

The PerryScope (for the weeks ending 8/2/20)

Welcome to the Pennsylvania Member of Congress Tracking Report for the weeks ending August 2, 2020. After their two-week recess at the beginning of July, the House returned to session and took a number of significant votes, several responding to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Click [here](#) for the full MoC report from the week ending July 26 and [here](#) for the full report for the week ending August 2. You can find a topic-sortable list of all Rep. Scott Perry's votes so far in the 116th Congress [here](#).

TRACKING CONGRESS in the AGE of TRUMP

Nate Silver's [FiveThirtyEight](#) keeps a running tally of how often every member of the House and Senate votes with or against the president. The higher the number, the more the legislator votes to support the Trump agenda.

Member of Congress	Career	116 th Congress	Change from last report (career)	Change from last report (116 th Congress)
Senator Bob Casey (D)	29.3%	23.1%	-0.2%	-0.6%
Senator Pat Toomey (R)	88.1%	86.5%	+0.1%	+0.4%
Rep. Scott Perry (R)	90.2%	96.2%	NO CHANGE	NO CHANGE

HOW PERRY VOTED in the HOUSE

Link to Bill Details	Explainer	Topic	Perry Vote	Date	Vote Count	Result
H.R. 6395	Authorizes FY2021 appropriations and sets forth policies for Department of Defense (DOD) programs and activities, including military personnel strengths.	Appropriations	NO	07-21-20	295-125	PASS
H.Amdt 841 to H.R. 6395	A collection of amendments to H.R. 6395, compiled <i>en bloc</i> , covering everything from reaffirming U.S. support for Ukraine to protecting whistleblowers to our very own PA-10 MOC's amendment prohibiting federal employees from "downloading or using TikTok on any technology device issued by the United States government" (amdt 58).	Appropriations	NO	07-21-20	336-71	PASS
H.R. 7608	One of the dozen "minibus" (as opposed to omnibus) bills that must be passed to fund various portions of the government for FY2021. This one funds Dept. of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs.	Appropriations	NO	07-24-20	224-189	PASS
H. Amdt 851 to H.R. 7608	Another <i>en bloc</i> collection of amendments – these all proposed by Democrats.	Appropriations	NO	07-24-20	223-194	PASS

H. Amdt 852 to H.R. 7608	The Republican en bloc amendments to H.R. 7608, including one by Rep. Perry (amdt. 25) prohibiting any funds from the bill to be used by the U.N. Relief and Works Agency	Appropriations	YES	07-24-20	187-230	FAIL
H.R. 1957	Establishes the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to support deferred maintenance projects on federal lands and permanently reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund.	Environment	NO	07-22-20	310-107	PASS
H.R. 7573	Directs the Joint Committee on the Library to replace the bust of Roger Brooke Taney in the Old Supreme Court Chamber of the United States Capitol with a bust of Thurgood Marshall	Administrative	NO	07-22-20	305-113	PASS
H.R. 7617	Provides FY2021 appropriations to the Department of Defense (DOD) for military activities.	Appropriations	NO	07-31-20	217-197	PASS
H.R. 7027	Establishes and provides \$50 billion in appropriations for the Child Care Stabilization Fund to award grants to childcare providers during and after the COVID-19.	Pandemic Response	NO	07-29-20	249-163	PASS
H.R. 7327	Provides additional funding in FY2020 for taxpayer services, social services block grants, and infrastructure grants to improve childcare safety, including needs assessments.	Pandemic Response	NO	07-29-20	250-161	PASS
House Vote on S. 2163	Creates a bipartisan commission that would work under the framework of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to examine issues such as Black mortality and homicide rates, arrest and incarceration rates, poverty, violence, fatherhood, mentorship, drug abuse, disparate income and wealth levels, school performance at various grade levels, and health.	Racial Justice	YES	07-29-20	368-1	PASS

PA-10 UPDATES

Perry's votes against replacing statue of racist, maintaining national parks, and funding childcare

Rep. Perry's votes over the past two weeks paint a fairly obvious portrait of his priorities and highlight just how out of step he is with the lives of his PA-10 constituents. Most fall squarely in line with the votes of his Freedom Caucus cronies. Over the past several weeks he has voted against:

- removing a statue of avowed racist Roger Brooke Taney from the Supreme Court and replacing it with a statue of Thurgood Marshall. ([H.R. 7573](#))
- supporting deferred maintenance projects on federal lands and permanently reauthorizing the Land and Water Conservation Fund. ([H.R. 1957](#))
- Providing desperately needed funding to childcare programs ([H.R. 7027](#) & [H.R. 7327](#))

In the words of the immortal Maya Angelou: "When someone shows you who they are, believe them the first time." Rep. Scott Perry's votes speak for themselves.

