

A Record of Progress

JOHN CONYERS, JR.

Detailed Congress-By-Congress Summary

1965-Present

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114th Congress, (2015-Present) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation Introduced/Passed Into Law by Rep. Conyers

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that were enacted into law

- **USA FREEDOM Act of 2015**: ends the bulk collection of communications records under: (1) Section 501 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), and (2) the FISA Pen Register and Trap and Trace Device statutes, and (3) the National Security Letter (NSL) authorities. The Act replaces the National Security Agency's bulk metadata program with a new, targeted process for the government to obtain call records only when there is reasonable articulable suspicion to do so, and only with the prior approval of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. The Act also creates a new panel of experts available to consider civil liberties and other technical considerations in any "novel or significant" case before the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. A new reporting regime requires the Intelligence Community to make basic information about its use of FISA available to the public, and permits technology companies that cooperate with the government to provide additional transparency to their users and to the public. The Act reformed the NSL process, requiring the government to limit its uses of gag orders and allowing recipients of NSLs to challenge these requests in court. The USA FREEDOM Act passed the House on May 13, 2015, by a vote of 338-88. It passed the Senate and became law on June 2, 2015. (P.L. 114-23)
- **Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Reduction Act of 2016**: combats the opioid epidemic by establishing a streamlined, comprehensive opioid abuse grant program encompassing a variety of new and existing programs that authorizes funding for vital training and resources for first responders and law enforcement officers, criminal investigations for the unlawful distribution of opioids, drug courts, and residential substance abuse treatment. The bill authorizes \$103 million annually for the grant program. This bill was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 413-5. Although Rep. Conyers expressed concerns regarding the Republican Conference Committee's proposal that enacted limited funding, the President is expected to sign the bill.
- **James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act**, reauthorizes for 5 years the health care fund and compensation claims program for first responders and others suffering serious health problems caused by exposure to toxic materials after the September 11 attacks. (P.L. 114-113)
- **Judicial Redress Act of 2015**: extends the core protections of the Privacy Act of 1974 to the Nation's close allies. Under the Act, the Attorney General may designate allied nations that partner with U.S. law enforcement and maintain certain privacy protections as "covered countries." In effect, citizens of a covered country may bring

suit against a covered agency to compel the disclosure or correction of personal information held in a public record or to seek redress for the unlawful use of such information. (P.L. 114-294)

- Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2015: amends chapter 90 of title 18, United States Code, to provide Federal jurisdiction for the theft of trade secrets. (H.R. 3326)
- Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program Reauthorization Act of 2015: provides matching grants to state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies so that they can purchase bullet-resistant vests for their officers. (P.L. 114-544)
- National Guard and Reservist Debt Relief Extension Act: extends for four years the exception from the bankruptcy means test for members of the National Guard and military reserves. (P.L. 114-107)
- A total of 15 Public Laws have been considered thus far by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 88 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of all measures passed through the Committee, including laws to reduce the sexual exploitation of children, along with other legislative initiatives that became public law.

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers introduced or helped manage that passed the House or the Judiciary Committee

- Second Chance Reauthorization Act of 2015: provides non-profit faith and community-based organizations with mentoring grants to develop support programs that aid ex-offenders reintegrate into society, such as drug treatment, housing, job training, medical care, and education. (H.R. 3406)
- Sentencing Reform Act of 2015: a bipartisan effort to address the problem of unjust mandatory minimum sentencing by giving judges, in some cases, the discretion to sentence below mandatory minimums; reducing mandatory minimum sentencing for certain firearms and drug offenses; and retroactively applying the crack cocaine penalty reductions of the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010. This legislation is estimated to provide relief to some 50,000 individuals in the Federal prison system over a 10-year period. (H.R. 3713)
- Corrections and Recidivism Risk Reduction Act of 2016: allows federal prisoners to earn reduced time in prison based on successful participation in programs, such as education, drug treatment, and job training, which are proven to reduce recidivism. (H.R. 759)
- Tiffany Joslyn Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Reauthorization and the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Act: reauthorizes the Justice Department's Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program at \$25 million from Fiscal Year 2018 through Fiscal Year 2022. The JABG program encourages the use of accountability models that hold juveniles responsible for their behavior by imposing consequences

commensurate with the seriousness of the offense and the youth's prior criminal history by preventing an overly-harsh and disproportionate sentence on a young offender who has little or no history of prior offenses. (H.R. 68)

- Due Process Act: reforms the procedures for federal civil asset forfeiture, including requiring the government to meet a higher burden of proof in asset forfeiture cases, providing counsel to indigent claimants, and enhancing the ability of innocent property owners to challenge forfeitures. (H.R. 5283)
- Email Privacy Act of 2015: amends the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 to prohibit a remote electronic communication service provider from knowingly revealing to a governmental entity the contents of any communication that is in electronic storage otherwise maintained by the provider. This bill was unanimously reported out of the Committee on the Judiciary by a vote of 28-0 and passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 419-0. (H.R. 699)
- Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2015: amends federal bankruptcy law to facilitate the orderly liquidation of a large systemically significant financial institution without disruption to the financial marketplace. This bill was passed out of the Committee on the Judiciary with a unanimous vote (25-0), and passed the House of Representatives by voice vote. (H.R. 2947)
- Foreign Cultural Exchange Jurisdictional Immunity Clarification Act: amends the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act to provide immunity from a lawsuit seeking damages filed against a foreign state based on artwork or other cultural property owned by that foreign state or its agent that is loaned to a U.S. educational or cultural institution for temporary display and has been granted immunity from seizure by the President pursuant to the Immunity from Seizure Act. The bill also has a Nazi-era exception that would deny such immunity for any property taken in violation of international law by the German government or any allied or affiliated government between January 30, 1933 and May 8, 1945 and the claim otherwise falls within the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act's "commercial activity" exception. This bill passed the House of Representatives by voice vote. (H.R.889)
- Secret Service Improvements Act of 2015: requires the position of Director of the Secret Service to be confirmed by the Senate after presidential nomination, authorizes the hiring of additional personnel, requires a review of the agency's use of technology and more training for agents and Uniform Division Officers, authorizes the construction of better training facilities, and allows the agency to investigate threats against former Vice Presidents in the same way it investigates threats against former Presidents. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 365-16. (H.R. 1656)
- Safe Drinking Water Act Improved Compliance Awareness Act: amends the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 to require public water utilities to notify their customers of excessive lead levels in their drinking water. The bill also requires the U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to create a strategic plan to improve information sharing between water utilities, state officials, the EPA and affected customers if there is too much lead in drinking water. This bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 416-2. (H.R.4470)

Legislation introduced

- Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act: acknowledges the fundamental injustice, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and establishes a commission to examine the institution of slavery, as well as the racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans. The bill also authorizes the Commission to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 101st Congress. (H.R. 40)
- Protecting Employees and Retirees in Municipal Bankruptcies Act of 2015: strengthens protections for employees and retirees under chapter 9 municipality bankruptcy cases by: clarifying the criteria that a municipality must meet before it can obtain chapter 9 bankruptcy relief; ensuring that the interests of employees and retirees are represented in the chapter 9 case; and imposing heightened standards that a municipality must meet before it may modify any collective bargaining agreement or retiree benefit. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 113th Congress. (H.R. 95)
- Dangerous Products Warning Act: imposes a fine and/or prison term on any business entity or product supervisor that has knowledge of a serious danger associated with a product and knowingly fails to inform an appropriate federal agency. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 111th Congress. (H.R. 96)
- Protecting Employees and Retirees in Business Bankruptcies Act of 2015: levels the playing field and ensures fairness for employees and retirees in Chapter 11 corporate bankruptcy cases. The bill requires a corporate employer to meet heightened standards to be authorized to reject collective bargaining agreements and reduce retiree benefits. In addition, the legislation mandates stricter court supervision of bonuses paid to executives, ensuring that there is a more equitable shared sacrifice during the restructuring process. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 110th Congress. (H.R. 97)
- Preventing Termination of Utility Services in Bankruptcy Act of 2015: ensures that a consumer who has filed for bankruptcy relief is not forced to pay security deposits to maintain electricity, water, or gas utility service simply because he or she filed for bankruptcy. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 113th Congress. (H.R. 98)
- Health Insurance Industry Antitrust Enforcement Act: eliminates antitrust exemption for health insurers. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 111th Congress.

(H.R. 99)

- Stopping Abusive Student Loan Collection Practices in Bankruptcy Act of 2015: empowers bankruptcy judges to award both the costs and attorney's fees to borrowers in bankruptcy cases they incur whether student loan creditors engage in abusive litigation. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 113th Congress. (H.R. 100)
- Home Foreclosure Reduction Act of 2015: allows a homeowner who files for Chapter 13 bankruptcy relief to reduce the amount of his or her mortgage loan to value of residence and to reduce mandatory mortgage interest rates. Rep Conyers has managed or introduced this legislation since the 110th Congress. (H.R. 101)
- Corporate Crime Database Act: directs the Attorney General to acquire data concerning all judicial proceedings against any corporation or corporate official involving a felony, misdemeanor, or civil charge where fines may be \$1,000 or more. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 111th Congress. (H.R. 102)
- Shield Our Streets Act of 2015: establishes grant programs for law enforcement and public safety as well as local governments in high crime areas and that have reduced budgets, such as in Wayne County, Michigan to apply for funding. This program would cover expenses related to purchasing and installing street lights to deter crime, and funding activities related to crime labs and public defender programs. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 112th Congress. (H.R. 103)
- Cyber Privacy Fortification Act of 2015: imposes criminal penalties for the failure to comply with federal or state obligations to report security breaches pertaining to the sensitive personally identifiable information of individuals. Certain breaches would be required to be reported to the FBI or the Secret Service. The bill would also require federal agencies engaged in rulemaking related to personally identifiable information to publish privacy impact statements relating to the impact of the proposed rule. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 110th Congress. (H.R. 104)
- Quality Health Care Coalition Act of 2015: allows healthcare professionals to collectively negotiate with a health plan concerning contract terms under which the professionals provide health care items or services for which plan benefits are provided. This legislation is designed to level the playing field between health care professionals and health insurers. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 112th Congress. (H.R. 105)
- Expanded & Improved Medicare For All Act: provides all United States residents with free health care, including all medically necessary care and allows these patients to choose from participating physicians and institutions. This legislation has been endorsed by over 573 national, local, and state organizations across the nation. Rep. Conyers has traveled across the country and has given numerous speeches at packed town hall meetings urging Congress to pass universal health care. The universal single payer bill now has the support of over 14,000 physicians and medical students. This bill has 62 cosponsors. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 108th Congress. (H.R.

676)

- Cancel the Sequester Act of 2015: repeals certain sequestration requirements for enforcement of a specified budget goal. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 113th Congress. (H.R. 782)
- Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment and Training Act of 2015: imposes a tax on financial transactions that would fund Workforce Investment Act (WIA) training programs and innovative public and private sector jobs programs across the United States that are designed to eliminate unemployment. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 112th Congress. This bill has 41 cosponsors. (H.R. 1000)
- Saving America's Pollinators Act of 2015: requires the Environmental Protection Agency to suspend the registration of certain neonicotinoid insecticides until the Agency has determined that such insecticides will not cause unreasonable adverse effects on pollinators. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 113th Congress. This bill has 53 cosponsors. (H.R. 1284)
- Democracy Restoration Act of 2015: expands the voting rights of people with felony convictions by allowing them to vote in federal elections. The legislation applies to persons who are not in prisons and only to federal elections. Rep. Conyers has introduced similar legislation since the 103rd Congress. This bill has 53 cosponsors. (H.R. 1459)
- National Jazz Preservation, Education, and Promulgation Act of 2015: establishes National Jazz Preservation Programs and National Jazz Appreciation Program (operated by the Secretary of Smithsonian Institute) to promote and preserve jazz as an art form. Rep. Conyers has introduced similar legislation since the 112th Congress. (H.R. 1682)
- Innovation Protection Act: prevents the diversion of patent application fees from being used to pay for non-patent and trademark office purposes. The bill requires these fees to be deposited into a newly established and separate Patent and Trademark Office revolving fund that could be spent regardless of any government shutdown, sequestration, or lapse in appropriations. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 114th Congress. (H.R. 1832)
- Rehab and Ahmed Amer Foster Care Improvement Act of 2015: strengthens the existing federal policy of encouraging state foster care programs to place children in the care of willing and able relatives. The bill requires states that receive funding for foster care programs to add certain procedural enhancements to ensure a fairer placement decision-making process. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 112th Congress. (H.R. 1868)
- End Racial Profiling Act of 2015: prohibits any law enforcement agent or agency from engaging in racial profiling and it authorizes the United States or an individual injured by racial profiling to enforce their rights under this bill in a civil action for declaratory of injunctive relief. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 107th Congress. This bill has 102 cosponsors. (H.R. 1933)

- Employ Young Americans Now Act: establishes in the Treasury Department the Employ Young Americans Fund with an appropriation of \$5.5 billion for FY 2015. The bill requires the Treasury Department to award competitive grants to local entities for work-based training, work-related and education strategies, and activities that are effective in providing unemployed, low-income young adults and low-income youths the skills that will help them obtain employment. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 113th Congress. (H.R. 2714)
- Law Enforcement Trust and Integrity Act of 2015: encourages more cooperative relationships between state and local law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve by developing national standards for the accreditation of these agencies. The bill also establishes an oversight task force in the Justice Department to study and collect data to improve the practices of community policing. This bill has 44 cosponsors. Rep. Conyers originally introduced this legislation in the 106th Congress. (H.R. 2875)
- The Full Employment Federal Reserve Act of 2015: amends the Federal Reserve Act to promote a maximum unemployment rate of 4% and a stable rate of inflation (instead of stable prices) as part of long run growth. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 114th Congress. (H.R. 3541)
- Labor Statistics Improvement Act: establishes an independent, Commission to Improve Labor Statistics, to recommend improvements to the process and method of determining the topline unemployment rate and develop a new method for determining and reporting underemployment. (H.R. 3674)
- Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 2015: amends the federal judicial code to convert certain temporary bankruptcy judgeships to permanent judgeships and to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judgeships for various districts, including the Eastern District of Michigan. Rep. Conyers first supported similar legislation in the 111th Congress. (H.R. 4225)
- Nurse and Health Care Worker Protection Act of 2015: requires the Department of Labor to establish a standard for safe patient handling to prevent musculoskeletal disorders in health care workers from occurring. The standard requires the use of engineering and safety controls for handling patients. This bill amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to apply the standard to hospitals receiving Medicare funds. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 111th Congress. (H.R. 4226)
- The Emergency Financial Manager Reform Act: authorizes the U.S. Attorney General to withhold a portion of law enforcement funds from the state if the Emergency Manager fails to adequately protect against discrimination in voting, harm to public health, conflicts of interest and mismanagement, or if the Emergency Manager unilaterally denies collective bargaining rights. Adoption of these incentives would enable the state the ability to assist financially troubled local governments directly without jeopardizing citizen safety or constitutional rights. This bill has 44 cosponsors. (H.R. 4754)
- Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity, and Reliability (WATER) Act of 2016:

provides nearly \$35 billion annually to modernize U.S. water infrastructure. This bill funds infrastructure projects by closing an offshore corporate profits loophole, and directs those funds to publicly-owned water systems to ensure safe, clean, affordable water service. (H.R. 5313)

- Honoring the achievements of Berry Gordy and the musical history he created through Motown Records. (H.Res. 550)
- Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Senate should fulfill its constitutional obligation to provide full and fair consideration of the President's nominee for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. (H.Res. 661)
- Calling on the United States Government to resume talks with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea regarding the research, investigation, recovery, and identification of missing and unaccounted members of the United States Armed Forces from the Korean War. (H.Res. 799)

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was one of the lead cosponsors

- H.R. 12 -- Voter Empowerment Act of 2015: amends the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require each state to make public websites available for online voter registration.
- H.R. 20 - Government by the People Act: provides every American with a \$25 refundable tax credit to help spur small-dollar contributions to candidates; establishes a fund to match small-dollar donations if the candidate forgoes traditional PAC money; and provides additional resources for citizen-funded candidates to help break the electoral grip currently held by super PACs.
- H.R. 295 – To reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Preservation Program: amends the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to reauthorize through FY2024 Historic Preservation Fund activities related to the preservation and restoration of historic buildings and structures on the campuses of historically black colleges and universities.
- H.R. 429 – Grand Jury Reform Act of 2014: requires a state to report a death from the use of deadly force by law enforcement within 24 hours, and for a governor-appointed special prosecutor to promptly hold public hearings on it, or a local governmental unit thereof, to be eligible to receive funding under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program.
- H.R. 726 – Secure Data Act of 2015: protects privacy by prohibiting a federal agency from requiring a manufacturer, developer, or seller of any computer hardware, software, or electronic device made available to the general public to design or alter the security functions in such products in order to allow the surveillance of any user or the physical search of such product by any agency.
- H.R. 752 - Large Capacity Feeding Device Act: bans high-capacity ammunition magazines that allow shooters to spray a high-volume of bullets without having to reload,

thereby making guns much more deadly. The prior ban, enacted in 1994, expired in 2004.

- H.R. 885 – Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2015: amends the Voting Rights Act of 1965 in the wake of the Supreme Court’s 2013 decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*, which eliminated the pre-clearance coverage formula, to establish an updated and modernized formula for determining the scope of coverage of Section 5 preclearance. The legislation expands the scope of claims that allow the Court to retain jurisdiction of voting rights violations found under Section 2.
- H.R. 1076 – Denying Firearms and Explosives to Dangerous Terrorists Act of 2015: denies an individual on the terrorist watch list the ability to purchase a firearm.
- H.R. 1217 - Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act: expands the background check requirement to firearms sold at gun shows and through commercial advertisements. This bill is the House companion to the compromise developed in the Senate last Congress by Senators Manchin and Toomey.
- H.R. 1231 – Stop Militarizing Law Enforcement Act of 2014: amends the program by which the Defense Department is authorized to transfer excess property to federal and state agencies for law enforcement activities. Excludes counter-drug activities from the categories of law enforcement activities for which DOD property may be transferred under such program.
- H.R. 1283 – Songwriter Equity Act of 2015: amends the federal copyright law by removing a provision that prohibits license fees payable for the public performance of sound recordings from being taken into account in any administrative, judicial, or other governmental proceeding and sets or adjusts royalties payable to copyright owners of musical works for the public performance of their works.
- H.R. 1943 – Supreme Court Ethics Act: requires the Supreme Court to promulgate a code of ethics for the Justices of the Supreme Court, which must include the five canons of the Judicial Conference’s Code of Conduct for United States Judges, with any amendments or modifications that the Supreme Court determines appropriate.
- H.R. 2775 – Remote Transactions Parity Act of 2015: allows each member state under the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement to require the collection of sales and use taxes already owed under State law by out-of-state businesses.
- H.R. 3051 - Background Check Completion Act: addresses a loophole in current law that allows a gun dealer to transfer a firearm to a purchaser if, after three business days, the background check is not yet complete and has not cleared the purchaser. The bill would permit transfers to take place only if the purchaser is cleared by a completed background check, even if this process takes longer than three days.
- H.R.3155 -- Kalief's Law: amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to require the humane treatment of youths who are in police custody, and for other purpose.
- H.R.3156 – Fair Chance for Youth Act of 2015: authorizes the expungement and sealing

of youth criminal records.

- H.R.3158 -- RAISE Act of 2015: provides alternatives to incarceration for youth, such as early release, supervised release, home confinement and probation.
- H.R. 3185 – Equality Act: amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to add sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity to the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation in places of public accommodation.
- H.R. 3411 - Fix Gun Checks Act: requires background checks for all gun sales. Current law only requires licensed gun dealers to perform such checks before selling a gun. Thus, non-licensed sellers do not have to perform checks. It is estimated that 40% of guns are sold by private sellers without such checks.
- H.R. 3470 – Fair Chance Act: prohibits federal agencies and federal contractors from requiring employee applicants to disclose their criminal history, i.e. “bans the box,” before an individual receives a conditional employment offer.
- H.R. 4269 – Assault Weapons Ban of 2015: bans semiautomatic assault weapons and large capacity ammunition feeding devices with certain exceptions and allows for Byrne-JAG grant funds to be used as a part of a buy-back program.
- H.R. 4380 – Equal Protection in Travel Act of 2016: amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the prohibition against participation in the visa waiver program of an alien is a national of Iraq or Syria, a country designated as one that has repeatedly provided support of acts of international terrorism, or any other country or area of concern.
- H.R. 4479 - Families of Flint Act: appropriates \$1.5 billion in total for infrastructure repairs, wraparound services for Flint families and children exposed to lead, economic development, and health monitoring.
- H.R. 4646 – Fair Day in Court for Kids Act of 2016: amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize the Justice Department to appoint and provide counsel at government expense to aliens in removal proceedings.
- H.R.5260 – The Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act: amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to ensure that parents and communities can take legal actions to enforce racial equality in public schools.
- H.J.Res. 36 - Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the U.S. to regulate the expenditure of funds for political activity by corporations: overturns the *Citizens United* decision by providing that nothing in the U.S. Constitution prohibits Congress and the states from imposing content-neutral regulations and restrictions on the expenditure of funds for political activity by any corporation, limited liability company, or other corporate entity, including but not limited to, contributions in support of, or in opposition to, a candidate for public office. (H.J. Res. 36)

II. Committee Activities

As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers utilized Democratic forums to underscore issues of national concern and criticize overreaches of the Republican majority. This included a forum on Family Detention to highlight abuses experienced by women and children in for-profit detention facilities as they await immigration and asylum proceedings. On April 27, 2016, Rep. Conyers also helped to organize a forum to protest the right-wing efforts to suppress the vote of minorities, students, and the elderly through discriminatory voter-ID laws, reducing the number of polling places, and poor voting-infrastructure maintenance. On June 27, 2016, Rep. Conyers organized and participated in a forum on voting rights at the University of Detroit Mercy Law School. The forum highlighted the conservative strategy to substitute money as a proxy for votes, suppress the minority vote, and misapportion districts by drawing along hyper-partisan district lines.

In early March, 2016, a delegation of Democratic members of the House visited the City of Flint to better understand the devastating impact of the City's lead contaminated drinking water caused by Flint's Emergency Manager. After providing a legislative overview to the Members of Congress in attendance, Rep. Conyers facilitated a discussion between the Members in the delegation and representatives of AFSCME detailing the devastating impact that the emergency financial managers wielded over the citizens of Michigan.

After the historic sit-in protest on the Floor of the House of Representatives, on June 28, 2016, Rep. Conyers joined the Democratic congressional delegation from Michigan at a sit-in meeting at the Berkeley Police Department to call further attention to the need for stronger gun violence. Rep. Conyers called on the Speaker of the House to allow a vote on H.R. 1076, "No Fly, No Buy" bill, while also calling for an assault weapons ban and for universal background checks.

Rep. Conyers worked with Judiciary Chair Goodlatte to hold oversight hearings on "Policing Strategies in the Twenty First Century" on May 19, 2015; continues to seek bipartisan consensus for his "Law Enforcement Trust of Integrity Act" (the leading legislative response to the crisis in police shootings); and -- in the wake of recent shootings in Baton Rouge, outside of St. Paul, and in Dallas -- to work across the aisle with Chairman Goodlatte to help set up and lead a bipartisan working group to examine police accountability and related issues.

Ranking Member Conyers also led the successful opposition to the following extreme measures in the Republican-led House, all of which have thus far either failed to reach the House floor, failed in the House, or have not been brought up for consideration in the Senate. These include:

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- **No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act**: undermines the Affordable Care Act by prohibiting public funds from being used for reproductive health purposes, although federal law already banned this practice under the Hyde Amendment. (H.R. 7)
- **Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act**: attacks a woman's constitutional right to choose by creating a nationwide ban on legal and safe abortions after 20 weeks

fertilization. (H.R. 36)

- Majority Attack on Planned Parenthood: over the course of several one-sided committee investigations, Rep. Conyers defended the women's healthcare provider against unwarranted allegations that resulted from a series of deceptively edited videos.
- Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act of 2016: bans race-selective and sex-selective abortions regardless of fetal viability and without a full exception to protect the life and health of the mother, imposing criminal penalties of a fine or up to 5 years of imprisonment or both for anyone who knowingly performs such a procedure, uses force or the threat of force to coerce someone into getting such an abortion, solicits or accepts funds to perform such an abortion, or transports a woman into the U.S. or across state lines to obtain such an abortion. (H.R.4924)

Attacking Immigrants' Rights

- Legal Workforce Act: provides for the use of an electronic employment eligibility verification system, but without consideration of the negative impacts that implementation would have on the workforce or agriculture industry. (H.R. 1147)
- Enforce the Law for Sanctuary Cities: withholds certain federal grants from cities with policies that allow immigrant communities to work with local law enforcement to address crimes without fear of deportation. (H.R. 3009)
- Asylum Reform and Border Protection Act of 2015: undermines access to asylum in the United States by raising the expedited removal screening standard, limiting the definition of an "unaccompanied child," and lowering the level of care required by statute, and denying asylum to refugees even when they have well-founded persecution fears (H.R. 1153).
- Protection of Children Act: expedites the removal process of unaccompanied children without regard to due process, lengthens detention time, and weakens their right to counsel. (H.R. 1149)
- Michael Davis Jr. in Honor of State and Local Law Enforcement Act (previously Strengthen and Fortify Enforcement Act): increases programs that force local law enforcement to act as immigration officials. The bill eliminates DREAMer protections, increases detentions, and enhances racial profiling by mandating local police to investigate anyone who they suspect to be undocumented. (H.R. 1148)
- American Security Against Foreign Enemies (American SAFE) Act: provides an unworkable framework that would halt refugee resettlement from the Syria and Iraqi region. The bill's certification requirement would effectively shut down the refugee resettlement program in Syria and Iraq, possibly for years. This bill provides for additional layers of bureaucratic review, despite thorough, methodical, and exhaustive background checks that are already required and being conducted. In the midst of a global refugee crisis, this bill would have the United States turn its back on the most vulnerable in the Middle East. (H.R. 4038)

- Refugee Program Integrity Restoration Act: subjects refugees to lengthy scrutiny, increases temporary status, extends refugee processing time, and adds more restrictions to obtaining a green card. This bill reflects the premise that refugees are criminals and need to be monitored closely. On the contrary, these refugees are actually fleeing criminality and should be welcomed in our communities. (H.R. 4731)

Limiting Health, Safety, and Consumer Rights

- Limiting agencies ability to issue, study, and review health, safety, and other regulations, H.R. 527 the “Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2015”; H.R. 427 “Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act”; H.R. 712 “Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2015”; H.R. 185 “Regulatory Accountability Act” H.R. 348 “the Responsibly and Professionally Invigorating Development (RAPID) Act of 2015”; H.R. 1155 Searching for and Cutting Regulations that are Unnecessarily Burdensome (SCRUB) Act of 2015”; H.R. 2834 “To enact certain laws relating to the environment as title 55, United States Code, ‘Environment’”; H.R. 4768 “the Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2016.”
- Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2015: mandates judge-imposed sanctions on attorneys in federal legal actions. (H.R. 758)
- Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act: mandates public disclosure of personal information of asbestos exposure victims who seek compensation from bankruptcy trusts. (H.R. 526)
- All Economic Relations are Transparent Act of 2015: amends Title 5 of the United States Code; to impose an arbitrary six month delay on the implementation of new agency rules. Among other things, the legislation fails to take into account time-sensitive rules such as bridge closing regulations and rules that protect public health and safety. (H.R. 1759)
- Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act of 2015: forces potential class action plaintiffs to comply with restrictive requirements to prove every putative class member suffered the same type and scope of injury. The bill would make it nearly impossible to bring any class actions. (H.R. 1927)
- Committee markup of, Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare Act of 2016: severely limits the ability of injured patients and their families to recover damages from health care providers, pharmaceutical manufacturers, health insurers, and medical product manufacturers and to hold such corporate wrongdoers accountable. The bill also includes provisions broadly preempting state laws designed to protect consumers and patients. When the Committee considered an amendment that would have exempted state constitutional provisions prohibiting caps on damages from the bill’s preemption provisions, at least two Republican Members joined Democratic Members in expressing concerns about the deep intrusion into state sovereignty that this bill represented. At the conclusion of the debate over this amendment, and in light of the

fact that there appeared to be an insufficient number of members present to defeat the amendment, the Committee went into recess and, ultimately, the markup was adjourned without further consideration of the bill. (H.R. 4771)

Upholding Separation of Powers Principles and Defending President Obama's Enforcement of the Laws

- President Obama's Executive Actions on Immigration: At a hearing where Majority Members attacked President Obama's Executive Actions on Immigration, Mr. Conyers defended the President's action to mend the Nation's broken immigration system through deferred action programs.
- House Resolution Amicus in Opposition to the implementation of President Obama's Immigration Executive Actions: Rep. Conyers led the fight against the ill-conceived and misleading House Resolution 639, which would authorize House Republicans to file an amicus on behalf of the whole House of Representatives that was not representative of the entire legislative body.
- Amicus Brief to Supreme Court to Support President Obama's Immigration Executive Actions: Mr. Conyers joined 184 House Democrats and 34 Senate Democrats in filing an amicus brief in support of the petition for certiorari to the Supreme Court seeking review of the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling, which blocks the DHS from implementing the Deferred Action for Parent of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) program and expanding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.
- Resolution to Impeach IRS Commissioner John Koskinen: Rep Conyers led the Democratic opposition to a proposal to impeach the sitting Commissioner for IRS, a proposal based largely in activity that predated his arrival at the agency.
- Task Force on Executive Overreach: over the course of the Task Force's existence, Rep. Conyers defended the constitutionality of the Obama Administration's actions across several areas of domestic and foreign policy. These policy actions include steps taken to implement the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA), the Paris Climate Agreement, and the Iran Nuclear Deal.

In this Congress, Ranking Member Conyers continued to lead the opposition to ill-considered measures which were passed into law by the Republican Congress. These have included:

- Visa Waiver Program Improvement and Terrorist Travel Prevention Act of 2015: though aspects of the bill will help to ensure greater border security, the bill also includes discriminatory provisions based on dual citizenship and ancestry, and does not provide exceptions from the restrictions on visa waiver travel for those who have spent time in Syria, Iraq, and other designated countries to provide medical or humanitarian aid or as journalists or researchers. (P.L. 114-113)

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

As a senior member of the Michigan delegation, Rep. Conyers worked in conjunction with his colleagues to secure funding for various projects in the Detroit metropolitan area. While earmarks were banned in the 112th Congress and continued to be prohibited in the 113th and 114th Congresses, Rep. Conyers has requested and helped secure more than \$331.9 million in grants and appropriated funding for the Detroit area thus far.

Rep Conyers sponsored legislation to authorize a \$2 billion dollar supplemental funding for the Troubled Asset Relief Program's (TARP) Hardest Hit Fund. Following the legislation's passage, Rep. Conyers sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Jack Lew encouraging the Administration to consider Michigan's "disproportionate economic challenges resulting from the Great Recession." Detroit received more than \$88 million in this second funding round, which will be spent toward keeping people in their homes.

General Infrastructure Improvements (\$25.9 million)

- Capital Improvement Grant totaling \$25,925,548 under the "Moving Ahead in the 21st Century" (MAP-21) program to the City of Detroit Department of Transportation. These funds can be used for creation, development and expansion of Bus Rapid Transit Networks.

Housing and Urban Development (\$14.1 million)

- Two Community Development Block Grants for Entitlement Communities totaling \$5,837,738, to Wayne County (\$4,924,800) and the City of Dearborn Heights (\$912,938) for development of sustainable communities for low income individuals by providing affordable housing, a health living environment, and economic opportunities.
- Two grants through the Family Self Sufficiency Program totaling just over \$1 million to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and the City of Westland for housing assistance to low-income families.
- Four grants totaling \$692,731 to area public housing agencies under the Public Housing Capital Fund for development, maintenance, and modernization of public housing facilities.
- Three grants totaling \$6,626,939 to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and Detroit Central City Commission through the Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grant Program to engage homeless individuals and provide emergency housing assistance and shelter relocation with the goal of reducing and eliminating homelessness.

