TX-15 Message #1 Backup

Monica De La Cruz broke her promise to our seniors, putting Social Security and Medicare at risk, making health care more expensive and supporting a budget that raises the retirement age. Taking away what South Texans have worked hard for their entire lives.

Monica De La Cruz Broke Her Promise To Our Seniors, Putting Social Security And Medicare At Risk, Making Health Care More Expensive And Supporting A Budget That Raises The Retirement Age. Taking Away What South Texans Have Worked Hard For Their Entire Lives.

De La Cruz Repeatedly Voted To Block Consideration Of Legislation That Would Have Protected Social Security And Medicare

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of A Resolution To Protect Social Security And Medicare. In September 2023 De La Cruz voted for: "Cole, R-Okla., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. Fernandez said, "I am going to offer my friends, my dear friends, a chance to show the American people that they are serious about preserving Social Security and Medicare. I urge you all to join us in defeating the previous question. If we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution which plainly states that the people's House won't cut a single cent from these crucial programs that so many of my constituents, so many of your constituents, rely on." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the resolution. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 217-209. [H. Res. 680, Vote #397, 9/19/23; CQ, 9/19/23; Congressional Record, 9/19/23]

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of Stating That The House Would Not Cut Money From Social Security Or Medicare. In November 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Fishbach, R-Minn, motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. McGovern said, "Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer a resolution to state unequivocally that the House won't cut a single cent from these crucial programs that so many of our constituents rely on." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was rejected by a vote of 213-200. [H.Res. 838, Vote #565, 11/2/23; CQ, 11/2/23; Congressional Record, 11/2/23]

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of Protecting Social Security And Medicare. In November 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Houchin, R-Ind., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. Leger Fernandez said, "Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution which clearly states that it is the people's House's duty to keep our promise to American workers and seniors to protect and preserve Social Security and Medicare and to fight against any cuts to these vital programs." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 217-204. [H.Res. 847, Vote #601, 11/7/23; CQ, 11/7/23; Congressional Record, 11/7/23]

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of Protecting And Preserving Social Security And Medicare. In September 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Burgess, R-Texas, motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. Leger Fernandez said, "Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution which clearly states that it is the people's House's duty to keep our promise to American workers and seniors to protect and preserve Social Security and Medicare and fight against any cuts to these vital programs." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 214-198. [H.Res. 681, Vote #388, 9/14/23; CQ, 9/14/23; Congressional Record, 9/14/23]

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of Protecting Social Security And Medicare. In July 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Reschenthaler, R-Pa., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. Neguse said, "Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment that we have offered before to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution which unambiguously states that it is the House's duty to keep our solemn promise to American workers and seniors to protect and preserve Social Security and Medicare and reject any cuts to these critical programs." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 208-191. [H.Res. 614, Vote #367, 7/26/23; CQ, 7/26/23; Congressional Record, 7/26/23]

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of A Resolution To Protect Social Security and Medicare. In July 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Houchin, R-Ind motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. Scanlon, D-___ said, "Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution which unequivocally states that it is the House's duty to keep our sacred promise to American workers and seniors to protect and preserve Social Security and Medicare and reject any cuts to those essential programs." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 213-207. [H.Res. 597, Vote #331, 7/18/23; CQ, 7/18/23; Congressional Record, 7/18/23]

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of A Resolution Stating It Is The House's Responsibility To Provide Social Security And Medicaid And To Reject Cuts To The Programs. In June 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Roy, R,Texas., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and the possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep McGovern said, "Mr. Speaker, I urge that we defeat the previous question, and I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution assuring our constituents that the people's House will protect and preserve Social Security and Medicare for our future generations and reject any cuts to these essential programs." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the resolution. The motion was agreed to 214-206. [H.Res. 463, Vote #284, 6/22/23; CQ, 6/22/23; Congressional Record, 6/22/23]

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of A Joint Resolution Stating It Is The House's Responsibility To Provide Social Security And Medicaid And To Reject Cuts To The Programs. In June 2023, De La Cruz voted foronal Record, Rep McGovern said "Mr. Speaker, I am going to urge that we defeat the previous question, and if we do, then I will offer an amendment to the rule to provide for consideration of a resolution which states that it is the House's duty to protect and preserve Social Security and Medicare for our future generations and reject any cuts to these essential programs." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was agreed to 216-209. [H.Res. 495, Vote #249, 6/13/23; CQ, 6/13/23; COngressional Record, 6/13/23]

De La Cruz Supported The Default On America Act, Which Would Have Been Catastrophic For Texans

De La Cruz Supported The Default On America Act

De La Cruz 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, De La Cruz 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]

De La Cruz Said That The DOA Would Strengthen The Economy, Cut Wasteful Spending, Boost American Energy And Protect Medicare And Social Security. De La Cruz tweeted a graphic, which said that the Limit, Save, Grow Act "Cuts Wasteful Spending," "Cancels Radical Green Agenda" and "Recovers Unused Covid funds." In her tweet accompanying the graphic, De La Cruz said, "The LIMIT, SAVE, and GROW Act will strengthen our economy by cutting wasteful spending, boosting American energy, and protecting Medicare and Social Security. The American people are better at spending their hard-earned money than the federal government." [Monica De La Cruz, Twitter, 4/26/23]

De La Cruz Said That The Passage Of Legislation To Raise The Debt Limit Was "An Important Step In The Right Direction." De La Cruz tweeted a screenshot of the final vote on CSPAN. CSPAN's headline above the final vote count said, "DEBT LIMIT & FEDERAL SPENDING." De La Cruz said, "Today's vote is an important step in the right direction. We need to limit wasteful spending to grow our economy, and protect vital programs like Medicare and Social Security. It's time for President Biden to stop playing political games and come to the negotiating table." [Monica De La Cruz, Twitter, 4/26/23]

The Republican Debt Limit Plan Was Expected To Leave Over Half A Million Of The Poorest Americans Without Health Insurance

