare. The beneficiary's premium would equal the difference between the voucher amount and the cost of the plan that he or she selected. Premium support would apply to all new beneficiaries starting in 2024 and to any other beneficiaries who chose to participate. Unlike the current system, in which Part B premiums are generally the same for all beneficiaries, premiums under the House GOP plan would vary by region and by plan. Although the GOP plan lacks the details to assess its impact on beneficiaries, most beneficiaries enrolled in traditional Medicare would pay more than under current law, according to the Congressional Budget Office." [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 7/26/16]

Beneficiaries Who Remained On Traditional Medicare Would Pay A Higher Premium If A Premium Support System Was Implemented. "In a premium support system, the federal government would provide a payment on behalf of each Medicare beneficiary toward the purchase of a health insurance plan – either a private plan, similar a Medicare Advantage plan, or traditional Medicare. This approach is sometimes called a defined contribution or voucher approach. Under a premium support system, health plans would compete for enrollees and people on Medicare would choose among plans for their coverage – an approach that sounds similar to the current system, but is not the same. A key difference is that payments for services provided to beneficiaries in traditional Medicare would be capitated rather than the current approach that generally ties payments to the specific services that beneficiaries use. […] Beneficiaries' premiums and out-of-pocket costs could rise or fall, relative to current law, depending on a number of factors, including the overall design of the new system, the response of plans to a different payment policy, and the role of traditional Medicare. In contrast to the current system, in which Medicare Part B premiums are generally the same for all beneficiaries regardless of which plan they select,4 premiums for Medicare-covered services would be expected to vary from one part of the country to another, and from one plan to the next, under a premium support system.5 According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), if the federal payments to plans were tied to the average plan bid, then beneficiaries' total out of pocket costs (including premiums) generally would decrease, but if the federal payment was tied to the second lowest plan bid, then beneficiaries' total out of pocket costs generally would increase.6 However, even in a situation where average premiums go down in the aggregate, some beneficiaries would pay higher premiums while others would pay less. According to the CBO, most beneficiaries who choose to remain in traditional Medicare would pay higher premiums than they would under current law, regardless of whether the federal payment was tied to the second lowest plan bid or tied to the average plan bid." [KFF, 7/19/16]

Finstad Was Embraced By A Group That Wanted To Privatize Social Security And Turn Medicare Into A Voucher Program

HEADLINE: "House Republicans Embrace Group That Wants To Privatize Social Security." [American Journal News, 8/13/26]

Finstad Was Recognized By The 60 Plus Association. "The 60 Plus Association has also made several social media posts recognizing the birthdays of various Republican lawmakers, including Virginia Rep. Jen Kiggans, California Rep. David Valadao, Florida Reps. Anna Paulina Luna and Maria Elvira Salazar, Minnesota Rep. Brad Finstad, Ohio Reps. Mike Turner and Mike Carey, Pennsylvania Rep. Rob Bresnahan, and Wisconsin Rep. Bryan Steil." [American Journal News, 8/13/26]

- **The 60 Plus Association Wanted To "Privatize Social Security."** "Several Republicans in competitive House races are touting endorsements from a group that wants to cut Medicare and privatize Social Security. The 60 Plus Association was created in 1992 as a far-right alternative to the AARP. The group claims to represent the interests of American retirees over 60. It was started with seed money from conservative megadonors Charles and David Koch. In 1997, the 60 Plus Association boasted that it was 'the first national senior citizens group to endorse privatization of the Social Security program.' More recently, it has backed efforts to turn Medicare into a voucher system." [American Journal News, 8/13/26]

- **The 60 Plus Association Wanted To Cut Medicare And Turn It "Into A Voucher System."** "Several Republicans in competitive House races are touting endorsements from a group that wants to cut Medicare and privatize Social Security. The 60 Plus Association was created in 1992 as a far-right alternative to the AARP. The group claims to represent the interests of American retirees over 60. It was started with seed money from conservative megadonors Charles and David Koch. In 1997, the 60 Plus Association boasted that it was 'the first national senior citizens group to endorse privatization of the Social Security program.' More recently, it has backed efforts to turn Medicare into a voucher system." [American Journal News, 8/13/26]

Finstad Was A Member Of The House DOGE Caucus, Which Supported The Department Of Government Efficiency Which Laid Off Thousands Of Social Security Staff Across The Country And Shuttered Offices

Finstad Was A Member Of The House DOGE Caucus

Finstad Joined The House DOGE Caucus And Said He Was "Eager" To Help The Agency Rein In "Reckless Government Spending." According to the Post Bulletin, "GOP Rep. Brad Finstad said he has joined the House DOGE Caucus to support a newly created advisory team led by Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy that aims to slash spending, regulations and personnel within the federal government. 'I am eager to join my colleagues in working together to address the growing national debt by reining in reckless government spending,' said Finstad, a Republican from New Ulm, in his newsletter to First Congressional District constituents." [Post Bulletin, 12/24/24]

December 2024: Finstad Attended The First Meeting Of The House DOGE Caucus And Vowed To "Rein In Government Waste." Rep. Brad Finstad tweeted, "Great to join the first meeting of the House DOGE Caucus. Together, we will deliver our promise to the American people to rein in government waste and get Washington's reckless spending under control." [Twitter, @RepFinstad, 12/17/24]

[Twitter, @RepFinstad, 12/17/24]

April 2025: The Trump Administration's Department Of Government Efficiency Eliminated 7,000 Social Security Employees And Closed Six Regional Offices

April 2025: The Trump Administration's Department Of Government Efficiency Eliminated 7,000 Social Security Employees And Closed Six Regional Offices. "Fast-moving changes at the Social Security Administration by the Trump administration's so-called Department of Government Efficiency have prompted concerns that it may be more difficult for beneficiaries to access the agency's services. Some experts are raising concerns that efforts to update the agency's systems could impact the continuity of benefits. 'Now I'm concerned that benefits could get disrupted,' said Jason Fichtner, a former deputy commissioner at the Social Security Administration who was appointed by President George W. Bush. Recent changes that have been announced by the agency are cause for concern, experts including Fichtner say. President Donald Trump has repeatedly vowed not to touch Social Security benefits. Yet recent changes could make it more difficult for eligible Americans to access benefits. The SSA under the Trump administration has moved to eliminate 7,000 Social Security employees and close six regional offices, Fichtner and Kathleen Romig, a former Social Security Administration senior official, wrote in a recent op-ed. Romig is the director of Social Security and disability policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. The cuts will affect the service Americans receive when they either visit Social Security's website, which has experienced glitches; call its 800 number, which has long wait times; or visit a field office, which can be crowded, they wrote." [CNBC, 4/1/25]

Business Insider: DOGE Cut About 12% Of Social Security Administration Work Force. "The Department of Government Efficiency may be dead, but the Social Security Administration is still reeling from budget cuts. Prior to Trump and de-facto head Elon Musk's broad axing of the federal workforce, the SSA had hit a 50-year staffing low. Then, DOGE reduced the size of the agency by about 7,000 workers — about 12% of the workforce — last spring, with more retiring or quitting since." [Business Insider, 4/1/26]

- **Business Insider: In Addition To The 12% Workforce Cut, Many Employees Also Retired Or Quit.** "The Department of Government Efficiency may be dead, but the Social Security Administration is still reeling from budget cuts. Prior to Trump and de-facto head Elon Musk's broad axing of the federal workforce, the SSA had hit a 50-year staffing low. Then, DOGE reduced the size of the agency by about 7,000 workers — about 12% of the workforce — last spring, with more retiring or quitting since." [Business Insider, 4/1/26]

DOGE's Cuts To The Social Security Administration Caused "Complete, Utter Chaos" At Offices Across The Country

The Guardian Headline: "DOGE's Attack On Social Security Causing 'Complete, Utter Chaos', Staff Says." [The Guardian, 4/6/25]