Department of Education (\$1.7 million)

- Three grants totaling \$627,465 to the Academy for Business & Technology, the Detroit Board of Education, and the Voyageur Academy for programs to improve education quality and help meet state content standards.
- \$419,000 to the Wayne County Community College District to assist traditionally underfunded Historically Black Colleges and Universities to strengthen management and fiscal operations, endowment building, and academic curricula.

- \$379,925 to the Livonia Public School District through the Carol M. White Physical Education Program to improve before school, after school, and summer recess physical education programming.
- \$327,866 to Michigan State University for a study of the impact of Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and other teaching practices on 4th and 5th grade writing development to be conducted in Oakland County.

Department of Energy (\$5.1 million)

- Multiple grants totaling \$1,270,000 to Ford Motor Company and ASG Renaissance through the Vehicle Technology Program for the development and advancement of plug-in hybrid vehicle technology, engine efficiency and other next-generation automotive technologies.
- Multiple grants totaling \$3,840,000 to Wayne State University for various particle physics research projects.

Department of Health and Human Resources (\$29.3 million)

Health Resources and Services Administration (\$13.3 million)

- Four grants totaling \$10,951,829 to the Children’s Hospital of Michigan through the Children’s Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program to support the training of pediatric and other residents in graduate medical education programs.
- Two grants totaling \$1,764,881 to the Institute for Population Health through the Healthy Start Initiative to eliminate disparities in perinatal infant and maternal health by improving healthcare infrastructure and service targeted at women and infants at higher risk for poor health outcomes.
- \$534,191 to Children’s Hospital of Michigan for Poison Control Center efforts to prevent and provide treatment for poisonings and enhance response capacity.
- \$6,869,726 to Henry Ford Health Systems for medical research into the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases ranging from heart disease and diabetes to mental illness and drug addiction.
- \$9,214,569 in Ryan White Program grants to the Detroit City Health Department to assist low-income individuals and families access HIV/AIDS care and enhance community –based outreach to minority populations.

Head Start (\$48.6 million)

- Eight grants totaling \$48.6 million in Birth to Five Head Start and Early Head Start funding to Starfish Family Services, Matrix Human Services, Metropolitan Children and Youth Inc. Head Start for early childhood development programs

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (\$500,000)

- Three grants totaling \$500,000 to Adult Well-Being Services to collaborate and prevent the spread of HIV in Wayne County.

Department of Justice (\$8.24 million)

Legal Services Corporation

- Grants totaling \$8.24 million from the Legal Services Corporation to Southeast Michigan

area providers of civil legal services, such as Lakeshore Legal Aid, to qualifying low-income individuals

Department of Labor (\$110 million)

- \$110 million in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funding to the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to oversee unemployment insurance programs for eligible state and federal workers, including ex-service members

Department of Treasury (\$88.2 million)

Hardest Hit Fund (\$88,200,000)

- A total of \$88.2 million dollars was allocated to Detroit for blight removal through the Treasury Department's Hardest Hit Fund.

Detroit IRS Office

Rep. Conyers, along with other Members of Michigan's congressional delegation, helped prevent the closure of a Detroit office of the Internal Revenue Service, preserving a facility that provides invaluable services to Detroit area taxpayers needing assistance with their taxes and keeping 90 good paying jobs in Detroit.

IV. Other

- In a letter to Michigan Governor Snyder, Representative Conyers addresses the danger of Bill SB789, which seeks to change the process of issuing licenses by allowing the carrying of concealed firearms. Representative Conyers urges Governor Snyder to veto this bill because of, among other reasons, a provision that would endanger victims of domestic violence and stalking. Governor Snyder would veto the legislation citing, "the chance of exposing domestic abuse victims to additional violence or intimidation." (01/09/15)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post*, titled "America's New Single-Payer Majority," which promotes the adoption of the "Medicare for All" model, which over half of Americans support. (02/05/15)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post*, titled "President Obama's Justified Executive Authority," in which Rep. Conyers refutes the proposal made in an op-ed by Eugene Scalia and Rachel MonDi advocating for courts to overturn President Obama's executive order requiring federal contractors to pay their workers at least \$10.10 an hour. Mr. Conyers argues that the executive order was legal and within the purview of the President's power and advocates for the necessity of this order. (03/08/15)
- In an article in *The Nation*, titled "Dissent Versus Sabotage," Rep. Conyers contrasted the tactics of principled opposition that he has exercised over the course of nine presidencies – from the drafting of articles of impeachment against President Nixon for war crimes to holding hearings over alleged war crimes in Iraq by President Bush – with

the irresponsible and dangerous actions of some Republican Members of Congress for sending a threatening letter to Iranian government officials during the midst of bilateral negotiations. (3/13/15)

- In a letter to Sen. McConnell, Rep. Conyers and others urged Majority Leader McConnell to expedite the nomination process of the Honorable Loretta Lynch for the position of Attorney General of the United States to the without further delay. (03/19/15)
- The arrest of an unarmed black man, Floyd Dent of Inkster, Michigan, raised suspicion - rooted in historical concerns - surrounding the actions of the officers involved. Video footage showed that some of the officers were beating and placing Mr. Dent in a chokehold, while another group of officers were mercilessly tazing him. In this letter, Rep. Conyers called for the Department of Justice to provide technical and other assistance to both state and local officials in their own investigation of the Dent incident. (04/03/15) In a subsequent letter to Attorney General Eric Holder, Rep. Conyers asked the Department of Justice to formally investigate the police beating of Floyd Dent. (04/07/15)
- In an op-ed in *Huffington Post*, titled “Even the Rich Should Reject the Ryan Budget,” Mr. Conyers explains how the Majority’s budget negatively affects the rich and business owners. (04/09/15)
- In an op-ed in *Huffington Post*, titled “Solving the Climate Crisis Will Strengthen Our Economy,” Rep. Conyers approves of the environmental protection efforts taken by President Obama’s administration and argues for a “Green New Deal” in order to strengthen the economy and protect the environment. (04/11/15)
- In an op-ed in *Huffington Post*, titled “Criminal Injustice,” Rep. Conyers demands change in America’s criminal justice system and praises President Obama for announcing an initiative to expedite the clemency process for non-violent offenders. (05/21/15)
- In a joint letter to President Obama, Rep. Conyers and Sen. Sanders, along with with more than 70 members of Congress, calls on the President to expand social security. (07/12/16)
- In a joint letter to Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Chairman Culberson and Ranking Member Fattah, Rep. Conyers and others requested sufficient funding for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) Program and the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs for Fiscal Year 2016. These programs have enabled law enforcement agencies to form vital partnerships among communities and law enforcement officers, combat criminal activities, and develop and implement problem-solving and crime prevention programs nationwide. (07/22/15)
- In a letter to then-Speaker Boehner, Rep. Conyers expressed concern against rushing a vote on H.R. 3009, the “Enforce the Law for Sanctuary Cities Act,” due to the impact it would have on state and local law enforcement agencies and communities around the country. (07/22/15)

- In an online op-ed in *Huffington Post*, titled “GOP Economics: Export American Jobs Rather than American Products,” Rep. Conyers defends the Export-Import bank against the efforts of some Republicans to destroy it. (07/29/15)
- Op-ed in *The Hill* titled “Iran Diplomacy: History is on Obama’s Side,” Rep. Conyers praises President Obama for his efforts to reduce the nuclear capabilities of Iran, and compares the efforts to those of President Reagan in his pursuit of nuclear arms reductions in the Soviet Union in the late 1980’s. (08/24/15)
- In a letter to Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Chaffetz and Judiciary Committee Chairman Goodlatte, Rep. Conyers and Rep. Cummings urge them to halt their one-sided investigations into Planned Parenthood. (09/03/15)
- In an op-ed in *Huffington Post*, titled “Congress Should Heed Pope Francis’ Call to Answer the ‘Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor,’” Rep. Conyers praises Pope Francis for his social criticism and his call for Congress to take action on climate change and inequality in the U.S. (09/24/15)
- In a joint letter to the Deputy Librarian of Congress, Rep. Conyers and others call attention to a technology failure in Library IT functions and pose several inquiries concerning copyright registration records and the interdependence between the Library’s and Copyright Office’s IT functions. (10/07/15)
- In a letter to Senators Mitch McConnell and Harry Reid, Rep. Conyers, along with 29 other Members of Congress advocated for the Senate to avoid enacting discriminatory dual-citizenship provisions, travel-restrictions against aid-providers or researchers, and that the visa waiver program should be subject to reauthorization. (12/11/16)
- In a letter to President Obama, Rep. Conyers and the rest of the Congressional Black Caucus urged the President to investigate and to provide as much Federal aid as possible to mitigate the environmental catastrophe in Flint, Michigan. (1/15/16)
- In a letter to Ms. Cheryl Boone Isaacs of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Rep. Conyers and Rep. Hank Johnson expressed disappointment that for the second year running, there were no African American Oscar nominees in any major category. The letter noted that the Academy’s recently announced plan to increase diversity should be seen as a first step toward a broader plan to increase diversity in Hollywood as a whole. (02/03/16)
- In a letter to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson, and Secretary of State John Kerry, Rep. Conyers requested that their agencies clarify that restrictive changes to the visa waiver program did not apply to dual nationals of Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Sudan. (02/04/16)
- In a letter to Attorney General Loretta Lynch, Rep. Conyers and other Members of the Congressional Progressive Caucus urged the Department of Justice to conduct a thorough investigation of the water crisis in Flint. The letter praised the announcement by DOJ that prosecutors in the FBI and the Criminal Investigation Division at the EPA had opened a criminal investigation. (2/12/16)

- In an article in *The Nation*, Rep. Conyers detailed how the actions of unaccountable Emergency Managers resulted in the hazardous conditions in Flint and the Detroit Public Schools. The article details the numerous warning signs that Governor Snyder ignored, and demonstrates that the public health catastrophe could have been prevented. (2/17/16)
- In a letter to Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew, Rep. Conyers highlighted the successful distribution of resources from the Hardest Hit Fund in previous instances, and advocated for the Department of the Treasury to allocate a substantial amount of future funding from the Hardest Hit Fund. (02/23/16)
- As a part of the *Ebony Magazine* series, “In My Lifetime,” Rep. Conyers reflected on the frustrations and displays of violence that boiled-over during 1967 Detroit Riots. Reaffirming his dedication to work to achieve full-equality for Detroiters, Rep. Conyers encouraged others to continue to complete the work that is needed. (2/24/16)
- In a letter to President Obama, Rep. Conyers urged the White House to highlight the importance of a less punitive and more public health-centered approach to international drug policy at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem. (03/18/16)
- Rep. Conyers, together with Reps. Goodlatte, Upton, and Pallone, announced the creation of a bipartisan working group on encryption to examine the legal and policy issues surrounding encryption. (03/21/16)
- In a letter to Attorney General Loretta Lynch, Rep. Conyers – together with Senior Judiciary Democrats and the chairs of the Chairs of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and the Congressional Progressive Caucus – asked the Department of Justice to review the impact on presidential primary elections of recently implemented voting restrictions. In particular, the letter focused on the high-profile incidents in Arizona and North Carolina. (04/12/16)
- In an op-ed in *The Detroit News*, Rep. Conyers articulated the need to eliminate laws that authorize the appointment of unaccountable emergency financial managers. Following on the findings of the task force appointed by Governor Snyder, Rep. Conyers called for the passage of his legislation, *The Emergency Financial Manager Reform Act*, to prevent the emergency managers from inflicting further harm on Americans. (04/14/16)
- In an op-ed in *The Nation*, Rep. Conyers and Barbara Arnwine called for the need to start a movement to restore voting-rights in the United States. (04/14/16)
- In an op-ed in *Politico*, Rep. Conyers called on the United States to support civil rights monitoring in the occupied territories of the Western Sahara, which is the last colony in Africa. (04/27/16)
- In a letter to Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, Rep. Conyers, with more than 100 co-signers, including Sen. Elizabeth Warren, urged her to appoint more minorities and to increase the occupational diversity in leadership positions at her agency. Further, the letter advocated for the Federal Reserve to consider the high unemployment rates among

minority racial groups before making a decision to raise interest rates. Both Democratic Presidential candidates expressed support for the changes advocated by Rep. Conyers. (05/12/16)

- In a letter to Governor Rick Snyder, Rep. Conyers – along with Reps. Kildee and Lawrence – requested that the state of Michigan pay the legal fees for Darnell Early. As the emergency financial manager who presided over the catastrophes in Flint and the Detroit Public Schools, Rep. Conyers objected to reports that Mr. Early sought to have Flint pay his legal fees. (05/19/16)
- The GAO published a report requested by Rep. Conyers and Rep. Scott revealing that - more than 60 years after the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision - trends toward segregation in public schools are once more on the rise. In response to the report Rep. Conyers called on federal, state, and local level officials to enforce the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. In an op-ed in *Time*, Rep. Conyers advocated for the need to pass legislation to stop the growing trend of education inequality. (05/20/16)
- In a letter to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Gina McCarthy, Rep. Conyers expressed concerns regarding the EPA’s approval of an insecticide toxic to pollinators. The letter encourages the EPA to further evaluate the chemical impacts on bees. (05/26/16)
- In a letter to Chairman Goodlatte, signed by all Democratic Members of the Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers urged that the Committee move quickly to address the issue of gun violence in the wake of the tragic shooting in Orlando, Florida. (06/15/16)
- Rep. Conyers joined hundreds of Members of the Democratic Caucus in a sit-in demonstration protesting gun violence in the United States on the floor of the House of Representatives. (06/22/16)
- In an op-ed in *Time*, Rep. Conyers joined with Rep. Rangel to condemn the alienating, and segregationist rhetoric emanating from Donald Trump’s Presidential campaign. As veterans of the fully integrated armed forces that fought in the Korean War, these high ranking Democratic Members stated that they could not stay silent while un-American attacks on minority groups are given voice. (06/24/16)
- In a letter to Secretary of State John Kerry, Rep. Conyers led 158 Members of Congress in a bipartisan request to pressure the United Nations for a more effective response, including reparations to victims, for its’ role in bringing cholera to Haiti. (06/29/16)

Awards

- Jazz Education Network – Jazz Griot Award (01/09/2015)
- MLK National Salute – King Legacy Award for National Service (01/18/2015)
- First Focus Campaign for Children – Defender of Children Award (03/03/2015)
- Biotechnology Industry Organization – BIO Legislator of the Year Award (04/14/2015)

- Congressional Black Caucus and the Memorial Foundation – Leaders of Democracy Award (09/16/2015)
- Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council – Inaugural Inductee into the Michigan Minority Business Hall of Fame (10/06/2015)
- National Network to End Domestic Violence – Recognizing Mr. Conyers for his leadership and work on behalf of victims of domestic violence (06/07/2016)
- Heroes for Hope – Father Bill Cunningham Award (06/10/2016)
- Roots of Development – 2016 Max Pulgar-Vidal Award (06/18/2016)

113th Congress, (2013 - 2014) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation Introduced and into Law by Rep. Conyers

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that were enacted into law

- Violence Against Women Act: reauthorizes and strengthens the Violence Against Women Act, including extending much-needed protections to underserved Native American communities and members of the LGBT community. The legislation provided an increase in campus security protection and a reduction in the backlog for domestic violence evidence kits. (P.L. 113-4)
- Extending the Undetectable Firearms Act of 1988 for 10 Years: prohibits the manufacture or possession of firearms that are not detectable by the types of x-ray machines commonly used at airports. (P.L. 113-57)
- Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2013: requires states receiving grant funds from the Federal government to report to the Bureau of Justice Statistics information regarding the death of any person who is detained, arrested, en route to incarceration, or incarcerated in state or local facilities or a boot camp prison. The Attorney General is required to study the data and make recommendations to reduce the number of deaths. (P.L. 113-242)
- Unlocking Consumer Choice and Wireless Competition Act: restores the exemption to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act that permits consumers to unlock their cell phones without the approval of their wireless provider. (P.L. 113-144)
- Debbie Smith Reauthorization Act of 2014: authorizes funding of nearly \$194 million for each of Fiscal Years 2015-2019 for the Department of Justice to administer various grants, including the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program, to assist state and local law enforcement agencies in solving rape and other violent crimes. (P.L. 113-182)
- A total of 18 Public Laws were considered by the Judiciary Committee as a result of 122 hearings and markups, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of all measures passed through the Committee, including an extension of the United States Parole Commission, a bill establishing safeguards and quality standards for research and transplanting organs infected with HIV, and a bill prohibiting fraudulent claims about military service, along with other legislative initiatives that became public law.

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers introduced or helped manage that passed the House

- USA FREEDOM Act: ends the domestic bulk collection of communications records and increase oversight and public scrutiny of government surveillance programs. The USA Freedom Act prohibits bulk collection under Section 215 of the Patriot Act, the FISA pen register and trap and trace authority, and various national security letter statutes. It authorizes a new, targeted process for the government to obtain call records on a case-by-case basis with prior approval from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. The bill also creates a panel of legal experts to help ensure the FISA court adequately considers privacy concerns and constitutional rights of Americans. This legislative compromise was brokered in part by Rep. Conyers, following his work with Republican Rep. Justin Amash to craft legislation that would end the bulk collection of telephone

metadata. During a debate on the House floor, Rep. Conyers and Rep. Amash forced a vote on a measure - an amendment that mirrored Rep. Conyers's LIBERT-E Act - which would have defunded the telephone metadata program. Although the amendment fell just twelve votes shy of passage, it garnered bipartisan momentum for the USA Freedom Act. This legislation is the first surveillance reform legislation to pass the House or Senate since 1978. The bill passed the House by a vote of 303-121. (H.R. 3361)

- Amendment to the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2015: prevents the transfer of shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles – otherwise known as Man-Portable Air-Defense Systems, or MANPADS – to any party in the Syrian Civil War. MANPADS have the capability to bring down commercial jets, are easily hidden, and have resulted already in the loss of nearly 1,000 civilian lives. This bill passed the House of Representatives by voice vote. (H. AMDT.914 to H.R. 4870)
- Financial Institution Bankruptcy Act of 2014: amends federal bankruptcy law to facilitate the orderly liquidation of a large systemically significant financial institution without disruption to the financial marketplace. This bill passed out of Committee on the Judiciary by voice vote and passed the House of Representatives by voice vote. (H.R. 5421)
- Amendment to the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Appropriations Act of 2015: fully funds the Homeless Data Analysis Project (HDAP), the federal government's leading center for data collection and dissemination for best practices for combating homelessness. This amendment increases funding for HDAP by \$2 million. This program has been located within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development since 2001 and provides critical resources to communities to improve data collection, reporting, and integration of data collection efforts with other federal funding streams. This amendment passed the House of Representatives by voice vote. (H. AMDT.795 to H.R. 4745)

Legislation introduced

- The John Hope Franklin Tulsa-Greenwood Race Riot Claims Accountability Act: creates a federal cause of action to allow the survivors of the Tulsa-Greenwood Race Riot of 1921 to seek a determination on the merits of their civil rights and other claims against the perpetrators of the riot in a federal court of law. Rep. Conyers first introduced this legislation in the 110th Congress. (H.R. 98)
- LIBERT-E Act: restricts the federal government's ability under the USA PATRIOT Act to collect telephone metadata information on Americans who are not connected to an ongoing investigation. In July of 2013, Rep. Conyers joined with Republican Congressman Justin Amash of Michigan to offer an amendment comparable to the LIBERT-E Act to the National Defense Authorization Act of 2013. This amendment would have prohibited the National Security Agency from collecting bulk metadata on domestic phone calls. As noted above, the Amash-Conyers amendment was just 12 votes shy of passage in the face of heavy resistance from Congressional leadership. (H.R. 2399)
- Families for Foster Youth Stamp Act of 2013: provides for the issuance and sale of a semi-postal mailing by the USPS to support effective programs targeted at improving permanency outcomes for youth in foster care. (H.R. 2149)
- Maternal Health Accountability Act: awards grants to states for reviewing and reporting on maternal mortality and pregnancy-related deaths. The bill provides for public

disclosure of the information reported. Rep. Conyers originally introduced this legislation in the 112th Congress. (H.R. 4216)

- Protecting Students from Worthless Degrees Act of 2014: makes any institution of higher education (IHE) postsecondary program designed to prepare students for a recognized occupation or profession requiring licensing or other entry pre-conditions ineligible to participate in a federal financial assistance program, unless it meets specified student consumer protection requirements. Rep Conyers originally introduced this legislation in the 112th Congress. (H.R. 5572)
- Recognizing and congratulating the Detroit brand of automotive engines, axles and transmissions on the occasion of its 75th anniversary in Michigan. (H. Con. Res. 42)
- Observing the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks, and commemorating her legacy. Rep. Conyers originally introduced similar legislation in the 112th Congress. (H. Res. 54)
- Recognizing “International Jazz Day”: congratulates the city of Istanbul in the Republic of Turkey for hosting the 2013 International Jazz Day and commending the Thelonious Monk Institute for its role in coordinating the worldwide celebration. (H. Res. 179)

II. Committee Activities

As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers utilized Democratic forums to underscore issues of national concern and criticize overreaches of the Republican majority including: (1) a Gun Violence Prevention Task Force Forum following the tragedy in Newtown, Conn. (2) a Forum on the Legal Implications of Detroit’s Bankruptcy, (3) a Forum on the Impact of the Government Shutdown and Sequestration on the Judiciary following the shutdown of the federal government over Republican demands to defund the Affordable Care Act, and (4) a Forum on Collateral Consequences – state and federal civil penalties that flow from criminal convictions and occur after an individual has already served their sentence.

Ranking Member Conyers also led the successful opposition to the following extreme measures in the Republican-led House, all of which failed to reach the House floor, failed in the House, or have not been brought up for consideration in the Senate. These include:

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act: banning abortions after 20 weeks not just in the District of Columbia but across the country. The version of this bill reported out of Judiciary Committee did not even have a rape, incest, or life of the mother exemption. (H.R. 1797)
- No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act: attempts to undermine the Affordable Care Act by prohibiting public money from being used for reproductive health purposes, even though federal law already bans this practice under the Hyde Amendment. (H.R. 7)
- Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act: Representative Conyers opposed this bill that attacked the constitutional rights of women by creating a nationwide ban on legal and safe abortions 20 weeks after fertilization. (H.R. 1797)

Attacking Immigrants' Rights

Following President Obama's re-election, the President called for swift Congressional action to overhaul America's broken immigration system. As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers has been at the forefront of crafting and advocating for bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform that would bring some 11 million undocumented immigrants out of the shadows. While House Republicans ran out the clock on pursuing meaningful reform, Rep. Conyers led the opposition to the following piecemeal bills that would have harmed immigrants as well as efforts to limit the ability of unaccompanied aliens to establish claims of asylum:

- The Legal Workforce Act: requires the use of an electronic employment eligibility verification system, but without any protections for U.S. citizens and work-authorized immigrants who may be incorrectly identified as unauthorized immigrants who may be incorrectly identified as unauthorized to work. (H.R. 1772)
- The Agricultural Guestworker Act: provides guestworker visas to immigrants, but would require them to leave the country after 18 months with no promise whatsoever of return. Guestworkers would also be forced to leave their spouses, children, and homes behind. This is comparable to past "self-deportation." (H.R. 1773)
- The SKILLS Visa Act: eliminates the Diversity Visa program, a long-standing immigration program that provides green cards to nationals from countries that have low levels of immigration to the United States, and the sibling visa category that allows U.S. citizens to reunite with family members. The bill also exacerbates existing green card shortages and backlogs by more than doubling the number of high-skilled workers visas, while only slightly increasing the number of available green cards. (H.R. 2131)
- The Strengthen and Fortify Enforcement (SAFE) Act: criminalizes the 11 million undocumented immigrants already living within the United States. This bill is the exact opposite of a pathway to citizenship. (H.R. 2278)
- Immigration Compliance Enforcement (ICE) Act: defunds an office within Immigration and Customs Enforcement tasked with protecting detained immigrants from sexual assault, serious medical neglect, and other forms of abuse. (H.R. 3732).
- The Defense of Legal Workers Act of 2014: considers immigrant workers without lawful status to be unauthorized and providing unlawful employment. (H.R.5761)

Limiting Health, Safety and Consumer Rights

- Limiting agencies ability to issue, study, and review health, safety, and other regulations: H.R. 2542, "Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2013"; H.R. 367, "Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act"; H.R. 1493, "Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2013"; H.R. 2641, "Responsibly and Professionally Invigorating Development Act of 2013"; H.R. 2122, "Regulatory Accountability Act of 2013"; H.R. 4874, "Searching for and Cutting Regulations that are Unnecessarily Burdensome (SCRUB) Act of 2014."
- Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency Act of 2013: mandating the public disclosure of personal information of asbestos exposure victims who seek compensation from bankruptcy trusts. (H.R. 982)

- Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2014: allowing private property owners to more easily allege “takings” violations pertaining to environmental, health and safety regulations. (H.R. 1944)
- Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act of 2013: mandates judge-imposed sanctions on attorneys in federal legal actions. (H.R. 2655)

Upholding Separation of Powers Principles and Defending President Obama’s Enforcement of the Laws

As Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers led efforts opposing partisan Republican attacks seeking to undermine and de-legitimize President Obama’s constitutional authority to undertake executive actions in numerous Judiciary Committee hearings as well as with respect to the following legislation:

- Executive Needs to Faithfully Observe and Respect Congressional Enactments of the Law (ENFORCE) Act of 2014: establishes a process by which either or both Houses of Congress could authorize a suit against the President, or other high ranking government official, when one House determines that the President has failed to faithfully execute the law. (H.R. 4138)
- Faithful Execution of the Law Act: requires the Attorney General to issue a report following every instance that any employee of the federal government establishes a formal or informal policy against enforcing a law. (H.R. 3973)
- Speaker Boehner’s Lawsuit: a resolution authorizing the House of Representatives to initiate litigation against President Obama for allegedly overstepping his constitutional authority in delaying implementation of the Affordable Care Act, as well as the employer mandate component of the Act through executive action. (H. Res. 676)
- Executive Overreach on Immigration: a resolution that prohibits the executive branch from applying exemptions by executive order, regulation, or any other means, categories of persons unlawfully present in the United States from removal under the immigration laws. (H.R. 5759)

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

As a senior member of the Michigan delegation, Rep. Conyers worked in conjunction with his colleagues to secure funding for various projects in the Detroit metropolitan area. While earmarks were banned in the 112th Congress and continue to be prohibited in the 113th Congress, Rep. Conyers has requested and secured over \$304.6 million in grants and appropriated funding for the Detroit area.

General Infrastructure Improvements (\$51 million)

- President Obama’s FY 2015 budget included \$40.5 million in funding for renovations to the Theodore Levin Federal Courthouse located in downtown Detroit. The historical courthouse, which received \$31 million for the first phase of renovations in FY 2014, was in need of repair for a number of years, especially its electrical, heating, air conditioning, and water systems. (\$40.5 million)
- Bus Rapid Transit Network construction. (\$6.5 million)
- Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office and the Michigan Department of State Police through the Department of Justice’s Sexual Assault Kit Initiative. (\$4 million)

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (\$115,150)

- Funds to assist volunteers in helping residents of Metropolitan Detroit prepare income tax returns. (\$115,150)

Housing and Urban Development (\$98.4 million)

- Housing Counseling Assistance Program, providing guidance to consumers on financing, renting, owning, and maintaining a home. (\$435,040)
- McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance providing funding to homeless and emergency shelters. (\$22,215,890)
- HOME Investment Partnership Program, funding the construction and rehabilitation of low-income housing and direct rental assistance. (\$5,833,380)
- Community Development Block Grant for Entitlement Communities, developing sustainable communities for low income individuals by providing affordable housing, a health living environment, and economic opportunities. (\$70,010,488)

National Science Foundation

Division of Chemistry (\$160,000)

- \$160,000 for the Chemistry of Life Processes Program at Wayne State University.

National Endowment for the Arts (\$285,000)

- Grants totaling more than \$100,000 to Allied Media Projects, Inside Out Literary Arts Project, Inc. and the University of Detroit Mercy to support programs for multimedia performance, literacy, and cultural activities in the city.
- \$30,000 grant to the Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan to support an arts and culture marketing initiative focusing on music journalism.
- \$75,000 grant to the Detroit Institute of Arts for an “Art of American Dance” exhibition.
- \$50,000 in grant funding to the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall to support solo orchestra performances and educational activities.
- \$30,000 grant awarded to the Michigan Opera Theatre.

Department of Education (\$19.4 million)

- \$16.7 million School Improvement Grant (SIG) awarded to the Michigan Department of Education.
- \$2.7 million grant to provide supportive services to disadvantaged college students through the TRIO Student Support Services program.

Department of Labor

Veteran’s Employment and Training Service (\$101,000)

- \$101,000 grant to Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries to provide job placement, on-the-job and classroom training, career counseling, life skills and money management, help in housing placement, and other services to the Detroit veteran community.

Department of Transportation (\$64 million)

- \$25 million TIGER grant to be applied towards the M-1 Rail project in Detroit.

- \$9 million federal grant to renovate runway 05R/23L at Willow Run Airport, a leading air cargo and general aviation facility in southeast Michigan. The airport contributes \$85 million to the regional economy and supports 1,500 jobs in Michigan.
- Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Program (\$2.1 million).
- Federal Transit Capital Investment Grant (\$21.5 million).
- Formula and Bus Grants Alternatives Analysis (\$6.4 million).

Department of Health and Human Services (\$66.8 million)

Affordable Care Act Enrollment (\$3.7 million)

- \$3,782,688 in grant awards to Michigan health centers to enroll uninsured residents in unprecedented health coverage options made available by the Affordable Care Act.

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (\$3.5 million)

- \$389,000 grant awarded to Wayne State University to research lung disease.
- \$3.2 million in HIV emergency relief project grant funding to the Detroit Public Health Department.

National Cancer Institute (\$420,000)

- \$148,000 grant awarded to Wayne State University to develop a 4D Microfluidic Platform for Targeting Breast Cancer and Lymphatic Interactions.
- \$123,976 grant awarded to Wayne State University to fund a Guiding Ca²⁺ Channel-Based Cancer Treatment Using Mn²⁺- Enhanced MRI.
- \$148,770 grant awarded to Wayne State University to fund a Differential Network Interrogations of Epithelial to Mesenchymal Transition Program.

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (\$510,000)

- \$324,000 grant awarded to Henry Ford Health System for clinical research related to neurological disorders.
- \$190,000 grant to Wayne State University's clinical research on brain ischemia.

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (\$35,100)

- \$35,100 in educational grant funding to Wayne State University for a collaborative design project.

Health Resources and Services Administration (\$15 million)

- \$421,994 grant to Wayne State University's Nurse Faculty Loan Program to provide assistance to students in preparation to serve as faculty in a Nursing School.
- \$18,032 awarded to Wayne State University's Nurse Anesthetist Traineeships program to increase access to nurse anesthetist care for underserved population.
- Ten grants totaling \$2,962,000 for training through Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education. The program increases the number of primary care residents and dentists trained in community-based ambulatory patient care settings.
- Approximately \$12 million for HIV Emergency Relief Project Grants in funding to the Detroit Public Health Department.

National Institute of Aging (\$228,000)

- \$228,000 exploratory grant to Wayne State University to research base excision repair and premature senescence and aging in Down syndrome.

National Institute of General Medical Studies (\$298,000)

- \$298,000 awarded to Wayne State University for pharmacology, physiology, and biological chemistry research.

National Institute of Nursing Research (\$441,000)

- \$441,471 grant to Henry Ford Health Systems for the promotion of scientific exploration in the behavioral treatment of menopausal insomnia; and sleep, depression, and daytime outcomes.

Adolescent Health and Comprehensive Sex Education (\$716,000)

- \$666,570 grant awarded to the YMCA of Metro Detroit for the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program.
- \$50,000 grant to the Detroit City Board of Education to promote adolescent health through school-based HIV and STD prevention as well as education.