The Republican Debt Limit Plan Was Expected To Leave Over Half A Million Of The Poorest Americans Without Health Insurance. "More than a half million of the poorest Americans could be left without health insurance under legislation passed by House Republicans that would require people to work in exchange for health care coverage through Medicaid. It's one of dozens of provisions tucked into a GOP bill that would allow for an increase in the debt limit but curb government spending over the next decade. The bill is unlikely to become law, though. It is being used by House Republicans to draw Democrats to the negotiating table and avoid a debt default." [ABC News, 4/30/23]

The Republican Study Committee, Which De La Cruz Joined, Released A Radical Plan To Raise The Retirement Age And Cut Social Security

De La Cruz Is A Member Of The Republican Study Committee (RSC), A Right-Wing Caucus That Has Put Forth An Alternative Budget Every Year Since 1995

De La Cruz Is A Member Of The RSC

De La Cruz Is A Member Of The Republican Study Committee (RSC). According to the Republican Study Committee, De La Cruz is a member. [Republican Study Committee, accessed <u>6/15/23</u>]

The RSC Is House Republicans' "Conservative Caucus" And A "Leading Influencer On The Right"

RSC Website: The Republican Study Committee (RSC) Has Served As The Conservative Caucus Of House Republicans And A Leading Influencer On The Right Since Its Original Founding In 1973." "The Republican Study Committee (RSC) has served as the conservative caucus of House Republicans and a leading influencer on the Right since its original founding in 1973. It exists to bring like-minded House members together to promote a strong, principled legislative agenda that will limit government, strengthen our national defense, boost America's economy, preserve traditional values and balance our budget." [Republican Study Committee, accessed 6/26/23]

The RSC Has Published A "Fiscally Conservative Blueprint" For A Budget Every Year Since 1995

The RSC Has Published A "Fiscally Conservative Blueprint" For A Budget Every Year Since 1995. "There's the RSC-led effort to protect the Hyde Amendment's long-standing ban on federal funding for abortion procedures as well as Banks' 'Save Democracy' project, an ode-to-Trump plan to impose tighter voting rules that Banks circulated to his conservative colleagues just two days after the Capitol riot. There's the drafting of the RSC's signature budget — a fiscally conservative blueprint released annually by the group since 1995 — alongside its campaign to confront the alleged disproportional censorship of right-wing voices by Big Tech." [Politico, 3/1/21]

The RSC's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Proposal Would Slash Social Security Benefits

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

The RSC's 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]

- Roll Call: "The Plan Offered By The 175-Member Republican Study Committee Would Gradually Raise The Age At Which Future Retirees Can Start Claiming Full Social Security Benefits From 67 To 69." "The plan offered by the 175-member Republican Study Committee would gradually raise the age at which future retirees can start claiming full Social Security benefits from 67 to 69, a politically fraught proposal that's all but certain to appear in Democratic campaign ads." [Roll Call, 6/14/23]
- 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]

The RSC Plan Would End Crucial Healthcare Protections, Forcing Americans To Pay More Out Of Pocket For Medicare

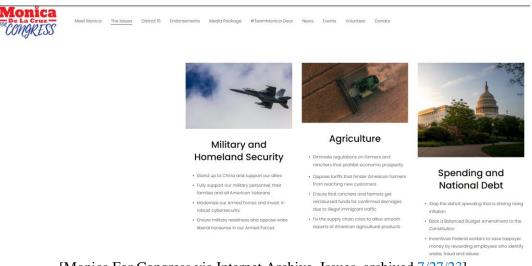
The RSC Model Would Make Medicare Beneficiaries Pay More For Less

The RSC Budget Would Implement 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, Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, 6/14/23]

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]

De La Cruz Supported A Balanced Budget Amendment That Threatened Social Security And Medicare

De La Cruz Backed A Balanced Budget Amendment To The Constitution. "Back a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution." [Monica For Congress via Internet Archive, Issues, archived 7/27/23]



[Monica For Congress via Internet Archive, Issues, archived 7/27/23]

The Balanced Budget Amendment Threatened Cuts To Social Security And Medicare

Center For American Progress: The Balanced-Budget Amendment Threatens Americans' Health Care, Social Security, and Jobs [Center for American Progress, 4/11/18]

AARP Opposed The Balanced Budget Amendment Because It Would "Likely Harm Social Security And Medicare, Subjecting Both Programs To Potentially Deep Cuts." "AARP is writing to express our opposition to a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States. [...] A balanced budget amendment would likely harm Social Security and Medicare, subjecting both programs to potentially deep cuts without regard to the impact on the health and financial security of individuals. It would also likely diminish the resources available for

programs assisting Americans who are least able to provide for themselves – services such as meals or heating for those who are too poor or physically unable to take care of their basic needs without some support." [AARP, Letter, $\frac{4}{9}$ 18]

National Committee To Preserve Social Security And Medicare: A Constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment Threatens Social Security. [NCPSSM, 7/2011]

Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, Medicare Part A Would Not Be Able To Pay For Hospitalization Costs, Because It Is Funded Through A Fund Of Saved Treasury Securities. "Medicare Part A — the Hospital Insurance trust fund — has the same structure as Social Security. That trust fund currently holds about \$200 billion in Treasury securities, but under a balanced budget amendment, it would be unconstitutional for Medicare to draw down those savings to pay hospitalization costs because all federal expenditures — which includes Medicare payments — would have to be covered by taxes collected in the same year." [CBPP, 3/16/18]

Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, The Military And Federal Employee Civil Service Retirement Systems Would Not Be Able To Pay Retirees, Because They Are Funded Through Saved Treasury Securities. "As a result, the \$700 billion in Treasury securities held by the military retirement trust fund and the \$900 billion in Treasury securities held by the civil service retirement trust fund would be unavailable to pay promised retirement pensions." [CBPP, 3/16/18]

A Balanced Budget Amendment Would Make Recessions Longer And Deeper, Causing Very Large Job Losses. "The economic problems with such an amendment are the most serious. By requiring a balanced budget every year, no matter the state of the economy, such an amendment would raise serious risks of tipping weak economies into recession and making recessions longer and deeper, causing very large job losses." [CBPP, 3/16/18]

CBPP: Under A Balanced Budget Amendment, "Programs Such As Social Security, Medicare, National Defense, And Veterans' Benefits Could Be Cut By An Average Of One-Fifth." "Programs such as Social Security, Medicare, national defense, and veterans' benefits could be cut by an average of one-fifth under a constitutional amendment before the House this week to require a balanced budget in every year. If policymakers chose to protect some programs from cuts, the cuts in other programs would be even deeper. If they protected Social Security and Medicare, for example, all other programs would be cut by two-fifths." [CBPP, 4/11/18]

TX-15 Message #2 Backup

Monica De La Cruz will make life more expensive for South Texas families. She voted against lowering prescription drug costs for seniors and capping the cost of insulin at \$35/month and against lowering the cost of household necessities like energy and groceries.