The Guardian: "Office Closures, Staffing And Service Cuts, And Policy Changes At The Social Security Administration (SSA) Have Caused 'Complete, Utter Chaos' And Are Threatening To Send The Agency Into A 'Death Spiral', According To Workers At The Agency." "Office closures, staffing and service cuts, and policy changes at the Social Security Administration (SSA) have caused 'complete, utter chaos' and are threatening to send the agency into a 'death spiral', according to workers at the agency. The SSA operates the largest government program in the US, administering social insurance programs, including retirement, disability and survivor benefits. An average of almost 69 million Americans per month will receive a social security benefit in 2025, totaling about $1.6tn in benefits paid during the year and accounting for 22% of the federal budget. While expensive and challenged by an ageing population, social security remains overwhelmingly popular with Americans. But the agency has been dubbed a 'Ponzi scheme' by Elon Musk, the billionaire whose so-called 'department of government efficiency' (DOGE) is currently slashing its staff and budgets." [The Guardian, 4/6/25]

Business Insider: "It Left Thousands Of Employees At Field Offices, Customer Service Phone Lines, And Administrative Roles Stretched Thin Alongside Rising Demand From America's Aging Population." "The Department of Government Efficiency may be dead, but the Social Security Administration is still reeling from budget cuts. Prior to Trump and de-facto head Elon Musk's broad axing of the federal workforce, the SSA had hit a 50-year staffing low. Then, DOGE reduced the size of the agency by about 7,000 workers — about 12% of the workforce — last spring, with more retiring or quitting since. […] It left thousands of employees at field offices, customer service phone lines, and administrative roles stretched thin alongside rising demand from America's aging population. Baby boomers are the largest cohort to hit retirement age simultaneously, with most claiming benefits in their 60s." [Business Insider, 4/1/26]

- **Field Office Managers At Social Security Offices Had To Answer Phones In Place Of Receptionists Because DOGE Had Pushed Out So Many Federal Employees.** According to the Washington Post, "The Social Security Administration website crashed four times in 10 days this month because the servers were overloaded, blocking millions of retirees and disabled Americans from logging in to their online accounts. In the field, office managers have resorted to answering phones in place of receptionists because so many employees have been pushed out. Amid all this, the agency no longer has a system to monitor customer experience because that office was eliminated as part of the cost-cutting efforts led by Elon Musk. And the phones keep ringing. And ringing." [Washington Post, 3/25/25]

2025: DOGE Cuts At The Social Security Administration Threatened To Impact Beneficiaries

CNBC Headline: "Changes At Social Security Administration May Impact Customer Service, Benefit Payments, Experts Say." [CNBC, 4/1/25]

Axios Headline: "As Social Security Services Are Cut Back, Millions Of Seniors Face Long Drives." [Axios, 4/8/25]

Washington Post Headline: "Social Security Stops Reporting Call Wait Times And Other Metrics." [Washington Post, 6/20/25]

Washington Post Headline: "Social Security Website Keeps Crashing, As DOGE Demands Cuts To IT Staff." [Washington Post, 4/7/25]

- **The Social Security Administration Website Crashed Four Times In Ten Days In March Because Servers Were Overloaded.** According to the Washington Post, "The Social Security Administration website crashed four times in 10 days this month because the servers were overloaded, blocking millions of retirees and disabled Americans from logging in to their online accounts. In the field, office managers have resorted to answering phones in place of receptionists because so many employees have been pushed out. Amid all this, the agency no longer has a system to monitor customer experience because that office was eliminated as part of the cost-cutting efforts led by Elon Musk. And the phones keep ringing. And ringing." [Washington Post, 3/25/25]

DOGE Eliminated The Social Security Administration's System To Monitor Customer Experience. "The Social Security Administration website crashed four times in 10 days this month because the servers were overloaded, blocking millions of retirees and disabled Americans from logging in to their online accounts. In the field, office managers have resorted to answering phones in place of receptionists because so many employees have been pushed out. Amid all this, the agency no longer has a system to monitor customer experience because that office was eliminated as part of the cost-cutting efforts led by Elon Musk. And the phones keep ringing. And ringing." [Washington Post, 3/25/25]

Early February-Late March 2025: AARP Said More Than 2,000 People Per Week Had Called Expressing Concerns About Whether They Would Continue To Get Their Social Security Benefits. "Alarmed lawmakers are straining to answer questions back home from angry constituents. Calls have flooded into congressional offices. AARP announced Monday that more than 2,000 people a week have called the retiree organization since early February — double the usual number — with concerns about whether benefits they paid for during their working careers will continue. Social Security is the primary source of income for about 40 percent of older Americans." [Washington Post, 3/25/25]

More Than 162,000 MN-01 Residents Received Social Security Benefits

December 2025: Social Security Administration: More Than 162,000 MN-01 Residents Received Social Security Benefits. According to the Social Security Administration, in December 2025, 162,250 Minnesotans in the 1st Congressional District received Social Security benefits. [Social Security Administration, accessed 7/23/26]

Minnesota

Social Security

Old-Age (retirement), Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI)—popularly referred to as Social Security—provides monthly benefits to an eligible worker and family members when the worker elects to start receiving retirement benefits or when the worker dies or becomes disabled. A worker's lifetime covered earnings largely determine the amount of benefits received.

Table 1.
Number of OASDI beneficiaries in current-payment status and total monthly benefits, December 2025

Congressional district	Number of beneficiaries						Total monthly benefits (thousands of dollars)			Number of beneficiaries aged 65 or older
	Total	Retired workers	Disabled workers	Widow(er)s and parents	Spouses [a]	Children [b]	All beneficiaries	Retired workers	Widow(er)s and parents	
Minnesota	1,187,480	954,855	109,011	47,304	19,898	56,412	2,441,477	2,092,506	95,214	990,578
1	162,250	130,702	14,976	6,680	2,513	7,379	317,212	271,177	12,945	135,941
2	133,083	109,052	10,791	5,006	2,130	6,104	293,606	254,615	10,902	112,449
3	144,739	120,288	10,106	5,540	2,669	6,136	336,758	296,791	12,634	125,625
4	131,190	104,317	12,689	4,745	2,282	7,157	283,966	244,183	10,076	108,584
5	100,771	78,793	11,617	3,360	1,465	5,536	210,253	179,355	6,841	81,977
6	134,785	108,096	12,525	5,342	2,039	6,783	283,891	241,749	11,084	110,910
7	183,258	146,621	16,782	8,293	3,202	8,360	337,315	285,991	14,821	153,069
8	197,404	156,986	19,525	8,338	3,598	8,957	378,477	318,646	15,912	162,023
All areas [c]	70,451,490	53,624,664	7,125,880	3,810,382	2,171,194	3,719,370	135,480,578	111,072,575	7,086,628	57,310,568

SOURCES: Social Security Administration, Master Beneficiary Record, 100 percent data; and U.S. Postal Service geographic data based on district definitions for the 119th Congress.

a. These beneficiaries receive payment on the record of a worker who is retired or disabled.

b. These beneficiaries receive payment on the record of a worker who is retired, deceased, or disabled.

c. Includes beneficiaries in the 50 States, District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and foreign countries.

[Social Security Administration, accessed 7/23/26]

Finstad Repeatedly Voted Against Funding For Federal And Local Law Enforcement During His Political Career

In Congress, Finstad Supported Legislation That Cut Federal Funding For Local Police And Federal Law Enforcement, While Voting Against A Bipartisan Bill That Provided $90 Million In Additional Federal Funding To Local And State Police For Training

Finstad Voted For The Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023

Finstad Voted For Suspending The Debt Limit Through March 2024 Or Until $1.5 Trillion Has Been Reached And Capping Federal Spending For FY 2024 At 2022 Levels With A Capped 1% Per Year Growth. In April 2023, Congressman Brad Finstad voted for: "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional $1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of $1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all "major" federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least $100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change." The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, Vote #199, 4/26/23; CQ, 4/26/23]

The Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023 Would Cut Federal Funding For Local Police Departments And Force Furloughs Of Federal Law Enforcement

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Forbes Headline: "White House: Gop Debt-Limit Plan Will Slash Police Budget." [Forbes, 5/3/23]

Third Way Headline: "The Republican Debt Limit Plan Will Devastate Public Safety." [Third Way, 4/24/23]

Forbes: "The Cuts Would Eliminate Federal Funding For Local Law Enforcement Agencies Through The Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program , Effectively Reducing Hiring In More Than Half Of The Country's Local Police Departments Over The Next Five Years." "The memo also asserts that the cuts would eliminate federal funding for local law enforcement agencies through the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, effectively reducing hiring in more than half of the country's local police departments over the next five years. The move is the latest by the White House and Democrats to extricate themselves from the misrepresented "defund the police" narrative that gained prominence during the police-brutality protests in 2020." [Forbes, 5/3/23]