Fund for the Improvement of Education (\$988,000)

- \$593,365 grant to the Livonia Public School District for childhood literacy innovation and improvement.
- \$395,267 grant to the Academy for Business & Technology in Dearborn for childhood literacy innovation and improvement.

Family Violence Prevention and Services (\$387,000)

- \$387,160 in grant funding to Alternatives for Girls providing information and services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Head Start (\$26.4 million)

- \$1.6 million in Head Start grant funding to the Metropolitan Children and Youth Inc., United Children & Family Head Start to provide for a full year of handicapped training to caregivers.
- \$8 million in Birth to Five Head Start and Early Head Start grant funding to Starfish Family Services for early childhood development programs.
- \$12.7 million in Birth to Five Head Start and Early Head Start grant funding to Matrix Human Services for early childhood development programs. \$3 million in Birth to Five Head Start and Early Head Start grant funding to Metropolitan Children and Youth, Inc. for early childhood development programs.
- \$4.1 million in Birth to Five Head Start and Early Head Start grant funding to New St. Paul Tabernacle Head Start Agency, Inc. for early childhood development programs.

Corporation for National and Community Service (\$3.3 million)

- \$3.3 million in grants, funding the Catholic/Community Social Services of Wayne County for national service programs created in the Domestic Volunteer Service Act to engage volunteers 55 and older in their communities.

National Institute of Health Research (\$10.4 million)

- \$10.4 million grant for research and job funding for Department of Health and Human Services National Institute of Health personnel.

Occupational Safety and Health (\$514,000)

- \$406,043 grant to Wayne State University for occupational safety research to recognize and target hazardous workplaces and reduce workplace violence in hospitals.
- \$108,000 grant to Henry Ford Health System to pursue research on the health impact that working night shifts has on people.

Department of Justice (\$4.2 million)

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (\$2.7 million)

- \$458,000 grant awarded to the Michigan Department of Human Services to reduce criminal offenses by individuals under the age of 18.
- \$691,042 grant to Michigan Department of Human Services for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs.
- \$59,639 to the Michigan State Police for community development.
- \$339,330 grant designated to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit for youth development, crime prevention, and safety.
- \$482,419 in Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force grant funding to the Michigan Department of State Police.
- \$250,000 grant awarded to Alternatives for Girls for the Continuation of State Start project in Detroit implementing the Strengthening Families program and partnering with RAND for research and evaluative purposes.
- \$170,220 grant awarded to the City of Detroit for the Detroit Youth Violence Prevention Initiative – 2013 National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention Grant.
- \$339,330 grant awarded to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit for matching, training and support enhancements at three mentoring sites in Detroit and Lansing to demonstrate the effectiveness of advocacy-oriented mentor engagement in serving high risk youth.

National Institute of Justice (\$99,000)

- \$99,788 grant awarded to Wayne State University for the Victimization and Fear of Crime among Arab Americans in Metro Detroit organization.

Bureau of Justice Assistance (\$1.5 million)

- \$1.5 million Justice Assistance Grant awarded to Wayne County.

Michigan Economic Development Corporation (\$750,000)

- \$750,000 Michigan Business Development grant for Detroit Thermal Systems, LLC to operate a site in the City of Romulus focused on the development and manufacturing of high quality climate control systems and components for the auto industry.

Michigan Strategic Fund (\$1 million)

- \$1 million Michigan Community Revitalization Program grant to renovate the David Whitney building in Detroit.

Environmental Protection Agency (\$2.4 million)

National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program (\$1.4 million)

- \$1.4 million grant for the Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision to reduce diesel emissions in Detroit by replacing aging fleet vehicles.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Shoreline Cities (\$1 million)

- \$1 million grant awarded to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's Near East Side Drainage District for two green infrastructure projects to ensure clean water in the region by preventing stormwater from contaminating the Great Lakes.

IV. Other

- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled "A Letter to Our Ancestors" honoring the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the sacrifices of those who worked towards freedom. (01/01/13)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled "What Women Want: Continuing the Protections of Roe v. Wade" honoring the 40th anniversary of the historical legislation and exploring the necessity of continuing to guard the right of Americans to make life and healthcare decisions without undue government influence. (01/22/13)
- Filed an amicus brief in support of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 in the case of *Shelby County v. Holder*. (02/01/13)
- Letter to President Obama, along with 107 other House Democratic Members, urging the White House to reject any proposals to cut benefits to Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security in the proposed budget. The letter specifically opposed Chained CPI, a proposal to reduce Social Security benefits by change the way inflation is calculated, and raising the Medicare retirement age. (02/15/13)
- Letter to the U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Susan Rice, along with four other Members of Congress, encouraging her to organize full funding and expedited implantation of an initiative aimed at eliminating cholera in Haiti. This follows a July 2012 letter in which Congressman Conyers and 103 other Members of Congress encouraged Rice to urge the United Nations to take a leading role in addressing the cholera crisis. (02/19/13)
- Letter to President Obama raising alarm about Japan's potential entry into the Trans-Pacific Partnership and its potential impact on American auto workers and manufacturers. (03/14/13)
- Op-ed in *The Detroit News* titled "Fifty Years Later: The Promise of Gideon Remains Unfulfilled" marking the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's historic decision in *Gideon v. Wainwright* and explaining the necessity of keeping the Federal Public Defender Program funded. (03/21/13)
- Letter to the Government Accountability Office requesting an investigation into the efficacy of emergency managers. (03/21/13)
- Op-ed with House Committee on Homeland Security Ranking Member Bennie Thompson in *Politico* titled "Reboot CISPA (Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protecting Act)" calling on the House of Representatives to vote against CISPA for the reason that it would harm the privacy and civil liberties of Americans. (04/11/13)

- Letter to President Obama expressing concern over the “chained consumer price index” (CPI) proposal in the FY2014 Budget submitted to Congress. (04/18/13)
- Keynote address to Gideon’s Promise to commend their work in recruiting and training public defenders. The event celebrated the 50th anniversary of *Gideon v Wainwright*. (05/13/13)
- Op-ed in *Roll Call* entitled “An Answer to Unemployment: a Jobs-for-All Bill” stating that, “We can put all Americans back to work under this legislation, with alternatives to austerity measures. HR 1000 is deficit-neutral.” (5/17/13)
- Op-ed in *Politico* with Reverend Lennox Yearwood Jr. titled “Keystone XL: Jobs Pipedream and Polluting Pipeline” calling on the Obama administration to reject TransCanada Corporation’s proposal to build the Keystone XL pipeline on the grounds that it would hurt the climate and misinformation on job creation numbers. (05/21/13)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* with Congressman Justin Amash titled “A Bipartisan Response to the NSA’s Surveillance” introducing the LIBERT-E Act, a bipartisan, comprehensive bill that would reform and limit the NSA’s overbroad surveillance activities. (06/13/13)
- Op-ed in *Politico* with Congressman Ted Poe titled “Protecting Our Freedoms with a Federal Shield Law” advocating for further protection of the press from being forced to disclose their confidential sources by means of a federal shield law. (07/08/13)
- Op-ed in *Time Magazine* titled “‘I Have a Dream’ at 50 Reflections” honoring the work and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King and reflecting on the ways in which MLK’s career inspired his own. (07/11/13)
- Letter to the Department of Justice’s Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Thomas Perez calling for investigations into the constitutionality of solitary confinement and other troubling detention practices in several Louisiana state prison facilities. (07/12/13)
- Submitted an amicus brief to urge the Supreme Court to uphold portions of the “McCain-Feingold” Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 in *McCutcheon v. FEC*. (07/25/13)
- Op-ed in *The Detroit Free Press* with Congressman John Dingell titled “Congress Must Protect Right to Vote in Wake of Supreme Court Ruling” conveying their dismay at the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to strike down Section 5 of the 1965 Voting Rights Act and calling on Congress to pass a new coverage formula under which certain jurisdictions with a history of voting discrimination would require advance approval before implementing voting changes. (07/28/13)
- Op-ed in *The Hill* titled “Happy 48th Birthday, Medicare” honoring the positive impacts Medicare had over the prior 48 years and advocating for Medicare For All, a publicly funded, privately distributed insurance program. (07/29/13)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “Building a Bipartisan Consensus and Rebuilding Communities: A Job Creation Bill for America’s Hardest Hit Areas” advocating for H.R. 6210 the American Investment and Job Creation Act of 2012 which would amend immigration laws to prioritize existing employment-based green cards for entrepreneurs who start businesses in the United States and create jobs for American workers. (07/30/13)
- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder concerning reports that the Drug Enforcement Administration uses National Security Agency information in criminal investigations unrelated to terrorism and foreign intelligence. (08/09/13)
- Op-ed in *Politico* titled “Fulfill King’s Dream with Fair Tax and Spending Policies,” celebrating the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington, and renewing Dr. Martin

Luther King, Jr.'s call for "Jobs, Justice, and Peace." Specifically, Rep. Conyers highlighted the economic component of Dr. King's message as a fundamental component of the Civil Rights Movement. (08/28/13)

- Op-ed in *The Detroit News* titled "Detroit Deserves Better," issued following Rep. Conyers's municipal bankruptcy forum in Detroit. In the piece, Rep. Conyers lays out the case against an unelected Emergency Manager running Detroit. (09/11/13)
- Op-ed in *The Hill* titled "Ranking Member Conyers Voting Rights Reflections," following the Supreme Court decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* that gutted the Voting Rights Act. Rep. Conyers defended the work of the House Judiciary Committee during the 2006 reauthorization of the VRA, and called on Congress to redouble their efforts to safeguard the right to vote for all Americans. (09/14/13)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled "Honoring Occupy, Creating Occupations," published on the fifth year of the collapse of Lehman Brothers and the second year anniversary of the Occupy Wall Street Movement. In this piece, Rep. Conyers argues for a renewed focus on full employment and Congressional consideration of his legislation H.R. 1000, the "Humphrey Hawkins Full Employment and Training Act." (09/17/13)
- Letter to House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte, along with all Democratic members of the House Judiciary Committee, calling for hearings on gun violence in response to the Washington Navy Yard shooting, and in light of the absence of hearings on the subject after the mass shootings in Tucson, Aurora, Oak Creek, and Newtown. (09/24/13)
- Op-ed in *Roll Call* titled "Reining in the Unauthorized American Surveillance State," arguing for reform of the National Security Agency's dragnet surveillance programs. In particular, the piece details Rep. Conyers' work with Congressman Justin Amash (R-Mich.) to end the bulk collection of Americans' telephone metadata. (10/02/13)
- Letter to the Department of Justice calling for a resolution of the 28-year-old case surrounding the death of human rights advocate, Alex Odeh. (10/15/13)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled "What Price Justice?" detailing the adverse impacts of the Republican-caused government shutdown and budgetary sequestration on the United States judicial system. Specifically, the piece details how Department of Justice funding for programs like Community Oriented Policing Services and the Office of Violence Against Women was reduced to unmanageably low levels. (10/15/13)
- Filed an amicus brief urging the Supreme Court to preserve "disparate impact" as a method to enforce the Fair Housing Act in the case of *Mount Holly v. Mt. Holly Gardens Citizens in Action, Inc.* (10/28/13)
- Letter to House Judiciary Committee Chair Bob Goodlatte requesting a hearing into the unsolved murder of human rights activist, Alex Odeh. (11/06/13)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled "The Full Employment Generation," co-authored with Congresswoman Frederica Wilson, rallying Americans to start a national full employment movement modeled after the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's. (11/18/13)
- Letter to U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, along with six other Democratic members of the House and Senate, requesting that the Department of Justice collect additional information on "stand your ground" laws to fully document their disparate racial impacts in communities across the country. (11/26/13)

- Op-ed in *USA Today* titled “John Conyers: Music Legends Deserve R-E-S-P-E-C-T” urging Congress to take legislative action to close a quirk in copyright law allowing digital radio services to not pay legacy artists with recorded works prior to 1972. (12/01/13)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “Aspirations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,” co-authored by Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg and Sheila Collins. This piece, commemorating the 65th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations’ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, called for the global community to once again recognize the fundamental economic rights of people to work and gainful employment. (12/11/13)
- Letter to the Permanent Representative to the United Nations Samantha Power urging the UN to take responsibility for introducing cholera to Haiti and to take remedial action to repair the damage. (01/10/14)
- Op-ed in *The Hill* titled “US needs full-employment agenda” calling on Congress to work to create economic conditions in which America can return to full employment. (02/03/14)
- Creation of Congressional Full Employment Caucus to combat America’s job crisis by identifying solutions and advocating for legislative action. (01/29/14)
- Letter to Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, along with 20 progressive allies, encouraging the Federal Reserve to uphold their dual mandate of promoting full employment in addition to combating inflation. (03/13/14)
- Op-ed in *U.S. News & World Report* titled “Dear Janet Yellen: Keep Fighting for Jobs” arguing for the newly elected Chairwoman of the Federal Reserve to uphold the Fed’s dual mandate of combating inflation and pushing for full employment. (03/17/14)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “President Obama’s Justified Executive Authority” responding to Eugene Scalia and Rachel Mondl’s op-ed calling on the federal courts to overturn President Obama’s executive order requiring most federal contractors to pay their workers at least \$10.10 an hour by commending the President’s action and investigating it’s standing in legal precedent. (03/18/14)
- Online op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “Why Democrats Have a Winning Agenda” commending the Democratic agenda for focusing on job creation. (03/27/14)
- Op-ed in *Roll Call* titled “Why Congress Should Care About the Beepocalypse” urging for the protection of the bee population due to their huge impact on economic and food security. (04/07/14)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “Even the Rich Should Reject the Ryan Budget” outlining the negative effects that would be caused by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan’s proposed federal budget including cuts to education, nutrition, and job-training. (04/09/14)
- Letter to President Obama, along with Foreign Affairs Committee Ranking Member Engel and 80 Representatives, urging the White House to stop the import of military style firearms from overseas. (04/09/14)
- Op-ed in *The Detroit Free Press* titled “Children are not adults—don’t sentence them to prison as if they were” advocating for the Michigan Legislature to reexamine penalty provisions that allow for juvenile sentences of either discretionary life without parole or de-facto life without parole. (04/10/14)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “Celebrate Mother’s Day: Reduce America’s Maternal Mortality” advocating for H.R. 4216, the “Maternal Health Accountability Act,” which

would promote accountability and shared responsibility between states, the federal government, and healthcare providers to identify opportunities for improvement of care and means to educate health professionals, women and families about preventing pregnancy-related deaths and complications. (05/06/14)

- Letter to the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency Mel Watt, applauding the Neighborhood Stabilization Initiative, and requesting that he direct the Government Sponsored Enterprises (or GSEs) to impose a 6-month moratorium on foreclosures of GSE-guaranteed mortgages for struggling Detroit borrowers who were current on their payments before the start of Chapter 9 bankruptcy proceedings 2013. (05/13/14)
- Op-ed in *American Prospect* titled “Every Great American City Deserves a Shot—Including Detroit” comparing Detroit’s financial crisis to New York City’s 1970s crisis and calling on the federal government to react to Detroit with greater investment, just as they did with New York City. (05/16/14)
- Rep. Conyers, along with Rep. Bobby Scott and Rep. George Miller, wrote a letter requesting that the U.S. Government Accountability report on the trends of resegregation in U.S. public schools. (05/16/14)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “Criminal Injustice” commending the Obama Administration’s clemency initiative and calling on Congress to take further action and reform unfair mandatory sentencing provisions. (05/21/14)
- Letter to President Obama advocating against implementation of sanctions against Venezuela in order to respect the ongoing dialogue process and widespread regional opposition to unilateral US sanctions. (05/27/14)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* co-authored with Rep. Jerrold Nadler titled “Rebooting Electronic Privacy Rights” about the necessity of upholding the Fourth Amendment in the 21st century and the growing legislative momentum for Electronic Communications Privacy Act. (06/13/14)
- Op-ed in *Roll Call* with Rep. Matt Cartwright and Rep. Steven Horsford titled, “After Unemployment Extension Fails to Pass, Congress is a Culprit in Foreclosure Crisis.” This piece detailed the necessity of emergency unemployment insurance, and how the failure of House Republicans to renew the aid had thrust millions of Americans into undo financial hardship and, in many cases, foreclosure. (06/20/14)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “Detroit’s Water Cutoffs: Counterproductive and Coldhearted” outlining the water crisis ongoing in Detroit and the actions that Rep. Conyers was taking to involve President Obama, Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Burwell, and the Chairwoman of the Detroit Water and Sewage Department. (06/26/14)
- Letter to President Obama, calling on the Administration to make available for Detroit water relief some of the \$200 earmarked for Michigan in the Hardest Hit fund, a reserve intended to provide financial relief from impacts of the Great Recession (06/27/14).
- Letter to Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Burwell requesting that she formally designate the Detroit water crisis a public health emergency eligible for direct federal relief. (06/27/14)
- Letter to the Chairwoman of the Detroit Water and Sewage Department requesting an immediate end to the shutoffs. (06/27/14).
- Letter to the Sentencing Commission urging retroactive fairness for low level offenders. (7/9/14)

- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “America’s Real Deficits: Jobs and Infrastructure” arguing that Congress needs to get serious about improving infrastructure and jobs, rather than slashing their funding in the name of deficit reduction. (07/31/14)
- Letter to the Department of Justice urging a civil rights investigation into the death of Michael Brown. (8/11/14)
- Letter to House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte requesting that the Committee examine the use of overwhelming force by law enforcement. (08/14/14)
- Letter to the National Football League seeking answers from the Ray Rice domestic violence incident. (9/10/14)
- Op-ed in *Huffington Post* titled “Delay in Executive Action on Immigration Does Not Change GOP Culpability on Immigration Reform,” co-authored with Rep. Zoe Lofgren, defends the President’s executive actions on immigration and calls on House Republicans to take up immigration reform. (10/02/14)
- Letter to the Director of the Secret Service Joseph Clancy seeking answers regarding the large number of security breaches that occurred at the White House and during official travel. (10/09/14)
- Letter to Acting Assistant Attorney General Karl Thompson regarding the FBI’s refusal to provide documents to the Justice Department as to whether the Department had violated the civil liberties and civil rights of individuals detained in national security investigations following September 11, and Operation Fast and Furious. (10/15/14)

Awards

- General Motors African Ancestry Network Black History Month Celebration Award. (02/15/13)
- John W. Gardner / Archibald Cox Uncommon Heroes Award for Rep. Conyers’ role in the impeachment process of President Richard Nixon. (03/13/13)
- Legal Aid and Defender Association Veterans Fair Award. (06/17/13)
- Rainbow PUSH Coalition Trail Blazer in Justice Award. (07/06/13)
- National Parks Conservation Association “Friends of the National Parks” Award. (07/17/13)
- Healthcare Leadership Council: Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award. (03/26/14)
- Recognized at the James Tatum Foundation for the Arts 27th Annual Gala Classical & Jazz Music Benefit Concert. (03/30/14)
- Humane Society, Human Advocate Award. (04/02/14)
- 100th Year Celebration Service for COGIC Award for serving the citizens of Michigan. (04/26/14)
- United Auto Workers Owen Bieber Social Activist Award. (06/02/14)
- Recognized by the Michigan Chronicle in its inaugural POWER 50 List. (07/30/14)

112th Congress, (2011 - 2013) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation Introduced/Passed into Law by Rep. Conyers

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers was lead Dem sponsor or managed that were enacted into law

- National Guard and Reservist Debt Relief Extension Act: extends for four years exception from bankruptcy means test for members of the National Guard and military reserves. (P.L. 112-64)
- Extending judges' authority to redact personal information from their financial disclosures: helps to protect the safety of judges and their families by extending the authority of the Judicial Conference to redact sensitive information contained in judge's financial disclosure reports filed by a judicial officer or employee. (P.L. 112-89)
- Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act: extends thirty bankruptcy judgeships, including a bankruptcy judgeships stationed in Detroit. (P.L. 112-152)
- Patent Term Extension Amendment: for many years the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) applied inconsistent interpretations related to patent term extension applications under the Hatch-Waxman Act. Rep. Conyers' amendment, which was included as Section 37 of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, confirms the FDA's "business day" interpretation so that if the FDA notifies a company after normal business hours that its drug has been approved, the time for filing a patent term extension application does not begin to run until the next business day. (P.L. 112-29)
- Reporting Efficiency Improvement Act: repeals certain requirements that the Department of Justice submit reports to Congress related to certain programs that had not been operational for many years. (P.L. 112-189)
- The Theft of Trade Secrets Clarification Act: clarifies the law to provide that the prohibition of the theft of trade secrets applies to products or services used in or intended for use in interstate or foreign commerce. Rep. Conyers managed the Senate passed bill taken up by the House. (P.L. 112-236)
- Amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act of 2012: the amendment prevents authorized funds from being used to establish a ground-presence in Libya consisting of members of the Armed Forces or private security contractors. This amendment was offered as the United States was contemplating engaging with Libya as tensions were escalating between revolutionary protestors and the Qaddafi regime. A nearly identical amendment was also adopted by voice vote to the 2012 Defense Appropriations Act (Agreed to by a recorded vote in the House of 416-5; P.L. 112-81)
- Amendment to the Intelligence Authorization Act of 2013: requires the Director of National Intelligence to report to Congress assessing on the consequences of a military strike against Iran. The amendment also provides that nothing in the bill can be construed to authorize the use of force against Iran. (Agreed to by voice vote on the House Floor; P.L. 112-87)
- A total of 40 Public Laws have been considered by the Judiciary Committee as a result of 165 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial: and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of all measures passed through the committee, including an extension of the term of the FBI Director, and an extension

to the United States Parole Commission, along with other legislative initiatives that became public law.

Legislation introduced

- Caging Prohibition Act: prohibits state or local election officials from preventing an individual from registering to vote or voting in any election for federal office by using “caging,” the practice of direct mailing individuals on voter rolls, collecting a database of undeliverable addressees, and using that list to purge individual’s voter registrations. This bill has been incorporated in the Voter Empowerment Act. Rep. Conyers originally introduced this legislation in the 110th Congress. (H.R. 107)
- Voting Opportunity and Technology Enhancement Rights (“VOTER”) Act: protects voting rights and to improve the administration of Federal elections in various ways, including the creation of a national federal write-in absentee ballot and internet voting registration. After the 112th Congress this bill was incorporated into the Voter Empowerment Act – legislation of which Rep. Conyers is an original cosponsor. Rep. Conyers has repeatedly introduced legislation to expand voter rights, and originally sponsored this bill in the 109th Congress following the disputed 2004 Presidential elections. (H.R. 108)
- To establish a National Commission on Presidential War Powers and Civil Liberties: investigates and reports to the President and Congress on the broad range of executive branch national security policies undertaken since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Rep. Conyers originally introduced this legislation in the 111th Congress. (H.R. 109)
- Prevent Lockout of Athletes of the Year Act: eliminates the antitrust exemption for professional football sponsored telecasting agreements under the Sports Broadcasting Act. (H.R. 1060)
- Private Bill for the relief of Al-Housseynou Ba: permits Mr. Ba to adjust his status to that of a lawful permanent resident so that he may remain in the United States. (H.R. 1276)
- Private Bill for the relief of Bartosz Kumor: permits Mr. Kumor to adjust his status to that of a lawful permanent resident so that he may remain in the United States. Ordered by Judiciary Committee to be reported by voice vote. (H.R. 1857)
- Oil Consumer Protection Act: makes oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal; to improve competition in the oil and gas industry, to strengthen antitrust enforcement with regard to industry mergers; to protect consumers from price-gouging of gasoline and other fuels. Rep. Conyers has introduced this legislation since the 110th Congress. (H.R. 1899)
- Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Administration Improvement Act: increases the limits governing trustee compensation in a case under Chapter 7 and authorize the court, in determining the amount of reasonable compensation to be awarded to a trustee under Chapter 7, to treat such compensation as a commission. (H.R. 2667)
- Main Street Fairness Act: allows States to collect taxes on on-line sales, providing a level playing field with bricks and mortar retailers. Among other things, this legislation would increase tax revenues in Michigan by an estimated \$872 million. This bill was later incorporated into the Remote Transactions Parity Act in the 114th Congress. (H.R. 2701)

- Haiti Empowerment, Assistance and Rebuilding (HEAR) Act of 2012: authorizes \$2 billion over the next two years to support the sustainable recovery and long-term rebuilding of Haiti, outlining critical strategic initiatives and mandates to ensure U.S. assistance efforts comprehensively address the priorities of the people of Haiti. (H.R. 3771)
- Amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act: “un-declaring” war against Iran, stating that nothing in the defense spending bill would be construed as authorizing the use of force against Iran. This bill passed en bloc by voice vote. (Amendment No. 95 to H.R. 4310)
- The Foreign Economic Espionage Penalty Enhancement Act: strengthens the federal offense of economic espionage, which consists of knowing misappropriation of trade secrets with the intent or knowledge that the offense will benefit foreign government. (H.R. 6029)
- Updating the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968: eliminates a cross reference to a reporting requirement repealed by H.R. 6189, the “Reporting Efficiency Improvement Act.” (H.R. 6605)
- Expressing a sense of Congress that the “super committee” should not reduce benefits for Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid beneficiaries: attempts to safeguard the earned benefits of workers in the face of severe federal spending cuts without consideration for increased revenue. There were 85 cosponsors to this initiative that became a main rallying point in the successful effort to prevent the “super committee” from cutting Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. (H. Con. Res. 72)
- Expressing the sense of the Congress that involuntary homelessness for families, women, and children should be eliminated: states that the federal government should provide adequate funding for the rental housing voucher program and that the federal government should move away from a “shelter first” housing policy and instead promote a “housing first” policy that provides employment and training opportunities, transportation, and other self-sufficiency services to help the involuntarily homeless. (H. Con. Res. 119)
- Congratulating Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. on the historic milestone of 100 years of serving local and international communities: recognizes the Fraternity’s commitment to the betterment of mankind and enriching the lives of collegiate men throughout the United States. (H. Res. 105)
- Expressing sense of the House that federal government should take steps to respond to sentiments and attacks against Muslim, Arab, Sikh, and South Asian American Communities: responds to anti-Muslim hearings held in Congress. Rep. Conyers spoke out against Home Depot cancelling their support for reality show "American Muslim" due to anti-Muslim pressure on the company. (H. Res. 283)
- Expressing sense of House celebrating 10 year anniversary of Underground Railroad Memorial comprised of Gateway to Freedom Monument in Detroit and Tower of Freedom Monument in Windsor. (H. Res. 434)
- American Investment and Job Creation Act: creates new programs that allow foreign entrepreneurs to earn green cards by establishing new U.S. businesses that create jobs for American workers. This legislation is designed to spur new foreign investment, business development and job creation in the United States, particularly in distressed urban and rural areas like Detroit. (H.R. 6210)

- Designating a National Month of Voter Registration: designates the month of September as a national month of voter registration. This resolution challenges civil rights groups, third party voter registration groups, and voting eligible citizens to register to vote and take action against voter suppression efforts. (H. Con. Res. 758)

II. Committee Activities

Ranking Member Conyers utilized Democratic hearings and reports to highlight various excesses, particularly of the Republican-led Congress. As a result, he convened Democratic hearings, town halls and investigations that (1) highlighted the harm of the Republican proposed budgets; (2) detailed the impact of “voter ID” and similar voting restrictions on the rights of citizens to vote; (3) highlighted the danger of immigration raids in Michigan; (4) considered the impact of Michigan’s Emergency Manager law on minorities, voting rights, and the right to contract; (5) reviewed possible antitrust and other abuses in college athletics; and (6) reviewed the causes and implications of the Trayvon Martin tragedy.

Ranking Member Conyers also led the successful opposition to the following extreme measures in the new Republican-led House, all of which failed to reach the House floor, failed in the House, or were not been brought up for consideration in the Senate. These include:

Constitutional Amendments

- Balanced Budget Amendment: requires balancing the budget on the backs of seniors by raiding Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds and making it more difficult to increase debt limits. (H.J. Res 1, H.J. Res. 2)
- Amendment Concerning Parental Rights and Education: adds a clause to the Constitution stating that the upbringing and education of a child is a parent’s fundamental right. This amendment prohibits the government from infringing upon that right, and similarly disallows any treaty or international law from superseding that right. The amendment is unnecessary as the right is already protected under current law. (H.J. Res. 110)
- Amendment Protecting the Rights of Crime Victims: limits the rights of the accused (H.J. Res. 106).

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- No Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Act: makes it difficult if not impossible for private health care plans or insurance markets to provide reproductive rights options. (H.R. 3)
- District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act: prohibits any person from performing an abortion in the District of Columbia after 20 weeks. (H.R. 3803)
- See Something, Say Something Act: grants immunity from civil liability to individuals who report seeing people engaging in suspicious behavior that could be related to terrorist activity, thereby encouraging racial profiling. (H.R. 963)
- Data retention legislation: requires Internet companies to retain a one-year record of certain Internet communications in order to create a database that can be used to investigate crimes including but not limited to unregistered sex offenders. (H.R. 1981)

- Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act: obstructs women's choice rights by falsely equating anti-choice legislation with civil rights by legislatively banning so-called race and sex selected abortions. During the Committee markup of the bill in February 2012, Rep. Conyers amendment striking the names "Susan B. Anthony" and "Frederick Douglass" from the bill's short title was adopted by the Committee. (H.R. 3541)
- Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act: limits the ability of women to seek otherwise lawful abortions across state lines. (H.R. 2299)

Attacking Immigrants' Rights

- Secure Visas Act: eliminates court review of immigrant removal proceedings related to visa revocations. (H.R. 1741)
- Keep our Communities Safe Act: unconstitutionally authorizes the indefinite and possibly permanent detention of immigration detainees with little or no procedural protections. (H.R. 1932)
- Eliminates the Diversity Visa Program: dramatically and adversely changes the face of immigration to the United States. (H.R. 704)
- Hinder the Administration's Legalization Temptation: suspends until January 21, 2013 the authority of the Executive Branch to use current immigration law to grant or extend certain forms of immigration relief and benefits. This would have, for example, prevented the Obama Administration from exercising its discretionary authority to prioritize enforcement resources and deter deportations on a case-by-case basis for humanitarian reasons or for other purposes. (H.R. 2497)
- Legal Workforce Act: requires every employer in the country to use the Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify program, growing the government, shrinking the economy, inviting discrimination, and destroying millions of American jobs. (H.R. 2885)
- English Language Unity Act: requires the government to conduct all operations and communications exclusively in English. (H.R. 997)
- STEM Jobs Act of 2012: dismantles the Diversity Visa program, a longstanding immigration program that provides green cards to nationals from countries that have low levels of immigration to the United States. The bill also reduces the number of legal immigrants to our country and compromises the role of visa recipients attending America's leading research universities. (H.R. 6429)

Limiting Health, Safety and Consumer Rights

- Limiting the rights of injured medical malpractice victims by among other things, limiting pain and suffering and punitive damages. (H.R. 5)
- Limiting agencies ability to issue health, safety and other regulations: (H.R. 527, "Regulatory Flexibility Act"; H.R. 3010, "Regulatory Accountability Act"; H.R. 10, "REINS Act"; H.R. 4078, the "Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act"; H.R. 3862, the "Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act"; and H.R. 4377, the "Responsibly and Professionally Invigorating Development Act").