Monica De La Cruz Will Make Life More Expensive For South Texas Families. She Opposed The Bill Lowering Prescription Drug Costs For Seniors And Capping The Cost Of Insulin At \$35/Month And Voted To Raise The Cost Of Household Necessities Like Energy And Groceries.

De La Cruz Opposed The Inflation Reduction Act, Even Though It Would Help Her Constituents Afford Critical Medical Treatment

De La Cruz Criticized The Funding Of "87,000 IRS Agents," A Misleading Claim About The Inflation Reduction Act

De La Cruz Said The People Wanted "87,000 BORDER PATROL Agents NOT 87,000 IRS Agents." DE LA CRUZ: "We, THE PEOPLE, want "87,000 BORDER PATROL Agents NOT 87,000 IRS Agents." [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 8/8/22]

Claims That 87,000 New IRS Agents Would Be Hired Under The Inflation Reduction Agent Were False, Because Most Of Them "Would Not Be Internal Revenue Agents, And Wouldn't Be New Positions"

HEADLINE: "Trump Allies Are Attacking Biden For a Plan to Hire 87,000 New IRS Agents That Doesn't Exist." [TIME, 8/9/22]

• Most Of The 87,000 IRS Employees Funded By The Inflation Reduction Act "Would Not Be Internal Revenue Agents, And Wouldn't Be New Positions." "The Inflation Reduction Act, a landmark climate, health care and tax package that passed the Senate on Sunday and is expected to head to Biden's desk after the House approves it on Friday, includes roughly \$78 billion for the IRS to be phased in over 10 years. A Treasury Department report from May 2021 estimated that such an investment would enable the agency to hire roughly 87,000 employees by 2031. But most of those hires would not be Internal Revenue agents, and wouldn't be new positions. According to a Treasury Department official, the funds would cover a wide range of positions including IT technicians and taxpayer services support staff, as well as experienced auditors who would be largely tasked with cracking down on corporate and high-income tax evaders." [TIME, 8/9/22]

HEADLINE: "AP FACT CHECK: GOP Skews Budget Bill's Impact On IRS, Taxes." [Associated Press, 8/10/22]

• Funding For Hiring IRS Employees Was Not All For Auditors And Many Were To Replace Existing Positions As People Left. "Last year, before the bill emerged, the Treasury Department had proposed a plan to hire roughly that many IRS employees over the next decade if it got the money. The IRS will be releasing final numbers for its hiring plans in the coming months, according to a Treasury official. But those employees will not all be hired at the same time, they will not all be auditors and many will be replacing employees who are expected to quit or retire, experts and officials say." [Associated Press, 8/10/22]

De La Cruz Said That The Inflation Reduction Act Was Not Reducing Inflation

De La Cruz Said That The Inflation Reduction Act Was Not Reducing Inflation. De La Cruz posted a graphic which said "\$709" at the top, and beneath it said, "The extra amount Americans are paying per month for essentials – double from 2 years ago." In her post accompanying the graphic, De La Cruz said, "The Inflation Reduction Act isn't reducing inflation. This Administration has failed the American people." [Rep. Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 8/25/23]



[Rep. Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, <u>8/25/23</u>]

The Inflation Reduction Act Capped Insulin Costs At \$35 Per Month For Seniors On Medicare, Of Significant Importance In The Rio Grande Valley Where One In Three People Had Diabetes And Some Had Traveled To Mexico For Cheaper Insulin

The Inflation Reduction Act Capped Insulin Costs At \$35 Per Month For Seniors On Medicare, Nearly 4 Million Of Whom Had Diabetes

The Inflation Reduction Act Capped Insulin Costs At \$35 Per Month For Seniors On Medicare, Nearly 4 Million Of Whom Had Diabetes. "As part of President Biden's historic Inflation Reduction Act, nearly four million seniors on Medicare with diabetes started to see their insulin costs capped at \$35 per month this past January, saving some seniors hundreds of dollars for a month's supply." [White House, Statements and Releases, 3/2/23]

Nearly One In Three People From The Rio Grande Had Diabetes

Nearly One In Three People From The Rio Grande Valley Had Diabetes. "Diabetes is a disease that affects more than 30 million Americans. Nearly one in three people from the Rio Grande Valley, a rate 20 percent higher than the rest of Texas, according to Centers for Disease Control." [Valley Central, 12/16/19]

2019: Some Residents Of The Valley Traveled To Mexico For Cheaper Insulin

2019: Some Residents Of The Valley Traveled To Mexico To Get Insulin, Because It Was Less Expensive There. "Treating Type 2 Diabetes, the form most common in the Valley, requires careful management of one's diet, exercise and the medication insulin, which regulates blood sugar. But due to its rising cost, some Valley

residents are turning to Mexico to buy their medication. 'We are on insulin and on our insurance it's very expensive so we came here to pick it up much cheaper.' Linda Herwig is a Winter Texan from Wisconsin. She visits Nuevo Progreso to pick up medication for a friend who has diabetes and says the price is less than half of what he would pay in the United States. 'NovoRapid, which is usually \$210 and we picked it up for \$43 today.' said Herwig." [Valley Central, 12/16/19]

