

Some of Andy Barr's most egregious legislation in 2017

1. **H.R. 4289** -- eliminating requirement of coal owners to report violations, fines, major safety and health problems of mines in SEC filings that investors see. Barr sole co-sponsor of legislation.
2. **H.R.1 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017** --redistributes taxes from poorest Kentuckians to wealthiest Kentuckians in 8 years while increasing the deficit by \$1.5 trillion and taxing endowments like that of Berea College. Federal deficits reach \$1 trillion/yr by 2019.
3. **HR 1628 - American Health Care Act of 2017** -- ends health care dollars for tens of thousands of Kentuckians in the 6th District, reduces expanded Medicare and increases health care insurance costs.
4. **H.R. 38 --Conceal carry reciprocity bill** -- allows states with the least regulation of conceal carry permits to use those permits in States with the strongest conceal carry laws.
5. **H.J. Res. 38 --Stream Protection Rule** -- ends it, placing 6,000 miles of rivers and streams at risk for debris from surface mining and pollution. Continues to allow big Agro-farms to continue to pollute rivers the results in massive aquatic death for over 8,000 sq. miles gulf coast each year.
6. **HJR 40** --Barred Social Security from placing individuals with severe mental illness on the gun registry list.
7. **HJRes 42** - Drug testing for unemployment compensation by states. Rolled back protections on who could be drug tested as a requirement of unemployment compensation.
8. **S.J.Res. 34** - Broadband protection rule - eliminates the need for broadband providers to get customer permission to collect personal information about online and app activity. In essence, if you use broadband, you have no right to your own personal data and broadband providers have no obligation to provide notice if it is stolen since it doesn't belong to you now.

9. HJRes. 111 -- Forced arbitration -- returned it as a tool which financial institutional can use when caught defrauding and abusing their own customers.
10. HR 10 -- Financial Choices Act of 2017 -- unwinds most of the major oversight of large financial institutions and non-financial institutions which can influence US financial stability by irresponsible actions and activity.
11. HR 4270 - Monetary Policy Transparency and Accountability Act of 2017– This should be called the "I can't understand Fed monetary policy so please keep any Fed actions simple so lawyers like me without any significant economic training can figure out what you do law". It eliminates the flexibility for the Federal Reserve in setting monetary policy with a requirement the Federal Reserve adhere to specified rules for setting monetary policy strategy defined by this bill. This includes defining short term interest rate targets (even though these are typically adjusted based on changes in economic conditions), the specific monetary policy instrument from a predefined list of 1 to at most 3 rules, and to provide explanations for any material deviance from the referenced monetary policy rule. Barr is a sponsor of this Resolution.
12. HR 3857 -- Pass Act of 2017–Consider this the GOP version of consumer protection as it relates to financial services (it is entirely partisan). It repeals the Department of Labor Fiduciary Rule. This bill specifically states that it is **not a violation of the standard of conduct** for a broker or dealer to receive compensation for a transaction; to recommend proprietary products or services or a limited range of products or services; or to not recommend a less expensive security or investment strategy in place of a more expensive security or strategy when making a client recommendation. Under this act there is no presumption that a broker or dealer has any fiduciary responsibility to their clients. There is nothing in this law that specifically forbids brokers or dealers from outright lying to their clients and claiming they didn't know later. It forbids Labor, Treasury or Employee Retirement Income Security Act of the Internal Revenue Code to define the circumstances under which a person is considered a fiduciary that would impose any such obligation on a

broker or dealer. It also preempts State laws that may attempt to define fiduciary responsibilities of brokers or dealers of securities.

13. HR 3548 - Border Security for America Act of 2017

Entirely partisan and mostly about spending \$1 billion/yr between 2018-2021 to militarize US borders, purchase advanced listening and detection devices and build barriers that encourage fear of immigrant unlawful entry into the US rather than addressing the real issues surrounding terrorism in the US - overstaying legal visas and radicalization of US citizens.

14. HR 3117 - Transparency and Honesty in Energy Regulations Act of 2017

again, an entirely partisan bill that is anything BUT honest. The bill prohibits the Department of Energy, EPA, Interior Department and Council on Environmental Quality from considering the social cost of carbon, methane or nitrous oxide as part of any cost benefit analysis in the rule making process. They must also restrict any social costs to those that comply with the OMB requirements, uses a discount rate of 3 to 7 percent specified in the OMB document; consider only the domestic costs and benefits of the activity; and use only the most up to date and empirically estimated equilibrium climate sensitivity distributions and realistic time horizons. Requires the EPA to go back to 2009 and use only these requirements to assess social costs for any cost benefit analysis.