- Concealed Carry legislation: requires all states that have concealed carry laws to accept permits from all other states, regardless of whether the state has greater restrictions on concealed carry permits. (H.R. 822)
- Limiting the Equal Access to Justice Act: restricts fee reimbursement of prevailing parties against the government. (H.R. 1996)
- Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act: mandates judge-imposed sanctions on attorneys in federal legal actions. (H.R. 966)
- Combating the ill-conceived Republican version of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA): eliminates existing protections in current law for immigrant victims of domestic violence and other serious crimes and fails to extend much-needed protections to LGBT victims and Native American communities. Rep. Conyers served as the lead House Democrat in contesting the Republican version of the Violence Against Women Act, and was the main correspondent between Democratic and Republican Members of Congress concerning legislative hearings. (H.R. 4970/ H.R. 4271)

Ranking Member Conyers also led the opposition to ill-considered measures which were passed into law by the Republican House. These included:

- USA PATRIOT Act extension: extends for four years expiring provisions including “business record” provision allowing FBI to obtain information on “tangible things” if related to their investigations without showing probable cause. (P.L. 112-14)
- National Defense Authorization Act: mandates that all terrorism suspects be held by military and authorizes the indefinite detention of U.S. citizens accused of terrorism. (P.L. 112-81)
- Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) Amendments Act Reauthorization Act of 2012: extends the FISA Amendments Act for five years without sufficient privacy safeguards for American citizens. The public has little or no information about how the government uses these authorities. Despite the legislation’s intent, however, the government can and does use the authority to collect and review the communications of U.S. persons. (P.L. 112-238)

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

As a senior member of the Michigan delegation, Rep. Conyers worked in conjunction with his colleagues to secure funding for various projects in the Detroit metropolitan area. While earmarks were banned in the 112th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$72.8 million in grants and appropriated funding for the Detroit area. In addition, Rep. Conyers was instrumental in securing the first-ever Patent and Trademark Satellite Office to be stationed in Detroit.

General Infrastructure Improvements (\$1.25 million)

- Restoration of the Detroit Institute of Arts (\$750,000)
- Airport improvements (\$500,000)

Justice-Related Projects (\$1.9 million)

- Police Department Firearm Reduction Initiative (\$1 million)

- Wayne County Juvenile Mentoring Program (\$400,000)
- City of Detroit Parolees, Technical Parole Violators, and Former Prisoners Project, which aims at providing former prisoners with job training and employment opportunities (\$550,000)

Department of Transportation (\$30.5 million)

State of Good Repair Program (\$30 million)

- \$30 million grant awarded to the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation Project in Greater Detroit for replacement buses, security cameras, and general facility renovations.

Federal Highway Administration (\$594,000)

- \$594,000 to the Michigan Department of Transportation to highlight the unique Indian heritage along Woodward Avenue

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services (\$30.6 million)

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (\$22.5 million)

- \$22.5 million grant awarded to Detroit, which saved 100 firefighter jobs

COPS Hiring Program (\$8.1 million)

- \$5,694,725 for the City of Detroit Police Department
- \$1,125,000 for the City of Dearborn Police Department
- \$936,270 for the Charter Township of Redford Police Department
- \$441,682 for the City of Hamtramck Police Department

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs (\$3.5 million)

Bureau of Justice Assistance (\$201,000)

- \$43,664 for the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services for public education programs concerning the anti-discrimination provision of the Immigration and Nationality Act.
- \$158,043 was awarded by the Detroit Community Justice Partnership for the Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction Program for Project Safe Neighborhoods.

National Institute of Justice (\$1.7 million)

- \$175,111 for Wayne State University for the body armor standards research for criminal justice applications: Wound Characterization Program.
- Wayne State University received \$134,111 towards the Body Armor Standards Research for Criminal Justice Applications: Weapons Characterization program.
- Wayne State University received a further \$449,662 for the Office of Science and Technology Continuations.
- Wayne State University provided \$982,147 for the body armor standards research for criminal justice applications: Soft Armor Effects on Core Body Temperature.

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (\$1.6 million)

- \$1.6 million for Wayne County to bolster local law enforcement efforts, hire additional operation staff, and refurbish equipment

Department of Labor

Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (\$300,000)

- \$300,000 to provide employment opportunities to homeless veterans. This money will fund the Detroit Rescue Ministries' efforts to provide counseling, affordable housing, as well as job training.

Department of Veteran Affairs

Supportive Services for Veteran Families, Low Income Veteran Families' Housing Stability (\$1.5 million)

- \$590,929 grant awarded to the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency to serve approximately 125 participant households in Monroe and Wayne Counties.
- \$999,370 grant awarded to Southwest Counseling Solutions to serve approximately 425 participant households in Wayne County.

Department of Energy

Advanced Research Projects Agency (\$3.1 million)

- \$3.1 million grant awarded to Ford Motor Company in Dearborn for high precision life testing of automotive and grid storage batteries.

Department of Health and Human Services

Health Careers Opportunity Program (\$236,000)

- \$236,000 grant awarded to the University of Detroit Mercy to implement new training programs in the public health sector

Detroit Patent Office Opening

Rep. Conyers was instrumental in the United States Patent and Trademark Office opening its first satellite office in Detroit on July 14, 2012. The office created 130 patent examiner jobs, 11 administrative patent judges and has encouraged further innovation in the Detroit area and added many more high technology jobs. Language providing for the Detroit office was included in the America Invents Act. (P.L. 112-29)

IV. Other

- In the 112th Congress, Rep. John Conyers, Jr. was the most effective Democratic Member in the House of Representatives according to a joint study by University of Virginia and Vanderbilt University. (1/5/2013)
- Letter to Judiciary Committee Chairman Smith requesting hearings relating to the shooting of Rep. Gabrielle Giffords and 18 other individuals in Tucson. (1/27/2011)
- Letter to United States Department of Homeland Security Inspector General Richard Skinner and United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Assistant Director Timothy Moynihan concerning allegations of racial profiling, warrantless searches, and

unlawful detentions by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Detroit Field Office. (4/15/2011)

- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder concerning the settlement talks between state attorneys general and mortgage servicers regarding their illegal and predatory activities. (5/3/2011)
- Letter to Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision John Bowman, Comptroller of the Currency John Walsh, Professor Elizabeth Warren, and Chairwoman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Sheila Bair supporting plans to develop comprehensive oversight of federally regulated mortgage servicers. (5/5/2011)
- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder concerning the Federal Bureau of Investigation's investigation of labor union and anti-war activists in Michigan and the potential for these investigations to have a chilling effect on free speech. (5/6/11)
- Letter to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton about meeting with members of the Yemeni American community in Michigan's 14th District in light of the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. (6/8/2011)
- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder concerning allegations of misconduct and human rights abuses by the Puerto Rico Police Department. (6/13/11)
- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder and Federal Communications Chairman Genachowski in opposition to the potential merger of AT&T and T-Mobile (7/20/11).
- Advocated for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to create a transparent, searchable credit card, mortgage, and financial product consumer complaint database in a letter sent to Treasury Secretary Geithner. In June 2012 the CFPB announced it was launching such a database. (8/8/11)
- Letter to Judiciary Committee Chairman Smith urging him to hold hearings and move legislation to implement the American Jobs Act, specifically to hire more first responders and public safety personnel. (9/9/11)
- Letter to Chairman Donald of the Georgia State Board of Pardons & Paroles urging the board to reconsider their decision to close Troy Davis' clemency hearing, due to the fact that the defense team was unable to finish their presentation. (9/20/11)
- Letter to the Director of the United States Marshals Service, Stacia Hylton, and Federal Detention Trustee Michael Pearson, concerning the lower than necessary reimbursement rate for federal prisoners resulting in a shortfall to Wayne County. (9/23/11)
- Letter to Judiciary Committee Chairman Smith concerning antitrust and due process issues in intercollegiate athletics within Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the NCAA. (10/19/11)
- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder concerning the constitutionality and legality of Michigan's Emergency Manager law. (12/1/11)
- Letter to Governor Snyder expressing the concerns of federal, state, and local elected officials regarding Michigan's Emergency Manager law. (12/15/11)
- Letter to Attorney General Holder concerning the targeted killings of Anwar al-Awlaki authorized by a secret memo from the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel. (1/18/12)
- Op-ed in *The Detroit Free Press* titled "Aim for a fair fix of Michigan's emergency manager law" calling for a productive and bipartisan reform of Michigan's seemingly unconstitutional emergency manager law. (2/2/12)

- Letter to Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe opposing post office branch and distribution closings. As a result, no layoffs or restructuring at Post Office distribution centers in the City of Detroit occurred. Rep. Conyers has also written letters and fought to protect 6 day-delivery of mail. (2/13/2012)
- Letter to Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson requesting that the 200,000 petition signatures to repeal the Emergency Manager law in Michigan be handled responsibly and transparently. (2/29/12)
- Letter to Judiciary Chairman Lamar Smith requesting that the Judiciary Committee hold a hearing concerning the inappropriate email that United States District Judge Cebull of Montana forwarded from his official judicial email account regarding President Obama. (3/6/12)
- Wrote letters to House Speaker Boehner objecting to continued defense of Defense Of Marriage Act in the courts and at great taxpayer expense. (4/4/11, 9/26/11, 3/26/12)
- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder imploring the Department of Justice to look into the circumstances surrounding the Trayvon Martin tragedy, and whether or not the events surrounding the incident qualified as a hate crime under federal law. (3/22/12)
- Letter to Governor Snyder concerning application of the Emergency Manager law to Detroit and the potential for Detroit to be coerced into signing a one-sided consent agreement over the city's finances. (3/22/12)
- Op-ed in *Politico* entitled "GOP Etch-A-Sketch Can't Erase War on Women," stating that, "The Violence Against Women Act has had two purposes: to protect victims and to help prosecute perpetrators. The House Republican bill undermines both — eliminating existing protections for women and depriving police of the tools needed to hold offenders accountable." (5/6/12)
- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder following up on the House Judiciary Committee's initial request for information surrounding the drone strikes and targeted killing of Anwar al-Awlaki. (5/21/12)
- Letter to President Obama concerning the alleged mishandling of the sentence commutation request of Clarence Aaron by the Pardon Attorney during the Bush Administration, and requesting that Attorney General Eric Holder investigate into the matter (5/22/12).
- Formal comments to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Regulatory Products Division Chief Aigbe, regarding the Department of Homeland Security's proposed rule that would create a provisional waiver process to keep United States citizens and their families intact. (6/1/12)
- Letter to Gene Dorado, Comptroller General of the Government Accountability Office, requesting reports and further information on successful reentry programs for the 700,000 inmates released from prison in 2010. (6/1/12)
- Letter to Attorney General Eric Holder and Federal Communications Chairman Genachowski concerning Verizon Wireless's acquisition of Advanced Wireless Service's spectrum and competition in the telecom industry generally. (6/13/12)
- Letter to Judiciary Committee Chairman Smith requesting an oversight hearing of the Department of Justice's enforcement of the National Voter Registration Act, specifically relating to the voter purge that was underway in Florida. (6/29/12)

- Letter to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano requesting additional federal investigations into the bomb threat at the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel and the Ambassador Bridge. (7/17/12)
- Op-ed in *The Hill* titled “Republicans Renew Push for Anti-Minority STEM Bill.” In this piece, Rep. Conyers called on his Republican colleagues to not pit immigrant communities against each other when considering immigration reform, and specifically to not eliminate the longstanding Diversity Visa program for the sake of STEM workers and graduates. (11/28/12)
- Letter to President Obama requesting that he establish a process to review sentences of those convicted of crack cocaine offenses under the 100:1 sentencing ratio between crack and powder cocaine, and to provide appropriate commutation of sentences where it is clear that the 18:1 ratio enacted in the Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 would have been imposed and resulted in lower sentences. In December of 2013, the President announced the commutation of sentences for eight individuals who had been convicted of crack related offenses. In April of 2014, Attorney General Eric Holder announced an initiative by the Department of Justice to expand and expedite the clemency process for thousands of non-violent offenders serving lengthy sentences who would not be serving such lengthy terms under sentencing laws today. (12/17/12)
- Filed an amicus brief opposing the Republican contempt lawsuit against Attorney General Eric Holder, *Committee on Oversight & Government Reform v. Holder*. (12/20/12)

Awards

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Senior High School – First Annual MLK Legacy Award. (01/12/2011)
- CAIR Michigan Council of American Islamic Relations-MI. (03/28/11)
- Government official of the year - Black Wall Street awards luncheon. (08/20/2011)
- Walking the Walk on Job Creation Green for All and Black Enterprise. (09/21/2011)

111th Congress (2009-2011) (Chairman, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- Hate Crimes Prevention Act, extending protection of federal hate crimes law and including crimes of violence based on prejudice against gender, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity (included in P.L. 111-84).
- Helping Families Save their Home Act, allowing bankruptcy judges to modify mortgages on primary residences. The bill passed the House but stripped out in the Senate, with the remainder of the bill providing additional homeowner protection measures (P.L. 111-22).
- Satellite Home Viewer Act, reauthorizing the satellite compulsory license and making other changes to update the law and increase consumer choices (P.L. 111-175).
- Trademark Technical and Conforming Amendment Act (P.L. 111-146).
- Amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act of 2011, requiring the Secretaries of Defense and State to explore ways the United States could prevent accidental war with Iran (P.L. 111-383).
- Resolution celebrating the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. During the 39th anniversary of the Stevie Wonder song tribute to Dr. King, "Happy Birthday" (H. Res. 1010).
- Resolution honoring the life and achievement of Rev. Benjamin Hooks (H. Res. 1271).

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that were enacted into law

- Fair Sentencing Act, reducing the sentencing between crack and powder cocaine from 100 to 1 to 18 to one (P.L. 111-220).
- James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, establishing health care fund and compensation claims program for first responders and others suffering serious health problems caused by exposure to toxic materials after the September 11 attacks (P.L. 111-347).
- Asian Carp Prevention and Control Act, adding Asian Carp to list of injurious species prevented from being imported into U.S. (P.L. 111-307).
- Arbitration rights for terminated auto dealers in GM and Chrysler bankruptcies (included in P.L. 111-117).
- A total of 47 other public laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as the result of 160 hearings, and as Chairman, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws preventing U.S. courts from recognizing foreign defamation judgments which are inconsistent with the First Amendment; criminalizing distribution of animal crush videos to comply with Supreme Court precedent; strengthening tribal law enforcement to better prosecute crimes and fight violence against women; granting permanent residence status to Haitian orphans admitted to U.S.; harmonizing and simplifying international adoptions; creating a human rights enforcement section at DOJ; enhancing antitrust criminal penalties; proclaiming Casimir Pulaski to be an honorary citizen posthumously; enhancing tools to combat cigarette smuggling; and Tribal Law and Order Act.

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers introduced or helped manage that passed the House

- Health Insurance Industry Antitrust Enforcement Act, repealing Mc-Carran Ferguson antitrust exemption for health and medical malpractice insurers (H.R. 3596).
- DREAM Act, enabling high-achieving young people who were brought to the U.S. as children years ago – who were raised here, worked hard in school, and have pursued or are pursuing higher education or military service – to resolve their immigration status and contribute their full talents to our country (H.R. 1751/5281/6497).
- SPILL Act, amending and updating legal liability laws of the sea to permit families of workers killed in Gulf Coast oil explosion and others to, among other things, obtain damages for pain and suffering (H.R. 5503).
- DISCLOSE Act, requiring disclosure of large corporate political donations in wake of Supreme Court decision in Citizens United vs. Federal Election Commission (HR. 5175).

Legislation introduced

- Fight Fraud Act, improving and expanding the investigation and prosecution of mortgage fraud and financial institution fraud through the amendments of the federal criminal codes and appropriating funds to the Attorney General for investigations, prosecutions, and civil proceedings involving federal assistance programs and financial institutions (H.R. 1748).

II. Committee Activities

Chairman Conyers responded to the end of the Bush presidency by completing work on the Judiciary Committee's pending requests and subpoenas; issuing his own Report concerning excesses of the Bush Administration (and following up on the Report's recommendations); and conducting further hearings and moving legislation concerning the PATRIOT Act and related matters.

In terms of follow-up on pending subpoenas and outstanding requests, in March, 2009, Chairman Conyers reached an agreement with the prior Bush Administration to resolve the Committee's lawsuit and its pending subpoenas. Under that agreement, over the next several months, the Committee obtained access to White House documents and on-the-record testimony of former Bush White House officials Karl Rove and Harriet Miers. On August 11, the Committee released over 5,400 pages of White documents and more than 700 pages of Miers and Rove transcripts to the public and to U.S. Attorney Danehy for her criminal investigation. Among other things, these materials revealed significant White House involvement in the U.S. Attorney scandal; that Karl Rove and the Bush White House were directly involved in the decision to fire New Mexico U.S. Attorney David Iglesias for failing to pursue vote fraud allegations; that Iglesias was criticized by Rove aide Scott Jennings; for not "doing his job on" Democratic Congressional candidate Patricia Madrid and that Rove specifically pushed for his removal. Chairman Conyers also obtained the testimony of Jay Bybee, author of several key torture memos (known as the "Bybee Memo") who was now a federal judge. Judge Bybee was interviewed on the record in May, 2010 and the transcripts were released by Rep. Conyers in

July.

In terms of issuing his own review on the excesses of the Bush Administration, in early 2009, Chairman Conyers released a 539-page report entitled “Reining in the Imperial Presidency: Lessons and Recommendations Relating to the Presidency of George W. Bush.” This Report updated the abuses identified in "The Constitution in Crisis;" described efforts to investigate those abuses by congressional committees and others and made 50 recommendations to prevent their recurrence. The principal recommendations included: (I) following up on pending document requests and subpoenas (noted above); (II) creating an independent blue ribbon panel to fully investigate Bush Administration abuses (Rep. Conyers introduced H.R. 104 to this effect on January 6, 2009); and (III) an independent criminal investigation regarding whether any laws were broken by the prior Administration (in addition to the pending investigation of the U.S. Attorneys scandal, in August, 2009, Attorney General Holder announced an investigation into 101 cases of torture allegations, subsequently narrowed to two death in custody cases).

With regard to other recommendations, several were immediately implemented by the Obama Administration, such as ending the practices of torture and abuse, and secret detention. The Administration also announced an intention to close Guantanamo within one year and began to take steps to do so, although was ultimately throttled as a result of resistance from Congressional Republicans. Other recommendations were followed partially, such as agreeing to limit the use of states secrets privilege, and limiting the use of signing statements, while others have not been followed such as changing procedures to protect against the selective declassification of documents.

Chairman Conyers conducted further hearings and initiated legislation relating to the PATRIOT Act and associated issues. He held hearings on the PATRIOT Act, misuse of states secret privilege, military commissions, national security and civil liberties, and Administration misstatements justifying military action. He introduced and moved legislation to modify the PATRIOT Act to better protect constitutional and civil rights by, among other things, narrowing the standards for the FBI issuing national security letters, eliminating gag rules preventing disclosure of these letters, and providing for greater disclosure and oversight of government surveillance authority (H.R. 3845). Although the prevailing political environment made final passage impossible, Rep. Conyers has continued to pursue these issues.

As Chairman, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Antitrust: competition in digital books, minority broadcast ownership; NBC-Comcast combination; airline industry; ticketing and promotion industry; banking and financial reform; newspapers; drug patent settlements; professional football; regulated industries; competition with China; health care. Moved legislation dealing with railroad antitrust exemptions and resale price fixing.
- Crime: Youth PROMISE Act (assisting at risk youth); DNA and rape kit grants; juvenile justice accountability; elder abuse; domestic minor sex trafficking; indigent defense issues in Michigan and other states; Mexico border violence; problems with mandatory minimums; Innocence Protection Act; internet privacy.

- Bankruptcy: Ramifications of auto industry bankruptcies; medical bankruptcies; treatment of employees in bankruptcy; treatment of private student loans in bankruptcy; credit cards and bankruptcy; the continuing home mortgage foreclosure crisis; increasing number of bankruptcy judges.
- Courts: Judicial recusals; removal issues; alcohol regulation; courtroom security.
- Consumer Rights: series of hearings on head injuries and concussions in football; misuse of mandatory arbitration agreements.
- Immigration: comprehensive immigration reform; impact of Haitian earthquake.
- Civil and Constitutional Rights: Legal Services Corporation; Tulsa-Greenwood race riot; voting rights; racial profiling; discrimination against older workers; Ashcroft v. Iqbal decision concerning civil pleading requirements; federal habeas corpus limitations; fair housing; faith-based initiatives; Americans with Disability Act.
- Intellectual Property: replacement parts and auto industry, patent reform; domain name registries; copyright piracy; performance rights
- Impeachment Task Force: impeachment of Judge Porteous and Samuel Kent.

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 111th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$86.8 million in grants and earmarked appropriations for the Detroit area. Of this total, \$62.2 million was from earmarked appropriations, and \$24.5 million was from grant funding.

Appropriated Funds (\$62.2 million)

Economic and Defense Spending (\$20.8 million)

- Innovative programs such as the Plug-in hybrid vehicle electrification program (\$6.4 million)
- The Advanced Mobile Microgrid (\$5,440,000)
- Software Assurance Education and Research Institute (\$1.6 million)
- The Mobile Manufacturing and Repair Cell/Engineering Education Outreach Program (\$4.8 million)
- The Detroit Creative Business Accelerator (\$147,386); the United Way for Southeastern Michigan Ex-Offender Entrepreneurship Program (\$491,286)
- The Emergency Operations Center for the City of Detroit (\$2 million)

Transportation and Infrastructure (\$10.7 million)

- A Detroit Transit Options for Growth Study (\$950,000)
- Replacement buses for the City of Detroit (\$1,424,500)
- Farebox improvements for Detroit (\$2,850,000)
- The Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transit (SMART) Fleet Bus Maintenance and Engine Replacement (\$3,923,500)
- General transportation funds for Detroit (\$665,000)
- General transportation funds for Highland Park (\$950,000)

Environmental Initiatives (\$30.6 million)

- The Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control (\$808,000)
- The Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research (\$9,112,000)
- The Great Lakes Remedial Action Plans (\$2,390,000)
- The Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Dispersal Barrier (\$12.5 million)
- Ecorse Creek conservation (\$200,000)
- Renovations to a chemistry building in Michigan (\$951,500)
- Funding for Marygrove College (\$380,600)
- Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration (\$4,314,000)

Local Crime and Recidivism Programs (\$8 million)

- The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (\$5,440,000)
- Justice programs in the city of Detroit and Charter County (\$2.8 million)

Education and Healthcare (\$2.8 million)

- Equipment for physical education activities in Detroit (\$476,000)
- A comprehensive youth development and education program for the Detroit Youth Foundation (\$476,000)
- An initiative to assist TANF recipients with attaining higher education including scholarship funding (\$590,000)
- The Starr Commonwealth Structured Therapeutic Living Program for developmentally disabled and at-risk youth and young adults (\$190,000)
- University of Detroit Mercy facilities and equipment (\$333,000)
- The Health Disparities Reduction Project for Women and Children in Detroit (\$762,000)

Grants (\$24.5 million)

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services

COPS Hiring Recovery Program

- \$2,271,240 for the City of Dearborn Municipal Police Department
- \$11,148,750 for the City of Detroit Police Department
- \$203,274 for the Ecorse Police Department
- \$987,132 for the Charter Township of Redford Police Department
- \$245,900 for the Riverview Police Department
- \$449,214 for the Brownstown Police Department
- \$421,084 for the Hazel Park Police Department
- \$204,955 for the City of Melvindale Police Department

Developing Crime Fighting Technologies

- \$625,000 for the Oakland County Sheriff's Department
- \$305,000 for the City of Rochester Hills Sheriff's Department
- \$1,120,000 for the Detroit Fire Department Emergency Responders

- \$300,000 for the Mason-Oceana 911 Emergency Responders
- \$300,000 for the Wayne County Government
- \$350,000 for the City of Detroit Police Department

Tribal Resources Grant Program for Equipment

- \$171,492 for the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

- \$500,000 for the Downriver Community Conference for the improvement of their organizational infrastructure and functionality of the criminal justice system.
- \$197,781 for the Detroit Community Justice Partnership towards Project Safe Neighborhoods.
- \$750,000 for the City of Detroit for implementation of the Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative: Local Demonstration.
- \$250,000 for the Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office to expand the Wayne County Mortgage Fraud Team.
- \$550,000 for the City of Detroit to support the Workforce Development Department’s Parolees, Technical Parolee Violators, and Ex-Offenders Project.
- \$1,418,498 for the Wayne County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office to further expand the resources needed to operate its Mortgage Fraud Task Force.
- \$212,239 for the Detroit Community Justice Partnership towards Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Community Capacity Development Office

- \$141,747 for the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion was awarded to Detroit for the Weed and Seed Program Guide and Application Kit: Continuation Series.
- The same program was granted \$135,730.73 by Hamtramck Community Initiative for the City of Hamtramck.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs

- \$500,000 for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit for the Gang Prevention Youth Mentoring Program.
- \$200,000 for the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services for the Youth and Development Services Project.
- \$100,000 for HOPE for the HOPE’s educational and leadership campus located in Detroit.
- \$500,000 for the Chapel Hill Missionary Baptist Church for artistic and extracurricular activities for at-risk children.

IV. Other

- Called for DOJ investigators into shooting of 7-year old Aiyana Jones by Detroit Police Department, and killing of Detroit Imam Luqman Ameen Abdullah by the FBI.
- Rep. Conyers founded and chaired the Out of Afghanistan Caucus (May 18, 2010).
- Wrote an op-ed in *The Washington Post* entitled “Why We Have To Look Back,” stating that, “Indeed, I want to move on as well – there are so many things that I would rather work on than further review of Bush's presidency. But in my view it would not be responsible to start our journey forward without first knowing exactly where we are. . . . If those temptations are to be resisted – if we are to face new threats in a manner that keeps faith with our values and strengthens rather than diminishes our authority around the world – we must fully learn the lessons of our recent past,” (01/30/09).
- Wrote an op-ed in *USA Today* entitled “Nation needs full accounting of Bush Administration excesses,” stating that, “The precise form and scope of this effort is open to discussion and compromise, but what is not an option is to do nothing. The matters at hand are too grave and our national honor is too precious to move forward without fully accounting for what has been done in America’s name.” (02/17/09).
- Convened forum in Chicago on the Gun Show Loophole, Rep. Conyers joined his colleagues in Chicago to hear testimony from law enforcement, victims of gun violence, and academic experts on the Gun Show Loophole in response to a series of mass shootings.
- Wrote an op-ed in *The Detroit News* entitled “Homeowners need new options,” stating that, “As we’ve seen in the last three years, home foreclosures uproot families, devastate local communities, and stunt economic recovery. If we are going to stem the still-rising tide of foreclosures, we need more than incentives for Wall Street – we need to take real action and give homeowners more options to save their homes.” (08/26/10).

Awards

- National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers – Diversity Advocacy Award (2009).
- Metro Detroit Youth Day – Appreciation Award (2009).
- Kappa Alpha Psi – Award of Distinction (2009).
- The Humanitarian Society of the United States of Legislative Fund – Humane Champion (2009).
- The Martin Luther King, Jr. DC Support Group Inc. – Humanitarian Award (01/19/2009).
- The Coalition of Black Trade Unions – Charles A. Hayes Award for Commitment to Struggle for Justice (04/21/2009).
- National Bar Association – Presidential Award of Merit (09/23/2009).
- Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc. in honor of Ed Pokomy (11/06/2009).
- The University of Michigan Honorable John Conyers Jr. Jazz Advocacy Award (02/13/2010).
- The Peoples Award Helping to Heal the Nation (05/02/2010).
- National Capital Arts Council – 23rd Annual Government Management Award (05/11/2010).

- Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs (06/06/2010).
- Rainbow Push Coalition and Citizenship Education Fund Annual Conference – Drum Major for Justice (06/15/2010).
- ACLU Award of Appreciation for Extraordinary Leadership in the Passage of Fair Sentencing Act of 2010 (09/21/2010).
- Georgia Stand-Up and Act Awards – Lifetime Achievement (11/11/2010).
- Washington Psychiatric Society – Senator Paul and Mrs. Sheila Wellstone Mental Health Visionary Award (11/19/2010).

110th Congress (2007-2008) (Chairman, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- Honest Leadership and Open Government Act, comprehensive ethics reform increasing regulation of lobbyists in wake of Jack Abramoff and other scandals, including disclosure of “bundled” contributions. It increased the length of the ban on lobbying contacting former contacts by former Members of Congress and senior staff to two years (P.L. 110-81).
- Pigford Claims Remedy Act, extending limitation period for black farmers discriminated against by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Rep. Conyers subsequently also helped ensure funds were appropriated to pay settlement (incorporated into P.L. 110-34).
- Pro-IP Act, providing for increased coordination, greater resources and enhanced penalties for violations of intellectual property laws (P.L. 110-403).
- Internet Tax Freedom Act, extending a moratorium on state taxes on accessing the Internet and preventing any discriminatory or multiple tax on purchases through the Internet (P.L. 110-108).
- Court Security Improvement Act, enhancing court security measures in wake of outbreak of shootings and other incidents (P.L. 110-177).
- Former Vice Presidents Protection Act, authorizing Secret Service to protect former Vice Presidents and their families for limited periods of time (P.L. 110-326).
- Resolution recognizing 50th anniversary of desegregation of Little Rock Central High (H. Res. 668).

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that passed were enacted into law

- Second Chance Act, developing alternatives to incarceration, expanding substance abuse programs, and expanding reentry services, among other things. Rep. Conyers and Rep. Bobby Scott worked together to assure that there was no faith-based requirement in the Second Chance Act (P.L. 110-199).
- Great Lakes Water Compact, allowing Great Lakes states to preserve and protect their abundant fresh water resources (P.L. 110-342).
- Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act, establishing unsolved crimes section in the Civil Rights Division (P.L. 110-344).
- Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act, amending the definition of “disability” in the ADA to restore protection for the broad range of individuals with disabilities as originally envisioned by Congress when it passed the ADA in 1990 (P.L. 110-325).
- A total of 60 additional Public Laws were considered by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 150 hearings, and as Chairman, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act (civil rights provisions); legislation implementing the 9/11 Commission’s recommendations; public laws strengthening prohibitions against animal fighting; allowing for the prosecution of

genocide; improving the national instant check system for gun purchases; assisting members of the armed forces in obtaining citizenship; removing the African National Congress from treatment as a terrorist organization; working to limit the use and recruitment of child soldiers; extending the grant program for drug-endangered children; reauthorizing Debbie Smith DNA grant program; providing for more effective prosecution of child pornography; providing grants for improved mental health treatment and services to offenders with mental illnesses; exempting members of the armed services from the bankruptcy means test; reauthorizing the Trafficking Victims Protection Act; and a resolution apologizing for the enslavement and racial segregation of African Americans.

Legislation introduced

- Homeowner's Protection Act, allowing bankruptcy judges to modify mortgages on principal residences. (H.R. 7328).
- Credit Card Fair Fee Act allowing merchants to collectively negotiate reduced fees for credit card transactions, Rep. Conyers held hearings and moved through the Judiciary Committee (H.R. 5546).
- Deceptive Practices in Voting Act, prohibiting people from knowingly communicating false information about elections with the intent to prevent people from exercising their right to vote. A counterpart was introduced in the Senate by then-Senator Obama. The bill also increased the criminal penalty for voter intimidation to five years imprisonment. This legislation passed the House (H.R. 1281).
- Caging Prohibition Act, prohibiting discriminatory challenges of lawful voters (H.R. 5038).
- Tulsa-Greenwood Race Riot Claims Act, allowing victims of Tulsa race riots to seek compensation (H.R. 1995).
- NOPEC - No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels Act of 2007, providing for antitrust relief against international oil cartels (H.R. 2264).
- Privacy and Cybercrime Enforcement Act, providing new tools to prosecute identity theft and other computer crimes (H.R. 4175).
- Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act, prohibiting transfer of horses across the border for slaughter and human consumption. Rep. Conyers held hearings and moved the bill through Judiciary Committee (H.R. 6598).
- Protecting Employees and Retirees in Business Bankruptcies Act, Rep. Conyers held hearings and reintroduced the legislation in subsequent congresses (H.R. 3652).
- Net Neutrality legislation, establishing an antitrust remedy for anticompetitive and discriminatory practices by broadband service providers (H.R. 5994).

Other major legislation moved through the House by Chairman Conyers

- Free Flow of Information Act, providing federal legal shield for reporters (passed House in 110th and 111th Congresses) (H.R. 2102).
- COPS Improvement Act, reauthorizing and expanding public safety and community policing programs. This legislation passed the House in the 110th and 111th Congresses (H.R. 1700).

- Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act, limiting prosecutors from conditioning leniency on waiving attorney-client privilege. This legislation passed the House in the 110th Congress (H.R. 3013).
- Saluting the life and music of the late Otha Ellas "Bo Diddley" Bates, guitar virtuoso and rock and roll pioneer, whose music continues to influence generations of musicians (H.RES.1251)

II. Committee Activities

As the incoming Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers confronted a Bush Administration that had engaged in a series of civil rights and liberties abuses, as documented in Rep. Conyers' report, "The Constitution in Crisis." In addition, at the outset of the Congress, President Bush announced the firing of nine U.S. Attorneys under highly questionable circumstances. As a result, Rep. Conyers devoted a substantial portion of his first two years as Chairman investigating these matters, conducting a total of 157 days of oversight hearings during the 110th Congress.

With respect to the U.S. Attorneys matter, Chairman Conyers issued the very first subpoenas of the new Democratic Majority. He obtained thousands of pages of documents from the Justice Department, which he made available in real time to the public. He went to court and sought limited immunity to obtain DOJ White House Liaison Monica Goodling's testimony, and obtained the public testimony of many other high ranking DOJ officials up to and including the Attorney General. The results exposed serious wrongdoing at the Justice Department, resulted in enactment of a new law regarding the replacement of U.S. Attorneys, and led to the resignation of numerous high ranking officials, including Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez. When responsibility for the U.S. Attorney firings appeared to lead to the White House itself (according to the Chairman, "the breadcrumbs in this investigation have always led to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue"), Rep. Conyers issued further subpoenas to high ranking White House aides, including White House Chief of Staff Josh Bolten, former White House Counsel Harriet Miers and later, Karl Rove. When the Bush White House refused to cooperate based on assertions of executive privilege, the Judiciary Committee held the relevant responsible officials in contempt, and the full House followed suit on February 14, 2008 (the first vote to cite a person for contempt of Congress in over 25 years). When the Justice Department refused to prosecute the officials for contempt, Chairman Conyers filed suit in federal court and won a landmark legal victory (*Committee on the Judiciary v. Miers*). On September 29, 2008, DOJ's Office of the Inspector General and Office of Professional Responsibility released the results of their investigation into the U.S. Attorneys firings, concluding that "political partisan considerations were an important factor in the removal of several of the U.S. Attorneys," and identified numerous misstatements to Congress. This, in turn, led Attorney General Mukasey to ask U.S. Attorney Nora Danahy to conduct an independent criminal probe into the matter.

With respect to various civil liberties issues, under Chairman Conyers the Committee held hearings and investigated abuses in the area of signing statements, warrantless surveillance, state secrets, clemency power, rulemaking and the "unitary executive" theory, torture and mistreatment of detainees, extraordinary rendition, manipulation of intelligence relating to the Iraq War, voting irregularities and civil rights enforcement. Rep. Conyers conducted hearings

and introduced legislation limiting the use of “National Security Letters” and “exigent letters” (H.R. 3189), conducted hearings and cosponsored legislation setting forth standards for assertions of state secrets privilege (H.R. 5607), and conducted hearings and introduced legislation that provided for court review of warrantless surveillance cases (H.R. 3773, the “RESTORE Act”). The RESTORE Act passed the House but failed to pass the Senate, and in the end Rep. Conyers voted against the final bill because it provided retroactive immunity for telecommunications carriers involved in the surveillance.

With regard to other civil liberties abuses, Chairman Conyers held a broad series of hearings, including obtaining testimony under threat of subpoena of Vice President Cheney’s Chief of Staff David Addington, Under Secretary of Defense Douglas Feith, DOJ Voting Section Chief Christopher Coates, former head of Office of Legal Policy John Yoo, and former Ohio Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell. Other witnesses included rendition victim Maher Arar, FBI Director Robert Mueller, former Attorney General John Ashcroft, former Deputy Attorney General James Comey, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Office of Legal Counsel Stephen Bradbury, former White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan, Ambassador Joe Wilson, and author Philippe Sands. In connection with these and other hearings, Rep. Conyers, along with Armed Services Chairman Ike Skelton, introduced legislation seeking to restore habeas corpus rights to enemy combatants held at Guantanamo Bay (H.R. 2826). Chairman Conyers released a Homeland Security Inspector General report disclosing wrongdoings in the rendition of Maher Arar to Syria and called for the appointment of a special prosecutor to look into the Arar matter, the destruction of CIA videotapes, and mistreatment and possible torture of detainees. Rep. Conyers also obtained two GAO reports confirming the harm of President Bush’s signing statements, a DOJ Office of Professional Responsibility report concerning the use of “waterboarding” and the enhanced interrogation tactics and a report by the Department of Justice Office of Professional Responsibility and Office of Inspector General concerning selective prosecution by the Bush Administration.

As Chairman, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Antitrust: competition in satellite radio; online search and advertising; Internet neutrality; airlines; gasoline prices.
- Crime: elder abuse; juvenile justice; prison litigation; misuse of deferred prosecution agreements, overuse of mandatory minimum sentences; and allegations of rape and imprisonment by U.S. contractors abroad.
- Bankruptcy: implementation of 2005 Bankruptcy Act; medical debt. The hearing on medical bankruptcy received national press coverage and brought attention to the growing crisis of the rise in personal bankruptcy for middle class families in America due to unpaid medical debt.
- Courts: cameras in courtroom; federal judicial salaries; off reservation gaming in Michigan.
- Consumer Rights: misuse of mandatory arbitration; holding foreign manufacturers responsible for defective products; treatment of injured NFL players.
- Immigration: series of hearings on comprehensive immigration reform and its various components; granting immigration relief to families of 9/11 victims; the impact of immigration raids on U.S. citizens and immigrant communities; the conditions of

confinement in civil immigration detention facilities. The two hearings on immigration detention conditions received national press coverage and helped to spur changes in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's detention standards and in its reporting practices with respect to custodial deaths.

- Civil Rights: police misconduct; race related violence in public school (“Jena 6”).

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 110th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$73.3 million in grants and earmarked appropriations for the Detroit area. Of this total, \$39.4 million was from earmarked appropriations, and \$33.8 million was from grant funding.

Earmarked Appropriations (\$39.4 million)

Economic and Defense Spending (\$17.6 million)

- The Detroit Renaissance business district (\$282,000)
- The Economic Development Coalition of Southeast Michigan (\$500,000)
- The Component Optimization for Ground Systems (\$1.6 million)
- The Advanced Mobile Microgrid System (\$4.4 million)
- The Software Assurance Education and Research Institute (\$1 million)
- The Manufacturing and Repair Cell (\$4 million)
- The US Property and Fiscal Office Readiness Center Renovation (\$4,239,000)
- SWORDS - the Safety Confirmation Testing for Accelerated Fielding and Production (\$1.6 million)

Environmental Initiatives (\$15 million)

- Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research (\$4,525,000)
- The Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Dispersal Barrier (\$750,000)
- The Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Second Barrier (\$8 million)
- The Great Lakes Fisheries Resource Office – Fish Mass Marketing Equipment (\$1,750,000)

Local Crime and Recidivism Programs (\$3.6 million)

- The Missing Persons: Locating the Ones We Love (\$423,000)
- Detroit Drug Violence Enforcement (\$376,000)
- The United Way of Southeastern Michigan Ex-Offender Reentry Program (\$634,500)
- The Truancy Reduction Initiative (\$376,000)
- The Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries for Wildwood Ranch Youth Program (\$493,500)
- The Wayne County Radio Communications Interoperability (\$211,500)
- The Detroit Business to Youth Mentoring Project (\$188,000)

- Ruth Ellis Center for an outreach program (\$366,600)
- The Wayne County Department of Public Services for a truancy intervention program (\$347,800)
- The Wayne County Juvenile Reentry Program (\$188,000)

Healthcare (\$1.2 million)

- The Wayne County Department of Public Health for a lead poisoning assessment, preventions, and intervention program (\$292,000)
- The Focus: HOPE, for an experimental learning laboratory and related equipment and technology to support undergraduate education and training (\$585,000)
- The Detroit Primary Care Access for health care information technology (\$365,000)

Mass Transportation (\$2 million)

- The Detroit Bus Component Overhaul (\$250,000)
- The Detroit Bus Maintenance Facility (\$750,000)
- The Detroit Replacement Buses (\$250,000)
- The Greenway Path and Bridge (\$250,000)
- The demolition of abandoned properties as part of a redevelopment plan in Detroit (\$300,000)
- Infrastructure improvements to continue the revitalization of the Brush Park Historic District neighborhood in Detroit (\$200,000)

Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Through President Obama’s signature stimulus legislation, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Rep. Conyers and other members of the Michigan delegation were able to provide significant funding for the manufacture in the state of Michigan of electric motors and advanced batteries.

Grants (\$33.8 million)

United States Department of Transportation – “TIGER” Grants

Under President Obama’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the United States Department of Transportation created a host of “TIGER” grants (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) to stimulate the economy and invest in American transportation infrastructure. Rep. Conyers and other Members of Michigan’s Congressional Delegation requested TIGER grant funding for the City of Detroit, and received \$25,000,000 for the M1/Woodward Avenue Light Rail Project. The grant funding will go towards a 3.4 miles long light rail system connecting the New Center to Downtown Detroit with 12 station stops.

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services

Secure our Schools

- \$161,450 for the Riverview Police Department

- \$118,050 for the Brownstown Police Department

Developing Crime Fighting Technologies

- \$2,999,456 for the Oakland County Sheriff's Department
- \$210,443 for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department
- \$587,368 for the Charter Township of West Bloomfield State Unit
- \$222,134 for the Michigan Department of Military Affairs

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

- \$11,855 for the City of Hazel Park for the Justice Assistance Grant Program.
- \$370,974 was awarded to the Detroit Community Justice Partnership for Project Safe Neighborhoods in Detroit.
- The Gibraltar School District was also granted \$148,590.05 for a Gang Resistance Education and Training Program.
- The Detroit Community Justice Partnership received \$676,280 towards the Anti-Gang Initiative in Detroit.
- \$178,870 for the Detroit Workforce Development Department for a Congressionally Mandated Award for a transitional jobs program.
- \$212,408 for the Detroit Workforce Development Department for a Congressionally Mandated Award to reduce recidivism and increase employment opportunities for former prisoners.
- The Detroit Community Justice Partnership received \$252,397 for the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative in Detroit.

Community Capacity Development Office

- \$438,775 for the Detroit Community Justice Partnership was awarded to Detroit for the Weed and Seed Program Guide and Application Kit: Continuation Series. The same program was granted \$350,000 by Operation Weed and Seed of Highland Park for the City of Highland Park.
- The Weed and Seed Communities Competitive Program Guide and Application Kit, was granted \$316,375.97 by the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion to the city of Detroit.

National Institute of Justice

- \$614,702.48 for the National Institute of Justice Continuation Awards by Wayne State University.
- \$437,998 for the National Institute of Justice/Office of Science and Technology Continuations by Wayne State University.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs

- \$348,796 for the Ruth Ellis Center, Inc. for the City of Highland Park to assist runaway and homeless youth.

- \$178,870 was provided by the City of Detroit for the implementation of a mentoring program for 14 and 15 year old children by the Detroit Workforce Development Department.

Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking

- \$27,423 was awarded by the Allen Park Police Department for support for the Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant Program II.

IV. Other

- First African American Chair of the House Judiciary Committee.
- On March 20, 2008, Rep. Conyers toured Louisiana's Angola State Prison as a part of the effort to free the Angola 3 from their decade's long term in solitary confinement. Robert King, Albert Woodfox, and Herman Wallace were put in solitary confinement in 1972 after the killing of a corrections officer. After twenty-nine years in solitary Robert King's conviction was overturned and he was released. Woodfox and Wallace be held in solitary confinement for a total of 36 years, and would be released to live in a communal dorm four days after Rep. Conyers visit. (03/20/08)

Awards

- Pacifica Foundation – Peace and Justice Award (2007).
- Second Chance Employment Service – Visionary Leader Award (2007).
- National Visionary Leadership Project – Wisdom Award (2007).
- Civil Rights Outstanding Leadership (2007).
- Let Freedom Ring – For First African American Judiciary Chairman – Presented by Reverend Wendell Anthony (02/24/2007).
- The Maryland General Assembly “Official Citizen” – In recognition of his exemplary leadership and dedication in the progress of H.R. 676 and for his steadfast efforts as the father of the movement to prove universal healthcare for all Americans (03/20/2007).
- National Coalition on Black Civic Participation – Spirit of Democracy Award (05/16/2007).
- Metro Detroit Youth Day Appreciation Award (2008).
- Dr. Alan Locke Award, DIA Friends of African and African American Art (02/10/2008).
- Congressional Black Associates – The Robert Harold Ogle Trailblazer Award (02/28/2008).
- American University Washington College of Law – Appreciation for Keynote Address at 11th Annual Hispanic Law Conference (03/15/2008).
- Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. – The Lumberton Alumni Chapter Certificate of Achievement of Appreciation (04/21/2008).
- Leadership Conference on Civil Rights – Hubert Humphrey Civil Rights Award (05/14/2008).
- United Steelworkers Wellstone Award (06/2008).

- The YWCA Metropolitan Detroit as its 2007 Individual Keeper of the Flame (08/23/2007).
- American Federation of Musicians – Lifetime Achievement Award for Commitment to Performing Musicians and their Music (09/27/2008).
- Fair Housing Center of Metropolitan Detroit – Certificate of Appreciation (10/27/2008).

109th Congress (2005-2006) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that were enacted into law

- Voting Rights Act Reauthorization, (lead Democratic cosponsor after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi) reauthorizing expiring provisions of Voting Rights Act for an additional 25 years (P.L. 109-246).
- Violence Against Women Act, (lead Democratic cosponsor) reauthorizing and expanding programs within the Office of Violence Against Women and the Department of Justice generally. This third iteration of VAWA stressed collaboration between law enforcement agencies, youth alliances, housing, as well as health professionals with impacted women. New programs were developed to assist young victims of domestic violence, bolster health care initiatives to alleviate violence, increase public knowledge about domestic violence as well as sexual assault, and public housing assistance for women and children (P.L. 109-162).
- Resolution recognizing 50th anniversary of Rosa Parks refusal to give up her seat on the bus and subsequent desegregation (lead sponsor) (H. Con. Res. 208).
- Resolution authorizing remains of Rosa Parks to lie in Honor in the Capitol Rotunda, (lead sponsor) Rosa Parks was the 31st person, the first woman and the American who had not been a U.S. government official, to be paid this tribute. (H. Con. Res. 286, S. Con. Res. 61 and 62).
- Resolution honoring life and accomplishments of Coretta Scott King, (lead sponsor) worked with Chairman Hyde in wake of Ms. King's passing (H. Res. 655).
- Resolution honoring Chrysler Corporation and its employees for receiving 500,000th design patent for work on Chrysler "Crossfire" (lead sponsor) (H. Con. Res. 53).
- A total of 19 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 150 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws allowing for emergency judicial special sessions in the wake of the Hurricane Katrina disaster; providing special immigration status for Iraqi translators assisting U.S. armed forces; increasing enforcement resources and penalties for counterfeit goods; and increasing enforcement tools regarding methamphetamine.

Legislation introduced

- VOTER Act, Rep. Conyers first introduced this bill making it unlawful to engage in unfair or deceptive voting practices; tracking allegation of voting irregularities; requiring nationwide same day registration and absentee ballots; requiring paper voting trail; clarifying rules for provisional ballots; minimum election standards and training; requiring open source software for voting machines, studying election day holiday; and limiting voter purging (H.R. 533).

II. Committee Activities

As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers was confronted with a number of actions by the Bush Administration and others raising serious constitutional concerns. First, was the highly controversial 2004 presidential election where the outcome was decided in Ohio and impacted by a number of questionable actions limiting voting rights. Second, was a series of civil liberties controversies arising under the Bush Administration, including allegations regarding the manipulation of intelligence to justify going to war in Iraq, allegations of torture, extraordinary rendition; and misconduct involving detainees, retribution against Bush Administration critics; and warrantless surveillance of U.S. citizens. Rep. Conyers conducted his own investigation of these issues through a series of Democratic forums he held in Washington, D.C. and around the country; organized a letter to the Bush Administration signed by 121 of his colleagues and more than 500,000 Americans seeking accountability regarding manipulation of intelligence; and issued two comprehensive and widely-read reports entitled “Preserving Democracy: What Went Wrong in Ohio” and “The Constitution in Crisis.” In addition, Rep. Conyers publicly called for a special counsel to investigate the White House’s culpability in the outing of Valerie Plame, which ultimately led to the conviction of Vice President Cheney’s Chief of Staff Scooter Libby.

- “What Went Wrong in Ohio”: a 102-page report that identified numerous, serious election irregularities in Ohio affecting hundreds of thousands of voters. This led Rep. Conyers to join with Senator Barbara Boxer and the late Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones in filing an historic electoral challenge on the House floor, and led to the introduction of numerous bills to enhance voting protection.
- “The Constitution in Crisis”: a 350-page report based on multiple hearings and the review of tens of thousands of documents, found substantial evidence that President Bush, Vice President Cheney, and other high ranking members of the Bush Administration misled Congress and the American people about the decision to go to War in Iraq; engaged in extraordinary rendition; countenanced torture and mistreatment of detainees; permitted inappropriate retaliation against critics of the Bush Administration; and approved unlawful domestic surveillance.

Rep. Conyers also led the successful opposition to the following extreme measures in his role as Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee. These include:

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- Splitting up the Ninth Circuit, an unprecedented effort to micro-manage judicial affairs and diminish the impact of federal judges in California (H.R. 211/212/3125).
- Illegal Immigration and Border Control bill, instituting numerous anti-immigrant changes, including making it crime to offer assistance to undocumented aliens and mandating construction of 700-mile fence on Mexican border (H.R. 4437/6095).
- “Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act,” limiting the ability of women to seek otherwise lawful abortions across state lines (H.R. 748/S. 403).
- Limiting legal remedies and disallowing attorneys’ fees in First Amendment Establishment Clause cases, in an effort to prevent plaintiffs from pursuing separation of church and state cases (H.R. 2679).
- Codifying the Administration’s authority to engage in warrantless surveillance of U.S. citizens (H.R. 5285).
- Court-stripping bill, preventing federal courts from being able to adjudicate any legal challenges to the Pledge of Allegiance (H.R. 2389).

Limiting Health, Safety and Consumer Rights

- “Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act,” mandating court-imposed sanctions on attorneys in federal and state legal actions (H.R. 420).
- Limiting agencies’ ability to issue health, safety and other regulations (H.R. 682, Regulatory Flexibility).
- “BATF Modernization and Reform Act,” imposing new limits on the ability of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to pursue gun dealers for illegal gun sales and purchases (H.R. 5092).
- Legislation allowing private property owners to more easily allege “takings” violations, pertaining to environmental, health and safety regulations (H.R. 4772).

Ranking Member Conyers also led the opposition to a number of ill-considered measures, which were passed into law by the Republican Congress. These included:

- Anti-consumer bankruptcy legislation, giving credit card companies and banks greater rights in bankruptcy at the expense of working Americans (P.L. 109-8).
- “Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act,” immunizing gun manufacturers from legal liability for harm caused by guns (P.L. 109-92).
- “Real ID Act,” imposing federal mandate on the states to implement special tamper-proof identification cards akin to creating national identification system, and limiting asylum rights of immigrants (P.L. 109-295).
- PATRIOT Act reauthorization, of expiring provisions without significant change to reflect myriad civil liberties concerns with law and related anti-terrorism initiatives (P.L. 109-177).
- Act for the relief of the parents for Theresa Marie Schiavo, allowing the Terry Schiavo case to be transferred from state to federal court in an effort to allow Ms. Schiavo’s parents to overrule state court ruling concerning the use of life support (P.L. 109-3).

- Legislation making it more difficult for harmed victims to bring federal class actions cases (P.L. 109-14).
- Military Commissions Act, authorizing military commission trials, limiting habeas corpus rights of detainees, and making it more difficult to prosecute cases of torture and other mistreatment of prisoners (P.L. 109-366).
- Unlawful Internet Gambling Act, extending enforcement tools against private on-line gambling (P.L. 109-347).

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 109th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$4.9 million in grants for the Detroit area.

Grants

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services

Secure our Schools

- \$31,250 for the City of Ferndale Municipal Police Department

Developing Crime Fighting Technologies

- \$648,163 for the Oakland County Sheriff's Department

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

- \$2,800,290 for the Detroit Community Justice Partnership for Project Safe Neighborhoods in Detroit.
- \$13,026 was awarded to the City of Hazel Park towards the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program.
- \$600,937 was awarded to the Detroit Community Justice Partnership for the 2006 Anti-Gang Initiative in Detroit.

Community Capacity Development Office

- \$225,000 for the Operation Weed and Seed Program Guide and Application Kit Continuation Sites B in Detroit.
- A matching grant of \$225,000 was awarded to the City of Detroit for the same purpose from the Detroit Community Justice Partnership.
- \$225,000 for the Detroit Community Justice Partnership for the Operation Weed and Seed Program Guide and Application Kit: Continuation B in Detroit.
- An additional \$225,000 from Operation Weed and Seed of Highland Park was granted towards the same program operating out of Highland Park.

National Institute of Justice

- \$451,057.49 for Wayne State University, for the National Institute of Justice/Office of Science and Technology Continuations.

IV. Other

- Co-founded “Out of Iraq” Congressional Caucus
- Lead plaintiff in the lawsuit Honorable John Conyers, Jr., v. George W. Bush, in which Rep. Conyers and 10 other Members of Congress sought injunctive relief preventing the execution of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-171) due to the failure of the House and Senate to pass identical bills before sending legislation to the President.
- Crafting emergency response in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Rep. Conyers took a leadership role in working hand-in-hand with the Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Rep. Melvin Watt to put forth legislative and other remedies addressing the housing, healthcare, and various needs of the victims in the Gulf Coast. At the request of grassroots activists working to address the Katrina catastrophe, Rep. Conyers sponsored a series of meetings and briefings in Congress that brought together grassroots leaders from the Gulf Coast, NGOs, Members of Congress, and senior congressional staff in order to craft federal legislation and to substantively address the Katrina crisis with real federal assistance, not just words.

Awards

- National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence Against Women – Thanks for Leadership in Reauthorizing VAWA (2005).
- National Women’s Political Caucus Award (2005).
- National Medical Association – Louis Stokes Health Advocacy Award – Using Your National Platform to Advocate on Behalf of Minorities (03/13/2005).
- Global Peach Award Presented by Global Nonviolence Conferences Detroit, MI (04/17/2005).
- Inducted into the Coppin State University Criminal Justice Club as an Honorary Member (05/06/2005).
- Coalition on Black Civic Participation VOTE Civic Leadership Award – (08/2005).
- Jazz Unites Inc. Award (08/05/2005).
- International Civil Rights walk of fame 2005 Inductee Atlanta, Georgia (08/26/2005)
- Metropolitan Black Bar Association – Outstanding National Leadership Award (09/12/2005).
- Urban Education Leadership Award (2006).
- 17th Annual Leadership Awards – National Gay and Lesbian Taskforce (2006).
- American Medical Student Association – the AMSA Leadership in Healthcare Justice Award (03/2006).
- Lifetime Commitment Award from Michigan Coalition of Human Rights (03/19/2006).
- Art Without Walls – Recognizes His Dedication and Hard Work on the People’s Behalf for Healthcare Reform (05/06/2006).

108th Congress (2003-2004) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that passed were enacted into law

- Author, Consumer, and Computer Owner Protection and Security Act, proscribing new copyright reporting requirements and requiring sharing of evidence in copyright infringement cases (P.L. 108-482).
- Anabolic Steroids Control Act, (lead Democratic cosponsor) clarifying that anabolic steroid use by professional athletes is unlawful (P.L. 108-358).
- Innocence Protection Act, (lead Democratic cosponsor) package of reforms including enhancing the use of DNA to exonerate innocent individuals and facilitating enhanced criminal representation in capital cases (P.L. 108-405).
- Recognizing the 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board, (lead sponsor) landmark Supreme Court decision holding that "separate but equal" in education was unconstitutional (H. Con. Res. 414).
- A total of 59 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 115 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws examining the problem of prison rape; reauthorizing the ban on undetectable firearms; seeking to limit unauthorized "spam" on the Internet; regulating misconduct of sports agents; and increasing visas to improve access to physicians in underserved communities.

Legislation introduced

- U.S. National Health Care Act, the "Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act," establishing a single-payer universal health care framework to extend health insurance to all Americans. (H.R. 676).

II. Committee Activities

Rep. Conyers again led the successful opposition to the following extreme measures in his role as Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee. These included:

Constitutional Amendments

- Balanced Budget Amendment, necessitating balancing the budget on the backs of seniors by raiding Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds and making it more difficult to increase debt limits (H.J. Res 22).
- Same Sex Marriage Constitutional Amendment, preempting states' ability to define marriage (H.J. Res. 56/106).
- Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment, limiting defendants' constitutional rights in court (H.J. Res. 48).

- Flag Desecration Constitutional Amendment, altering the First Amendment for first time in our nation's history (H.J. Res. 4).

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- "Human Cloning Prohibition Act," interfering with therapeutic cloning as well as development of stem cell research (H.R. 534/ 2028).
- Series of court-stripping bills, such as legislation preventing federal courts from being able to strike down the Defense of Marriage Act and adjudicating legal challenges to the Pledge of Allegiance (H.R. 3313).
- Splitting up the Ninth Circuit, in an effort to micro-manage judicial affairs and limit the impact of federal judges in California (H.R. 2723).
- "Child Custody Protection Act," limiting the ability of women to seek otherwise lawful abortions across state lines (H.R. 1755).

Limiting Health, Safety and Consumer Rights

- "Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act," immunizing gun manufacturers from legal liability for harm caused by guns (H.R. 1036).
- Legislation making it more difficult for harmed victims to bring federal class action cases, for discrimination and other legal violations (H.R. 1115).
- Limiting rights of injured medical malpractice victims, by, among other things limiting pain and suffering and punitive damages (H.R. 5/4280).
- "Lawsuit Abuse Reduction Act," mandating court imposed sanctions on attorneys in federal and state legal actions (H.R. 4571).
- Anti-consumer bankruptcy legislation, giving credit card companies and banks greater rights in bankruptcy at the expense of working Americans (H.R. 975).

Ranking Member Conyers also led the opposition to a number of ill-considered measures which were passed into law by the Republican Congress. These included:

- "Partial Birth Abortion Act," limiting a woman's right to choose a specific type of abortion even when her life or health is at stake (P.L. 108-105).
- "Unborn Victims of Violence Act," limiting a woman's right to choose by establishing a legal precedent that fetuses have independent legal status by making crimes against pregnant women two separate and independent crimes (P.L. 108-212).

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 108th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$11.7 million in grants for the Detroit area. He also led the effort to prevent the closing of the Detroit Medical Center by securing \$28 million in federal funds.

Grants

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services

Homeland Security Overtime Program

- \$56,504 for the City of Dearborn Municipal Police Department
- \$2,906,435 for the City of Detroit Police Department
- \$3 million for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department

Developing Crime Fighting Technologies

- \$1,283,843 for the City of Detroit Police Department
- \$1,465,304 for the Oakland County Sheriff's Department
- 989,477 for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department

Community Capacity Development Office

- \$500,000 for the Operation Weed and Seed Program Continuation Solicitation in Highland Park
- \$350,000 for the Operation Weed and Seed Program Application Guide and Application Kit in Highland Park and Detroit

National Institute of Justice

- \$56,348.05 for Crime Lab Improvement in Dearborn.

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

- \$570,945 for local law enforcement block grants to Allen Park, Hazel Park, Dearborn Heights, Lincoln Park, Dearborn, Brownstown, Southgate, Hamtramck, Redford, and Highland Park.
- \$170,000 was awarded to the city of Detroit by the Northwest Detroit Weed and Seed organization for Project Safe Neighborhoods Media Outreach and Community Engagement Program.
- \$225,000 was allocated by the Northwest Detroit Weed and Seed organization towards the Safe Neighborhoods program – through a Housing and Urban Development Grant.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs

- \$199,590 for the Continuation of the Drug-Free Communities Support Program.

Detroit Medical Center – Closure Prevention

Rep. Conyers lead the effort to keep the Detroit Medical Center from closing its doors, due to a severe budget crisis that was adversely impacting the hospitals ability to remain open.

Because of Rep. Conyers' seniority, and his ability to work in a bi-partisan manner, Conyers met with senior White House and Health and Human Services officials from the Bush Administration, to begin exploring the possibility of having Health and Human Services expedite federal Medicaid funds slated for Michigan for health care purposes. Conyers worked closely with senior Detroit Medical Center officials, The Michigan House delegation, and the Bush White House in order to make the federal dollars, approximately \$28 million worth, available for the Detroit Medical Center to keep its doors open to serve some of Detroit's poorest and most

vulnerable citizens: those without health insurance and too poor for comprehensive health care services.

Former Michigan Supreme Court member Conrad Mallet, who was then a senior official at the Detroit Medical Center, helped to coordinate this effort with Rep. Conyers.

IV. Other

- In June 2003, the Department of Justice entered into a consent decree with the Detroit Police Department after the police were accused of engaging in a pattern or practice of unconstitutional conduct including excessive use of force and illegal detentions. Justice utilized 42 §14141 U.S.C, a provision that Rep. Conyers attached to the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 after reports of the unconstitutional activity was unearthed. For the next 11 years, the Detroit Police Department would review and evaluate the Police Department's internal audits, conduct on-site visits and provide comments and technical assistance where needed, to ensure that DPD's reform efforts would be sustained.

Awards

- Alabama A & M University William Hooper Council Award (2003).
- The Justice Gerald LeDain Award for achievement in the field of control and enforcement (2003).
- Wayne State University Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration (01/20/2003).
- Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO Civil Rights Award (04/11/2003).
- Commencement Speaker for Paul Quinn College (05/05/2003).
- NAACP National Voter Fund Pioneer Award (05/20/2003).
- Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity – Laurel Wreath Award (07/23/2003).
- The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. – Lifetime Achievement Award (07/24/2003).
- St. Marys Christian Fellowship image award (08/04/2003).
- Keynote speaker at Opening Session of the Judicial Council of the National Bar Association (08/05/2003).
- Phoenix Center – Jerry B. Dwall Public Service Award (2004).
- Public Health Association – Distinguished Public Health Legislator Award (2004).
- The American-Arab Anti-discrimination Committee Alex Odeh Humanitarian Award (02/07/2004).
- Greenville Alumni Chapter Kappa Alpha PSI, Inc. (2/14/2004).
- Prevailing CDC 2004 (03/16/2004).
- The ACLU Fund of the National Capitol Area – the Henry W. Edgerton Civil Liberties Award (03/25/2004).
- Frederick Douglas Men of Strength Award (04/27/2004).
- USDA Coalition of Minority Employees – Award of Excellence for Advancing the Causes of Equality and Opportunity for USDA Employees (06/09/2004).

- The Universal Health Care Action Network – Diane Carlye Health Care Justice Award (11/12/2004).

107th Congress (2001-2002) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that were enacted into law

- Help America Vote Act, based in significant part on Rep. Conyers' bill, H.R. 3295, creating incentives to replace punch-card and lever-based voting systems, creating the Elections Assistance Commission, and establishing the right to a provisional ballot and minimum election administration standards (P.L. 107-252).
- A total of 56 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 110 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws providing for compensation for the victims of the September 11 tragedy, requiring federal agencies to be responsible for violations of anti-discrimination and whistle blower laws; increasing criminal penalties for white collar criminals for securities fraud violations. Rep. Conyers also facilitated House approval of a resolution condemning bigotry and violence against Arab-Americans, American Muslims, and Americans from South Asia in the wake of the September 11 attack.