A Harlingen Resident With Type 2 Diabetes Said He And His Wife Traveled To Mexico Every Two Weeks To Get His Diabetes Medication. "For Harlingen resident Guadalupe Sanchez-Perez who has type 2 diabetes, since becoming a single-income household, he's been unable to afford his medication, despite having insurance. Every two weeks, he and his wife go to Mexico to buy refills. 'Two weeks treatment I pay \$85 for it. And at home, with my insurance and all, I still have to pay one hundred and something dollars.'" [Valley Central, 12/16/19]

Monica De La Cruz Voted For The Republican Debt Limit Bill That Would Raise The Cost Of Groceries And Energy

April 2023: Monica De La Cruz Voted For The Default On America Act

April 2023: De La Cruz 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. [H.R. 2811, Vote #199, 4/26/23; CQ, 4/26/23]

The Default On America Act Would Increase Grocery Prices And Lead To Food Shortages

U.S. Department Of Agriculture: House Republicans' Budget Proposal Would Increase Food Costs For Consumers By Cutting Funding For Food Safety Inspectors. "While the President's Budget details a plan to strengthen rural economies, increase resiliency, and support rural health, House Republicans' proposal to cut a broad range of critical programs by 22% will: Raise Prices at Grocery Stores and Restaurants. The proposal would mean as many as 1,800 fewer food safety inspectors, leading to a lost production volume of more than 11.5 billion pounds of meat, an additional 11.1 billion pounds of poultry, and over 590 million pounds of egg products. The industry would experience a production loss of as much as \$416 billion and consumers would face shortages and higher prices for meat, poultry, and egg products at grocery stores and restaurants." [U.S. Department of Agriculture, 4/26/23]

A 22% Spending Cut Would Cut Up To 1,800 Fewer Food Safety Inspectors, Leading To Food Shortages And "Higher Prices For Meat, Poultry, And Egg Products At Grocery Stores And Restaurants." "While the President's Budget details a plan to strengthen rural economies, increase resiliency, and support rural health, House Republicans' proposal to cut a broad range of critical programs by 22% will: Raise Prices at Grocery Stores and Restaurants. The proposal would mean as many as 1,800 fewer food safety inspectors, leading to a lost production volume of more than 11.5 billion pounds of meat, an additional 11.1 billion pounds of poultry, and over 590 million pounds of egg products. The industry would experience a production loss of as much as \$416 billion and consumers would face shortages and higher prices for meat, poultry, and egg products at grocery stores and restaurants." [U.S. Department of Agriculture, 4/26/23]

The Default On America Act Would Increase The Cost Of Energy Bills

U.S. Energy Secretary: Capping Funding At FY2022 Levels Would Hinder Efforts To "Cut Energy Costs For Families And Businesses Across The Country" And "Reduce The Number Of Everyday Americans That Can Access Tax Breaks For Clean Energy." In a March 17 letter, Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm wrote: "I share the concern expressed in your letter dated January 19, 2023, about potential impacts of proposals that would cap fiscal year (FY) 2024 discretionary spending at the FY 2022 enacted levels. While Congressional Republicans have not released a specific plan, cuts on this scale would have very real and damaging impacts on our families, our communities, our economy, and our competitiveness— undermining a broad range of critical services the American

people rely on in their everyday lives [...] Capping funding at this level would also hamper our ability to cut energy costs for families and businesses across the country, reduce the number of everyday Americans that can access tax breaks for clean energy, and reduce the impact of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law." [U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, 3/17/23]

The GOP Debt Ceiling Proposal Would Limit Tax Breaks For Electric Vehicle Purchases Established Under The Inflation Reduction Act. "And it would make major changes in the IRA's electric vehicle tax credit, whose implementation by the Biden administration has taken bipartisan criticism. The GOP proposal would revive a prior \$7,500 tax credit for qualifying electric vehicles, but would restore that tax break's per-manufacturer limit of 200,000 vehicles. It would entirely repeal the IRA's new incentives for critical battery minerals that are extracted from the U.S. or a close trading partner, and for batteries manufactured or assembled in North America." [Politico, 4/20/23]

Republicans' Debt Limit Bill Repealed The Inflation Reduction Act's "Provisions Establishing A High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program." "House Speaker Kevin McCarthy and Republican lawmakers on Wednesday unveiled their plan to raise the debt ceiling and cut government spending ahead of the looming summer deadline to avert a catastrophic and historic default by the U.S. on its debt obligations. [...] Called the 'Limit, Save, Grow Act,' the 320-page proposal would lift the debt limit by \$1.5 trillion or until the end of March 2024. The measure, introduced by House Budget Committee Chairman Jodey Arrington, a Texas Republican, also details cuts in federal spending to the tune of \$4.5 trillion, according to McCarthy. [...] The bill does, however, serve as House Republicans' opening offer in any eventual negotiations, and sheds light on the priorities of a fractious caucus that enjoys a narrow majority. Here's what House Republicans' Limit, Save, Grow Act would do: [...] Repeal provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act: The Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law by Mr. Biden last year and is Democrats' marquee health care, tax and climate bill. The \$740 billion package passed with only Democratic support. Republicans now want to rescind key aspects of the law that were designed to combat climate change, including provisions establishing a high-efficiency electric home rebate program and home energy efficiency contractor training grants." [CBS News, 4/20/23]

TX-15 Message #3 Backup

Monica De La Cruz goes too far restricting access to abortion. She would let politicians make decisions about women's healthcare instead of women and their doctors, supports Texas' cruel abortion ban with no exceptions even in cases of rape, incest or if the woman's health is at risk, and would push for a national abortion ban.

Monica De La Cruz Goes Too Far Restricting Access To Abortion. She Would Let Politicians Make Decisions About Women's Healthcare Instead Of Women And Their Doctors, Supports Texas' Cruel Abortion Ban With No Exceptions Even In Cases Of Rape, Incest Or If The Woman's Health Is At Risk, And Would Push For A National Abortion Ban.