Third Way: "Federal Support To Local Law Enforcement Through Byrne Grants Would Decrease By An Average Of $30,000 Per Department, Stifling Law Enforcement And Justice Proceedings In Every State." "The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives would see a budget cut of $385 million dollars, resulting in the loss of 500 officers. The Transportation Safety Administration would see a budget cut of $2 billion dollars, resulting in the loss of 12,400 officers. The Capitol Police would see a budget cut of $162 million dollars, resulting in the loss of 600 sworn officers. Federal support to local law enforcement through Byrne grants would decrease by an average of $30,000 per department, stifling law enforcement and justice proceedings in every state." [Third Way, 4/24/23]

Forbes: "The Bill—Which Includes A $4.5 Trillion Reduction In Government Spending And A $1.5 Trillion Debt-Limit Hike Through March Of Next Year—Would Force Furloughs Of DEA Agents And Layoffs Among Border Patrols, The FBI, The Bureau Of Alcohol, Tobacco And Firearms And The Bureau Of Prisons." "The House GOP bill passed last week to raise the debt limit includes broad spending cuts the White House claims amount to "the biggest vote to defund law enforcement in American history," Biden officials told the Washington Examiner. The bill—which includes a $4.5 trillion reduction in government spending and a $1.5 trillion debt-limit hike through March of next year—would force furloughs of DEA agents and layoffs among border patrols, the FBI, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Bureau of Prisons, White House spokesperson Andrew Bates wrote in a memo set to be sent to White House allies on Wednesday." [Forbes, 5/3/23]

Third Way: "The Bureau Of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms And Explosives Would See A Budget Cut Of $385 Million Dollars." "The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives would see a budget cut of $385 million dollars, resulting in the loss of 500 officers. The Transportation Safety Administration would see a budget cut of $2 billion dollars, resulting in the loss of 12,400 officers. The Capitol Police would see a budget cut of $162 million dollars, resulting in the loss of 600 sworn officers. Federal support to local law enforcement through Byrne grants would decrease by an average of $30,000 per department, stifling law enforcement and justice proceedings in every state." [Third Way, 4/24/23]

Finstad Voted Against The Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act Of 2022, Which Authorized $90 Million In Additional Federal Funding To Local And State Police For De-Escalation Training

Finstad Voted Against Authorizing $40 Million For Fiscal 2025 And $50 Million For Fiscal 2026 For DOJ Grants To States To Pay For Certified De-Escalation Training By State Or Local Governments. In November 2022, Congressman Brad Finstad voted against: "Passage of the bill that would require the Justice Department, within 180 days of enactment, to develop or identify preexisting effective training curricula for law enforcement officers and crisis intervention team responders regarding de-escalation, responding to mental health crises or individuals with disabilities, participating on crisis intervention teams, and making referrals to community-based mental health and other services. It would require the curricula to include scenario-based exercises and pre- and post-training knowledge assessments, including to evaluate participants' application of knowledge and skills gained. Among other provisions, the bill would require the department to develop a process to certify training programs that use such curricula and publish a list of law enforcement agencies that employ officers or use mental health professionals who have completed de-escalation training. It would authorize a total of $34 million through fiscal 2026 for program implementation. The bill would also authorize $40 million for fiscal 2025 and $50 million for fiscal 2026 for DOJ grants to states to pay for certified de-escalation training by state or local governments, and it would require grant recipients to ensure that all officers employed for at least two years have received the training." The bill passed, thus cleared for the president, by a vote of 264-162. [S. 4003, Vote #525, 12/14/22; CQ, 12/14/22]

PBS Headline: "Congress Passes Bipartisan Bill To Fund Police De-Escalation Training." [PBS, 12/15/22]

PBS: "The House Passed Bipartisan Legislation […] That Would Empower Law Enforcement Agencies Across The Country To Adopt De-Escalation Training When Encountering Individuals With Mental Health Issues." "WASHINGTON (AP) — In one of its final acts of the year, the House passed bipartisan legislation late Wednesday that would empower law enforcement agencies across the country to adopt de-escalation training when encountering individuals with mental health issues as part of an effort to reduce the number of officer-involved fatalities. The bill passed 264-162 with Republican support and capped off a modest two-year effort by Congress to pass police reform legislation after the killing of George Floyd sparked global protests against police brutality." [PBS, 12/15/22]

Cornyn Press Release: "The Bill Will Build Off The Existing Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program To Create A Dedicated Stream Of Funding To Local And State Law Enforcement Agencies To Train Their Officers And The Mental Health Professionals Who Work With Them In De-Escalation Tactics." "The bill will build off the existing Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program to create a dedicated stream of funding to local and state law enforcement agencies to train their officers and the mental health professionals who work with them in de-escalation tactics, alternatives to use of force, safely responding to mental, behavioral, and suicidal crises, successfully participating on a crisis intervention team, and making referrals to community-based mental and behavioral health services and support and other social programs." [Sen. John Cornyn, Press Release, 12/22/22]

- **Biden Executive Office Of The President Press Release: "The Legislation Would Further Authorize $90 Million Over Two Years For The Department's Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program To Support Related Training Programs And Continuing Education For Law Enforcement And Mental Health Professionals."** "The bill will build off the existing Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program to create a dedicated stream of funding to local and state law enforcement agencies to train their officers and the mental health professionals who work with them in de-escalation tactics, alternatives to use of force, safely responding to mental, behavioral, and suicidal crises, successfully participating on a crisis intervention team, and making referrals to community-based mental and behavioral health services and support and other social programs." [Biden Executive Office Of The President, Press Release, 12/13/22]

- **Department Of Justice: "The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Is A Formula Grant Program Which Serves As The Leading Source Of Federal Justice Funding To State And Local Jurisdictions."** "The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is a formula grant program which serves as the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. It was named after Edward "Eddie" R. Byrne, an officer in the New York City Police Department who was murdered while protecting a witness in a drug case. The JAG Program provides states, tribes, and local governments with critical funding necessary to support personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice or civil proceedings." [Department Of Justice, accessed 7/9/26]

- **Department Of Justice: "The JAG Program Provides States, Tribes, And Local Governments With Critical Funding Necessary To Support Personnel, Equipment, Supplies, Contractual Support, Training, Technical Assistance, And Information Systems For Criminal Justice Or Civil Proceedings."** "The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is a formula grant program which serves as the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. It was named after Edward "Eddie" R. Byrne, an officer in the New York City Police Department who was murdered while protecting a witness in a drug case. The JAG Program provides states, tribes, and local governments with critical funding necessary to support personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice or civil proceedings." [Department Of Justice, accessed 7/9/26]

The Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act Of 2022 Was Supported By The National Fraternal Order Of Police

National Fraternal Order Of Police Press Release: "Patrick Yoes, National President Of The Fraternal Order Of Police, Welcomed News That S. 4003, The 'Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act,' Was Passed By The House." "Patrick Yoes, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police, welcomed news that S. 4003, the 'Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act,' was passed by the House last night. 'The FOP played a key role in developing this bill, and we're proud of the work we did to get it over the finish line as this Congress comes to a close,' Yoes said. The House considered and passed S. 4003 on a 264-162 vote. The bill, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent in August, will now be sent to the President, who is expected to sign it into law. The legislation requires the U.S. Department of Justice to work with State and local law enforcement agencies, professional law enforcement organizations and law enforcement labor organizations and others to develop or identify scenario-based mental health training curricula on issues like de-escalation and response approaches to individuals experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis. Once this training has been developed, the bill authorizes funding for State and local law enforcement agencies that wish to receive it." [National Fraternal Order of Police, Press Release, 12/15/22]