15. HR 2723 - Employee Rights Act of 2017

Entirely partisan and a better name would be a national right to work for less law. It allows workers to refrain from selecting representation by a labor organization, while receiving any work benefits provided by labor union collective bargaining. The purpose of this law is the decrease the effectiveness of labor unions and their power in collective bargaining for the benefit of the business owner. States with right to work laws such as this, have wages that are 3.1% lower (\$1,558 annually) than states without such Right to work for less laws. That is after controlling for various state differences in demographic and socioeconomic factors.

<https://www.epi.org/publication/right-to-work-states-have-lower-wages/>

16. **HR 2553 - TABS Act of 2017** - Barr is the sponsor of this entirely partisan bill. It eliminates funding for the CFPB and use of earnings from the Federal Reserve to fund the CFPB.

17. **HR 2226 - Portfolio Lending and Mortgage Access Act** - Barr is the sponsor of this entirely partisan bill. It rolls back the protections in the mortgage lending and provides banks safe harbor from recent changes in the Truth in Lending Act. The changes in the Truth In Lending Act were made to require lenders make a reasonable good faith effort at due diligence to verify a buyer is able to repay the loan, all taxes and insurance and that it takes into consideration additional loans the buyer may have. There is nothing that restricts this to small community banks. What it says is that so long as the financial institution does not sell the loan, it cannot be held liable for pretty much not performing due diligence with regard to making loans and it is absolved of liability if it goes bankrupt also, so long as it never sells the loan while solvent. Under current regulations the default rate on single family residences has fallen from 11.5% to 3.6% and continues downward.

18. **HR 2101 -Prior Approval Reform Act** - Barr is a co-sponsor of this entirely partisan bill. Basically it eliminates the following section (in yellow) from the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971--This paragraph shall not prevent a trade association or a separate segregated fund established by a trade association from soliciting contributions from the stockholders and executive or administrative personnel of the member corporations of such trade association and the families of such stockholders or personnel...[to the extent that such solicitation of such stockholders and personnel, and their families, has been separately and specifically approved by the member corporation involved, and such member corporation does not approve any such solicitation by more than one such trade association in any calendar year.]. The goal here is to expand the ability of business groups to make political solicitations of trade associations and their personnel and families. Rather than limit these solicitations, it expands the right to specifically request money that will further the influence of special interests and diminish the voice of the public at large in the political process.

19. **HR 1552 - Fair and Open Competition Act (FOCA)**—This entirely partisan bill co-sponsored by Barr, would prohibit a federal agency from requiring a contract bidder to enter into agreements with labor organizations or discriminating against a bidder who refuses to sign a Project Labor Agreement. A Project Labor Agreement (PLA) is a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement with one or more labor organizations that establishes the terms and conditions of employment for a specific construction project. By the federal government not insisting on collective bargaining between labor and business prior to a contract agreement, it further reduces the wages, protections and support of the actual workers. Businesses will not enter into such collective bargaining agreements if they do not feel it is required as a condition for obtaining project approval. If the US government does not show any interest in supporting worker's rights, who will?
20. **HR 1540 - Social Security Disability Insurance Return to Work Act** - This entirely partisan bill for which Barr is a co-sponsor, places additional restrictions on individuals receiving social security disability insurance by categorizing them into groups based on how long they deserve to receive disability insurance before they return to work. While the bill states its intention is to **help individuals** on disability to return to work, but the focus of the bill is not on getting these individuals work or rehabilitation. Rather, it is assessing them routinely to make sure they do not receive disability longer than necessary. It even increases funding for continuing disability reviews.
21. **HR 1314 - Renewable Fuel Standard Elimination Act** - Another entirely partisan bill co-sponsored by Barr. It repeals the EPA renewable fuel program which requires transportation fuel to contain a minimum volume of renewable fuel.
22. **HR 850 - Agency Accountability Act of 2017** - Entirely partisan and co-sponsored by Barr. The purpose of this act is to make all revenue collections by any agency that receives a fee, fine, penalty or proceeds to deposit that money in the general fund of the Treasury. The objective is to make the Federal Reserve, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and other agencies inside of government come to Congress for any operating revenue, instead of

allowing them to make and operate outside that Congressional budget approval process.

23. **HR 785 - National Right to Work Act** - Entirely partisan and co-sponsored by Barr. It bars unions from requiring employees to join a union as a condition of employment, including any agreement for payroll deduction of union dues and fees as a condition of employment. It's purpose is to break the influence of unions in collective bargaining by making union membership voluntary instead of mandatory. Almost the same bill as the more obscured titled - HR 2723 - Employee Rights Act of 2017.