

# *2021 Year in Review*

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# *5-Point Plan*

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## 1. CREATION OF TASK FORCES

- Social Justice
- Economy (Including Technology and Housing)
- Healthcare Reform
- Climate Change
- Immigration
- Education

## 2. TOWNHALLS WITH LOCAL UNIVERSITIES

- Polk State Townhall
- March for Our Lives Gun Violence Townhall
- San Diego State AAPI Townhall
- UCF Political Policy & Covid Relief Townhall
- Schoolcraft College Future of Work Townhall
- Student Needs Insecurity Townhall

## 3. FUTURE FORUM INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

- Guest Speakers
- Participation in Youth Congress

## 4. INAUGURAL FUTURE FORUM YOUTH CONGRESS

- Two-day simulated Congress event
  - Committee Day
  - Floor Day

## 5. MONTHLY POLICY LETTERS

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# *Taskforces and Townhalls*

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## TASK FORCE CREATION

### Economy (Including Technology and Housing)

Co-chairs: Rep. Colin Allred (TX-32) and Rep. Haley Stevens (MI-11)

### Climate Change

Co-chairs: Rep. Nanette Diaz Barragán (CA-44) and Rep. Mike Levin (CA-49)

### Health Care Reform

Co-chairs: Rep. Lauren Underwood (IL-14) and Rep. Chris Pappas (NH-01)

### Education

Co-chairs: Rep. Sara Jacobs (CA-53) and Rep. Jimmy Gomez (CA-34)

### Social Justice

Co-chairs: Rep. Sharice Davids (KS-03) and Rep. Joe Neguse (CO-02)

### Immigration

Co-chairs: Rep. Ruben Gallego (AZ-07) and Rep. Grace Meng (NY-06)

## TOWNHALLS

Polk State Townhall with Rep. Swalwell, Rep. Gomez, and Rep. Soto

March for Our Lives Gun Violence Townhall with Rep. Soto

San Diego State AAPI Townhall with Rep. Jacobs, Rep. Kim, Rep. Murphy, Rep. Meng, and Rep. Soto

UCF Political Policy and Covid Relief Townhall with Rep. Soto

Schoolcraft College Future of Work Townhall with Rep. Stevens and Rep. Soto

Student Needs Insecurity Townhall with Rep. Gomez, Rep. Jacobs, Rep. Barragán, and Rep. Soto

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# *Inaugural Youth Congress*

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In August of 2021, the Future Forum Caucus hosted its inaugural Youth Congress, an annual gathering where young leaders are able to deepen their understanding of the legislative process, make connections with peers and professionals, and raise awareness for issues young Americans care deeply about.

Each year, Future Forum interns will have the opportunity to participate in the Future Forum Congress — a two-day interactive experience where Future Forum representatives work together to debate and pass bills, as well as learn more about congressional operations. Member offices will be asked to nominate up to three Future Forum interns who are 18 years of age or older.

## **Day One:**

- Future Forum representatives will be placed into preferred committees or selected depending on availability
  - A Member or staff member will serve as the committee chair
  - The number of committees will depend on the number of participants
- Each Future Forum representative will select a bill to file
- Bills that receive favorable votes in committees will be placed on the agenda for a Floor vote.

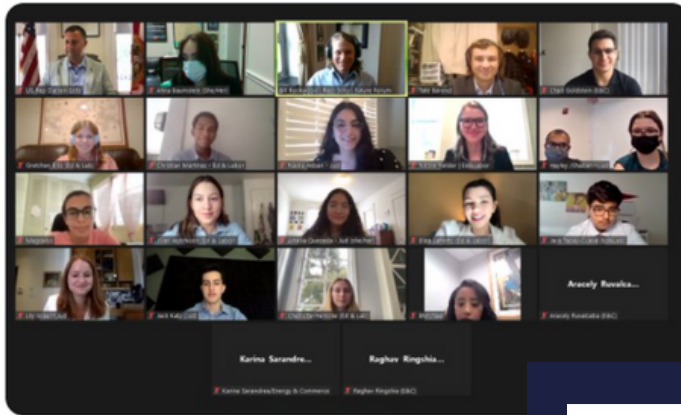
## **Day Two:**

- Press clip "curveball": each Future Forum representative will receive one or more local news stories regarding their bills or districts.
  - A Member or staff member will serve as the committee chair
  - The number of committees will depend on the number of participants
- National crisis "curveball": will require a legislative response.
- Bills will have limited debate, then be voted on for final passage.
- Future Forum representatives will participate in a de-brief

# Inaugural Youth Congress



1st day of our Inaugural #FFYouthCongress was a great success! After amazing debate by our FF Reps, bills on youth voting rights, combating climate change & student loan relief, passed committees. Today these bills will be debated on the floor of the FF Youth Congress!



12:59 PM · Aug 10, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

"Youth Congress gave me first hand insight into how the committee and voting process in the House goes, an experience you can't get even through a congressional internship. Getting to learn from other students from across the country and Members of Congress provided a truly impactful experience."