National President Of The Fraternal Order Of Police Patrick Yoes "The FOP Played A Key Role In Developing This Bill, And We're Proud Of The Work We Did To Get It Over The Finish Line As This Congress Comes To A Close." "Patrick Yoes, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police, welcomed news that S. 4003, the 'Law Enforcement De-Escalation Training Act,' was passed by the House last night. 'The FOP played a key role in developing this bill, and we're proud of the work we did to get it over the finish line as this Congress comes to a close,' Yoes said. The House considered and passed S. 4003 on a 264-162 vote. The bill, which passed the Senate by unanimous consent in August, will now be sent to the President, who is expected to sign it into law. The legislation requires the U.S. Department of Justice to work with State and local law enforcement agencies, professional law enforcement organizations and law enforcement labor organizations and others to develop or identify scenario-based mental health training curricula on issues like de-escalation and response approaches to individuals experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis. Once this training has been developed, the bill authorizes funding for State and local law enforcement agencies that wish to receive it." [National Fraternal Order of Police, Press Release, 12/15/22]

In The Minnesota State Legislature, Finstad Voted Against Legislation That Provided Millions In Funding For The Hiring Of Additional Minnesota State Troopers And Fire Marshals

Finstad Voted Against The FY 2008-2009 Transportation Finance Omnibus Bill, Which Provided More Than $139 Million For The Minnesota State Patrol Including Funding For 40 Additional Minnesota State Troopers

Finstad Voted Against The FY 2008-2009 Transportation Finance Omnibus Bill. In May 2007, State Rep. Brad Finstad Voted Against: "This is the transportation finance omnibus bill. It appropriates $4.18 billion for fiscal years 2008-2009 to the Department of Transportation (MnDOT), Department of Public Safety, and the Metropolitan Council. The primary transportation finance changes include: Appropriating $1.5 billion in trunk highway bonds; Raising the gas tax by five cents; Establishing a gas tax surcharge of up to 2.5 cents based on debt service required on trunk highway bonds; Amending the motor vehicle registration tax to eliminate the caps and accelerate the vehicle depreciation schedule; Allocating motor vehicle sales tax (MVST) revenue so that in fiscal year 2012, after a phase-in, the allocation will be 60 percent to highways and 40 percent to transit, with the transit portion split 36 percent to the metropolitan area and 4 percent to greater Minnesota; Allocating motor vehicle lease tax revenue starting in fiscal year 2010, so that in fiscal year 2012, after a phase-in, the allocation will be 50 percent to highways, 37.5 percent to metropolitan area transit, and 12.5 percent to greater Minnesota transit; Modifying the wheelage tax to allow imposition of a $5 or $10 tax and remove the property tax offset requirement; Authorizing counties to impose a local transportation sales tax of 0.5 percent and a motor vehicle sales excise tax of $20; and Amending the county state-aid highway fund allocation formula." The bill passed, thus overriding the governor's veto, by a vote of 83-50. [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 946, 5/21/07]

FY 2008-2009 Transportation Finance Omnibus Bill Provided More Than $139 Million For The Minnesota State Patrol. "Appropriates money for the State Patrol: $67.6 million in fiscal year 2008 and $71.5 million in fiscal year 2009, which includes a $8 million increase for the biennium for 40 additional state troopers and enhancements; $6.9 million in fiscal year 2008 and $7.2 million in fiscal year 2009 for commercial vehicle enforcement; and $3 million per year for capitol security." [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 946, 5/11/07]

FY 2008-2009 Transportation Finance Omnibus Bill Provided Funding For 40 Additional Minnesota State Troopers. "Appropriates money for the State Patrol: $67.6 million in fiscal year 2008 and $71.5 million in fiscal year 2009, which includes a $8 million increase for the biennium for 40 additional state troopers and enhancements; $6.9 million in fiscal year 2008 and $7.2 million in fiscal year 2009 for commercial vehicle enforcement; and $3 million per year for capitol security." [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 946, 5/11/07]

Finstad Voted Against The FY 2008-2009 Omnibus Public Safety Finance Bill, Which Provided More Than $9.6 Million For Fire Marshals

Finstad Voted Against The FY 2008-2009 Public Safety Finance Bill. In April 2007, State Rep. Brad Finstad Voted Against: "Article 1 contains appropriations for the following state government entities: Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Trial Courts, Tax Court, Uniform Laws Commission, Board on Judicial Standards, Board of Public Defense, Department of Public Safety, Peace Officers Standards and Training Board, Private Detective Board, Department of Human Rights, Department of Corrections, and Sentencing Guidelines Commission. 1 Summary of Appropriations. Summarizes direct appropriations by fund. 2 Public Safety Appropriations. Describes, in general terms, the appropriations contained in this article. 3 Supreme Court. Appropriates funds for FY08 and FY09." The bill passed by a vote of 82-52. [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 829, 5/03/07]

The FY 2008-2009 Public Safety Finance Bill Provided $9,630,000 For Fire Marshals. "Subd. 4. Fire Marshal. Appropriates funds for FY08 and FY09. $3,330,000 the first year and $6,300,000 the second year are to fund activities through the Fire Safety Account." [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 829, 5/02/07]

Finstad Voted Against The FY 2006-2007 Transportation Finance Bill, Which Provided $3.7 Million In Funding For Additional Minnesota State Troopers

Finstad Voted Against The FY 2006-2007 Omnibus Transportation Finance Bill. In May 2005, State Rep. Brad Finstad Voted Against: "This article appropriates $3.848 billion to the Department of Transportation, Metropolitan Council transit, and administration and transportation-related activities of the Department of Public Safety in the 2006-2007 biennium. 1 1 Total appropriation. 2 2 Transportation. Appropriates $1.669 billion in FY 2006 and $1.797 billion in FY 2007 to the Department of Transportation." The bill passed by a vote of 72-61. [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 2461, 5/11/05]

The FY 2006-2007 Omnibus Transportation Finance Bill Provided $3.7 Million In Funding For Additional Minnesota State Troopers. "Subd. 3. State patrol. Specifies $3.7 million the first year for adding patrol positions. Provides that if money transferred to the trunk highway fund from revenues from the 2 a.m. bar permit are less than this amount the department must make up the difference by transferring federal repeat offender money to the trunk highway fund." [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 2461, 5/16/05]

2003: In The State Legislature, Finstad Voted For Budget Cuts That Slashed Funding For Grants To Prevent Violence In K-12 Schools

Finstad Voted For The 2003 Minnesota Budget Reconciliation Package. In May 2003, State Rep. Brad Finstad Voted For: "A bill for an act relating to appropriations; appropriating money, authorizing bonding, and transferring or canceling appropriations made for fiscal year 2003; making conforming changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, sections 16B.27, subdivision 3; 127A.45, subdivision 7a; Laws 2001, First Special Session chapter 9, article 17, section 10, subdivision 1. BE it enacted by the legislature of the state of Minnesota" The bill passed by a vote of 82-45. [Minnesota State Legislature, HF 3, 5/24/03]

- **The 2003 Minnesota Budget Reconciliation Budget Included Eliminating Funding For Violence Prevention Grants That Funded Violence Prevention Programs In K-12 Schools.** "Minnesota's families face a range of budget impacts that make it more difficult to make ends meet and to provide high quality care for their children […] K-12 students will no longer have access to violence prevention programs in their schools funded by state Violence Prevention Grants, as this funding source has been eliminated." [Minnesota Budget Project, February 2004]

Finstad Voted Against A Pay Raise For Troops And Funding For Military Medical Programs While Supporting Cuts To The VA That Created Longer Wait Times, Understaffing, And Delays In Care For Veterans

December 2023: Finstad Voted Against The National Defense Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 2024 Which Provided A 5.2 Percent Pay Raise For Both Military Servicemembers, Authorized $20 Million In Impact Aid For Military Children With Severe Disabilities, And Expanded Funding For Military Medical Programs

December 2023: Finstad Voted Against National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024