De La Cruz Opposed Abortion Rights

De La Cruz Said That "You Absolutely Cannot Be Christian And Support Abortion"

De La Cruz Praised The Denial Of Holy Communion For One's Views On Abortion And Said That "You Absolutely Cannot Be Christian And Support Abortion." De La Cruz tweeted a Fox News article, titled "San Francisco archbishop bars Pelosi from receiving Holy Communion due to abortion support." In De La Cruz's tweets accompanying the article, she said, "FINALLY, the Catholic Church has brave priests and archbishops standing up in SUPER DEMOCRAT areas. I pray ALL priests, bishops and pastors do the same, especially in Democrat run counties [...] YOU ABSOLUTELY CANNOT BE CHRISTIAN AND SUPPORT ABORTION. Period. I'll leave that right here on Sunday" [Monica De La Cruz, Twitter, 5/22/22]



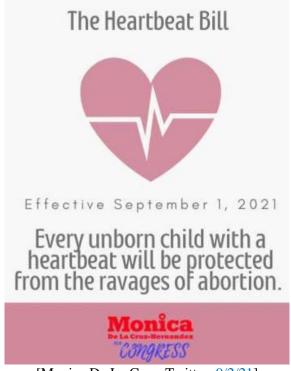
[Monica De La Cruz, Twitter, 5/22/22]

De La Cruz Praised The Passage Of The S.B. 8 "Heartbeat Bill" Which Banned Abortion After Six Weeks In Texas Without Exceptions For Rape Victims And Let "Bounty Hunters" Sue Abortion Providers

De La Cruz Celebrated The Passage of The Texas "Heartbeat Bill"

September 2021: De La Cruz Celebrated The Passage of The Texas "Heartbeat Bill." "The heartbeat bill has officially gone into effect; September 1, 2021. God bless Texas!" [Monica For Congress, Twitter, 9/2/21]

De La Cruz Claimed The Bill Would Protect Unborn Children From The "Ravages Of Abortion."



[Monica De La Cruz, Twitter, 9/2/21]

Texas Senate Bill 8 Banned Abortions As Early As Six Weeks With No Exceptions For Cases Of Rape Or Incest And Allowed Private Citizens, Or "Bounty Hunters," To Sue Abortion Providers Or Anyone Who Aided An Abortion

Senate Bill 8 Banned Abortion As Early As Six Weeks. "Gov. Greg Abbott signs into law one of nation's strictest abortion measures, banning procedure as early as six weeks into a pregnancy. [...] Abortion rights advocates have promised to challenge the new law, which they consider one of the most extreme nationwide and the strictest in Texas since the landmark Roe v. Wade decision. It would amount to an outright ban on abortions, as the six-week cutoff is two weeks after a missed menstrual cycle, opponents say. The law takes effect in September." [Texas Tribune, 5/19/21]

SB 8 Provided No Exceptions For Pregnancies That Resulted From Cases of Rape Or Incest. "The bill bans abortions after whenever an ultrasound can detect what lawmakers defined as a fetal 'heartbeat,' which can be as early as six weeks into pregnancy. Medical and legal experts say the term is misleading because embryos don't possess a heart at that developmental stage. It includes cases where the woman was impregnated as a result of rape or incest. There is an exception for medical emergencies." [Texas Tribune, 5/19/21]

SB 8 Permitted Private Citizens To Sue Abortion Providers And Anyone Who Aided Or Abetted An Abortion. "But the state wouldn't enforce the law. SB 8 instead provides enforcement only by private citizens who would sue abortion providers and anyone involved in aiding or abetting an abortion after a 'heartbeat' is detected. This mechanism could allow SB 8 to skirt Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion, within some limits." [Texas Tribune, 8/31/21]

• SB 8 Radically Expanded Legal Standing To Allow Private Citizens With No Relationship To The Case To Sue Family Members And Drivers Who Help Abortion Patients. "Legal experts have said the law is a 'radical expansion' of standing, which is the legal concept that determines whether one person may sue another, usually in order to get compensation for some sort of injury or harm. The new abortion law requires no such relationship to the case in order to have standing. [...] The patient receiving such an abortion cannot be sued under the law, but everyone who helps that patient can be, including, for example, their doctor, driver or family member who helps pay for the procedure." [Texas Tribune, 9/10/21]

ACLU Headline: Texas' Bounty Hunter Abortion Ban Is A Dire Warning Of What Lays Ahead For Our Reproductive Rights. [ACLU, 3/17/22]

De La Cruz Sought To Limit Access To Mifepristone

De La Cruz Signed Onto An Amicus Brief That Opposed The FDA's Approval Of Mifepristone And Supported Lower Court Rulings That Would Have Restricted Access To The Medication. "The 147 lawmakers, led by Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-Miss.) and Rep. August Pfluger (R-Texas), filed an amicus brief asking the Supreme Court to allow the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals' ruling reinstating mifepristone's restrictions to take effect. '[T]he FDA's actions have contravened' federal law, the lawmakers argue, adding that the agency exceeded 'the scope of its authorized power from Congress' when it approved mifepristone. They also take aim at the FDA's reduction of the drug's restrictions, such as allowing for the use of telemedicine to provide the pill. The lawmakers said in a footnote that their brief is focused on the actions the FDA took on mifepristone from 2016 onward instead of the full approval of the drug because the anti-abortion groups in the case have not asked the Supreme Court to halt the drug's overall authorization. [...] What we're watching: The handful of signers facing competitive elections in 2024 should expect it to come up in attacks on the campaign trail, two Democratic operatives told Axios. Reps. Lauren Boebert (R-Colo.) and Monica De La Cruz (R-Texas) are top targets for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee — which blasted Boebert last week for signing the 5th Circuit brief." [Axios, 4/18/23]

• The Fifth Circuit Upheld A District Court Order That Stayed 2016 Amendments Relaxing Restrictions On Mifepristone And Dispensing Through The Mail. "On August 16, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court

of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled on the appeal in the case challenging the FDA approval of mifepristone, one of the two drugs used to cause a medication abortion. The opinion declined to invalidate the original approval of the drug, but upheld the district court's rejection of more recent actions by the FDA to expand access to the medication. [...] The panel, however, affirmed the district court's order staying the 2016 Amendments relaxing some of the initial safety restrictions and the 2021 non-enforcement decision to allow dispensing through the mail." [American Bar Association, <u>8/18/23</u>]

