Welcome Packet

Student Advocacy Day on the Hill 2021
CRISP Student Advocacy Day 2021

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Sponsors

¹ Please make sure you have the HOPIN app downloaded
CRISP Leadership Team

CRISP Leadership

Dr. Charles E. Lewis, Jr., Director
Farhana Shafi, CRISP Lobbyist

CRISP 2021 Student Leadership Committee

Noshin Hoque, Columbia University
Nathalia Mora, Columbia University
Monika Soto, Columbia University
Laura Kuhn, University of Maryland
Chrissy Stair, Bryn Mawr College
Stacey Baxter, Catholic University
Allie Maskin, Stockton University
Taylor Brown, Washington University in St. Louis
Jessica Chery, Barry University
Kelly Anguiano, Columbia University
Tiffani Hutton, Columbia University
Sarah Jamgotch, Columbia University
Elizabeth Corkery, Columbia University
Jennifer Nakon, Sacred Heart University
Congressional Social Work Caucus
117th Congress

D-CA-37

Rep. Sanford Bishop  
D-GA-2

Rep. G. K. Butterfield  
D-NC-1

Rep. Andre Carson  
D-IN-7

Rep. David Cicilline  
D-RI-1

Rep. Yvette Clarke  
D-NY-9

Rep. Emanuel Cleaver  
D-MO-5

Rep. Steve Cohen  
D-TN-9

Rep. Danny Davis  
D-IL-7

Rep. Rosa DeLauro  
D-CT-3

Rep. Val Demings  
D-FL-10

Rep. Lloyd Doggett  
D-TX-35

Rep. Gerry Connolly  
D-VA-11

Rep. Bill Foster  
D-IL-11

Rep. Sylvia Garcia  
D-TX-29

Rep. Raul Grijalva  
D-AZ-3

Rep. Alcee Hastings  
D-FL-20

Sen. Mazie Hirono  
D-Hawaii

Rep. Eleanor H. Norton  
D-Dist. of Columbia

Rep. Barbara Lee  
D-CA-13
Program*
EST (Eastern Standard Time)

10:45 a.m - 11:05 a.m  Log in and settle in
11:05 a.m - 11:10 a.m  Welcome from Noshin Hoque, CRISP Team Leader
11:10 a.m - 11:45 a.m  Greetings from Congress Members and Special Guests
11:45 a.m - 11:55 a.m  Benjamin Owusu, Poet, presenting “A Letter”
11:50 a.m - 12:00 p.m  Overview of the Day from Nathalia Mora, CRISP Fellow
12:00 p.m - 12:10 p.m  Overview of Legislation from CRISP Leadership Team
12:10 p.m - 12:15 p.m  Introduction of Keynote Speaker from Dr. Charles E. Lewis, Jr.
12:15 p.m - 12:35 p.m  Keynote Speaker, Luisa Lopez, Manhattan Borough President Office
12:35 p.m - 12:40 p.m  Shirly Rejouis, Poet
12:40 p.m - 12:45 p.m  Wrap-Up from Noshin Hoque, CRISP Team Leader

1:00 p.m - 5:00 p.m  Meetings with Congressional Offices

5:00 p.m - 5:30 p.m  Debriefing

Featured Legislation

H.R. 1 – For The People Act of 2021
H.R. 127 - Sabika Sheikh Firearm Licensing and Registration Act
H.R. 40 - Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act

*Program subject to change due to availability of Capitol Hill faculty schedules
Advocacy Bills

H.R. 1 - For the People Act of 2021

Bill Summary

Introduced January 4, 2021, in the House by Rep. John P. Sarbanes [D-MD-3]. This bill seeks to expand Americans’ access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and implement other anti-corruption measures to fortify our democracy and for other purposes.

What H.R. 1 addresses

- Modernized Voter Registration
  - Automatic Voter Registration
  - Same-Day and Online Registration
  - Protect Against Flawed Purges
- Restore the Voting Rights Act
- Restore Voting Rights to People with Prior Convictions
- Institute Nationwide Early Voting
- Protect Against Deceptive Practices

Latest Actions

01/04/2021 Introduced in House

01/04/2021 Referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), the Judiciary, Oversight and Reform, Science, Space, and Technology, Education and Labor, Ways and Means, Financial Services, Ethics, Homeland Security, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
Advocacy Bills

H.R. 127 - Sabika Sheikh Firearm Licensing and Registration Act

Bill Summary

Introduced on January 4, 2021, in the House by Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee [D-TX-18]. This bill seeks to provide for the licensing of firearms and ammunition possession and firearms registration and prohibit particular ammunition possession.

