



119th Child Labor Bills endorsed by the Child Labor Coalition

Protecting child farmworkers:



H.R. 3335 – “Children Don’t Belong on Tobacco Farms Act by Rep. DeLauro” (D-CT)

62 cosponsors as of 3/30/2026

This bill bans direct contact with toxic tobacco on U.S. farms for minors.



S. 1742 – “Children Don’t Belong on Tobacco Farms Act” by Senator Durbin (D-IL)

4 cosponsors as of 3/30/2026

This bill bans direct contact with toxic tobacco on U.S. farms for minors.



H.R. 6066 – “Children’s Act for Responsible Employment and Farm Safety – CARE Act” by Rep. Ruiz (D-CA)

6 cosponsors in the 119th as of 3/30/2026

[A Senate introduction by Lujan expected soon in the 119th]

The bill raises the base age of farmwork from 12 to 14 and minimum age of hazardous farm work from 16 to 18 – the same as all other sectors. The bill does not apply to farm kids working on their family farm.

Bills to increase fines:

"Justice for Exploited Children Act of 2023" by Rep. Scholten (D-MI)

8 cosponsors in the 119th as of 3/30/2026

Raise child labor fines and criminal penalties substantially.

Bills that seek increased fines AND multiple other improvements:



H.R. 3997 –



“Protecting Children Act” by Rep. Scott (D-VA)

Has 8 cosponsors as of 3/30/2026.

Raises child labor fines by a factor of 10, sets minimum fines, and enhances criminal penalties. It would establish a National Advisory Committee on child labor and foster interagency collaboration to combat child labor. It would call for the periodic review of hazardous work rules for children.



H.R. 6597 –



“Let’s Protect Workers Act” by Rep. Scott (D-VA)

79 cosponsors in the 119th on 3/30/2026.

Would raise child labor fines by a factor of 10. Would improve record keeping requirements for employer to help labor law enforcement.



H.R. 7002 – “Justice for Exploited Children Act” by Rep. Scholten (D- MI)

Has 8 cosponsors on 3/19.2026. The bill is bipartisan (Rep. Ryan Mackenzie (D-PA). Increases child labor fines and criminal penalties substantially.

Federal Procurement Bills regarding child labor:



S. 920 – “Preventing Child Labor Exploitation Act” by Senator Josh Hawley R-MO.

1 cosponsor as of 3/19/2026.

[This bill is bipartisan – Sen. Booker is the other lead]

The bill bars companies that have repeat child labor violations from selling goods to the U.S. government.



H.R. 2310 – “COBALT Supply Chain Act” by Congressman Chris Smith

1 cosponsor

To ensure that goods made using or containing cobalt refined in the People’s Republic of China do not enter the United States market under the presumption that the cobalt is extracted or processed with the use of child and forced labor in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



U.S. Senator Patty Murray, former chair and senior member of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP), and U.S. Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT-03)

Introduced 6/17/2026

The Children Harmed in Life-threatening or Dangerous (CHILD) Labor Act of 2026 strengthens our ability to combat child labor by cracking down on employers who violate child labor laws with stronger penalties and allowing children who have been seriously injured to sue their employers. The bill also expands child labor provisions to hold suppliers and subcontractors throughout the supply chain responsible.

We urge congressional members to join the Congressional Child Labor Prevention Task Force, which is led by Rep. Scholten (D-MI) and Rep. McGarvey (D-KY).

Staffers, please let us know when your office introduces a child-labor related bill.

Email the Child Labor Coalition at childlaborcoalition@nclnet.org or call (202) 207-2820.

The Child Labor Coalition congressional champions from the 118th Congress:

U.S. House of Representatives	
Alma Adams (D-NC)	James McGovern (D-MA)
Greg Casar (D-CA)	Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
Judy Chu (D-CA)	Mark Pocan (D-WI)
Rosa DeLauro (D-TX)	Dr. Raul Ruiz (D-CA)
Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA)	Linda Sanchez (D-CA)
Jesus "Chuy" Garcia (D-IL)	Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)
Dan Kildee (D-MI)	Hilary Scholten (D-MI)
Seth Magaziner (D-RI)	Bobby Scott (D-VA)
Morgan McGarvey (D-KY)	Shri Thanedar (D-MI)

U.S. Senate
Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)
Cory Booker (D-NJ)
Bob Casey (D-PA)
Dick Durbin (D-IL)
Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM)
Jack Reed (D-RI)
Brian Schatz (D-HI)



The Child Labor Coalition represents 38 groups that work collaboratively to reduce child labor.