De La Cruz Cosponsored Legislation That Would Defund Institutions Of Higher Learning With Cites That Provide "Abortion Drugs Or Abortion" To Students. "On January 20th, 2023, Congressman Roy (TX-21) introduced the Protecting Life on College Campus Act of 2023 with Senator Steve Daines (R-MT), the founder of the Senate Pro-Life Caucus. This legislation is in direct response to California's radical chemical abortion pill mandate on college campuses. As of January 1, 2023, California state law requires their 34 public universities to provide chemical abortion pills to their students without exception. This bill would prohibit federal funds from going to any institution of higher learning that hosts or is affiliated with a student-based service site that provides abortion drugs or abortion to students of the institution or to employees of the institution or site. Additionally, to remain eligible for federal funding, institutions of higher learning are required to submit an annual report to the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Health and Human Services certifying that no site provides abortion drugs or abortions to students of the institution. [...] Congressman Roy is proud to be joined by more than 20 cosponsors: Mary Miller (IL-15), Monica De La Cruz (TX-15)." [U.S. Rep. Chip Roy, Press Release, 1/20/23]

De La Cruz Celebrated The Overturning Of Roe V. Wade

De La Cruz Applauded The "Monumental" Supreme Court Decision For Overturning Roe V. Wade. "Monica De La Cruz, the Republican candidate for Texas' 15th Congressional District in the U.S. House, released the following statement on the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. 'I applaud the monumental decision made today by the Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade and return the authority to protect the unborn to the people's elected representatives in the states. This is a sound victory for the pro-life movement and will save countless innocent lives in our nation. I will continue to advocate for the sanctity of life and fight against federally funded abortions, a policy that President Biden and Washington Democrats support. America has some of the highest abortion rates and most extreme pro-abortion laws in the world, and it's time to change that. I also strongly condemn the attacks and harassment of our Supreme Court Justices and ask the people of District 15 to join me in

De La Cruz Said That "Every Effort Should Be Made To Protect And Honor Life" And Claimed Her Constituents Wanted To See Someone "Stand For Values Such As Being Pro-Life"

praying for their safety and security." [Monica De La Cruz For Congress, Press Releases, accessed 10/21/23]

De La Cruz Called Herself "A Pro-Life Single Mother" And Said That "Every Effort Should Be Made To Protect And Honor Life." "Less than two hours after Politico reported Monday evening that the U.S. Supreme Court appeared ready to overturn Roe v. Wade, Beto O'Rourke leaped into action. [...] The Republican nominee for the district, Monica De La Cruz, responded to the Roe v. Wade bombshell by playing up her anti-abortion credentials. 'As a pro-life single mother, I believe every effort should be made to protect and honor life,' De La Cruz said in a statement." [Texas Tribune, 5/6/22]

De La Cruz Said That People In Her District Wanted To See Someone "Stand For Values Such As Being Pro-Life." "Our constituents have very strong values when it comes to their faith and believing in God and leading with God first. And so I believe that that's what our constituents want to see here: Someone who's going to stand for values such as being pro-life,' De La Cruz said in an interview." [Texas Tribune, <u>8/24/22</u>]

De La Cruz Compared Abortion Laws In The United States With Those In China And North Korea

De La Cruz Said It Was "Absolutely Shameful" That The United States, "Along With China And North Korea" Allowed "Elective Late-Term Abortions." "De La Cruz clarified her position on abortion in a statement

to The Monitor. 'Like most Americans, I believe we should make every effort to protect human life and encourage adoption,' the statement began. 'It is just absolutely shameful that we are one of the few countries in the world, along with China and North Korea, that allows elective late-term abortions. That is what my opponent supports and it is completely out of touch with our values here in South Texas.'" [myRGV, 10/8/22]

As A Candidate, De La Cruz Listed An Abortion Ban "In All Cases Except To Protect The Life Of The Mother" As One Of Three Things She Would "Author Or Sponsor If Elected"

When Asked Her "What Three Areas Of Legislation" De La Cruz Proposed "To Author Or Sponsor If Elected," The Third One She Listed Was An Abortion Ban "In All Cases Except To Protect The Life Of The Mother." QUESTIONNAIRE: "In priority order, what three areas of legislation do you propose to author or sponsor if elected?" DE LA CRUZ: "1. Legislation to finish building the border wall across the entire southern border and to provide the resources and suppot to adequately secure our borders 2. Legislation to guarantee our constitutionally mandated 2nd Amendment freedoms with any undue burdens or restrictions. 3. Legislation to prohibit abortion in all cases except to protect the life of the mother." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 7/31/24]

De La Cruz Said That She Supported "Sensible Exceptions" To Abortion Bans For Women With Life-Threatening Medical Conditions. "De La Cruz clarified her position on abortion in a statement to The Monitor. [...] 'Of course, I also believe in sensible exceptions for women, such as life-threatening medical conditions,' De La Cruz continued. 'We also need to help women avoid this situation in the first place by making birth control much more accessible, especially in our community where many people struggle with access to doctors.'" [myRGV, 10/8/22]

De La Cruz Said That She Wanted To Make Birth Control More Accessible. "Of course, I also believe in sensible exceptions for women, such as life-threatening medical conditions," De La Cruz continued. "We also need to help women avoid this situation in the first place by making birth control much more accessible, especially in our community where many people struggle with access to doctors." [myRGV, 10/8/22]

De La Cruz Voted To Block Consideration Of Bills That Would Have Protected Reproductive Health Care

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration For Ensuring Full Access To Essential Reproductive Healthcare, Including Abortion Care. In December 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Cole, R-Okla., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. McGovern said, "Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 12, a bill that would ensure every American has full access to essential reproductive healthcare, including abortion care." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 220-212. [H. Res. 918, Vote #719, 12/13/23; CQ, 12/13/23; Congressional Record, 12/13/23]