— Lily Israel, student at the University of Michigan

"Youth Congress was such a fun experience and I'm so glad I got to participate in it! I learned a lot about how committees and debates work, and I loved getting to connect with interns from around the country!"

— Shaban Mohammed, student at the University of Central Florida



ICYMI: Our Inaugural #FFYouthCongress was a success! Watch Chairman @RepDarrenSoto kick off Day 2 with mock headlines, special announcements, & budget requirements. These elements helped our participants feel a sense of urgency that Representatives often feel on the House floor!



2:16 PM · Aug 12, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

# Advocacy: Letters, Appropriations, Legislative Victories, and Social Media

Members of the Future Forum Caucus wrote a letter urging Senate leadership to pass the Build Back Better Act and maintain its essential investments in combating the climate crisis. These provisions allocate more than \$300 billion to support clean energy investment and deployment, improve energy efficiency, and encourage vehicle electrification. The Future Forum Caucus committed itself to continue its advocacy for combatting the climate crisis and expressed its awareness of young Americans deep concern with its future impact.



On National Education Day, December 3, members of the Future Forum Caucus wrote a letter to Senate leadership urging passage of the Build Back Better Act and its more than \$20 billion investment in higher education, expanding Pell Grants, training teachers, and addressing the teacher shortage, including specialized training for teaching students with disabilities. The transformative legislation will also advance educational equity through targeted investments in HBCUs and MSIs.



# Advocacy: Letters, Appropriations, Legislative Victories, and Social Media

In October, the Future Forum Caucus, in collaboration with YouthInGov — a coalition consisting of over 100 youth-led and youth-serving organizations that seek to increase opportunities for young people in the federal government — urged the Biden-Harris Administration to encourage greater youth representation through the creation of an Office of Young Americans within the Executive Office of the President, establish an inter-agency working group consisting of representatives of federal agencies with jurisdiction over issues impacting young Americans, establish an Advisory Council of Young Americans, and devote a staffer within the White House Presidential Personnel Office to focus on the hiring and placement of young Americans.



In September, members of the Future Forum Caucus urged House leadership to take bold action against climate change by making investments in clean electricity standards, electric vehicles incentives, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and solar and wind incentives through the Build Back Better Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework. Furthermore, Future Forum highlighted the 2021 UN Climate Change Report, outlining the unprecedented and daunting challenge we face as we see an increase in wildfires, rising sea levels, and declining water supplies.



# Advocacy: Letters, Appropriations, Legislative Victories, and Social Media



On the 50th anniversary of the ratification of the Twenty-Sixth Amendment, which granted all Americans aged 18 or older the right to vote, members of the Future Forum Caucus wrote a letter to House leadership. In this letter, we reiterated our commitment to bringing young people into the democratic process. The letter also detailed Future Forum's collaboration with YouthInGov to expand the role that young Americans play in government, and highlighted critical legislation introduced by members of the Caucus to protect and strengthen the right of young Americans to vote.



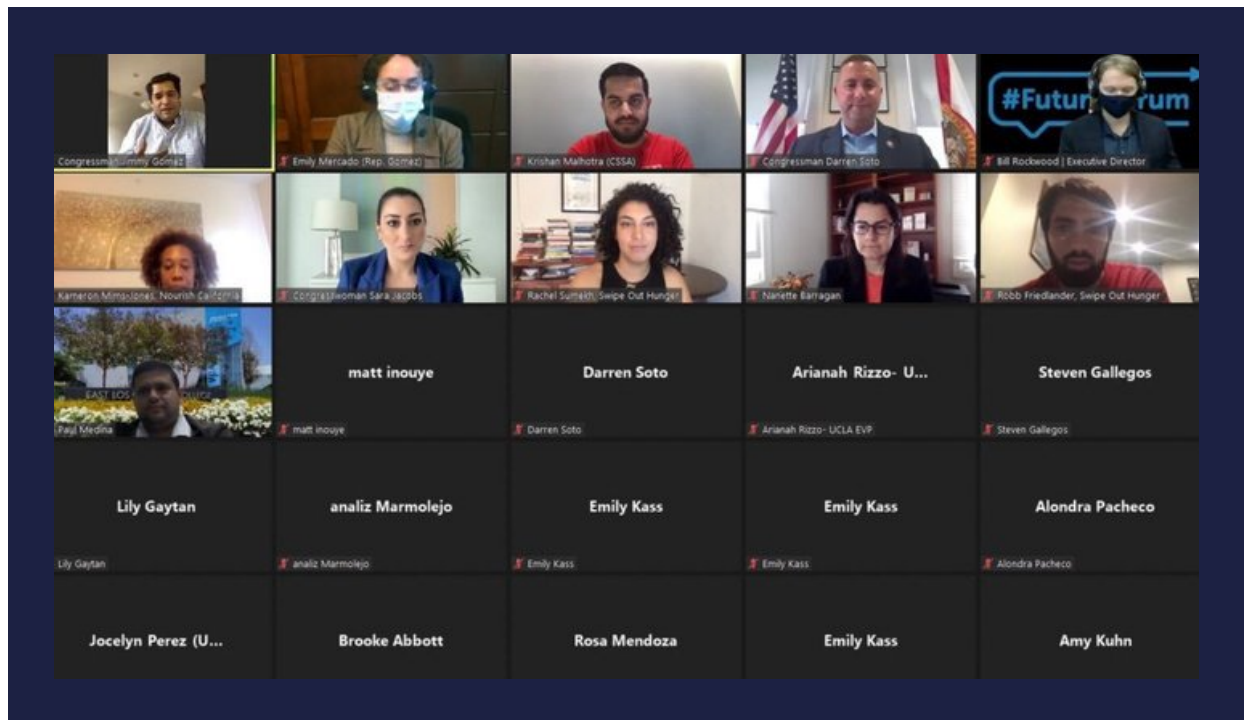
# Advocacy: Letters, Appropriations, Legislative Victories, and Social Media