Legislation introduced

- Patient and Physician Safety and Protection Act, limiting work hours for residents to 80 hours per week and disallowing residents from working more than 24 hours at a stretch. Both the AMA and the Assn. of American Medical Colleges opposed the federal regulation of work hours. Before Conyers' bill, resident physicians complained of working 48 hours straight with no rest breaks for sleep, and making medical errors and mistakes on patients due to severe sleep deprivation. However, on June 13, 2002, the Accreditation Council For Graduate Medical Education, (ACGME) reversed course, and adopted similar standards proposed in Rep. Conyers' HR 3236, where resident work hours were limited to no more than 80 hours per week. Rep. Conyers' bill garnered 70 Co-sponsors, and a national campaign was launched by resident physicians and medical students from across the nation in support of Rep. Conyers' bill (H.R. 3236).
- Universal Health Care Legislation, establishing a framework for single-payer health care covering all citizens of the United States (H. Con. Res. 99)
- Medi-Access Act, expanding the Medicaid program so that the entire nation's uninsured would have access to affordable and accessible health insurance coverage. Those with higher incomes would pay a monthly premium. Under the bill, the federal government paid 100% of the costs of the expansion of the Medicaid program. There is a similar provision in one of the key health insurance expansion provisions of the Affordable Care Act, where the federal government pays for most of the costs of a newly expanded Medicaid program, which would cover approximately 15 million uninsured Americans. (H.R.1142).
- Violence Against Women Civil Rights Restoration Act, rewriting portions of the Violence Against Women Act to make a person committing a violent crime motivated by

gender to be held liable to the injured party if the violent act involved illegal narcotics, weapons, or if it interrupted the victim engaging in commercial activity (H.R. 429).

- Humanitarian Exports Leading to Peace Act, invalidating certain trade sanctions prohibiting the delivery of food and medical aid to Iraq (H.R. 742).
- National Bank Offshore Activities Act, designating all foreign banks with a branch domestically in the United States be subject to reporting requirements when the bank acquires another financial entity, as well as if the financial institution violates financial and/or labor laws (H.R. 2273).
- Fairness in Antitrust in National Sports Act, narrowing professional major league baseball's antitrust exemption to be in line with other sports at the national level when a franchise is relocated or eliminated (H.R. 3288).
- Restoration of Fairness in Immigration Act, establishing a Board of Visa Appeals, an Office of Border Patrol Recruitment and Retention, and reviewing the due process procedures related to expedited removal as well as detention proceedings. Designed to repeal unfair, burdensome, anti-immigrant provisions of the Immigration Act of 1996 (H.R. 3894).
- Military Tribunal Authorization Act, authorizing the President to establish military tribunals for non-U.S. citizens who are a part of al Qaeda or are terrorists connected to the events of September 11th, and are caught fleeing from Afghanistan but are not prisoners of war was introduced to serve as statutory alternative that complies with due process requirements in contrast to the Bush administration's unilateral actions (H.R. 4035).
- Corporate and Criminal Fraud Accountability Act, designating Federal criminal code penalties for destroying, falsifying, or altering records when a firm is under Federal bankruptcy investigation. (H.R. 4098).
- Freelance Writers and Artists Protection Act, permitting freelance artists and writers the same antitrust protections afforded to National Labor Relations Act recognized members of unions and employees engaging in collective bargaining (H.R. 4643).
- United States Toxic Mold Safety and Protection Act, directing the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institute of Health, and the Center for Disease Control to study the effects on a person's health related to the growth indoor mold. Further, the Environmental Protection Agency is directed to disseminate standards for detecting, preventing, and combating toxic mold. (H.R. 5040).
- Internet Gambling Licensing and Regulation Commission Act, establishing the Internet Gambling Licensing and Regulation Study Commission to study the legal framework and regulations surrounding Internet gambling (H.R. 5760).

II. Committee Activities

As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers led the opposition to overreaching limits on our civil rights and civil liberties in the aftermath of the September 11 tragedies. On September 19, 2001, Rep. Conyers wrote a prescient op-ed in the *Washington Post* entitled "Liberty at Risk," warning about legislative overreaction unfairly targeting minorities and immigrants. He worked with Chairman Sensenbrenner to develop legislation enhancing law enforcement capabilities while providing the necessary safeguards to protect civil liberties, which passed the Judiciary Committee by vote of 36-0 (H.R. 2975) on October 3. Subsequently,

however, the Bush Administration rejected the bipartisan agreement and substituted their own 342 page draft which passed the House and was signed into law on October 26, 2001. Ranking Member Conyers led the opposition to this ill-considered measure which, among other things, lowered the standard for the FBI to enter an individual's home without notice, broadened the types of "business records" the FBI could obtain (including library records) without showing probable cause, increased the types of National Security Letters the FBI could issue without judicial approval, and permitted deportation of immigrants for donating to non-profits they did not know had terrorist ties (P.L. 107-56). The enactment of the PATRIOT Act was followed by a series of unilateral actions by the Bush Administration raising significant civil liberties issues that Rep. Conyers was at the forefront of challenging, including closing certain deportation proceedings to the public, the indefinite detention of more than 1,200 individuals in the U.S., racial profiling of Muslim and Arab Americans, and the creation of secret military tribunals. (Rep. Conyers was also responsible for passing into law a procedure for obtaining DOJ IG review of civil liberties abuses in the legislation, which resulted in important disclosures about detainee mistreatment, NSC misuse, and other abuses.)

Rep. Conyers also led the successful opposition to the following extreme measures in his role as Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee. These included:

Constitutional Amendments

- Flag Desecration Constitutional Amendment, altering the First Amendment for first time in our nation's history (H.J. Res. 36).
- Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment, requiring super-majority votes to increase taxes, including eliminating tax loopholes benefitting the rich (H.J. Res. 96).

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- "Partial Birth Abortion Act," limiting a woman's right to choose a specific type of abortion even when her life or health is at stake (H.R. 4965).
- "Unborn Victims of Violence Act," limiting a woman's right to choose by establishing a legal precedent that fetuses have independent legal status by making crimes against pregnant women two separate and independent crimes (H.R. 503).
- "Child Custody Protection Act," limiting the ability of women to seek otherwise lawful abortions across state lines (H.R. 476).
- Splitting up the Ninth Circuit, in an unprecedented effort to micro-manage judicial affairs and limit the impact of federal judges in California (H.R. 1203).

Limiting Health, Safety and Consumer Rights

- Anti-consumer bankruptcy legislation, giving credit card companies and banks greater rights in bankruptcy at the expense of working Americans (H.R. 333).
- "Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act," immunizing gun manufacturers from legal liability for harm caused by guns (H.R. 2037).
- Legislation making it more difficult for harmed victims to bring federal class action cases, for discrimination and other legal violations (H.R. 2341).

- Limiting rights of injured medical malpractice victims, by, among other things, limiting pain and suffering and punitive damages (H.R. 4600).

Ranking Member Conyers also helped organize the opposition to a number of ill-considered measures that were passed into law by the Republican Congress. These included:

- "Born Alive Infants Protection Act," limiting a woman's right to choose by establishing a legal precedent that aborted fetuses have independent legal rights (P.L. 107-207).
- Voted against and help organize against the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution, granting President Bush the authority to invade Iraq (P.L. 107-243).

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 107th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$4.3 million in grants for the Detroit area.

Grants

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services

Making Officer Redeployment Effective

- \$233,288 for the Brownstown Police Department
- \$431,561 for the City of Dearborn Municipal Police Department
- \$748,000 for the City of Detroit Police Department

COPS in Schools

- \$125,000 for the City of Rochester Hills Sheriff's Department
- \$125,000 for the Taylor Police Department

Police Integrity Training Initiative

- \$125,000 for the City of Detroit Police Department

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

- \$1,290,747.65 for local law enforcement block grants to Rockwood, Brownstown, Hazel Park, Hamtramck, Highland Park, Lincoln Park, Southgate, Allen Park, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, and Redford.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs –

- \$206,167.61 Mentoring programs in Detroit

Community Capacity Development Office

- \$500,000 for the Operation Weed and Seed Continuation Solicitation program in Detroit

National Institute of Justice

- \$332,823.65 for the National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act Grant for Detroit

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs

- \$216,550. Family Based Youth Delinquency Prevention from Tender Loving Care Mercy Ministries in Detroit

IV. Other

- Rep. Conyers was a member of the coalition of U.S. soldiers, parents of U.S. soldiers, and Congressmen who challenged the constitutionality of the 2003 invasion of Iraq in Doe v. Bush. The case was ultimately dismissed for failing to "raise a sufficiently clear constitutional issue."
- Wrote an op-ed in *The New York Times* entitled "Voting Rights in Peril," stating that, "Election reform is necessary to preserve our system of democracy, and it is the foremost civil rights issue of our day," (01/30/02).
- Rep. Conyers was a member of a delegation alongside Maxine Waters and celebrities that toured a community in Louisiana known as Cancer Alley and then participated in a forum on environmental justice. Rep. Conyers met with residents who reported that their exposure to pollutants has caused health problems including cancer and respiratory disease.

Awards

- National Black Caucus of State Legislators Nation Builder Award.
- National Congressional Award (2001).
- Metro Detroit Youth Day Appreciation Award (2001).
- United States Student Association recognition for being a friend of students in his work to end racial profiling and reform the criminal justice system (03/21/2001).
- Recording Academy Washington, D.C. Heroes Awards (03/21/2001).
- The Zenobia Payne-Drake Humanitarian Award (06/08/2001).
- Fannie Lou Hamer Political Action Committee (07/14/2001).
- Rainbow Push Coalition – Freedom Fighter Award (08/2001).
- National Bar Association Wiley A. Branton Issues Symposium Award (10/12/2001).
- Illinois Campaign for Better Health Care for dedicated commitment to moral beliefs in leading the fight for universal health care, civil liberties, and social justice for all (11/2001).
- Circle of Hope. The coalition, Inc. Commitment to Service Award. For commitment to children, families and the community (11/03/2001).
- Climate Change and Global Warming Wings Award (2002).
- NCH Legislative Advocacy Award (2002).
- Council on American-Islamic Relations – Leadership Award for Civil Rights (2002).
- Cathedral Church of St. Paul (2002).
- Metro Detroit Youth Day (2002).
- In recognition of efforts taken in the fight against Breast Cancer (2002).

- Fund for the Advancement of Music Education for support of musicians' intellectual property legislation and music education (03/06/2002).
- Human Rights Campaign – 100% Perfection in the Pursuit of Equality (03/07/2002).
- Muslim Public Affairs Council Free Speech Award (04/06/2002).
- American Immigration Lawyers Association – Congressional Leadership Award (06/15/2002).
- AAPD – Justice for All Disability Rights Award (07/26/2002).
- Participation in the First Annual LAP/Hmong Veterans of America Recognition Day (09/07/2002).
- NAACP – Clarence M. Mitchell Jr. – Simmons Award (09/09/2002).
- The Black Broadcasters' Alliance – Golden Mic Award (09/10/2002).
- Jazz Foundation of American – Global Contribution to Jazz Award (09/24/2002).
- Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression – thanking him for the time he spent representing those without a voice in Congress no matter where they live (12/14/2002).
- Rackham Symphony Choir & Michigan Opera Theatre (12/22/2002).

106th Congress (1999-2000) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers was lead Democratic sponsor that were enacted into law

- Violence Against Women Act, strengthening and reauthorizing the grant programs setup by the original Violence Against Women Act in 2000. Rep. Conyers co-sponsored and co-authored the VAWA reauthorization, and served as the bill's lead advocate in the House. Additionally, new programs were developed addressing abuse of elderly persons, women with disabilities, immigrants, and survivors of sexual assault. New provisions afforded increased protection to victims of dating violence, as well as strengthened the supervised visitation program. In 2000, the VAWA provision allowing women who were victims of sexual violence the ability to sue for civil damages in federal courts was struck down by the Supreme Court under the Constitution's Commerce Clause. The provision was struck down by a 5-4 majority in the case *United States v. Morrison*. (P.L. 106-386).
- Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform, (lead Democratic cosponsor) comprehensive reform of asset forfeiture laws to insure that innocent owners receive procedural protection against government takeover of their property (P.L. 106-185).
- Work Made For Hire and Copyright Corrections Act, (lead Democratic cosponsor) Rep. Conyers helped develop legislation to restore legal rights of artists to receive compensation for sound recordings (P.L. 106-861).
- A total of 73 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 140 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws criminalizing the depiction of animal cruelty; increasing funding to combat child abuse and neglect; improving the effectiveness of abuse and neglect courts; providing funding to states to improve DNA analysis.

Legislation introduced or cosponsored

- Corporate Crime Database Act, requiring the Attorney General to acquire data regarding all legal proceedings against any corporation, to establish and maintain a public website on improper conduct by corporations, and to prepare an annual report detailing the number of civil, legal and administrative actions brought against any corporation or corporation official (H.R. 323).
- Traffic Stops Statistics Study Act, the precursor to Rep. Conyers' End Racial Profiling Act, targeting race-based traffic stops to stymie racial profiling. (H.R. 1443).
- Quality Health Care Coalition Act, allowing physicians to collectively negotiate with health insurers to improve patient health and well-being. This measure passed the House in 2000 (H.R. 1304).
- The Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act, prohibiting placing indecent material online to protect children (H.R. 1501).
- Small Business Franchise Act, prohibiting fraudulent practices or deceptive measures by anyone operating or connected to a franchise (H.R. 3308).
- Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act, making it a crime, punishable by jail time or the imposition of a fine, to engage in the trafficking of horse remains (H.R. 503).

- End Government Reimbursement of Excessive Executive Disbursements Act, authorizing the Attorney General to limit or recover excessive compensation paid or payable by individuals that have received Federal financial assistance on or after September 1, 2008 (H.R. 1575).
- Haiti Empowerment, Assistance, and Rebuilding Act, authorizing appropriations from 2010 through 2014 to promote long-term, sustainable rebuilding and development in Haiti (H.R. 6021).

II. Committee Activities

In 1999 Rep. Conyers attended a forum in Brooklyn surrounding the shooting of Amadou Diallo. Although Rep. Conyers was constrained by the Republican Majority from presiding over official Committee consideration of the incident, the Democratic forum in New York facilitated dialogue between Members of Congress and the community most directly affected by the shooting.

Rep. Conyers again led the successful opposition to the following extreme measures in his role as Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee. These included:

Constitutional Amendments

- Flag Desecration Constitutional Amendment, altering the First Amendment for first time in our nation's history (H.J. Res. 33).
- Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment, requiring super-majority votes to increase taxes, including eliminating tax loopholes benefitting the rich (H.J. Res. 37).
- Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment, limiting defendants' constitutional rights in court (H.J. Res 64).

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- "Partial Birth Abortion Act," limiting a woman's right to choose a specific type of abortion even when her life or health is at stake (H.R. 3660).
- "Child Custody Protection Act," limiting the ability of women to seek otherwise lawful abortions across state lines (H.R. 1218).
- "Born Alive Infants Protection Act," limiting a woman's right to choose by establishing a legal precedent that aborted fetuses have independent legal rights (H.R. 4292).
- "Unborn Victims of Violence Act," limiting a woman's right to choose by establishing a legal precedent that fetuses have independent legal status by making crimes against pregnant women two separate and independent crimes (H.R. 2436).
- Helped resist efforts by the Republicans to intervene in the Elian Gonzalez matter, whereby a young Cuban boy was returned to his remaining family in Cuba.

Limiting Health, Safety, and Consumer Rights

- Anti-consumer bankruptcy legislation, giving credit card companies and banks greater rights in bankruptcy at the expense of working Americans (H.R. 833 – vetoed by President Clinton).

- Legislation allowing private property owners to more easily allege "takings" violations, with regard to environmental, health and safety regulations (H.R. 2372).
- Legislation making it more difficult for workers harmed by deadly asbestos, to obtain compensation from corporate wrongdoers (H.R. 1283).
- Legislation making it more difficult for harmed victims to bring federal class action cases, for discrimination and other legal violations (H.R. 1875).
- Legislation preventing harmed victims from being able to bring a product liability action, against a defendant more than 18 years after the date of manufacture, even if the harm was not discoverable during that time period (H.R. 2005).
- Legislation making it more difficult for harmed victims to seek compensation from "small businesses," in product liability cases (25 or fewer employees, regardless of size of revenues), including limiting pain and suffering and punitive damages (H.R. 2366).

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 106th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$4 million in grants for the Detroit area.

Grants

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services

Making Officer Redeployment Effective

- \$118,997 for the Charter Township of Redford's Police Department
- \$25,000 for the Township of Grosse Ile Police Department

Universal Hiring Program

- \$75,000 for the Allen Park Police Department
- \$225,000 for the City of Rochester Hills Sheriff's Department
- \$150,000 for the City of Woodhaven Police Department
- \$75,000 for the Brownstown Police Department

COPS in Schools

- \$125,000 for the Dearborn Heights Police Department
- \$125,000 for the City of Ferndale Police Department
- \$625,000 for the Highland Park Department of Public Safety

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

- \$1,353,302 for local law enforcement block grants to Trenton, Hazel Park, Dearborn Heights, Dearborn, Melvindale, Highland Park, Lincoln Park, Redford, Hamtramck, Brownstown, Allen Park, and Southgate.

Community Capacity Development Office

- \$350,000 for the Operation Weed and Seed Program in Detroit and Highland Park

National Institute of Justice

- \$766,529 for Violence Against Women Training and local law enforcement block grants in Detroit

IV. Other

- In 2000, Rep. Conyers founded and Chaired the 44 Member “Congressional Universal Health Care Task Force” which was co-chaired by Rep. Donna Christensen, Rep. Barbara Lee, Rep. Schakowsky, Rep. Tierney, Rep. and Hilda Solis. The Task Force sponsored numerous Congressional briefings, symposiums, floor speeches, ad-hoc Congressional hearings inside and outside of Congress, and appeared at town hall meetings in order to shine light on the plight of the uninsured in America. The Congressional Black Caucus and the Progressive Caucus took up the cause of universal health care as major front burner issue due to Rep. Conyers’ leadership.
- In 1999, Rep. Conyers convened a Democratic hearing in Brooklyn, NY to investigate the instances surrounding the shooting of Ammadou Diallo, a young black man, who was shot 19 times by New York City police officers.

Awards

- Medal commemorating Rep. Conyers’ service in the Korean War on the 50th Anniversary of the War.
- Dream Weaver Award - I Have A Dream Foundation of Detroit (01/15/1999).
- Lifetime Achievement Award Detroit NAACP Branch from President Rev. Wendell Anthony and Executive Director Heaster Wheeler (4/30/2000).

105th Congress (1997- 1998) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that were enacted into law

- Curt Flood Act, based in significant part on Rep. Conyers' bill, H.R. 22, eliminating Major League Baseball's antitrust exemption with respect to labor matters. (P.L. 105-43)
- Digital Millennium Copyright Act, providing notice and takedown legal regime to protect copyrighted works on Internet. (P.L. 105-34)
- A total of 70 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 180 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws allowing religious workers immigration entry to the U.S.; providing for the establishment of additional Boys and Girls Clubs facilities; helping state and local government acquire bullet proof vests; enhancing criminal laws against consumer fraud.

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers introduced or helped manage that passed the House

- Traffic Stops Statistics Study Act, the precursor to Rep. Conyers' End Racial Profiling Act, targeting race-based traffic stops to stymie racial profiling. This bill passed the House on Suspension. (H.R. 1443)

II. Committee Activities

As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers led the fight against the Republican Majority's unprecedented impeachment of President Clinton, for what was essentially a private affair. This was a months-long effort by Rep. Conyers, which began when the controversial Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr submitted a referral to the House regarding the Monica Lewinsky matter on September 9, 1998, continued through investigation in the House Judiciary Committee, and culminated in a 3-day markup of impeachment articles on December 10, 11 and 12, 1998 and House floor consideration on December 18 and 19. Although three articles of impeachment (H. Res. 611) passed the House on largely party line votes, the articles were soundly defeated in the Senate the following year.

In addition, Rep. Conyers again led the successful opposition to the following extreme measures in his role as Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee. These included:

Constitutional Amendments

- Balanced Budget Amendment, necessitating balancing the budget on the back of seniors by raiding Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds and making it more difficult to increase debt limits (H.J. Res. 1).
- Term Limits Amendment, limiting the voters' right to elect congressional representatives for more than 12 years (H.J. Res. 2).

- Flag Desecration Amendment, altering the First Amendment for first time in our nation’s history (H.J. Res. 54).
- Tax Limitation Amendment, requiring super-majority votes to increase taxes, including eliminating tax loopholes benefitting the rich (H.J. Res. 111).
- Victims’ Rights Amendment, limiting defendants’ constitutional rights in court (H.J. Res 71).

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- Limiting the government’s ability to fight discrimination by banning affirmative action in all federal programs and activities (H.R. 1909).
- Limiting the anti-discrimination protections of the Fair Housing Act (H.R. 589).
- “Partial Birth Abortion Act,” limiting a woman’s right to choose a specific type of abortion even when her life of health is at stake (H.R. 1122).
- “Child Custody Protection Act,” limiting the ability of women to seek otherwise lawful abortions across state lines (H.R. 3682).
- Limiting Civil Rights Commission, funding and legal authority (H.R. 3117).
- Birthright Citizenship, the Citizenship Reform Act and the Voter Eligibility Verification Act, limiting the constitutional guarantee of birthright citizenship (H.R. 7 and H.R. 1428).

Limiting Health, Safety and Consumer Rights

- Anti-consumer bankruptcy legislation, giving credit card companies and banks greater rights in bankruptcy at the expense of working Americans (H.R. 3150).

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 105th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$4.8 million in grants for the Detroit area. In addition, Rep. Conyers worked to have the Detroit River designated as an “American Heritage River.”

Grants

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services

Making Officer Redeployment Effective

- \$73,974 for the Allen Park Police Department
- \$45,918 for the Charter Township of Redford’s Police Department
- \$18,000 for the Riverview Police Department
- \$180,000 for the Taylor Police Department
- \$16,875 for the City of Woodhaven Police Department
- \$351,561 for the City of Dearborn Municipal Police Department

Universal Hiring Program

- \$75,000 for the Township of Grosse Ile Police Department

- \$150,000 for the Township of Highland Sheriff’s Department
- \$450,000 for the Township of Orion’s Sheriff’s Department
- \$75,000 for the City of Southgate’s Police Department
- \$150,000 for the Township of Springfield’s Sheriff’s Department
- \$75,000 for the Township of Addison Sheriff’s Department
- \$225,000 for the Charter Township of Independence Sheriff’s Department
- \$75,000 for the Lincoln Park Police Department
- \$150,000 for the City of Melvindale Police Department
- \$150,000 for the City of Woodhaven Police Department
- \$150,000 for the City of Wyandotte Police Department

Problem-Solving Partnerships

- \$92,280 for the Taylor Police Department

Small Community Grants Program

- \$15,000 for the Township of Addison Sheriff’s Department
- \$78,111 for the Hamtramck Police Department
- \$28,062 for the Highland Park Department of Public Safety
- \$15,000 for the City of Melvindale Police Department

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

- \$1,479,787.70 for local law enforcement block grants to Melvindale, Hazel Park, Highland Park, Dearborn Heights, Hamtramck, Lincoln Park, Southgate, Allen Park, Redford, Brownstown, and Dearborn.

National Institute of Justice

- \$150,934.06 for Violence Against Women Training

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs

- \$112,817.40 for the Prevention/Treatment Program for Juvenile Gangs in Detroit

Community Capacity Development Office

- \$500,000 for the Operation Weed and Seed Program in Detroit and Highland Park

Designation

Rep. Conyers worked alongside Detroit Mayor Archer to have the Detroit River designated as one of the fourteen “American Heritage Rivers” by President Clinton. This designation afforded the Detroit River increased federal protection against pollution, allowed for the creation of parks as well as paths alongside the river, and received special economic consideration for future riverside developments.

IV. Other

- Wrote a letter to the EPA on May 8, 1998 in opposition to the creation of a chemical plant in an impoverished Minority community due to environmental justice concerns.

Awards

- Jazz FM Outstanding Leadership Award (1997).
- Alzheimer's Association Award (05/21/1998).

104th Congress (1995-1996) (Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major Legislation that Rep. Conyers was the lead Democratic Sponsor or helped manage that were enacted into law

- Carjacking Corrections Act, (lead sponsor) specifying that federal carjacking crime includes rape if committed as part of the crime (P.L. 104-217).
- Church Arson Prevention Act, (lead Democratic sponsor) responding to an outbreak in attacks on houses of worship, particularly African American churches, by facilitating the bringing of federal charges and using additional resources against the perpetrators of these crimes (P.L. 104-155).
- Digital Performance Right in Sound Recordings Act, (lead Democratic sponsor) allowing recording artists to receive compensation when their works are performed by means of a digital retransmission (P.L. 104-39).
- Telecommunication Reform, worked with Chairman Hyde to insure that pending telecommunications legislation included a role for the Justice Department to enforce the antitrust laws (P.L. 104-104).
- A total of 69 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 120 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Ranking Member, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws providing for enhanced lobbying disclosure; combating sexual crimes against children; providing educational assistance to the families of federal law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty; combating drug-induced sexual assaults; strengthening the protection of international human rights.

II. Committee Activities

As Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Conyers led the fight to thwart the bulk of Republican's "Contract with America," the largest portion of which went through the Judiciary Committee. The initiatives he successfully organized opposition to – all of which failed to obtain the votes for passage in the House, died in the Senate, or were vetoed by President Clinton – including:

- Balanced Budget Amendment: necessitating balancing the budget on the back of seniors by raiding Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds and making it more difficult to increase debt limits (H.J. Res 1).
- Term Limits Amendment: limiting the voters' right to elect congressional representatives for more than 12 years (H.J. Res 2).
- Limits on Exclusionary Rule: allowing the introduction of unlawfully obtained evidence in court (H.R. 665).
- Limits on Rights of Injured Tort Victims: bills (i) imposing series of restrictions on product liability victims, including limits on pain and suffering and punitive damages; and (ii) requiring individuals to pay attorney's fees of large corporate defendants in unsuccessful legal actions (H.R. 956 and H.R. 988).

In addition, much of the remaining agenda of the Speaker Gingrich-led Congress made its way through the Judiciary Committee, where Ranking Member Conyers again successfully led the opposition, helping prevent all of the following measures from passing into law. These included:

Constitutional Amendments

- Flag Desecration Amendment, altering the First Amendment for first time in our nation's history (H.J. Res. 79).
- Tax Limitation Amendment, requiring super-majority votes to increase taxes, including eliminating tax loopholes benefitting the rich (H.J. Res. 159).
- Victims' Rights Amendment, limiting defendants' constitutional rights in court (H.J. Res 173 and 174).
- School Prayer Amendment (H.J. Res. 184).

Rolling Back Civil and Constitutional Rights

- Limiting the government's ability to fight discrimination by banning affirmative action in all federal programs and activities (H.R. 2128).
- Limiting the anti-discrimination protections of the Fair Housing Act (H.R. 2927/4019).
- "Partial Birth Abortion Act," limiting a woman's right to choose a specific type of abortion even when her life or health is at stake (H.R. 1833).
- Limiting the Voting Rights Act, to prohibit bilingual ballots (H.R. 351).
- Limiting Civil Rights Commission, funding and authority (H.R. 3874).
- Imposing legal barriers to challenging unconstitutional state referendum, in federal court (such as California's anti-immigrant "Proposition 187"), by requiring that such cases to be heard by 3-judge panels (H.R. 1170).
- Birthright Citizenship: led opposition in a Republican hearing on December 13, 1995 entitled, "Societal and Legal Issues Surrounding Children Born in the United States to Illegal Alien Parents."

Limiting Health, Safety and Consumer Rights

- Repealing the assault weapons ban prior to its ten year sunset date (H.R. 125).
- Limiting rights of injured medical malpractice victims by, among other things, limiting pain and suffering and punitive damages (H.R. 2419).
- Limiting agencies' ability to issue health, safety and other regulations (H.R. 9, H.R. 450, H.R. 1047, H.R. 3136, and H.R. 3307).
- Limiting legal aid, funding as well as the types of cases legal aid attorneys are able to pursue (H.R. 227).
- Legislation allowing private property owners to more easily allege "takings" violations, with regard to environmental, health and safety regulations (H.R. 925).

Ranking Member Conyers also led the opposition to a number of ill-considered measures which were passed into law by the extreme Republican Congress, but he has continued to highlight the weaknesses, flaws and in some cases constitutional infirmities of these laws. These include:

- “Defense of Marriage Act.” limiting the legal rights of same sex couples by defining marriage as the legal union of one man and one woman. Additionally, the law stated that no state may be required to recognize a same-sex marriage performed in another state. This legislation had broad implications for the security and welfare of same sex couples, who are excluded from federal programs, including health insurance, Social Security, and income and estate tax provisions otherwise available to couples married under state law (P.L. 104-99).
- “Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996” and the “Anti-terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act.” limiting immigrant and other legal rights, including among other things, retroactively requiring that immigrants who committed low-level legal offenses be deported and separated from their families; and allowing the use of “secret evidence” in deportation cases, denying immigrants the opportunity to obtain court review of deportation orders, as well as limiting death penalty appeals in federal court, potentially allowing innocent defendants to be executed (P.L. 104-132 and 104-208);
- “Truth-in-Sentencing” and “Prison Litigation Reform Act.” eliminating parole at the federal level and making it more difficult for prisoners to challenge unconstitutional overcrowding and other prison abuses (P.L. 104-34 and 104-208).
- Disapproving Amendments to the Federal Sentencing Guidelines relating to lowering the sentences for crack cocaine sentences (P.L. 104-138).

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 104th Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$27.1 million in grants for the Detroit area.

Grants

Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services:

Making Officer Redeployment Effective

- \$79,278 for the Allen Park Police Department
- \$4,738,231 for the City of Detroit Police Department
- \$45,718 for the City of Ferndale Municipal
- \$98,700 for the Wayne County Sheriff’s Department
- \$193,836 for the City of Woodhaven’s Police Department
- \$34,655 for the Ecorse Police Department
- \$111,000 for the Hamtramck Police Department

Funding Accelerated for Smaller Towns

- \$75,000 for the Township of Addison’s Sheriff’s office
- \$150,000 for the Allen Park Police Department
- \$75,000 for the Brownstown Township Police Department

- \$75,000 for the Ecorse Police Department
- \$150,000 for the Hamtramck Police Department
- \$75,000 for the Hazel Park Police Department
- \$140,311 for the Highland Park Department of Public Safety Police Department
- \$75,000 for the Highland Township Sheriff's Department
- \$75,000 for the Lincoln Park Police Department
- \$75,000 for the Lyon Township Sheriff's Department
- \$75,000 for the Melvindale Police Department
- \$75,000 for the Oakland Township Sheriff's Department
- \$75,000 for the Orion Township Sheriff's Department
- \$75,000 for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department

Accelerated Hiring, Education, and Deployment

- \$150,000 for the Dearborn Heights Police Department
- \$7.2 million for the City of Detroit Police Department
- \$225,000 for the Oakland County Sheriff's Department

Troops to COPS veterans hiring program

- \$3,350 for the City of Detroit Police Department

Universal Hiring Program

- \$9 million for the City of Detroit Police Department
- \$150,000 for the Charter Township of Redford's Police Department
- \$75,000 for the City of Southgate's Police Department
- \$75,000 for the Allen Park Police Department
- \$150,000 for the Brownstown Police Department
- \$104,194 for the Ecorse Police Department
- \$225,000 for the City of Gibraltar Police Department
- \$1,058,724 for the Highland Park Department of Public Safety
- \$225,000 for the City of Melvindale Police Department
- \$75,000 for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department

Anti-Gang Initiative

- \$1 million for the City of Detroit Police Department

Domestic Violence

- \$175,059 to the City of Detroit Police Department

Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Assistance

- \$531,022 for local law enforcement block grants to Highland Park, Dearborn Heights, Hamtramck, Lincoln Park, Southgate, Brownstown, and Hazel Park

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Programs

- \$114,290 for the Prevention/Treatment Program for Juvenile Gangs in Detroit

IV. Other

Awards

- Jesse Louis Jackson Award (01/27/1995).
- The Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday Commission – The Making of the King Holiday Award (01/08/1996).
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. – Dr. Eva L. Evans, International President for unparalleled legislative service and a monumental commitment to democracy in the United States Congress (07/15/1996).
- Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. - the Adam Clayton Powell Award (12/14/1996).