Finstad Voted Against The FY 2024 National Defense Authorization Act To Fund The Defense Department. In December 2023, Congressman Brad Finstad voted against: "Rogers, R-Ala., motion to suspend the rules and agree to the conference report to accompany the bill that would authorize $874.2 billion in discretionary national defense spending, including $841.5 billion for the Defense Department and $32.4 billion for national security programs within the Energy Department. It would also provide $23.2 billion in mandatory defense spending. The bill would authorize approximately $169.2 billion for weapons and other procurement and $145.9 billion for military research and development. Within these totals, it would authorize $32.9 billion for Navy shipbuilding and conversion; $19.6 billion for Air Force aircraft procurement; $18 billion for Navy aircraft procurement; $539 million for the Ground Based Strategic Deterrent ballistic missile system; $564 million for the Missile Defense Agency; and $382 million for the hypersonic attack cruise missile. It would authorize $545 million for continued development of Guam missile defense systems, $80 million for procurement for the Israeli Iron Dome missile defense system and $4.2 billion for Space Force procurement. Within Energy Department funding, it would authorize $24 billion for the National Nuclear Security Administration, primarily for the maintenance of a nuclear weapons stockpile. It would authorize $38.3 billion for the Defense Health Program and $18.2 billion for military construction. It would authorize $14.7 billion for the Pacific Deterrence Initiative and $3.6 billion for the European Deterrence Initiative, primarily intended to counter aggression by China and Russia, respectively. For international assistance and cooperation, it would authorize $300 million in security assistance to Ukraine; $409 million for the U.S. European Command, $565 million for the U.S. Africa Command; $398 million for forces in Syria and Iraq combating the Islamic State group; $351 million for the Cooperative Threat Reduction program assisting former Soviet Union countries; and $300 million for cooperative research and development programs with Israel. The bill would authorize a 5.2 percent military pay increase. It would authorize $7 billion for the Energy Department environmental restoration fund and require the department to undertake various environmental cleanup activities. Among its policy provisions, it would temporarily extend, through April 19, 2024, provisions of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act that allow the U.S. government to collect communications on foreigners outside the U.S.; implement a personnel grade cap of GS-10 for diversity, equity and inclusion positions within the Defense Department; prohibit the creation of new DEI positions in the Defense Department; provide for congressional appointment and removal of the architect of the Capitol; and prohibit the use of funds for any activities involving unidentified anomalous phenomena unless the Defense Department has provided details of such activities to Congress. It would also require the National Archives to establish a UAP records collection, require each government agency to transmit relevant UAP documents to the collection, and require periodic review of such records for public disclosure. The measure is now cleared for the president." The bill passed by a vote of 310-118. [H.R. 2670, Vote #723, 12/14/23; CQ, 12/14/23]

- **Washington Post: The NDAA Approved By The House In December 2023 "Stripped Away Nearly All Of The Hard Right's Culture-War Provisions," Which The Most Rightwing Members Of The House Described As "A Betrayal Of Conservative Values."** "Over the summer, the typically bipartisan NDAA became ground zero in the nation's increasingly polarized culture wars, as hard-right Republicans leveraged the GOP's fragile House majority to attach various provisions aimed at dismantling what they called the military's 'woke' policies on abortion, race and gender-affirming health care. The Senate subsequently passed a very different NDAA, one largely devoid of such provisions. The dramatic gap between the two chambers had led some congressional staff and defense analysts to wonder whether Congress would be able to reconcile the two bills or if, for the first time in decades, lawmakers would fail to agree upon what is widely considered must-pass legislation. The compromise bill approved Thursday stripped away nearly all of the hard right's culture-war provisions — including a measure that would have barred the Defense Department from reimbursing travel costs incurred by service members who travel out of state to obtain an abortion. Several members of the House Freedom Caucus assailed the bill in floor speeches leading up to the vote, characterizing it as a betrayal of conservative values." [Washington Post, 12/14/23]

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 Provided A 5.2 Percent Pay Raise For Both Military Servicemembers And The Department Of Defense Civilian Workforce

U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee: FY 2024 "Provides For A 5.2 Percent Pay Raise For Both Military Servicemembers And The Department Of Defense Civilian Workforce." "Provides for a 5.2 percent pay raise for both military servicemembers and the Department of Defense civilian workforce. Authorizes an increase of $70.0 million in Impact Aid ($50.0 million for supplemental Impact Aid, and $20.0 million for Impact Aid for military children with severe disabilities). Modifies the calculation of basic allowance for housing (BAH) rates with respect to junior enlisted members by delinking that calculation from specific housing types and provides additional flexibility to ensure equitable housing rates can be calculated in markets with limited housing inventory." [U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 Authorized $20.0 Million In Impact Aid For Military Children With Severe Disabilities

U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee: FY 2024 NDAA "Authorizes An Increase Of $70.0 Million In Impact Aid ($50.0 Million For Supplemental Impact Aid, And $20.0 Million For Impact Aid For Military Children With Severe Disabilities)." "Provides for a 5.2 percent pay raise for both military servicemembers and the Department of Defense civilian workforce. Authorizes an increase of $70.0 million in Impact Aid ($50.0 million for supplemental Impact Aid, and $20.0 million for Impact Aid for military children with severe disabilities). Modifies the calculation of basic allowance for housing (BAH) rates with respect to junior enlisted members by delinking that calculation from specific housing types and provides additional flexibility to ensure equitable housing rates can be calculated in markets with limited housing inventory." [U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

- **The National Association of Federally Impacted School: NDAA "Impact Aid Is A Federal Education Program That Reimburses School Districts For The Lost Revenue And Additional Costs Associated With The Presence Of Nontaxable Federal Property, Such As Military Installations."** "Impact Aid is a Federal education program that reimburses school districts for the lost revenue and additional costs associated with the presence of nontaxable Federal property, such as military installations; Indian Trust or Treaty lands; Federal low-rent housing facilities; and national laboratories, national parks and other Federal buildings or lands. There are more than 1,200 federally impacted school districts (those districts that receive Impact Aid) located across all 50 states. Together, they educate more than 10 million public school students." [The National Association of Federally Impacted School, accessed 7/9/26]

- **The National Association Of Federally Impacted School: "Section 7003 Is The Largest Component Of The Impact Aid Program […] To Be Eligible, A School District Must Educate At Least 400 Federally Connected Students In Its Average Daily Attendance (ADA), Or Those Students Must Comprise At Least Three Percent Of Its ADA."** "Impact Aid is a Federal education program that reimburses school districts for the lost revenue and additional costs associated with the presence of nontaxable Federal property, such as military installations; Indian Trust or Treaty lands; Federal low-rent housing facilities; and national laboratories, national parks and other Federal buildings or lands. There are more than 1,200 federally impacted school districts (those districts that receive Impact Aid) located across all 50 states. Together, they educate more than 10 million public school students." [The National Association of Federally Impacted School, accessed 7/9/26]

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 Increased The Maximum Annual Stipend For The Military Departments' Health Professions Scholarship And Financial Assistance Programs By $20,000

U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee: FY 2024 NDAA "Increases The Maximum Annual Stipend From $30,000 To $50,000 For Participants In The Military Departments' Health Professions Scholarship And Financial Assistance Programs." "Increases the maximum annual stipend from $30,000 to $50,000 for participants in the military departments' health professions scholarship and financial assistance programs. Encourages a comprehensive review of the Navy's efforts to prevent and respond to incidents of death by suicide, suicide attempts, and suicidal ideation in commands and organizations within the Navy that have not been reviewed by other studies. Authorizes cost-sharing requirements to be waived for the first three outpatient mental health visits each year for beneficiaries in the active-duty family member category and in the TRICARE Young Adult program." [U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

The National Defense Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 2024 Expanded Programs For Parental Leave, Low-Income Servicemembers, Mental Health Counseling, Medical Testing, And Medical Devices

U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee: FY 2024 NDAA "Expands Parental Leave For Certain Members Of The Reserve Components Of The Armed Forces." "Expands parental leave for certain members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces. Requires members of the reserve component to receive special and incentive pay in the same monthly amount that is paid to a member in the regular component for the purpose of maintaining a skill certification or proficiency, or for exposure to hazards or risks that are identical to those that regular component members are exposed." [U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

U.S. House Armed Services Committee: FY 2024 NDAA "Expands Basic Needs Allowance To Assist Low-Income Servicemembers Supporting A Family." "Improves the Basic Allowance for Housing calculation to increase reimbursement for junior enlisted servicemembers and counteract soaring rental rates. Expands Basic Needs Allowance to assist low-income servicemembers supporting a family." [U.S. House Armed Services Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

U.S. House Armed Services Committee: FY 2024 NDAA "Expands Mental Health Counseling Services For Servicemembers Transitioning To The Private Sector." "Authorizes the DoD to fund, and members of the Armed Services to participate in, clinical trials using psychedelic substances and cannabis to treat post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injuries. Waives cost-sharing for three mental health outpatient visits each year for active duty family members and children. Expands mental health counseling services for servicemembers transitioning to the private sector." [U.S. House Armed Services Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