De La Cruz Voted Against Consideration Of The Women's Health Protection Act, Which Would Enshrine Federal Abortion Rights

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration Of The Women's Health Protection Act. In January 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Cole, R-Okla., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. McGovern said, "Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up the Women's Health Protection Act." A vote *for the motion* was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 211-205. [H. Res. 5, Vote #21, 1/9/23; CQ, 1/9/23; Congressional Record, 1/9/23]

• The Women's Health Protection Act Aimed To Protect Access To Abortion Care Nationwide. "House Democrats on Thursday reintroduced the Women's Health Protection Act, which would enshrine federal abortion rights, among other protections to abortion access. The bill, re-introduced in the House for the seventh time, would legally protect providing and accessing abortion care nationwide for patients and abortion

providers." [USA Today, 1/30/23]

• The Women's Health Protection Act Would Protect Interstate Travel For Abortion And Would Protect People Who Assisted Others In Accessing Abortions. "House Democrats on Thursday reintroduced the Women's Health Protection Act, which would enshrine federal abortion rights, among other protections to abortion access. The bill, re-introduced in the House for the seventh time, would legally protect providing and accessing abortion care nationwide for patients and abortion providers." [USA Today, 1/30/23]

De La Cruz Supported Defunding Planned Parenthood And Voted Against Considering Legislation To Fund It

De La Cruz Wanted To Defund Planned Parenthood And Other Abortion Providers And Supported The Hyde Amendment

De La Cruz Strongly Agreed That Abortion Providers And Planned Parenthood Should Not Receive Government Funding. "Abortion providers, including Planned Parenthood, should not receive taxpayer funds or grants from federal, state, or local governments. [ANSWER:] Strongly Agree." [ivoterguide, Monica De La Cruz Hernandez Candidate Profile, accessed 8/19/24]

De La Cruz Opposed Tax Payer Dollars Funding Abortions. "Thankfully we have heard on the national stage once again the ugly reality of abortion. The hard truth must be heard. Words that have stood out to me is, 'did you know abortion had a smell?....' Let that sink in. NO TAX PAYER funded abortion!" [Monica De La Cruz, Facebook, 8/27/20]

De La Cruz Embraced Calls To Defund Planned Parenthood At A March For Life Rally. [Monica De La Cruz, Twitter, <u>1/27/20</u>]



[Monica De La Cruz, Twitter, 1/17/20]

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration For Striking Language That Prohibits Funding For Planned Parenthood

De La Cruz Voted For Blocking Consideration For Striking Language That Prohibits Funding For Planned Parenthood In FY 2024 Appropriations For Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies. In November 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Burgess, R-Texas., motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment)." According to the Congressional Record, Rep. McGovern said, "Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to make in order amendment No. 81, offered by Ranking Member DELAURO from the Appropriations Committee, which strikes section 239 of the bill, which prohibits funding to Planned Parenthood and other similar women's health organizations." A vote for the motion was a vote to block consideration of the bill. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 211-205. [H. Res. 864, Vote #646, 11/14/23; CQ, 11/14/23; Congressional Record, 11/14/23]

De La Cruz Voted For The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, Which Would Punish Doctors For Providing Care To Patients

De La Cruz Voted For The Born Alive Survivors Protection Act. In January 2023, De La Cruz voted for: "Passage of the bill that 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 bill passed by a vote of 220-210. [H.R. 26, Vote #29, 1/11/23; CQ, 1/11/23]

- The Born Alive Bill Would Punish Doctors For Providing Care To Patients. "The offensively named 'born-alive' legislation is another cruel and misguided attempt to interfere with evidence-based medical decision making between patients and their physicians...Laws that ban or criminalize evidence-based care and rely on medically unsupported theories and misinformation are dangerous to families and their clinicians. This bill negatively affects all obstetric and gynecologic care." [The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, News Releases, 1/11/23]
- Pro-Choice Advocates Said That The Bill Was "Deliberately Misleading And Offensive To Pregnant People." "This bill is deliberately misleading and offensive to pregnant people and the doctors and nurses who provide their care. It is yet another attempt by anti-abortion politicians to spread misinformation as a means to their warped political end: to ban safe and legal abortion,' Jacqueline Ayers, the senior vice president of policy, organizing, and campaigns at Planned Parenthood Federation of America said in a statement about the bill." [ABC News, 1/12/23]
- Born Alive Legislation Would Take Away Power Over Medical Interventions From Families And Physicians. "The 2002 Born-Alive Infants Protection Act gives absolutely every protection that you would ever want or need for an infant who was born at any stage of development. In that situation, you want parents to be able to decide what the care for their child looks like,' said Dr. Lauren Wilson, a hospital pediatrician and the president of the Montana chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics....Live births after an attempted abortion are exceedingly rare, and the proposed measure would take away power over medical interventions from families and physicians." [19th, 1/6/23]
- HEADLINE: "House Passes Bill That Could Subject Some Abortion Doctors to Prosecution." [New York Times, 1/11/23]

TX-15 Message #4 Backup

Michelle Vallejo is a small business owner who will work with Republicans and Democrats to bring down costs for South Texas families and secure the border by adding thousands of new border patrol agents and taking on the drug cartels and human trafficking

Michelle Vallejo Is A Small Business Owner Who Will Work With Republicans And Democrats To Bring Down Costs For South Texas Families And Secure The Border By Adding Thousands Of New Border Patrol Agents And Taking On The Drug Cartels And Human Trafficking

Michelle Vallejo Was A Hidalgo County Native Who Grew Up In Texas' 15th Congressional District

Michelle Vallejo Was A Hidalgo County Native Who Grew Up In Texas' 15th Congressional District. "Michelle Vallejo, a Hidalgo County native, is ready to show Texas' 15th Congressional District that she is prepared to do what it takes to win. Vallejo ran for the congressional seat in 2022 after the open district was titled in favor of the GOP, but this time, she is confident that her race will be the one to watch. Michelle grew up in the district, owns a small business, and values community efforts above all else." [Lone Star Parity Project, 7/31/23]