In March, members of the Future Forum Caucus wrote a letter to Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy urging the passage of two landmark immigration bills, the American Dream and Promise Act and the Farm Workforce Modernization Act. The letter highlighted the Future Forum Caucus's unanimous support for both bills in the 116th Congress and underscores our commitment to voting for the bills, once again, in the 117th Congress. The American Dream and Promise Act will create a pathway to citizenship for millions, including many TPS and DED recipients who have been in the United States more than ten years. The Farm Workforce Modernization Act will improve the quality of life and workplace conditions for the many farm laborers helping to feed America.



In February, members of the Future Forum Caucus sent a letter to leaders of the House and the Senate, urging them to include provisions important to young Americans in the next COVID-19 relief package. The provisions included addressing student loan relief and a proper definition of "qualifying dependent" for future impact payments. Furthermore, the letter highlighted the importance of focussing on the concerns of young Americans and how critical these provisions are to alleviating the pressures and concerns millions of Millennials and Gen-Z Americans face each day.

# Videos, Meetings, and Townhalls



## Student Needs Insecurity Town Hall



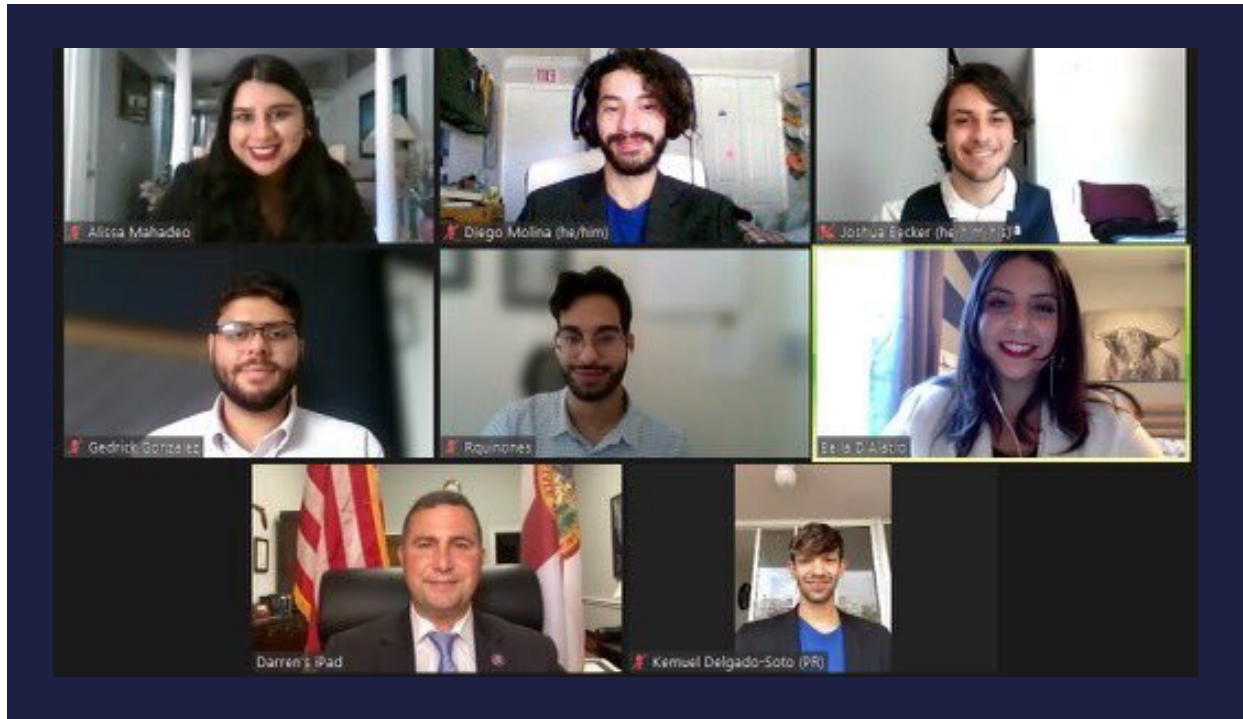
## Inaugural Future Forum Youth Congress



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# *Videos, Meetings, and Townhalls*

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**Lobby Day with March for Our Lives**



**Meeting with Ed Helms**