U.S. House Armed Services Committee: FY 2024 NDAA "Expands Cardiac Care Pilot Program To Provide Electrocardiograms To All Individuals Entering Military Service." "Waives fees and copays on the TRICARE Dental Program for all members of the Selected Reserve. Expands access to dental care for military families at remote or isolated duty locations. Strengthens oversight of TRICARE pharmacy program. Expands cardiac care pilot program to provide electrocardiograms to all individuals entering military service. Requires DoD to determine ways of enhancing medical resources for servicemembers conducting missions in Japan and Guam. Requires DoD to study and report on health conditions of members of the Armed Forces on active duty developed after administration of COVID-19 vaccine. Expands eligibility for hearing aids under TRICARE." [U.S. House Armed Services Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

U.S. House Armed Services Committee: FY 2024 NDAA "Expands Eligibility For Hearing Aids Under TRICARE." "Waives fees and copays on the TRICARE Dental Program for all members of the Selected Reserve. Expands access to dental care for military families at remote or isolated duty locations. Strengthens oversight of TRICARE pharmacy program. Expands cardiac care pilot program to provide electrocardiograms to all individuals entering military service. Requires DoD to determine ways of enhancing medical resources for servicemembers conducting missions in Japan and Guam. Requires DoD to study and report on health conditions of members of the Armed Forces on active duty developed after administration of COVID-19 vaccine. Expands eligibility for hearing aids under TRICARE." [U.S. House Armed Services Committee, accessed 7/9/26]

December 2022: Finstad Voted Against Having The VA Study The Provision Of Pregnancy Support Staff To Pregnant Or Formerly Pregnant Veterans

December 2022: Finstad Voted Against Requiring The Veteran Affairs Department Study And Report On Furnishing Doula Services To Pregnant Or Formerly Pregnant Veterans

Finstad Voted Against Requiring The Veteran Affairs Department Study And Report On Furnishing Doula Services To Pregnant Or Formerly Pregnant Veterans. In December 2022, Congressman Brad Finstad voted against: "Takano, D-Calif., motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended, that would require the Veterans Affairs Department to carry out a study and report to Congress within 18 months of enactment on the feasibility and acceptability of furnishing doula services to pregnant or formerly pregnant veterans enrolled in the VA patient enrollment system. It would require the study to include an analysis of whether measures taken by other governmental entities regarding doula certification would be adequate with respect to VA services." The motion was agreed to by a vote of 376-44. [H.R. 2521, Vote #497, 12/1/22; CQ, 12/1/22]

Doula Were Trained Professional Who Offers Emotional, Physical And Informational Support Before, During And After Childbirth Shown To Reduce The Need For Interventions Like C-Sections And Pain Medications

Ambetter Health: "A Doula Is A Trained Professional Who Offers Emotional, Physical And Informational Support Before, During And After Childbirth." "That's where a doula comes in. A doula is a trained professional who offers emotional, physical and informational support before, during and after childbirth. While doulas don't deliver babies or provide medical care, they play an important role in helping individuals feel more confident and empowered throughout the journey. The idea of a doula isn't new. For generations, people have relied on trusted companions for guidance and comfort through pregnancy and parenting. Today, doulas continue that tradition with specialized training and compassionate care." [Ambetter Health, 8/21/25]

Ambetter Health: "Studies Show That Doulas Can Help Reduce The Need For Interventions Like C-Sections And Pain Medications." "Having a doula by your side can lead to a more positive experience before, during and after childbirth. Their support can make a big difference for both you and your baby. Improved birth outcomes: Studies show that doulas can help reduce the need for interventions like C-sections and pain medications. Reduced stress and anxiety: A calm, supportive presence can help you feel more at ease and confident during pregnancy and labor. Enhanced bonding with the baby: With a doula's help, parents often feel more supported, which can lead to a stronger early bonding." [Ambetter Health, 8/21/25]

Finstad Was A Member Of The House DOGE Caucus and Claimed He Was "Eager" To Help The Agency, When DOGE Slashed Positions At The Veterans Affairs Department Disproportionately Impacting Veterans Through Longer Wait Times, Understaffing, And Delays In Care

Finstad Was A Member Of The House DOGE Caucus and Claimed He Was "Eager" To Help The Agency,

Finstad Joined The House DOGE Caucus And Said He Was "Eager" To Help The Agency Rein In "Reckless Government Spending." According to the Post Bulletin, "GOP Rep. Brad Finstad said he has joined the House DOGE Caucus to support a newly created advisory team led by Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy that aims to slash spending, regulations and personnel within the federal government. 'I am eager to join my colleagues in working together to address the growing national debt by reining in reckless government spending,' said Finstad, a Republican from New Ulm, in his newsletter to First Congressional District constituents." [Post Bulletin, 12/24/24]

December 2024: Finstad Attended The First Meeting Of The House DOGE Caucus And Vowed To "Rein In Government Waste." Rep. Brad Finstad tweeted, "Great to join the first meeting of the House DOGE Caucus. Together, we will deliver our promise to the American people to rein in government waste and get Washington's reckless spending under control." [Twitter, @RepFinstad, 12/17/24]

[Twitter, @RepFinstad, 12/17/24]

2025: DOGE Slashed Positions At The Veterans Affairs Department Nationwide, Initiating A 15% Cut In Staffing

April 2025: The VA Secretary Released A Directive To Reduce VA Staff Nationwide By 15%. "And even as veterans lose their jobs at higher rates, President Donald Trump's cost-cutting push is squeezing the Department of Veterans Affairs, which is likely to impact access to medical care, disability payments, higher education and housing. The Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center in central Phoenix has already lost workers under a directive from Veterans Affairs Secretary Doug Collins to reduce staff nationwide by 15%." [Cronkite News, 4/7/25]

- **March 2025: VA Chief Of Staff Christopher Syrek Sent Out VA Memo Calling For A 80,000 Employee Reduction In Force At The VA To Comply With Trump's February DOGE Executive Order.** "The Department of Veterans Affairs plans to fire more than 80,000 employees under a sweeping reorganization effort being planned to comply with President Donald Trump's orders to slash the federal government, according to an internal VA memo obtained by Military.com. In the memo, VA Chief of Staff Christopher Syrek said the department's 'initial objective' is to return to 2019 staffing levels of 399,957 employees or about 83,000 fewer employees than the VA has right now […]The 'reduction in force,' as the layoffs are formally called, is being planned as part of Trump's February executive order requiring agencies to work with Musk's Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE, and subsequent guidance from the White House offices in charge of budgets and personnel directing agencies to prepare for large-scale layoffs." [Military.com, 3/5/25]

- **February 2025: More Than 2,400 VA Employees Were Fired By DOGE.** "Gutting VA staff has been a stated objective for the Trump administration since taking office last year. Over 2,400 VA workers were fired by Elon Musk's now defunct Department of Government Efficiency, known as DOGE, initiative in February 2025, but the bleeding did not stop there. The VA announced that the agency was on pace to reduce staff by

30,000 employees by the end of FY25 through federal hiring freezes, deferred resignations, voluntary early retirement and normal attrition. Southern Nevada VA leaders raised concerns in the report about staffing losses as '500 of the facility's approximately 3,600 staff met criteria for the voluntary early retirement program'—a 14% potential loss of staff while new hiring has stalled." [Nevada Current, 2/13/26]

Veterans Were Disproportionately Impacted By DOGE's VA Cuts, Facing Longer Wait Times, Understaffing, And Delays In Care

PBS News: "The Veterans Health Administration Workforce Constitutes 90 Percent Of The VA's 482,000 Workers, So Cuts To VA Workers Mean Cuts To Health Care." "Cuts to the federal workforce are also affecting medical care for veterans. The Veterans Health Administration workforce constitutes 90 percent of the VA's 482,000 workers, so cuts to VA workers mean cuts to health care. These cuts come at a time when veterans' health care needs are increasing. The VA enrolled 400,000 veterans in its benefits system from March 2023 through March 2024, 30 percent more than the prior year. It also expanded eligibility for former service members to receive VA health care. Trump's cuts will make it more difficult for the VA to provide health care for these newly eligible veterans." [PBS News, 3/16/25]