103rd Congress (1993-1994) (Chairman, Committee on Government Operations)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- The President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Extension Act, extending the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992 (P.L. 103-345).
- Pattern or Practice Violations, permitting the Department of Justice to take action against law enforcement agencies that engage in unconstitutional and discriminatory behaviors associated with racial profiling. The provision has been used repeatedly since that time, most recently with the Department of Justice's overhaul of the New Orleans Police Department (Rep. Conyers' bill H.R. 3332 was incorporated into P.L. 103-322, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 and became 42 U.S.C. § 14141).

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- The Violence Against Women Act, providing \$1.6 billion to enhance investigation and prosecution of violent crimes perpetrated against women, imposed automatic and mandatory restitution on those convicted, and allowed civil redress in cases prosecutors chose to leave unprosecuted. Rep. Conyers was a lead sponsor of the original Violence Against Women Act in 1994. The bill sunsets every 6 years, and Rep. Conyers was a principal actor in each subsequent reauthorization (included in P.L. 103-322, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994).
- The National Voter Registration Act, the "Motor Voter Act," requiring state governments to allow for registration when a qualifying voter applies for or renews their driver's license or applied for social services (P.L. 103-31).
- Government Performance and Results Act, establishing pilot programs to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Federal programs by setting goals for performance and results (P.L. 103-62).
- Making Appropriations for the Treasury Department, the U.S. Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and Certain Independent Agencies for Fiscal Year 1994, amendment transferring a parcel of land it controls for a public purpose and creating an opportunity for the land to be transferred for educational use (P.L. 103-123).
- National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994, amendment authorizing the no-cost transfer of suitable surplus real property at base-closure installations for the development of a water-port facility (P.L. 103-160).
- Government Management Reform Act, creating a Franchise Fund Pilot Program to increase funds available to the executive branch agencies to help streamline shared administrative services (P.L. 103-356).
- Base Closure Community Redevelopment and Homeless Assistance Act, establishing a collaborative process to determine the use of military bases after closer to ensure that the base is used to help the homeless and redevelop the community (P.L. 103-421).
- To Require That Certain Payments Made to Victims of Nazi Persecution are Disregarded in Determining Eligibility for Need Based Services, (P.L. 103-286).

- A total of 8 Public Laws were considered by the Committee on Government operations as a result of more than 182 days of public hearings, and as Chairman, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including the Comprehensive National Energy Policy Act, the National and Community Service Act, the Thrift Depositors Protection Act, and a requirement that the United States Postal Service rescind significant changes related to mail delivery standards, Federal Acquisition Improvement Act, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, To Provide for the Conveyance of Certain Land in the District of Columbia to the Columbia Hospital for Women to Provide a Site for the Construction of a Facility to House the National Women's Health Resource Center, Vegetable Ink Printing Act, To Provide Travel and Transportation Expenses to the Families of Certain Deceased Career Appointees in the Senior Executive Service.

Legislation introduced

- Revolving Door Sunshine Act, amending the Government in Sunshine Act to require certain government officials to report their official contacts with Congress and the executive branch for five years after they leave the Federal Government (H.R. 1593).
- The Expedited Rescissions Act, expanding Presidential rescission authority by allowing the President to propose a rescission within three days of signing an appropriations bill, by requiring the Appropriations Committee to vote on the rescission within ten days, and by permitting the Appropriations Committee to propose an alternative rescission (H.R. 1578). Rep. Conyers also introduced the Expedited Rescissions Act of 1994, providing for expedited rescission authority for the President (H.R. 4600).
- National Narcotics Leadership Act Amendments, reauthorizing the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Legislation would authorize the ONDCP to require agencies to include specific initiatives in their budget proposal to OMB, require the evaluation of counter-narcotics programs, and make the Director a member of the National Security Council (H.R. 1926).

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Committee on Government Operations, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Wasted Taxpayer Dollars: Rep. Conyers exposed \$310 billion in wasted taxpayer dollars. The subsequent report written about the wasted money helped lead to the Clinton Administration's "reinventing government" initiative, according to then Vice President Al Gore.
- Environmental Protection Agency: Hearings were held on considering elevating the EPA to cabinet status and to review EPA organization and administration problems to attempt to discover a way to correct the issues.
- Health Care Administration: Hearings were held on the establishment of a health information system, enhancing the privacy of medical records, and measures to improve administration simplification of the health care system.

- Federal Mandates: The Committee reported favorably on H.R. 5128, the Federal Mandates Relief for State and Local Governments Act of 1994, which would establish procedures prior to the House to impose mandates on state and local governments and require the CBO to make cost estimates before such legislation can be considered. This concept was later added to the House Rules.
- IRS Personnel Actions: Investigated a personnel action taken by the IRS against an individual who testified before the Committee. The IRS rescinded the personnel action and the individual was detailed to another office.
- INS Discrimination: After hearing complaints of employment discrimination at the INS, Rep. Conyers asked the GAO to compile data on African American employees of the INS which revealed that minorities, especially African Americans, are underrepresented in senior management. Because of these inquiries, the Attorney General directed the Acting Commissioner of the INS to form a task force to examine employment discrimination in the INS and enforced a job freeze. The taskforce concluded that there was underrepresentation of African Americans in senior positions, and Rep. Conyers continued to press the INS to take steps to ensure African American representation in senior positions. Since the job freeze was lifted, African Americans began to occupy senior positions and EEO training is mandatory for all managers.

III. Michigan-Related Grants and Appropriations

During the 103rd Congress, Rep. Conyers requested and secured over \$2.7 million in grants for the Detroit area.

Grants

*Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services
PHASE 1 Police Hiring Supplement program*

- \$1.5 million for the City of Detroit Police Department
- \$663,572 for the Highland Park Department of Public Safety, and police hiring through the Bureau of Justice Assistance Programs
- \$240,554 for the Hamtramck Police Department
- \$375,000 for the Taylor Police Department

IV. Other

- Rep. Conyers featured in Jack Anderson piece in the *Washington Post* entitled “John Conyers: Persistence and Power” (03/10/1994).
- Rep. Conyers featured on CBS News’ “60 Minutes” with Ed Bradley (05/22/1994).

102nd Congress (1991-1992) (Chairman, Committee on Government Operations)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- The Cash Management Improvement Act Amendments Act, requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to prescribe regulations for the timely disbursement of Federal funds with respect to each State by July 1, 1993 (P.L. 102-589).

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1992, extending the emergency unemployment compensation programs through 1992 (P.L. 102-318).
- A total of 4 additional Public Laws were considered by the Committee on Government operations as a result of more than 217 days of public hearings, and as Chairman, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including the Comprehensive National Energy Policy Act, and a requirement that the United States Postal Service rescind significant changes related to mail delivery standards.

Legislation introduced

- Federal Property and Administrative Services Authorization Act, authorizes functions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 and made reforms to procurement provisions (H.R. 3161).
- Local Partnership Act, authorizing \$3 billion from the United States Treasury to shore up needy local governments (H.R. 5798).
- Regulatory Sunshine Act, requiring the Office of Management and Budget, as well as the Council on Competitiveness, to make public their communication about pending regulations (H.R. 5702).
- Human Genome Privacy Act, expanding privacy laws to protect a person's genetic information from improper use and disclosure (H.R. 2045).

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Committee on Government Operations, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Defense: testing fraud and improprieties in the Harrier II jet, review of the A-12 Navy Aircraft, review of the B-1B Strategic Bomber.
- New Economy: Analyzing the Bush Administration's strategic response to Japan's economic aggression against the U.S. computing industry.
Healthcare: analyzing politicization of AIDS prevention, obstacles to development of HIV infections, investigating the return of tuberculosis in New York and the federal failure in managing the problem, further examining public health issues stemming from asbestos and dioxin.

- Taxation: review of the modernization of the tax system, improving the administration and enforcement of employment taxes, evaluating the IRS' program to combat senior level misbehavior.
- Commerce and Finance: combating telemarketing fraud, scrutinizing short-selling activity in financial markets

III. Other

- In 1991, Rep. Conyers along with 4 other Members from the Congressional Black Caucus testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee against the nomination of Clarence Thomas for the Supreme Court.

Awards

- Recognized by the National Association of Minority Business (05/02/1991).

101st Congress (1989-1990) (Chairman, Committee on Government Operations)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- The Hate Crimes Statistics Act, directing the Attorney General to acquire data, for 1990 through 1994, about crimes that manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity (P.L. 101-275).
- The Chief Financial Officers Act, creating a Deputy Director for Management within the Office of Management and Budget, establishing in OMB an Office of Federal Financial Management, and establishing within each specified agency a Chief Financial Officer (P.L. 101-576).
- Cash Management Improvement Act, improving efficiency, effectiveness, and equity in the transfer of funds between state and federal governments (P.L. 101-453).
- The Martin Luther King Jr., Federal Holiday Commission Extension Act, extending the commission, which oversees observance of the holiday, until 1994 (P.L. 101-30).
- Designating May 25, 1989, as “National Tap Dance Day.” (P.L. 101-143).

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act, requiring the administration to provide Congress with two reports on civil monetary penalties (P.L. 101-410).
- The Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (Title IV Only, Dealing With the Use of Certain Public Real Property to Assist the Homeless), augmenting homeless assistance to providers seeking to make use of underutilized federal property (P.L. 101-645).
- The Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act, response to the Dupont Plaza Hotel Fire in San Juan, Puerto Rico, encouraging fire equipment installation in hotels and motels (P.L. 101-391).
- The Agent Orange Compensation Exclusion Act, excluding compensation received by Vietnam veterans resulting from the settlement of a lawsuit seeking damages from manufacturers of Agent Orange, from being counted as income by means-testing programs in federal agencies (P.L. 101-201).
- A total of 6 additional Public Laws were considered by the Committee on Government Operations as a result of more than 263 days in public hearings, and as Chairman, Rep. Conyers was included in the consideration of these measures, including legislation reforming financial institutions; the Rural Telecommunications Improvements Act; the Advanced Rural Telecommunication and Economic Development Act; the Computer Matching and Privacy Protection Act.

Legislation introduced

- Reparations Commission, studying the lingering impacts of slavery on the African American community (H.R. 3745).

- Paperwork Reduction and Federal Information Resources Management Act, reauthorizing the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs and further minimizing the amount of paperwork required by federal agencies (H.R. 3695).
- Department of Environmental Protection Act, elevating the independent level Environmental Protection Agency to the Cabinet level. This bill also legislated internal restructuring of the agency including the creation of three new offices: the Office of International Environmental Affairs, the Office of Pollution Prevention and Recycling, and the Office of Enforcement. Currently, the Environmental Protection Agency is not a Cabinet level department, but the administrator of the agency is granted cabinet rank (H.R. 3847).

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Committee on Government Operations, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Peace Corps: investigation into the organization's 30 years of service.
- Drug War: oversight of United States anti-narcotics activities in the Andean Region, investigating the role of demand reduction in the National Drug Control Strategy, investigating whether Operation Snowcap had been working to stop the flood of cocaine.
- Deceptive claims: investigation into the Agent Orange cover-up, the FDA's failure to prevent deceptive health claims for food.
- Health: investigation into mistreatment of Medicare patients, analysis of AIDS treatments.
- Commerce: investigations into financial institutions' misconduct, improper behavior by senior IRS managers.
- Housing and Urban Development: investigations into abuse of power and conflicts of interest within HUD.
- Postal: overseeing operations of postal facilities in line with changes to first class mail delivery.
- Defense: investigation and review of all facets of the Department of Defense and American military operations.
- Environmental Justice: overseeing the EPA and considering the elevation of an agency cabinet position to prioritize environmental justice

III. Other

- Second African American Government Operations Chair.
- Wrote an op-ed in *The New York Times* entitled "RICO Reform: A second Windfall for S&L Crooks," stating that, "If the American people don't holler fast, the crooks who looted the nation's savings and loans are going to get off very cheaply." (07/09/90).

Awards

- Award from the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia (04/24/1989).

**100th Congress (1987-1988) (Chairman, Criminal Justice Subcommittee;
Member, Government Operations Committee)**

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- The Criminal Fine Improvements Act, amending federal judicial code to require the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts to establish a judicial procedure to process fines, restitution, forfeiture of bail bonds or collateral, and assessments (P.L. 100-185).
- The Jazz Preservation Act, expressing the sense of Congress respecting the designation of jazz as a rare and valuable national American treasure (H. Con. Res. 57 passed the House of Representatives).
- Alcoholic Beverage Labeling Act, prohibiting manufacturing, importing, or bottling for sale or distribution in the United States any alcoholic beverage unless its container bears a Government warning statement that women should not drink alcohol during pregnancy because of the risk of birth defects, and that drinking alcohol impairs driving abilities (H.R. 5409 was incorporated into the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 that became P.L. 100-690).
- Amendments to the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, Rep. Conyers amendments ensured that defendants in capital cases have adequate legal representation and access to reasonable investigative and expert services, regardless of financial ability.

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- A total of 58 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 147 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws concerning the extension of intellectual property protections to semiconductor chips, establishing procedures to implement the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction done at The Hague, improving the treatment of claims for certain retirement benefits of former employees through the Retiree Benefits Bankruptcy Protection Act, implementing the United-States Canada Free-Trade Agreement, securing the rights of intellectual property licensors and licensees which come under the protection of the bankruptcy code, implementing the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works to further protect intellectual property rights by the international community, reauthorizing the Office of Government Ethics, implementing the International Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, preserving personal privacy through the Video Privacy Protection Act, among other legislative initiatives.

Legislation introduced

- Universal Voter Registration Act, establishing national standards for voter registration for Federal elections. Rep. Conyers has remained active in voter registration issues up to and including the current Congress (H.R. 3666).

- Rape Prevention Act, establishing a grant program for local rape prevention and control projects. Portions of this legislation foreshadowed the historic Violence Against Women Act enacted by Congress in 1994 (H.R. 3697).
- Racial Justice Act, to assure due process and equal protection of the law by permitting the use of statistical and other evidence to challenge the death penalty on the grounds of disproportionate patterns of imposition with respect to racial groups, and to prohibit such patterns. Rep. Conyers has remained active on these issues, and the legislation was marked up by the Judiciary Committee in the subsequent Congress (H.R. 3329).
- Public Safety Officers' Benefits Amendments, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to increase to the amount of benefits payable with respect to the death of public safety officers (H.R. 4758).
- Civil Liberties Act, to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (H.R. 442). Rep Conyers also introduced legislation to prohibit discrimination on the basis of affectational or sexual orientation (H.R. 709). Rep. Conyers introduced further legislation restoring the broad scope of coverage and to clarify the application of title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (H.R. 1214).
- Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Procedure Amendments, to amend section 7A, of the Clayton Act to extend the waiting periods and to expand the applicability of the notification requirement; to make subject to such section persons who, while acting in concert, acquire voting securities or assets of another person; to require such notifications to include an economic impact statement (H.R. 586).
- To provide for a GAO investigation and report on conditions of displaced Salvadorans and Nicaraguans, to provide certain rules of the House of Representatives and of the Senate with respect to review of the report, to provide for the temporary stay of detention and deportation of certain Salvadorans and Nicaraguans (H.R. 618).
- Providing additional tools to combat terrorism, by amending the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (H.R. 621).
- To amend title 11 of the United States Code to prevent the rejection of contracts, whether executory or not, that provide hospitalization and health benefits to current or former employees of the debtor (H.R. 761).
- To amend chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, to allow members of the Armed Forces to sue the United States for damages for certain injuries caused by improper medical care (H.R. 1054).
- Immigration Exclusion and Deportation Amendments, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the grounds for exclusion and deportation of aliens (H.R. 1119).
- Fair Housing Amendments Act, to amend title VIII of the Act commonly called the Civil Rights Act of 1968, to revise the procedures for the enforcement of fair housing (H.R. 1158).
- Foreign Agents Compulsory Ethics in Trade Act, prohibiting the President, the Vice President, certain other former Federal civilian and military personnel, and Members of Congress from representing or advising foreign persons for a period of 4 years after leaving Government service (H.R. 1231).

- Insider Trading Prevention Act, providing increased penalties for insider trading of securities and related conduct (H.R. 1238).
- Grand Jury Procedural Protection Act, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for dismissal of a criminal case, before or after judgment, upon a finding of error in the grand jury proceedings from which the indictment arose. Rep. Conyers also introduced the Grand Jury Procedural Protection Act, to provide for dismissal of a criminal case, before or after judgment, upon a finding of error in the grand jury proceedings from which the indictment arose. Rep. Conyers originally introduced legislation seeking reform of grand juries in the 93rd Congress (H.R. 1348 and H.R. 3308).
- Increasing the sums authorized to be appropriated for drug law enforcement programs, by modernizing the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act for the fiscal years 1988 and 1989 (H.R. 1411).
- Torture Victim Protection Act, to amend the United Nations Participation Act of 1945 to carry out obligations of the United States under the United Nations Charter and other international agreements pertaining to the protection of human rights by providing a civil action for recovery from persons engaging in torture (H.R. 1417).
- Extending the period during which certain payments are required to be made for the benefit of retired former employees, and preventing the rejection of contracts, whether executor or not, that provide hospitalization and health benefits to current or former employees of the debtor (H.R. 1488).
- Legalization Family Unification Act, amending the Immigration and Nationality Act to waive the continuous residence requirement under the legalization program for spouses and children of qualified legalized aliens (H.R. 1812). Rep. Conyers also introduced legislation to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to waive the continuous residence requirement under the legalization program for parents of U.S. citizen children born on or after December 31, 1981, and before November 7, 1986 (H.R. 1813).
- National Policy and Technology Foundation Act, to advance the national prosperity, quality of life, by establishing this institute (H.R. 2165).
- U.S. Health Service Act, to establish a United States Health Service to provide high quality comprehensive health care for all Americans and to overcome the deficiencies in the present system of health care delivery (H.R. 2402).
- National Narcotics Leadership Act, to provide the framework necessary to pursue a coordinated and effective national and international narcotics control policy (H.R. 2454).
- Assistance of Counsel Before Grand Juries Act, allowing assistance of counsel in connection with grand jury proceedings (H.R. 2515).
- Prohibiting private assistance for military or paramilitary operations in a foreign country if the Congress has prohibited the use of covert assistance for such operations (H.R. 2522).
- Retirement and Survivor Annuities for Bankruptcy Judges and Magistrates Act, providing for retirement and survivors' annuities for bankruptcy judges and magistrates (H.R. 2586).
- Corporate Criminal Liability Act, providing penalties for nondisclosure of serious concealed dangers by certain business entities and personnel (H.R. 2664).
- Fairness in Insurance Act, to repeal the antitrust exemption applicable to the business of insurance (H.R. 2727).

- Retiree Benefit Protection Act, improving the treatment of claims for certain retiree benefits of former employees (H.R. 2969).
- Fraud Amendments Act, including in the definition of fraud for the purpose of Federal law suits frauds involving intangible rights (H.R. 3089).
- Criminal Jury Instructions Act, to amend the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure with respect to the timing of the court's instructions to the jury (H.R. 3102).
- Prohibiting the patenting of genetically altered or modified animals (H.R. 3119).
- Defining the type of adjournment that prevents the return of a bill by the President (H.R. 3141).
- Amerasian Homecoming Act, permitting the immigration of Vietnamese Amerasians to the United States (H.R. 3171).
- Providing for a General Accounting Office investigation and report on conditions of displaced Polish nationals, providing certain rules of the House of Representatives and of the Senate with respect to review of the report, to provide for the temporary stay of detention and deportation of certain Polish nationals (H.R. 3195).
- Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, creating a new offense for fraudulent activity, and to restructure the civil claims procedures (H.R. 3240).
- Imposing criminal penalties for damage to religious property and for obstruction of persons in the free exercise of religious beliefs (H.R. 3258).
- Criminal Fine Improvements Act, to improve certain provisions relating to imposition and collection of criminal fines (H.R. 3483).
- Sentencing Reform Act Amendments Act, to make certain amendments to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 and to improve certain provisions relating to the imposition and collection of criminal fines (H.R. 3586).
- Official Accountability Act, to provide for criminal penalties for Government officials who commit national security offenses (H.R. 3665).
- Allowing a Federal judge who is at least 60 years of age and has completed 20 years of service to retire from regular active service (H.R. 3726).
- Extending the Immigration and Nationality Act, for 1 year the application period under the legalization program (H.R. 3816).
- Reproductive Health Equity Act, to amend various provisions of law to ensure that services related to abortion are made available in the same manner as are all other pregnancy-related services under federally-funded programs (H.R. 4168).
- Americans with Disabilities Act, to establish a clear and comprehensive prohibit of discrimination on the basis of handicap. In the next Congress the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 was enacted (H.R. 4498).
- Congressional and Judicial Equal Employment Opportunity Act, to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to prohibit discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, national origin, or age in employment in the legislative or judicial branches of the Federal Government, and to establish the Employment Review Board composed of senior Federal judges, which shall have authority to adjudicate claims regarding such discrimination (H.R. 4576).
- Crime Control Act, restructuring the civil claims procedures as they relate to the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (H.R. 4920).

- Federal Bureau of Investigation First Amendment Protection Act, to regulate the conduct of the FBI in certain matters relating to the exercise of rights protected by the First Amendment (H.R. 5369).
- To support democracy and respect for human rights in Haiti (H.J. Res. 416).
- To express the sense of the Congress concerning Soviet prisoners of war in Afghanistan (H. Con. Res. 169).

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Civil Rights: expanding the prohibitions against racial, sexual, and age discrimination to encompass more public and private institutions.
- Police Use of Deadly Force: investigating police-misconduct and disproportionate police use-of-force in minority communities. After the deaths of Etta Collins and officer Ronald Cox, Rep. Conyers held a field hearing in Dallas to consider the high number of deaths – 60 in a span of five years – collect witness testimony, and provide the Dallas police department with suggestions for improvement.
- Sentencing reform: streamlining sentencing procedures for where there were no guidelines, and granting the U.S. Sentencing Commission the authority to conceive as well as distribute temporary sentencing guidelines.
- Child Abduction: expanding State and U.S. District Courts’ jurisdiction over child abduction cases while also requiring that the courts protect the well-being of any child held in custody within the judicial system.
- Bankruptcy: amending federal bankruptcy law to provide for legal representation for retirees in cases involving the reorganization of retiree benefits; amending federal bankruptcy law to provide for special revenue bonds; and authorizing the appointment of additional federal bankruptcy judges.
- Supreme Court: legislation providing greater discretion to the Supreme Court in selecting cases it will review.
- Fair Housing: amending the Fair Housing Act to provide for increased protections against discrimination to individuals with mental or physical handicaps.
- Firearms Control: prohibiting the manufacture, sale, or possession of firearms that are not capable of detection by x-rays or metal detectors.

III. Other

Awards

- The Detroit Jazz Center Exchange Program Award (1987).
- International Jazz Hall of Fame – The IJHF National Jazz Heritage Award (11/21/1987).
- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers – Champion of Justice Award (1988).

**99th Congress (1985-1986) (Chairman, Subcommittee on Criminal Justice;
Member, Government Operations Committee)**

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- The Sexual Abuse Act, increasing penalties for more serious sexual abuse crimes including: (1) aggravated sexual abuse; (2) sexual abuse; (3) sexual abuse of a minor or ward; and (4) abusive sexual conduct (P.L. 99-654).
- The Bank Bribery Amendments Act, making it a Federal crime to bribe any official of a bank or other financial institution (P.L. 99-370).
- The Sentencing Reform Amendments Act, amending the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 to extend to 30 months after October 12, 1984, the deadline for the submission of the initial set of sentencing guidelines by the United States Sentencing Commission (P.L.99-217).
- Amendment to the Sentencing Reform Act, permitting senior status judges to serve as members of the United States Sentencing Commission and authorizing the Administrative Office of the United States Courts to make an initial appropriations request for the Commission (P.L.99-22).

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- Criminal Law and Procedure Technical Amendments Act, modernizing restitution provisions of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, establishing a Crime Victim Fund in the Treasury, and making technical changes to the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984 (P.L. 99-646).
- A total of 59 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 141 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws concerning the granting of a Federal charter to the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, legislation providing enhanced diplomatic security to combat international terrorism, legislation authorizing appropriations to the Administrative Conference of the United States, combating fraud through the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, legislation requiring states to develop and implement comprehensive mental healthcare plans, amending the patent law, and legislation strengthening the prohibition of kickbacks relating to Federal Government subcontracts, among other legislative initiatives.

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Sexual Assault: legislation to modernize and reform federal rape laws, measures making felonious sexual molestation of children in Indian country a federal crime.

- Civil/Religious rights: legislation to require the FBI to collect and publish data about certain crimes directed at religious property or a religious activity and certain crimes that are committed to express racial, ethnic, or religious prejudice, oversight hearings were held on the implementation of the Victim and Witness Protection Act of 1982 which was the fiscal year 1986 authorization request for the Justice Department's Criminal Division, and the first hearings on ethnically-motivated hate crimes against Arab-Americans, and violence directed at individuals in the gay community.
- Racketeer Influence and Corrupt Organizations Act: 9 hearings were held on bills to amend RICO to make it more difficult for private parties to sue under RICO, and the subcommittee marked up legislation which passed that House.
- Grand Jury: 5 hearings were held on bills to modernize Federal grand jury procedures.
- Death Penalty: 5 hearings were held on legislation that would establish criteria for the imposition of the death penalty by Federal courts.
- Crime: legislative hearings on drunk driving, federal pretrial discovery practices, increasing criminal penalties for falsification of aviation records and for violations of safety regulations, and federal espionage laws.

III. Other

- Wrote an op-ed in *The New York Times* entitled "The Death Penalty Lottery," stating that, "The death penalty is as impractical, arbitrary, and discriminatory as ever and is likely to remain so. The death penalty is determined largely by the countless vagaries of the criminal justice system." (07/01/85).

**98th Congress (1983 – 1984) (Chairman, Criminal Justice Subcommittee;
Member, Government Operations Committee)**

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- After Rep. Conyers had repeatedly resubmitted the legislation, Congress finally enacted H.R. 3706, the law designating a federal holiday honoring the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. (P.L. 98-144).
- A bill to amend title 18 of the United States Code with regard to the admissibility of business records located in foreign nations, dealing with problems in prosecuting offenses when records needed as evidence are kept in other countries. (Chairman Conyers introduced H.R. 5919, provisions identical to those in H.R. 5919 were included in part K of Chapter XII of Title II of the continuing resolution that was enacted as P.L. 98-473).
- Criminalizing the possession of contraband in prison, the Subcommittee amended H.R. 5577 and ordered it reported favorably as a clean bill, H.R. 5910. The House passed the clean bill, and the provisions of H.R. 5910 were included in H.R. 5690, the “Anti-Crime Act of 1984,” including a prison contraband provision (Part H of Chapter XI of Title II of the continuing resolution that was enacted as P.L. 98-473).
- A bill to amend title 18 of the United States Code with respect to escape from custody resulting from civil commitment, eliminating a loophole by making it a crime to escape from Federal custody resulting from a finding of civil contempt of court, from mental incompetency at the end of a prison term, and from commitment following acquittal by reason of insanity. H.R. 5526 was passed in the House, but was pending in the Senate at the end of Congress. However, Part L of Chapter X of Title II of the continuing resolution that was enacted as Public Law 98-473 included the escape from civil custody measure.
- Financial Bribery and Fraud Amendments Act, addressing deficiencies in law regulating the conduct of banking officials (Parts E, F, and G of the Chapter XI of Title II of the continuing resolution were enacted as Public Law 98-473).
- Federal Officials Protection Act, Rep. Conyers introduced H.R. 5150, and the committee received testimony on the matter. This bill made it a Federal crime to assault members of the intelligence community or Federal probation officers engaged in, or because of, official duties. Similar provisions were included in Parts F, G, and K of Chapter X of Title II of the continuing resolution that became Public Law 98-473).
- A total of 56 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 162 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws concerning the prohibition of tampering with certain consumer products, legislation combating international terrorism, increasing intellectual property protections through the Trademark Clarification Act, and the Patent Law Amendments Act, among other legislative initiatives.

Legislation introduced

- Forbidding the recording by public officers and employees of telephone conversations without the consent of all parties to such conversations, (H.R. 5873).

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Rep. Conyers held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Criminal Victim Compensation: assisting victims of crimes.
- Criminal Fines: raising the maximum criminal fine levels, and strengthening procedures for collecting fines.
- Insanity Defense: modifying the insanity defense in Federal Courts.
- Use of Drugs in Horseracing: further hearings were held concerning the matter.
- Modernizing and Reforming Federal rape laws: The Subcommittee held two hearings on the matter. They acted and ordered a clean bill introduced and reported favorably on the committee. Chairman Conyers introduced H.R. 6284, the clean bill, the provisions of which were included in H.R. 5690, the “Anti-Crime Act of 1984.” H.R. 5690 was approved by the House, but was pending before the Senate at the end of Congress.
- In his role as Subcommittee Chair, Rep. Conyers also convened subcommittee hearings in New York City after reports of police abuse. These hearings led to the appointment of Benjamin Ward, the first African American police commissioner in New York City.

III. Other

- Wrote an op-ed in *The New York Times* entitled “Insensitive to Black’s Health,” stating that, “Central to any political strategy aimed at reclaiming the basic right to a healthy workplace and environment is the coalescing of labor, minority groups, women, environmentalists and other citizens who share a common interest in preservation of occupational and environmental health.” (12/28/83).

**97th Congress (1981 – 1982) (Chairman, Criminal Justice Subcommittee;
Member, Government Operations Committee)**

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- Victims' Protection, legislation requiring that a victim impact report be included in presentence reports, making restitution a separate criminal penalty, strengthening provisions concerning witness and victim tampering and retaliation, requiring the Attorney General to set and implement guidelines on the fair treatment of victims and witnesses, authorizing a federal court to revoke bail when a defendant released on bail commits a witness tampering offense, and requiring the Attorney General to report to Congress that legislation preventing Federal felons from profiting from books, movies, articles, and other such objects about the offense (P.L. 97-291).
- A total of 58 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 139 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws concerning increasing intellectual property protections against the piracy of records, tapes and films, legislation requiring the Attorney General to acquire and share information to help officials at all levels of government locate missing people, and establishing penalties for specific false identification related crimes among other legislative initiatives.

Legislation introduced

- A bill to grant Federal employees the right to strike (H.R. 4375).
- The Criminal Code Sentencing Act, establishing new sentencing provisions that require the court to impose the least severe measure necessary to achieve the purposes of sentencing and state on the record the reasons for imposing a particular sentence (H.R. 4492).
- The United States Academy of Peace Act, establishing an academy of the same name as an independent nonprofit corporation designed to promote peace domestically and abroad (H.R. 6182).
- Criminal Code Revision Act, re-codifying Federal criminal law, as well as reviewing topics such as: habeas corpus reform, the death penalty, sex offenses, and grand jury reform (H.R. 4711 and H.R. 5703).

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Rep. Conyers held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Sports Violence Act: controlling excessive violence in professional sports. Legislation was introduced providing criminal sanctions for the use of excessive force in professional sports that resulted in significant physical injury (H.R. 2263).