Perry's amendments to appropriations bills reveal his focus

In addition to his votes on the record, as the [July 26 full MoCTrack](#) noted, sometimes the proposed amendments to large appropriation packages are more interesting than the bills themselves.

Several of Rep. Perry's amendments seemed to be focused on China. One in particular picked up on a current obsession of President Trump's, the social media app TikTok. Perry's amendment [to H.R. 6395](#) prohibits federal employees from downloading or using TikTok on any government-issued technology device.

On a more serious note, another of Perry's proposed amendments blocks funding from [H.R. 7608](#) from going to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, an organization that since 1949 has provided education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, microfinance and emergency assistance throughout the world. It is especially dedicated to serving Palestinian refugees, which is apparently why Perry is eager to defund UNRWA.

Is Perry reconsidering his "Kids should be back to school in person this fall" position?

In his ["town hall" from mid-July](#), Rep. Perry went on the record stating: "The science is showing young children are not transmission vectors, so people aren't getting coronavirus from their kids, generally speaking." [According to the York Dispatch](#), Perry cited an unnamed survey from Germany to support his claims.

The Dispatch followed up their coverage with [an editorial on July 29](#) taking issue with Perry's statement, including a response from PA State Education Association (PSEA) spokesperson Lauri Lebo who said, "When it comes to the science, safety, health and medical information that's coming out, PSEA and our members are going to turn toward the experts instead of Scott Perry — a politician who doesn't take science seriously."

Perry pushed back in [a letter to the editor](#) published in the Dispatch on August 4 calling the editorial "partisan" and "reckless." He (or his staff) also floated a [poll of PA-10 constituents](#) on August 4 asking: "Do you think K-12 schools should open this fall, while following health and safety protocols to allow students the option to return to full-time in-person learning?" Time will tell if Rep. Perry releases the actual responses to this survey and – more importantly -- allows them to guide his decision-making.

PA-10 fundraising heats up with record grassroots money for DePasquale and Big Pharma influx for Perry

As we cross under the 100-days-to-go banner for the November 2020 election, the PA-10 contest continues to gather momentum. For Auditor General Eugene DePasquale, that means an increase in grassroots donations. According to the DePasquale campaign, donations exceeded goals for July fundraising. The majority of these contributions come from local, small-dollar contributions. A more recent [endorsement from Barack Obama](#) should continue this momentum into September.

For Rep. Perry, however, [according to the Penn-Capital Star](#), it marks the first big cash infusion came in the form of dark money from outside contributors. The American Action Network has helped to fund ads supporting candidates (like Scott Perry) who have supported less restrictive policies on pharmaceutical prices. The current ads, which run until the end of the month, thank Perry for "working with both parties to accelerate innovation" amid the hunt for a COVID-19 vaccine. Watch for additional ad buys from other outside groups as the race tightens moving toward November.

TWEETS and MEDIA COVERAGE (from PA Statewide Indivisible)

(From the week ending July 26): We open with our Twitter Action sections on the [coronavirus relief plans, promoted legislation](#) and the [Tweets of the Week](#) from each of our twenty Pennsylvania MoCs. In our traditional media recaps, we have quotes from [Senator Casey](#) and [Senator Toomey](#). Only one of the two of

them is telling press he thinks Michael Flynn should be pardoned... we'll let you guess which Senator would say that.

(From the week ending August 2): We open with our Twitter Action sections on [MoC musings on the passing of Representative John Lewis](#), [promoted legislation](#) and the [Tweets of the Week](#) from each of our twenty Pennsylvania MoCs. In our traditional media recaps, we have a round-up of the week's quotes from [Senator Casey](#) and [Senator Toomey](#).

OTHER SECTIONS (from PA Statewide Indivisible)

(From the week ending July 26): A guest contributor reopened our Committee Corner, with information on a recent hearing on press freedoms held by the Commissioners of the [US Helsinki Commission](#). She covered the meeting even though the PA lawmaker on the commission skipped it (tsk, tsk Brian Fitzpatrick). In our Civics Class we review [budget buzzwords](#). And we wrap the report with our call to action – [Senator Toomey needs to hear personal stories from us about why the coronavirus rescue programs need to be renewed](#). We have some tips on crafting an effective emotional plea.

(From the week ending August 2): Our environmental contributor did an amazing job recapping the long-awaited report from the House Select Committee on the [Climate Crisis](#). You could read the 547-page behemoth on your own, or you could let Andrea walk you through the highlights! For our [Call to Action](#) this week we are continuing to work on Senator Toomey to let him know we need an equitable Phase 4 coronavirus rescue bill.

**Make sure you know what is being done in your name by our legislators.
Read MoCTrack, because your legislators work for you!**



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