- **NIH National Library Of Medicine: "The VHA Is The Sub-Cabinet Level Agency Within The Department Of Veterans Affairs (VA) That Provides Health Care, Including Mental Health Care, To Millions Of Veterans."** "This chapter provides an overview of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and how it fits into the broader U.S. health care landscape. The VHA is the sub-cabinet level agency within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that provides health care, including mental health care, to millions of veterans. The chapter begins with an explanation of how veterans enter the VHA health care system. It next describes the general organizational structure of the VA and the VHA." [NIH National Library Of Medicine, accessed on 8/6/25]

PBS News: "The VA Enrolled 400,000 Veterans In Its Benefits System From March 2023 Through March 2024 […] Trump's Cuts Will Make It More Difficult For The VA To Provide Health Care For These Newly Eligible Veterans." "Cuts to the federal workforce are also affecting medical care for veterans. The Veterans Health Administration workforce constitutes 90 percent of the VA's 482,000 workers, so cuts to VA workers mean cuts to health care. These cuts come at a time when veterans' health care needs are increasing. The VA enrolled 400,000 veterans in its benefits system from March 2023 through March 2024, 30 percent more than the prior year. It also expanded eligibility for former service members to receive VA health care. Trump's cuts will make it more difficult for the VA to provide health care for these newly eligible veterans." [PBS News, 3/16/25]

PFAS Water Experts: "According To Recent Reports From Internal VA Staff And Veterans' Advocacy Groups, Budget Shortfalls Have Resulted In Delays In Oncology Consults, Reduced Access To Diagnostic Imaging, And Understaffing Of Specialized Cancer Clinics." "According to recent reports from internal VA staff and veterans' advocacy groups, budget shortfalls have resulted in delays in oncology consults, reduced access to diagnostic imaging, and understaffing of specialized cancer clinics. A 2024 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report revealed that cancer screening timelines for veterans increased by 18% year-over-year, particularly for high-risk cancers like kidney, prostate, and testicular cancer illnesses already disproportionately impacting veterans exposed to PFAS and firefighting foam chemicals. 'Veterans are facing longer waits and fewer diagnostic options. It's not just about funding it's about lives,' senior VA clinician who asked to remain anonymous due to fear of retaliation." [PFAS Water Experts, accessed on 8/6/25]

- **Senior VA Clinician: "Veterans Are Facing Longer Waits And Fewer Diagnostic Options. It's Not Just About Funding—It's About Lives."** "According to recent reports from internal VA staff and veterans' advocacy groups, budget shortfalls have resulted in delays in oncology consults, reduced access to diagnostic imaging, and understaffing of specialized cancer clinics. A 2024 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report revealed that cancer screening timelines for veterans increased by 18% year-over-year, particularly for high-risk cancers like kidney, prostate, and testicular cancer illnesses already disproportionately impacting veterans exposed to PFAS and firefighting foam chemicals. 'Veterans are facing longer waits and fewer diagnostic options. It's not just about funding it's about lives,' who asked to remain anonymous due to fear of retaliation." [PFAS Water Experts, accessed on 8/6/25]

Finstad Was An Anti-Labor Legislator Who Voted Against Speeding Up Union Contract Negotiations, Voted Against Requiring Joint Employers To Bargain Working Conditions With A Union Representative, Voted To Defund OSHA, And Voted To Cut $100 Million In Funding For The National Labor Relations Board

2025: Finstad Received A Legislative Score of 0% From The AFL-CIO, The Largest Federation Of Unions In The United States

The AFL-CIO Is The Largest Federation Of Unions In The United States

National Archives: "The American Federation Of Labor And Congress Of Industrial Organizations (AFL–CIO) Is The Largest Federation Of Unions In The United States." "The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL–CIO) is the largest federation of unions in the United States. It is made up of fifty-five national and international unions, together representing more than 12 million active and retired workers. The AFL–CIO engages in substantial political spending and activism, typically in support of Democrats and liberal or progressive policies. The AFL–CIO was formed in 1955 when the AFL and the CIO merged after a long estrangement. Membership in the union peaked in 1979, when the AFL–CIO had nearly twenty million members. From 1955 until 2005, the AFL–CIO's member unions represented nearly all unionized workers in the United States." [National Archives, accessed 7/24/26]

2025: Finstad Received Legislative Score of 0% On His 2025 AFL-CIO Legislative Scorecard And A Lifetime Score Of 8%

AFL-CIO: "Legislative Scorecard […] Lets You Know Where Your Lawmakers Stand On Issues That Affect Working People's Rights, Jobs, Pay, Benefits, Quality Of Life And More." "Legislative Scorecard This voting record lets you know where your lawmakers stand on issues that affect working people's rights, jobs, pay, benefits, quality of life and more. Each rating reflects how often each elected official voted in accordance with an AFL-CIO vote recommendation on a Housewide or Senatewide matter." [AFL-CIO, accessed 7/24/26]

2025: Finstad Received A Score Of 0% On His 2025 AFL-CIO Legislative Scorecard. [AFL-CIO, accessed 7/24/26]

[AFL-CIO, accessed 7/24/26]

- **2025: Finstad Received A Lifetime Score Of 8% On His AFL-CIO Legislative Scorecard.** [AFL-CIO, accessed 7/24/26]

[AFL-CIO, accessed 7/24/26]

Finstad Voted Against Bipartisan Legislation To Speed Up Union Contract Negotiations That Was Called "One Of The Most Consequential Labor Bills To Come Before Congress In Generations" By The President Of The Teamsters

Finstad Voted Against Bipartisan Legislation To Speed Up Union Contract Negotiations

Finstad Voted Against Establishing A New Process For Initial Collective Bargaining Under The National Labor Relations Act That Would Require Employers And Unions To Begin Negotiations Within 10 Days Of A New Union Submitting A Request To Negotiate Its First Contract. In June 2026, Congressman Brad Finstad voted against: "Passage of the bill that would establish a new process for initial collective bargaining under the National Labor Relations Act. The measure would require employers and unions to meet to begin negotiations within 10 days of a new union submitting a request to negotiate its first contract, unless both parties agree to a longer timeline. If no contract agreement is reached after 90 days, either party could request mediation. After another 30 days, the dispute would be referred to a three-member arbitration panel: one selected by the union, one by the employer, and one neutral member agreed to by both parties. Panel decisions would be binding for two years unless amended by written consent of both parties." The bill passed by a vote of 230-193. [H.R. 5408, Vote #216, 6/9/26; CQ, 6/9/26]

NPR Headline: "House Approves Bill To Speed Up Union Contract Negotiations." [NPR, 6/10/26]

NPR: "The House Has Approved A Bill That Would Force Employers To The Table, Allow Federal Mediators To Get Involved If A Deal Is Not Reached Within 90 Days, And If Needed Settle The Matter Through Arbitration Shortly Thereafter." "It's a problem the labor movement has decried for years: After a successful union election, it takes far too long — an average of 465 days, according to Bloomberg Law — for workers and their employers to reach a first contract. In some cases, it takes even longer. Neither the Buffalo, N.Y., Starbucks baristas who unionized in late 2021 nor the Staten Island Amazon warehouse workers who unionized in the spring of 2022 have a contract. Now, by a vote of 230 to 193, the House has approved a bill that would force employers to the table, allow federal mediators to get involved if a deal is not reached within 90 days, and — if needed — settle the matter through arbitration shortly thereafter. Twenty Republicans joined Democrats in voting on Tuesday evening to pass the measure, called the Faster Labor Contracts Act." [NPR, 6/10/26]

- **NPR: "After A Successful Union Election, It Takes Far Too Long An Average Of 465 Days, According To Bloomberg Law For Workers And Their Employers To Reach A First Contract."** "It's a problem the labor movement has decried for years: After a successful union election, it takes far too long — an average of 465 days, according to Bloomberg Law — for workers and their employers to reach a first contract. In some cases, it takes even longer. Neither the Buffalo, N.Y., Starbucks baristas who unionized in late 2021 nor the Staten Island Amazon warehouse workers who unionized in the spring of 2022 have a contract. Now, by a vote of 230 to 193, the House has approved a bill that would force employers to the table, allow federal mediators to get involved if a deal is not reached within 90 days, and — if needed — settle the matter through arbitration shortly thereafter. Twenty Republicans joined Democrats in voting on Tuesday evening to pass the measure, called the Faster Labor Contracts Act." [NPR, 6/10/26]