- Insanity Defense: defining the insanity defense in Federal courts to require defendants to prove insanity by a preponderance of evidence, placing limitations on psychiatric testimony at trial, revising Federal procedure for dealing with persons incompetent to stand trial, and establishing a Federal commitment procedure for persons acquitted by reasons of insanity (H.R. 7259).
- Horseracing: investigating the problem of the use of drugs on racehorses, and placing the drug problem under Federal supervision through the Drug Enforcement Administration (H.R. 2331).
- Public Safety Officers' Benefit Act: enlarging the class of officers whose survivors could recover the \$50,000 supplemental death benefit by including individuals who died as a result of ingesting a poisonous material or from extreme physical stress (H.R. 1968).
- Government Publications: modifying the restrictions placed on the publication of certain Government instruments, such as pictures of stamps and currency (H.R. 4275).
- Police Use of Deadly Force: investigating police-misconduct and disproportionate police use-of-force in minority communities. On June 16, 1983, Rep Conyers chaired a hearing in Miami, FL after finding that the shooting of Neville Johnson, a young black man at an arcade, by police was only one in a series of questionable police shootings. After a series of arrests and alleged police beatings in New York, and a lack of successful handling of the issue at a local level, Rep. Conyers chaired multiple hearings in New York City to seek to improve police-community relations.

**96th Congress (1979 – 1980) (Chairman, Crime Subcommittee; Member,
Government Operations Committee)**

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- The Dispute Resolution Act, establishing dispute resolution procedures between the U.S. Postal Service and supervisors (Rep. Conyers co-sponsored H.R. 2863, a similar measure to H.R. 827, the Dispute Resolution Act that ultimately became P.L. 827).
- A total of 47 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 92 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws concerning the authorization of funds for the Department of Justice, legislation to implement the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977, the Magistrate Act of 1979, a restructuring of the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, the Refugee Act of 1980, the Soft Drink Inter-brand Competition Act, the establishment of a fact finding Commission on Wartime Relocations and Internment of Civilians Act, providing for personal protection to the spouses of major Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, the Antitrust Procedural Improvement Act of 1979, the Customs Court Act of 1979, the Appellate Court Reorganization Act of 1980, the Classified Procedures Act, the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act of 1979, an extension to the Small Business Administration's minority business development programs, the Gasohol Competition Act of 1980, the Gold Star Wives of America, and amendments to the patent and trademark intellectual property laws.

Legislation introduced

- The "Pretrial Services Act of 1980," requiring the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts to establish a pretrial services agency in each judicial district. The bill would expand the background checking provisions developed under the Speedy Trial Act of 1974, from ten federal judicial districts to the entire federal district court system (H.R. 7084). One notable area of concern for the subcommittee was pretrial services that had been developed under the Speedy Trial Act of 1974. Being pilot tested in ten representative federal judicial districts, these pretrial services agencies are responsible for conducting background checks and providing them to judges or magistrates, as well as supervising people released from pretrial custody. Following two subcommittee hearings, Subcommittee Chairman Conyers introduced H.R. 7084 to expand the Pretrial Service Agency from ten judicial districts to the entire federal district court system. Two years later similar legislation, S. 923, the Pretrial Services Act of 1982, sponsored by Sen. Biden, became public law (H.R. 7084).

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- LEAA Oversight: reauthorizing and restructuring the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, an agency within the Department of Justice that administers grant funding to local law enforcement. As with prior Congresses, the Subcommittee on Crime in the 96th Congress continued to oversee the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. In particular, the subcommittee considered legislation to reauthorize and restructure the LEAA. In an effort to reform the administration, Chairman Conyers sponsored H.R. 2108- a complete overhaul of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968. In response to these suggested changes, the subcommittee held 9 hearings in Washington, D.C. as well as various large cities. The focus of these hearings ranged from the LEAA's white-collar crime programs, juvenile delinquency programs, and propositions to develop a Bureau of Justice Statistics. Ultimately, the full committee Chairman Peter Rodino's LEAA restructuring bill, H.R. 2061, was enacted into law, authorizing the LEAA \$825 million to the administration and internally restructuring (P.L. 96-157).
- Oversight hearing on firearms safety: focusing on gun safety efforts by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.
- White Collar Crime: focusing on criminal liability for corporations that failed to inform the government of serious dangers in their products. Under Chairman Conyers' leadership, the Subcommittee on Crime followed up on their efforts in the 95th Congress concerning the topic of white collar crime (H.R. 2061).
- Corporate abuses by the oil industry: leading investigative hearings into charges that the oil industry was artificially inflating prices.
- Parental Kidnapping: relating to the 25,000 to 100,000 children abducted each year by a noncustodial parent, which ultimately lead to the Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Act augmenting the FBI's authority in these areas. A hearing and several legislative vehicles were brought up to address the matter (H.R. 2977).
- Violence: investigating matters relating to police-community relations, police use of deadly force, violence in sports, and heightened levels of violence against minority citizens.
- Police Use of Deadly Force: investigating police-misconduct and disproportionate police use-of-force in minority communities. Rep. Conyers chaired a forum discussion in Los Angeles in response to the shooting of Eulia Love. The police had entered Ms. Love's apartment to settle a utility bill, and shot her after entering her home.

III. Other

- Wrote an op-ed in *The Washington Post* entitled "To Honor a Man and a Spirit," stating that, "By commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birth date, we do more than honor one man, however extraordinary, we honor the profound spirit of love, and concern that guided his life and inspired his fellow men." (10/29/79).

**95th Congress (1977 – 1978) (Chairman, Crime Subcommittee; Member,
Government Operations Committee)**

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- Prohibiting any child under the age of sixteen to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purposes of producing materials that are to be mailed or transported in interstate commerce, prohibiting the sale or distribution of obscene material containing children engaging in sexually explicit activities if the materials have been mailed or transported in interstate commerce. This legislation also prohibits the transportation of people less than eighteen years of age to engage in prostitution or other sexually explicit conduct for commercial purposes. (H.R. 8059, incorporated into P.L. 95-225).
- Making it unlawful to knowingly transport, sell, distribute, or purchase “contraband cigarettes.” Dealers were required to keep records and the “Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization” (RICO) statute was amended to include cigarette bootlegging as a specifically enumerated offense (H.R. 8853 incorporated into P.L. 95-575).

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- Pretrial Services Agencies: amending the Speedy Trial Act of 1974, to allow for additional appropriations, and continued authorizations, for pretrial service agencies to continue. Ultimately the State, Justice, Commerce, Judiciary Appropriations contained additional appropriations for pretrial services agencies (S. 2937).
- Unemployment and Crime: a series of hearings on the relationship between unemployment and crime were held. During these hearings, the committee investigated allegations that the DOL’s offender program under Title III under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973 (CETA) was not being implemented. (The Subcommittee on Crime did not have jurisdiction over CETA so the amendments to H.R. 12542 were referred to the Subcommittee on Employment Opportunities and were enacted into law on October 27, 1978 as part of P.L. 95-524).
- A total of 56 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 83 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws concerning the establishment of an Associate Attorney General within the Department of Justice, granting a five year extension to the Commission on Civil Rights, incorporating the United States Capitol Historical Society, providing for more effective employment of interpreters in United States courts, among other legislative initiatives.

II. Committee Activities

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- White-Collar Crime: a review of the definition, cause, extent, and costs of white collar crime were investigated by the subcommittee. In addition, the subcommittee assessed the charges that the federal responses to white-collar crime were inadequate. Rep. Conyers initiated activities to supplement these hearings, including two GAO investigations and a systems analysis of Justice Department referral and disposition of white-collar crime cases.
- Crime and Criminal Justice Research: investigative hearings were held to determine the role of the federal government in crime and criminal justice research. Legislation creating a separate research institute and statistics bureau, the National Institute of Justice, was considered. (H.R. 13948).
- Strengthening gun reporting requirements: following oversight hearings on proposed regulations by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms relating to the Gun Control Act of 1968. These regulations required that firearms dealers report thefts and losses of firearms, that the ATF receive reports of all commercial transactions between firearms licensees, and that each firearm imported into the United States contain a unique serial number.

**94th Congress (1975 – 1976) (Chairman, Crime Subcommittee; Member,
Government Operations Committee)**

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law:

- Amending the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, authorizing the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) for another three years and creating the Office of Community Anti-Crime which assists citizens in fighting crime, helps enforce civil rights legislation, develops standards to improve State and local correctional facilities, and funds programs focused on reducing crime against the elderly. In addition, this legislation provided grant money that went towards the development of YouthBuild, a program geared towards helping low income young adults receive their high school diplomas or GEDs. Further, the program allows young adults to gain on the job experience as they construct affordable houses (H.R. 13636 was incorporated into the Senate version of the bill, S. 2212, and became P.L. 94-503).

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- Copyright reform, amending Title 17 of the United State Code relating to copyright law. This historic copyright legislation lengthened the protection term from 28 years, with an additional 28 year renewal period, to for the entire life of the author plus 50 years. In addition to clearly delineating the different subject matters afforded copyright protection, the Copyright Act of 1976 also codified the legal notion of fair use (P.L. 94-553).
- Extension of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, for seven years (P.L. 94-73).
- A total of 48 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 68 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws concerning Title 17 of the United State Code relating to reform of the United States' immigration policy that established a preferential system of governance for immigration from the Western Hemisphere, the Administrative Procedures Act increasing executive transparency, and a revision of Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Act.

Legislation introduced

- The Federal Firearms Act, disqualifying persons, such as felons and mental incompetents, from having access to handguns, increasing the license fees, imposing additional qualifications on prospective licensees, prohibiting a dealer from transferring a handgun within twenty-one days unless the prospective purchaser passed a background check, prescribing penalties for carrying or using a handgun during the commission of a felony, and establishing a National Handgun Tracing Center. This legislation was a precursor to the Brady Act which became public law in 1994 (H.R. 11193).

II. Committee Activities

During the 94th Congress there was a particular emphasis in the Subcommittee on Crime on firearms and gun safety. This is made evident by the sheer quantity of firearms bills that were considered in the Subcommittee on Crime: 125 of the 258 total bills considered. The Subcommittee held 24 hearings in total on gun safety, in both Washington and regional locations including Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Denver, Atlanta, and New York City. The principal focus of these hearings was to determine the role handguns played in urban violence, what are some of the legitimate uses of firearms, and the effectiveness of Federal, State, and local laws in reducing firearm violence. The regional field hearings were televised to allow for a national public debate on the issues, and to gauge the level of citizen support for stricter laws. In all, some 200 witnesses, experts, and citizens' groups panels participated directly, with thousands of Americans watching the broadcast hearings.

Following the year-round hearings, Rep. Conyers garnered valuable information on the federal government's initiatives to stem gun violence through work with the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. The Director responded to a letter from Rep. Conyers, and would go on to testify before the Subcommittee on Crime. In addition, Rep. Conyers sent letters to the 34 total federally licensed firearms manufacturers, and used their responses to compile statistics as well as records, that shaped the gun safety legislation. Subsequently, Rep. Conyers worked with the Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the Comptroller General, the Chief of Police of the District of Columbia, and GAO analysts to formulate a suitable gun control bill.

**93rd Congress (1973 – 1974) (Chairman, Crime Subcommittee; Member,
Government Operations Committee)**

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law

- Speedy Trial Act, requiring expeditious consideration of indictment information, arraignment and trial of federal criminal cases. All information or indictments required to be filed within 30 days of the trial, the arraignment to be held within 10 days of the filing date, and if the defendant pleads not guilty the trial must commence within 60 days from the time of the arraignment. (P.L. 93-619).

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored or managed that were enacted into law

- A total of 60 Public Laws were enacted by the Judiciary Committee as a result of more than 64 hearings, many of which were bipartisan and non-controversial, and as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Rep. Conyers was involved in the consideration of these measures, including public laws concerning the establishment of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, eliminating discrimination based on sex within programs run by the Naval Sea Cadet Corps., and allowing girls to participate alongside boys in Little League Baseball, among other legislative initiatives.

Legislation introduced

- Requesting that the President appoint a special prosecutor in connection with the Presidential election of 1972, to investigate allegations of voting irregularities and possible voter fraud (H. Res. 391).
- The Omnibus Penal Reform Act, establishing minimum prison and parole standards. This reform measure came about after national findings demonstrating that without minimum standards in prisons there is a heightened occurrence of disorder and aggression (H.R. 7792).
- The Community Anticrime Assistance Act, providing cities with Federal assistance for improving police-community relations and encouraging citizen involvement in crime prevention programs (H.R. 9175 and H.R. 10602. Eventually the “Cops on the Beat” legislation was passed into law in 1995).
- Repealing provisions relating to the antiriot provisions that had been incorporated in the Civil Rights Act of 1968, these provisions had been included in the landmark civil rights legislation following the urban riots during the summer of 1967, but there was a concern the provision unfairly targeted African American political activists (H.R. 9445).
- Grand Jury Reform Act, establishing rules with respect to the appearance of witnesses before grand juries to better protect their constitutional rights. Additional protections included allowing for uncooperative witnesses to be placed in confinement before their judicial proceedings, as well as establishing general rules towards governing immunity of witnesses. The term of service of the grand jury was also detailed (H.R. 13912).

- Health Maintenance Organization and Resources Development Act, creating health maintenance, supplemental health maintenance, health service, and area health education organizations in medically underserved communities (H.R. 7627).

II. Committee Activities

Nixon Impeachment

Rep. Conyers initiated two impeachment resolutions against President Nixon in the 92nd Congress: H. Res. 976 on May 10, 1972 and H. Res. 989 on May 18, 1972. Concurrently, Rep. Conyers and several fellow representatives also took out an advertisement in the *New York Times* demanding Nixon be impeached for his mismanagement of the Vietnam War.

In the 93rd Congress, the House of Representatives passed H.R. Res. 803 on February 6, 1974 to grant the Committee on the Judiciary the ability to investigate the various charges of impeachment against President Nixon. By August of that same year the Judiciary Committee prepared a report, H.R. Rep. No. 93-1305, which called for the impeachment of President Nixon stemming from three articles of impeachment. Rep. Conyers voted affirmatively on all three articles of impeachment against President Nixon.

Rep. Conyers rationale for Nixon's impeachment condemned the president's encroachment of fundamental liberties in the United States for selfish ends. Writing in *The Black Scholar*, Rep. Conyers detailed how, "There is clear and convincing proof that Richard Nixon violated his oath of office and committed high crimes and misdemeanors which jeopardized the liberties of the people."

Central to Rep. Conyers' contention was the claim that, "President Nixon unilaterally initiated and authorized a campaign of bombing against the neutral nation of Cambodia," and how, "[f]or the next four years, he continually deceived the Congress and the American people as to when the bombing began and how far it extended." Rep. Conyers viewed these actions as a direct and illegal extension of the powers of the presidency in conducting a secret war, while deliberately lying to the American public about the existence of armed conflict in Cambodia. Rep. Conyers explicitly identified how several intelligence agencies, including the FBI, were taken advantage of to suppress any opposition and cover up any evidence of war.

Additionally, Rep. Conyers' writing in *The Black Scholar* cites multiple instances wherein the Nixon Administration repeatedly trampled civil liberties and basic human rights, both abroad and domestically. Specific to the Watergate scandal, Rep. Conyers noted that, "the edited White House transcripts contained evidence that the President had obstructed the Watergate investigation – which the Rep. said was 'clearly an impeachable act' – and again urged that the Judiciary Committee cite Mr. Nixon for contempt for refusing to supply the tapes on which the transcripts were based."

Rep. Conyers voted in committee on February 4, 1974 and on the House Floor on February 6, 1974 in favor of impeachment on the Articles of Impeachment against Nixon. Following the House-approved legislation, Richard Nixon resigned as President of the United States.

Following President Nixon's resignation, Rep. Conyers pursued several legislative avenues to help remedy the Watergate scandal and scrutinize the rationale behind President Ford's subsequent pardon of Nixon. These pieces of legislation included:

- Directing the President to provide the House with the information on which he based his decision to grant Richard Nixon a pardon. (H. Res. 1370)
- Establishing a commission on Watergate, obtaining and preserving copies of the tape recordings and other documents regarding the Federal investigation into Watergate (H.R. 17469).
- Expressing the sense of the House in favor of continued legal action against Richard Nixon, and standing in opposition to further Presidential pardons relating to Watergate. (H.Res. 1375)
- Providing public access to all Watergate-related facts produced from investigations conducted by Federal executive offices from 1/20/1969 through 8/9/1974. (H.R.16750)
- Expressing the sense of Congress that the pardon of Richard Nixon was wrongful and premature, and no further pardons should be issued prior to conviction. (H.Con.Res. 643)
- Proposing a Constitutional amendment to permit the President to grant pardons only after conviction and to permit a two-thirds vote of both Houses of Congress to overrule a Presidential pardon. (H.J. Res. 1145)

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Rep. Conyers also held hearings and/or moved legislation in the following areas:

- Weapons and Firearms: legislation penalizing the development and transferring of biological weaponry, additional penalties for the use of firearms in violent crimes and murder, various degrees of legislation restricting the interstate transfer and purchasing of handguns.
- Violent crimes: legislation against assassinating federal elected officials or candidates.
- Dog-fighting: legislation prohibiting the shipment of dogs for the purpose of dog fighting.
- Kidnapping: legislation imposing penalties for kidnapping hostages by inmates of federal prisons, defining penalties for acceptance or distribution of benefits extorted through kidnapping, and increasing penalties against kidnapper for when victim is not returned unharmed.

92nd Congress (1971 – 1972) (Member, Judiciary Committee; Member, Government Operations Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Major legislation that Rep. Conyers cosponsored that were enacted into law

- Equal Employment Opportunity Act, instituting the Equal Employment Opportunity programs intended to eliminate employment discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, or sex. The programs include means to air employment discrimination complaints, as well as affirmative action initiatives. The legislation granted the Civil Service Commission, now known as the Office of Personnel Management, litigation and enforcement powers to combat discrimination in the public and private sectors. (P.L. 92-261).

Legislation introduced

- Initiated two impeachment resolutions, against President Nixon on May 10th, 1972 following the Watergate scandal. The impeachment resolutions detailed how President Nixon abused the Office of the President (H.J. Res. 976 and H. Res. 989).
- Correctional Services Improvement Act, combating crime by reducing recidivism and improving correctional facilities. The legislation strengthened control of probationers, parolees, and individuals found not guilty due to mental insanity (H.R. 7105).
- Constitutional amendment lowering the age requirements for membership in Congress, Rep. Conyers proposed that anyone 22 years of age or older could run to be a Representative in the House of Representatives, and anyone 27 years of age or older could run to be a Senator in the Senate. The legislation was reintroduced subsequently (H.J. Res. 961).
- Establishing minimum prisoner treatment standards for prisons, and creating an agency to investigate complaints on prisoner treatment following national news stories of brutal prison conditions in the United States (H.R. 11882).
- Providing financial assistance for State and local correctional facilities, in a further attempt to remedy poor conditions in correctional and prison-complex facilities (H.R. 12104).
- Establishing an Independent Board of Parole, an Independent Board of Parole was established in 1930, however in 1950 it was placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice, where it remains today. Rep. Conyers reintroduced this legislation subsequently (H.R. 13118 and H.R. 16276).
- Providing for family visitation furloughs for Federal prisoners, in an additional effort to curb poor federal prison conditions (H.R. 13549).
- Exonerating and providing amnesty for protesters, some of whom violated laws while protesting the United States' involvement in Vietnam. This legislation was subsequently reintroduced. In 1974, President Ford would offer conditional amnesty for people who had evaded the draft. In 1977, President Carter eventually offered pardons for Vietnam War era draft evasion to any eligible person (H.R. 14175).
- Making fair employment practices in South African enterprises of U.S. firms a criteria for eligibility for government contracts, as concerns over apartheid policies had begun to

enter into the public conscience of the United States. More than a decade later, in the 99th Congress, similar legislation curtailing government contracting with South Africa passed into law. The Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act severed virtually all economic ties between the United States and South Africa, in addition to directing the United States' foreign policy towards establishing a nonracial democracy in South Africa (Comparable language to H.R. 1139 was incorporated into P.L. 99-440).

- Limiting the term of office for the Director of the FBI, and providing for Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation of the FBI Director. This legislation was introduced following the death of J. Edgar Hoover, the founder and first director of the FBI, in light of his alleged abuses of power. Legislation limiting the FBI Director's term length to 10 years became public law in the 94th Congress (Comparable language to H.R. 14836 was incorporated into P.L. 94-503).
- Prohibiting States from denying the right to vote in Federal elections to former criminals, most states today prohibit criminals from voting while in prison, and eleven states disenfranchise former criminals after they have served their time. These restrictions have a discriminatory impact on minorities. Rep. Conyers has reintroduced similar legislation in subsequent Congresses (H.R. 15049).
- Enforcing the constitutional right of females to terminate pregnancies that they do not wish to continue, the landmark abortion rights case of *Roe v. Wade* was decided in 1973. Rep. Conyers introduced this legislation in the 93rd Congress and subsequent congresses, in an effort to codify that decision (H.R. 15143).
- National Crime Victims Compensation Act, providing compensation to the victims of violent crimes through funding to all states. In addition, this legislation provides insurance, death, and disability benefits to police officers, as well as creates civil remedies for victims of racketeering. Rep. Conyers introduced this legislation in subsequent Congresses (H.R. 15497).
- Enabling the Federal justice system to deal more effectively with narcotic addiction (H.R. 16218).
- Providing increased assistance to correctional programs and establishing guidelines for programs associated with the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act (H.R. 16449).

II. Legislative Participation

Rep. Conyers voted in favor of legislation in the following areas:

- Environment: Voted for the Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments of 1972, establishing intra-state water quality standards and a review of regulations concerning wastewater (P.L. 92-500).

III. Other

- Founding Member of the Congressional Black Caucus along with Reps. Mitchell, Rangel, Clay, Dellums, Collins, Stokes, Metcalfe, Fautroy, Nix, Diggs, Chisholm, and Hawkins.
- Listed as an original member of President Nixon's Enemies List (Number 13).

91st Congress (1969 – 1970) (Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Conyers introduced bills passed into law:

- Establishing the Sleeping Bear dunes National Lakeshore in the state of Michigan. (P.L. 91-479).
- Amending the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act, pertaining to the funding levels for various Federal grants relating to the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (P.L. 91-644).

Legislation introduced

- Prohibiting the establishment of emergency detention camps and to provide that no citizen of the United State shall be committed for detention or imprisonment in any facility of the United States Government, except in conformity with the provisions of title 18. This legislation was reintroduced subsequently. Rep. Conyers' bill foreshadowed legislation passed in 1971 repealing the Emergency Detention Act of 1950 and disallowing the detention of U.S. citizens without an act of Congress. As well as civil liberties issues in the ongoing "War Against Terror" (H.R. 11373).
- Class Action Jurisdiction Act, providing Federal jurisdiction for certain types of class actions, specifically actions brought to protect consumers (H.R. 11656).
- Establishing a Commission on Marijuana, Rep. Conyers introduced this legislation due to his concern about the over criminalization by the federal government of minor drug offenses, which has led to a dramatic increase in the prison population (H.R. 14011).
- Authorizing the President to proclaim the month of January of each year as "National Blood Donor Month." Legislation similar to Rep. Conyers' bill was signed into law (H.J. Res. 946 was identical to Senate Joint Resolution 154 which President Nixon used to declare Proclamation 3952 designating January as National Blood Donor Month).
- Establishing an Institute for Continuing Studies of Juvenile Justice, while the legislation was not acted upon, hearings were held in the 92nd Congress on establishing an institute dedicated to juvenile justice (H.R. 15124).
- Prohibiting certain prerequisites to the right to vote in Federal, State, and local elections, combating voter suppression efforts by disallowing reading or writing tests, educational attainments, or other proof of fellowship in a certain class or group (H.R. 15146).
- Newsmen's Privilege Act, allowing news reporters to keep certain sources of news information confidential. This legislation was subsequently reintroduced in the 92nd and 93rd Congresses and foreshadowed similar legislative efforts by Rep. Conyers in later Congresses seeking to protect the confidentiality of journalists. (H.R. 16328)
- Prohibiting the importation, manufacture, sale, purchase, transfer, receipt, or transportation of handguns, except for or by members of the Armed Forces, law enforcement officials, and as authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, licensed importers, manufacturers, dealers, and pistol clubs. Rep. Conyers introduced similar legislation in subsequent Congresses. (H.R. 16990)

- Designating May 8, 1970, as a Day of National Mourning, in tribute to the Hard Hat Riot in New York City wherein 1000 college and high school students protested the Kent State shootings, as well as the American invasion of Vietnam and Cambodia (H. Res. 990).
- Designating certain election days as legal public holidays, this legislation was subsequently reintroduced by Rep. Conyers. Rep. Conyers has remained engaged in voting issues throughout his career (H.R. 18979).

II. Legislative Participation

Rep. Conyers voted in favor of landmark legislation in the following areas:

- Voting Rights: Rep. Conyers voted for the Voting Rights Act Amendments extending the original Voting Rights Act of 1965 and augmenting Section 5 of the act to further prevent the use of discriminatory tests or other means to exclude individuals from voting (H.R. 4249).

III. Other

Awards

- Rep. Conyers received an Honorary LL.D. from Wilberforce University.

90th Congress (1967 – 1968) (Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Legislation introduced

- Legislation designating Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday as a national holiday, introduced 3 days after Dr. King's assassination. Rep. Conyers was the first member to introduce legislation honoring the life of Dr. King through a national public holiday. Among other things, Rep. Conyers had to overcome concerns that granting a day of paid vacation to federal employees would be too costly, and there was resistance towards honoring a private citizen. Rep. Conyers repeatedly reintroduced the legislation and worked with the King Center to increase support. In 1981 a Rally for Peace Conference was held at which more than 6 million signatures were collected on a petition in support of the bill. To further push for public backing behind the bill, fellow Detroit native Stevie Wonder released the song "Happy Birthday" in support of the holiday. Eventually, a version of the legislation became public law 98-399 and was signed by President Reagan on November 2, 1983. The holiday was observed for the first time on January 20, 1986 (H.J. Res. 16510).
- Anti-Gerrymandering Legislation, requiring the establishment of congressional districts composed of contiguous and compact territory for the election of Representatives. This legislation was reintroduced in subsequent congresses. (H.R. 10258)
- Abolishing the death penalty, in the United States. In the mid-1960s a movement by the American Civil Liberties Union in conjunction with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund challenged the constitutionality of the death penalty. Rep. Conyers sought to act on this campaign, which coincided with there being no executions in the United States from 1968 to 1976. Rep. Conyers introduced similar versions of this legislation in subsequent Congresses. (H.R. 12547)
- Constitutional Amendment granting voting representation in the Congress to the District of Columbia, Rep. Conyers reintroduced the amendment in subsequent Congresses and managed legislation on the House floor seeking to accomplish this goal legislatively. In 1973 the District of Columbia Home Rule Act was passed, granting D.C. the right to elect a Mayor and city council-members. (H.J. Res. 847)
- Fair Housing Act, Rep. Conyers was one of the first members to introduce legislation protecting against discrimination in housing on account of race, color, religion, or national origin. (H.R. 14498). Later in the Congress, Rep. Conyers helped enact separate legislation that became the Fair Housing Act. (Public Law 90-284)
- Full Opportunity Act, Rep. Conyers introduced an omnibus bill intended to provide every American adequate employment, housing and education on a non-discriminatory basis. The bill would guarantee a job to every citizen by making the Federal government "the employer of last resort" and raise the minimum wage to \$2 an hour. The bill would initiate a massive program of low-cost housing construction, and establish a college loan program providing higher education for all Americans. The bill also included enforceable nationwide programs to eliminate racial discrimination in employment, housing, education and administration of justice. (H.R. 14244)
- Making the Civil Rights Commission permanent, the Civil Rights Commission has been reauthorized several times since being enacted in 1957, with the most recent

reauthorization having occurred in 1994. The commission is still in operation. (H.R. 14543)

- Authorizing the President to proclaim the week of February 14th, the birthday of Frederick Douglass, as Afro-American History Week, The Association for the Study of Negro Life and history began celebrating Negro History week in 1925 during the week of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass' birthdays, and the celebration grew in popularity. Over forty years later, Rep. Conyers introduced legislation to declare this week as Afro-American History Week in the 90th Congress. This legislation was subsequently reintroduced in the 91st Congress. The legislative initiative was ultimately expanded upon by President Ford, during the nation's bicentennial celebration in 1976, to become African American History month. (H.J. Res. 1087, 1088, 1089, and 1118)

II. Legislative Participation

Rep. Conyers voted in favor of landmark legislation in the following areas:

- Accountability: Voted for the Truth in Lending Act, providing more transparency in the consumer credit market (P.L. 90-321).

III. Other

Awards

- Rep. Conyers received the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Award for supporting civil rights.
- When the 1967 Detroit Riot erupted on 12th Street Rep. Conyers, equipped with nothing but a bullhorn, took to the streets in hopes of directing rage towards proactive and nonviolent action. Unable to quell the frustration that had built up over the decades, police on site urged Rep. Conyers to retreat to his home. Later that night, President Lyndon B. Johnson called Rep. Conyers to verify the accuracy of the excessive damage and violence that the media was reporting. (07/23/67)

89th Congress (1965 – 1966) (Member, Judiciary Committee)

I. Legislation introduced/passed into law by Rep. Conyers

Legislation introduced

- Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States lowering the voting age requirement in all elections to 18 years old, Rep. Conyers introduced this amendment due to his beliefs in wider access to the ballot, and that 18-year olds should be eligible to vote if they are old enough to serve our country in the military. Rep. Conyers reintroduced the amendment in subsequent congresses. Ultimately in 1971, the House and Senate approved a Senate version, which was ratified by the states in the same year as the 26th Amendment to the United States Constitution (H.J. Res. 782).
- Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States guaranteeing equal rights for men and women, Rep. Conyers introduced or cosponsored this amendment in subsequent congresses, up to and including the current congress. The Equal Rights Amendment did not pass both houses of Congress until March of 1972. However, by the March 1979 deadline, only 35 of the required 38 states had ratified the amendment leading to its failure. (H.J. Res. 829).
- Authorizing the President to designate October 31 of each year as “National UNICEF Day,” President Johnson signed a letter declaring October 31st National UNICEF Day beginning in 1967 (H.J. Res. 869).
- Civil Rights Protection Act, calling for nondiscrimination in the selection of juries, fully 20 years before the Supreme Court’s landmark decision in Batson v. Kentucky, deciding the same principle. (H.R. 16043)
- Authorizing the merger of 2 or more professional football leagues, and to protect football contests between secondary schools from professional football telecasts. In 1970, NFL and AFL agreed to merge and Congress passed legislation along the lines of the Conyers’ legislation. (H.R. 18424)

II. Legislative Participation

Rep. Conyers signed on as a co-sponsor of legislation, and/or voted in favor of landmark legislation in the following areas:

- Voting Rights: Co-sponsored and voted for the Voting Rights Act prohibiting discriminatory voting practices (P.L. 89-110).
- Education: Voted for the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, a part of President Johnson’s “War on Poverty Program” providing funding to elementary and secondary schools and encouraging equal access to education for all American children (P.L. 89-10).
- Social Security: Voted for the Social Security Act of 1965, establishing the historic Medicare and Medicaid programs as part of President Johnson’s Great Society legislative program. (P.L. 89-97).
- Immigration: Voted for the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, abolishing the 1920’s era national origins quota system for immigrants and substituting it with a system

giving priority to skilled workers as well as immigrants with family ties to the United States. (P.L. 89-236).

III. Other

- Selected by the leadership in the House of Representatives to serve as the first African American Member on the House Judiciary Committee.
- Employed Rosa Parks to serve on his congressional staff from 1965, Rep. Conyers' first term in office, until 1988.
- Rep. Conyers corresponded with Rev. Martin Luther King to coordinate the civil rights effort from 1965-1968 and assisted one another in each other's work. Rev. Martin Luther King expressed his appreciation of Rep. Conyers work in a letter, writing, "words fail me in expressing my deep and heartfelt thanks to you for your visit to Selma, Alabama last week. Your very presence there has had an electric effect upon the voteless and beleaguered Negro citizens of this city, county, state and nation." For the next 3 years, Mr. Conyers would sustain a correspondence and relationship with Rev. King, and would unveil future legislation and civil rights bills, including the Full Opportunity Act, before the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in future years. (02/19/1965)