Michelle Vallejo Was A Small Business Owner

Vallejo Ran A "Pulga," Or Flea Market, Started By Her Family. "Vallejo said she would continue running on a similar slate of policy issues, including access to health care, economic development and reproductive rights. Vallejo runs a 'pulga,' or flea market, started by her family, which she said gave her a unique outlook on wide swaths of her community." [Texas Tribune, 5/16/23]

Vallejo: "I'll Work With Republicans And Democrats To Add Thousands Of New Border Patrol Agents And Take On The Cartels And Human Trafficking"

Vallejo: "I'll Work With Republicans And Democrats To Add Thousands Of New Border Patrol Agents And Take On The Cartels And Human Trafficking." VALLEJO: "I'll work with Republicans and Democrats to add thousands of new Border Patrol Agents and take on the cartels and human trafficking." [Michelle Vallejo for Congress via YouTube, 0:15, uploaded 8/13/24] (VIDEO)

Vallejo Is Running For Congress To Bring Down Costs And Help Small Businesses Grow

Vallejo Is Running For Congress To Bring Down Costs And Help Small Businesses Grow. "Michelle was the 2022 democratic nominee for TX15. She's running for Congress to be an advocate for all South Texans, bring down healthcare costs, help small businesses grow, defend our seniors, stand up for our veterans, and to make quality education affordable for all." [Michelle Vallejo for Congress, About, accessed 9/4/24]

Additional Resources Backup

Monica De La Cruz would rather play politics with our border than fix the problem, even refusing to support a bipartisan immigration plan that would have sent thousands of new agents to our border and increased funding to fight drug cartels and human trafficking.

Monica De La Cruz Would Rather Play Politics With Our Border Than Fix The Problem, Even Refusing To Support A Bipartisan Immigration Plan That Would Have Sent Thousands Of New Agents To Our Border And Increased Funding To Fight Drug Cartels And Human Trafficking.

De La Cruz Said That The Senate's Border Bill Had "Lots Of Pork," With "A Small Amount Of What They Call Secure The Border" And That It Would "Keep The Border Open." DE LA CRUZ: "We all want border security. Nobody wants it more than I do and we actually do have a stand alone bill that was passed by the House last year in May called the 'Secure the Border Act of 2023.' That's all it was, a simple document, only had border security. It's been sitting on Chuck Schumer's desk for this entire time, nine months, and they have done nothing with it. Now what the Senate wants to pass is basically a package that has lots of pork in it and only has a small amount of what they call 'secure the border,' but you are absolutely right. It is basically just 'keep the border open,' is what it should be called." [KURV 710 via SoundCloud, Congresswoman Monica De La Cruz, 1:04, 2/9/24] (AUDIO)

The Border Package Would Fund Over 1,500 New U.S. Customs And Border Protection (CBP) Personnel, Including Border Patrol Agents And CBP Officers. "The Biden-Harris Administration strongly supports the bipartisan agreement announced in the Senate that would address a number of pressing national security issues. President Biden has repeatedly said he is willing to work in a bipartisan way to secure the border and fix our broken immigration system. [...] Over 1,500 new U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) personnel including Border Patrol Agents and CBP Officers." [White House, Fact Sheets, 2/4/24]

The Border Package Would Fund Over 4,300 New Asylum Officers And Additional U.S. Citizenship And Immigration Services Staff To Facilitate Timely And Fair Decisions. "The Biden-Harris Administration strongly supports the bipartisan agreement announced in the Senate that would address a number of pressing national security issues. President Biden has repeatedly said he is willing to work in a bipartisan way to secure the border and fix our broken immigration system. [...] Over 4,300 new Asylum Officers and additional U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services staff to facilitate timely and fair decisions." [White House, Fact Sheets, 2/4/24]

The Border Package Would Fund 1,200 New U.S. Immigration And Customs Enforcement Personnel For Functions Including Enforcement And Deportations. "The Biden-Harris Administration strongly supports the bipartisan agreement announced in the Senate that would address a number of pressing national security issues. President Biden has repeatedly said he is willing to work in a bipartisan way to secure the border and fix our broken immigration system. [...] 1,200 new U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel for functions including enforcement and deportations." [White House, Fact Sheets, 2/4/24]

February 2024: The National Border Patrol Council Endorsed The Bipartisan Border Agreement. "As conservatives in Congress have blasted the new bipartisan border agreement for not going far enough, the legislation earned a key endorsement on Monday: the labor union that represents U.S. Border Patrol agents. The National Border Patrol Council — which represents more than 18,000 agents — said the bill would 'drop illegal border crossings nationwide and will allow our agents to get back to detecting and apprehending those who want to cross our border illegally and evade apprehension.' It's a significant statement of support from a group that endorsed former President Donald Trump in 2020 and has repeatedly railed against President Joe Biden's handling of the border." [NBC News, 2/5/24]

The Border Package Included Legislation To Impose New Sanctions And Penalties On Fentanyl Suppliers And Cartels. "Today, U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) released the following statement on the bipartisan border bill released by Senate negotiators. The legislation includes Brown's bipartisan Fentanyl Eradication and Narcotics Deterrence (FEND) Off Fentanyl Act, which would impose new sanctions and anti-money laundering penalties targeting the illicit fentanyl supply chain, from the chemical suppliers in China to the cartels that transport the drugs in from Mexico." [Senator Sherrod Brown, Press Releases, 2/5/24]

The Bipartisan Senate Border Package Gave The President Authority To Impose Sanctions On Non-Americans Involved In Trafficking Of Fentanyl By A Transnational Criminal Organization. "The Biden-Harris Administration strongly supports the bipartisan agreement announced in the Senate that would address a number of pressing national security issues. President Biden has repeatedly said he is willing to work in a bipartisan way to secure the border and fix our broken immigration system. [...] Strengthens Federal Law Against Fentanyl Trafficking: Declares that international trafficking of fentanyl is a national emergency and gives the President authority to impose sanctions on any foreign person knowingly involved in significant trafficking of fentanyl by a transnational criminal organization." [White House, Fact Sheets, 2/4/24]