Office Of Rep. Donald Norcross: "The Faster Labor Contracts Act Would Amend Section 8(d) Of The National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), To Require That: After Workers Have Voted To Form A Union, Employers Must Begin Negotiating With The New Union Within 10 Days." "The Faster Labor Contracts Act would amend Section 8(d) of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), to require that: After workers have voted to form a union, employers must begin negotiating with the new union within 10 days. If no agreement is reached after 90 days, the dispute will be referred to mediation. If mediation fails after 30 days, or additional periods agreed upon by both parties, the dispute will be referred to a binding 3-person arbitration panel to secure an initial contract. The Government Accountability Office commission a report on average workplace time-to-contract one year after enactment." [Rep. Donald Norcross, Press Release, accessed 7/12/26]

NPR: "Twenty Republicans Joined Democrats In Voting On Tuesday Evening To Pass The Measure, Called The Faster Labor Contracts Act." "It's a problem the labor movement has decried for years: After a successful union election, it takes far too long — an average of 465 days, according to Bloomberg Law — for workers and their employers to reach a first contract. In some cases, it takes even longer. Neither the Buffalo, N.Y., Starbucks baristas who unionized in late 2021 nor the Staten Island Amazon warehouse workers who unionized in the spring of 2022 have a contract. Now, by a vote of 230 to 193, the House has approved a bill that would force employers to the table, allow federal mediators to get involved if a deal is not reached within 90 days, and — if needed — settle the matter through arbitration shortly thereafter. Twenty Republicans joined Democrats in voting on Tuesday evening to pass the measure, called the Faster Labor Contracts Act." [NPR, 6/10/26]

The Faster Labor Contracts Act Could Increase Unionization Rates By 2%, Bringing The Benefits Of Union Membership To Millions Of Workers

Center For American Progress: "The U.S. House Of Representatives Passed The Faster Labor Contracts Act (FLCA) […] Evidence From A Study Of Canadian Provinces That Implemented Similar Laws Suggests Those Changes Increased Unionization Rates By 2 Percentage Points." "Last month, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Faster Labor Contracts Act (FLCA), which would require contract negotiations with new unions to go to arbitration if an agreement cannot be reached within 90 days. The bill's bipartisan passage demonstrates real interest from policymakers in improving labor law, and evidence from a study of Canadian provinces that implemented similar laws suggests those changes increased unionization rates by 2 percentage points. In the United States, a 2 percentage point increase would boost private sector union density from nearly 6 percent to 8 percent, bringing the benefits of union membership to millions of workers." [Center For American Progress, 7/7/26]

- **Center For American Progress: "In The United States, A 2 Percentage Point Increase Would Boost Private Sector Union Density From Nearly 6 Percent To 8 Percent, Bringing The Benefits Of Union Membership To Millions Of Workers."** "Last month, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Faster Labor Contracts Act (FLCA), which would require contract negotiations with new unions to go to arbitration if an agreement cannot be reached within 90 days. The bill's bipartisan passage demonstrates real interest from policymakers in improving labor law, and evidence from a study of Canadian provinces that implemented similar laws suggests those changes increased unionization rates by 2 percentage points. In the United States, a 2 percentage point increase would boost private sector union density from nearly 6 percent to 8 percent, bringing the benefits of union membership to millions of workers." [Center For American Progress, 7/7/26]

The Faster Labor Contracts Act Was Endorsed By The AFL-CIO And Called "One Of The Most Consequential Labor Bills To Come Before Congress In Generations" By The President Of The Teamsters

AFL-CIO Director Of Government Affairs Jody Calemine: "On Behalf Of The 15 Million Workers And 65 Affiliate Unions Of The AFL-CIO, We Urge You To Vote YES To Pass The Faster Labor Contracts Act (H.R. 5408)." "On behalf of the 15 million workers and 65 affiliate unions of the AFL-CIO, we urge you to vote YES to pass the Faster Labor Contracts Act (H.R. 5408), the bipartisan legislation led by Representatives Donald Norcross and Pete Stauber. American workers are being squeezed. Real wages of working people are not keeping up with rising costs, and labor's share of GDP relative to profits has reached a record low, not because there is no room for wages to grow, but because too many workers have been denied the ability to organize and bargain collectively. More than 50 million workers say they would join a union if they could." [AFL-CIO, Press Release, 6/5/26]

- **AFL-CIO Director Of Government Affairs Jody Calemine: "Passing H.R. 5408 Is An Important First Step Toward The Broader And Needed Labor Law Reforms […] This Bill Will Make An Immediate Difference For Workers Fighting To Make Their Lives Better."** "Passing H.R. 5408 is an important first step toward the broader and needed labor law reforms contained in the full PRO Act. In the meantime, this bill will make an immediate difference for workers fighting to make their lives better and will help end the dilatory tactics of union busters. Please vote YES on H.R. 5408, including all procedural votes necessary to bring it to the floor." [AFL-CIO, Press Release, 6/5/26]

Teamsters General President Sean O'Brien: "This Is One Of The Most Consequential Labor Bills To Come Before Congress In Generations […] It Has The Potential To Hold Corporate America Accountable For Endlessly Dragging Out Negotiations And Denying Workers The First Union Contracts They Deserve." "'This is one of the most consequential labor bills to come before Congress in generations,' said Teamsters General President Sean O'Brien in a statement earlier this year. 'It has the potential to hold Corporate America accountable for endlessly dragging out negotiations and denying workers the first union contracts they deserve.' Republicans opposed to the bill described it as government overreach, something that would be bad for employers, employees and the economy." [NPR, 6/10/26]

- **Teamsters: "The International Brotherhood Of Teamsters […] Is One Of The Largest Labor Unions In The World. It Is Also The Most Diverse Union In The U.S."** "The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, with 1.3 million members, is one of the largest labor unions in the world. It is also the most diverse union in the U.S. The Teamsters represents everyone from A to Z – from airline pilots to zookeepers. One out of every ten union members is a Teamster." [Teamsters, accessed 7/24/26]

Finstad Opposed A National Labor Relations Board Rule That Would Require Joint Employers To Bargain Working Conditions With A Union Representative, Voted To Defund OSHA, And Voted To Cut $100 Million In Funding For The National Labor Relations Board

January 2024: Finstad Opposed A National Labor Relations Board Rule That Would Require Joint Employers To Bargain Working Conditions With A Union's Representative

Finstad Voted For The Congressional Review Act (CRA) Resolution Expressing Congressional Disapproval Of A National Labor Relations Board Rule That Would Require Joint Employers To Bargain Working Conditions With A Union's Representative. In January 2024, Finstad voted for: "Passage of the joint resolution that would provide for congressional disapproval of the October 2023 National Labor Relations Board rule that defines a joint employer to include any entity that possesses the authority to determine the essential employment terms and conditions of another employer's employees, regardless of whether it actually exercises such authority. The rule requires a joint employer to bargain with its employees' union representative with respect to any employment term or condition it possesses the authority to control. Under the provisions of the joint resolution, the October 2023 NLRB rule would have no force or effect." The resolution was agreed to by a vote of 206-177. [H. J. Res. 98, Vote #10, 1/12/24; CQ, 1/12/24]

November 2023: Finstad Voted To Defund The Occupational Safety And Health Administration (OSHA)

Finstad Voted For An Amendment Eliminating Funding For Occupational Safety And Health Administration (OSHA). In November 2023, Finstad voted for: "Miller, R-Ill., amendment no. 1 that would eliminate funding for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration." The amendment was rejected by a vote of 131-300. [H.R. 5894, Vote #648, 11/14/23; CQ, 11/14/23]

November 2023: Finstad Voted To Cut $100 Million In Funding For The National Labor Relations Board

Finstad Voted For An Amendment That Strikes $100 Million In Funding For The National Labor Relations Board. In November 2023, Finstad voted for: "Perry, R-Pa., amendment no. 78 that would reduce by $100 million funding for salaries and expenses at the National Labor Relations Board and transfer the savings to the spending reduction account." The amendment was rejected by a vote of 169-257. [H.R. 5894, Vote #661, 11/15/23; CQ, 11/15/23]