What H.R. 127 addresses

- Firearm Registration System
- Licensing System
  - Requirements
    - General License
    - Antique Firearm Display License
    - Military-Style Weapons License
  - Psychological Evaluation
  - Denial of License
  - Suspension of License
  - Revocation of License
  - Renewal of License
- Firearm Insurance
- Prohibitions; Penalties

Latest actions

01/04/2021 Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary
01/04/2021 Introduced in House
Advocacy Bill
H.R. 40 - Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act

Bill Summary
Introduced on January 4, 2021, in the House by Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee [D-TX-18]. This bill establishes the Commission to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals for African Americans. It also examines slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommends appropriate remedies.

What H.R. 40 addresses
- Findings and purpose
- Establishment and duties
- Membership
- Powers of the commission
- Administrative provisions
- Termination
- Authorization of Appropriations

Latest actions
01/04/2021 Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary
01/04/2021 Sponsor introductory remarks on measure
01/04/2021 Introduced in House
HOPIN Etiquette

**Hopin Demo (Attendee Experience)**

1. Be mindful of background noise when speaking.

2. Please remain muted throughout the program, and if you wish to speak, please utilize the “raise hand” option and wait for acknowledgment by the host.

3. If you choose to use a web camera, be sure it is stable and focused at eye level, if possible.

4. Please utilize the chatbox freely, and keep in mind it is a professional space where we should all respect one another’s thoughts and opinions.

5. Do not forget to unmute your microphone when speaking.

6. Feel free to utilize reactions such as the thumbs up and clapping hands to acknowledge other speakers.

7. We reserve the right to mute attendees and remove individuals for breaking etiquette guidelines.

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2 Must watch video prior to attending SAD
Meet The Poets

Poet presenting “A Letter” by Benjamin Owusu

Benjamin Owusu attends Stony Brook University and is majoring in social work. Though Benjamin has many passions, he looks forward to working with the education system as a professional social worker.

Benjamin enjoys writing poetry and in this way, he is able to shed light on issues that negatively impact today’s world.

Poet

Shirley "Shirlz" Rejouis is a second-generation Haitian American from Orange, NJ. She is a poet who uses her poetry to shed light on social justice issues and the black experience. She is the Co-Host of The MillenniHer Podcast; a podcast that caters to millennial bosses on the rise. Shirley currently occupies the role of a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Counselor throughout the psychiatric department within a hospital in NJ. Shirley maintains a BA degree in Psychology with a concentration in American Sign Language. She also holds a Certificate in American Sign Language/Deaf Studies. Shirley keeps her hand on the pulse of the African American and Haitian Culture. She is an active advocate for social justice and mental health within the black community.
Luisa Lopez, MSW is a native of New York City and currently serves as Director of Digital Media at the Office of the Manhattan Borough President. She has previously served as Chief of Staff at the NYC Council, and served in the Washington, DC office of former Congressman José E. Serrano as a policy fellow focusing on youth homelessness in the South Bronx. In her career, she has concentrated on addressing structural challenges by developing and implementing social interventions aimed at effecting positive change at all levels of government. Additionally, Luisa and her husband have been unsuccessful in expanding their family, and have become advocates for the increased accessibility and availability of assisted reproductive technology. She is the current President of the Latino Social Work Coalition and Scholarship Fund (where she served as an intern during her time in graduate school), and is a fierce advocate for increasing the number of culturally and linguistically competent social workers serving in New York City’s most vulnerable communities. Luisa holds B.A. in Political Science from the College of the Holy Cross. A social worker by training, Luisa earned her Masters of Social Work from the New York University Silver School of Social Work.
Lobbying 101

Prepare for Your Meeting

- Make sure to agree on specific talking points. A strong case is difficult to make when the tensions are high.
- Plan out the meeting. Time is limited, and it is crucial to be efficient. Determine the speaker for the group before the meeting.
- Clarify your objective behind the meeting. The more specific the goal, the easier for your elected officials or staffer to acknowledge your efforts.

During the Meeting

- Be on time and remain patient. Elected officials can run late due to their schedules. It is essential to be on time and be prepared to have your meeting interrupted.
- Keep it short and concise! If you are meeting with a staff member, you will have approximately 20 minutes and around 10 minutes with an elected official.
- Make sure to introduce yourself and the organization you are affiliated with. Thank the legislator for any action they may have taken on the bill and for their time.
- Paper materials should be limited to no more than five pages.
- The most impactful points are personal and local stories relevant to the bill.
- It is okay to say “I don’t know” to a question. Tell the person you are meeting with that you can follow up later.
- If the elected official has not taken a position yet, ask the person when you can check back in for a response. Set a timeline to ensure you are holding them accountable.

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Sponsors

Council on Social Work Education

National Association of Social Workers

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Penn
Social Policy & Practice
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Luskin
School of Public Affairs

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