Taylor claims to be an independent voice, but he has voted with Donald Trump 95 percent of the time. When the pandemic hit, Taylor voted with Trump to let big corporations access $500 billion in bailout funds meant for small businesses with no accountability, but against providing assistance to hard-working Texas families, small businesses, and nurses and hospitals on the front lines.

Taylor Painted Himself As Bipartisan And As A Unifier. “Years of built up distrust in Washington has forced many leaders into red and blue corners were policy ideas are seen as ‘us’ versus ‘them’ instead of on their merit for the people we were elected to serve. The truth is there is far more that can work together on than divides us. As a freshman Member of Congress, I refuse to except that future. That is why I work with both Republicans and Democrats to craft policy, discuss ideas, and brainstorm solutions together. The truth is there is far more that we agree on that divides us. Further, to get anything done in a divided government it takes working together – and I believe my constituents prefer results to a partisan crafted headline. […] There is a lot of work ahead to get Congress turned around, but I believe that the answer lies in the wisdom of the multitudes. By listening to each other and working together we can achieve a better America for future generations.” [Van Taylor – Issues: Working Together, accessed 9/23/20]

FiveThirtyEight: Van Taylor Voted With Trump 95.2 Percent Of The Time. [FiveThirtyEight – Tracking Congress in the Age of Trump: Van Taylor, updated 9/16/20]

As Of August 2020, 5,212,128 Paycheck Protection Program Loans Totaling $525,012,201,124 Had Been Issued. According to a Small Business Administration report, 5,212,128 Paycheck Protection Program loans totaling $525,012,201,124 had been issued as of August 8, 2020. [Small Business Administration, Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Report, 8/8/20v]

The CARES Act Established The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Which Gave Federally-Funded Aid To Small Businesses During The Coronavirus Pandemic. “The Paycheck Protection Program established by the CARES Act, is implemented by the Small Business Administration with support from the Department of the Treasury. This program provides small businesses with funds to pay up to 8 weeks of payroll costs including benefits. Funds can also be used to pay interest on mortgages, rent, and utilities. The Paycheck Protection Program prioritizes millions of Americans employed by small businesses by authorizing up to $349 billion toward job retention and certain other expenses. Small businesses and eligible nonprofit organizations, Veterans organizations,
and Tribal businesses described in the Small Business Act, as well as individuals who are self-employed or are independent contractors, are eligible if they also meet program size standards.” [Department of the Treasury, accessed 5/9/20]

**Taylor Voted Against The TRUTH Act, Which Would Require The SBA To Make Certain Information Related To The Paycheck Protection Program Publicly Available And Searchable Online.** “Velázquez, D-N.Y., motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill that would require the Small Business Administration, within 30 days of enactment, to make certain information related to the Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program publicly available and searchable online. Specifically, it would require information on any program disbursements of over $2 million, including to identify recipients and lenders or intermediaries and to describe the decision-making process for such disbursements. It would also require information on the amount of assistance provided to small businesses owned by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, women, and veterans. The bill would also effectively separate the authorization cap for the Paycheck Protection Program from other SBA 7(a) small business loan guarantee programs.” [HR 6782, Vote #113, 5/28/20; CQ, 5/28/20]

**The TRUTH Act Required The Small Business Administration To Disclose Businesses That Received Large Paycheck Protection Program Loans.** “Small Business Transparency and Reporting for the Underbanked and Taxpayers at Home Act or the TRUTH Act This bill requires the Small Business Administration (SBA) to make information regarding economic relief measures implemented in response to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) publicly available. Specifically, with respect to the Paycheck Protection Program and economic injury disaster loans and emergency grants, the SBA must publish (1) the identity of each recipient of assistance and an explanation of the decision-making process underlying such disbursement; (2) the number of employees of each recipient and the date on which such assistance was disbursed; (3) an identification of each lender or intermediary through which assistance was disbursed; and (4) the amount of assistance disbursed to small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, women, and veterans.” [Congressional Research Service, 5/8/20]

**Small Business Groups Alleged That Larger Companies Got Paycheck Protection Loans First While Smaller Companies Were Made To Wait.** “Despite processing those thousands of PPP applications in Arkansas, several small business trade groups and advocates protested that many SBA-approved banks and financial institutions processed the biggest loan amounts first because they increased origination fees. Some small business advocates in Arkansas say possibly thousands of applications by firms sole proprietors, independent contractors, nonprofits and other self-employed ‘1099’ entities were held up by SBA lenders due to confusion over a late guidance by SBA and Treasury officials on April 14.” [Little Rock Daily Record, 4/27/20]

**Van Taylor Voted Against The HEROES Act.** In May 2020, Taylor voted against: “Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide roughly $3 trillion in funding to further address the health and economic effects of COVID-19, including almost $1 trillion for direct aid to state and local governments; $200 billion for a fund to provide hazard pay for essential workers; $75 billion for a national testing program; and funding for state and federal response related to health care, education, housing, and food supply. It would extend federal funding of expanded unemployment compensation benefits through January 2021 and provide an additional round of tax rebates of $1,200 for individuals with incomes of $75,000 or less. The bill would provide $540 billion for states, territories, and tribal governments and $375 billion for local governments to address costs and economic impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. It would also provide $100.2 billion for the Education Department; over $120 billion for federal programs and $75 billion to states to provide housing and homeownership assistance; and over $14 billion for nutrition programs. It would provide $16.5 billion for the Agriculture Department to reimburse agricultural producers for losses due to COVID-19, in addition to other assistance for farmers and ranchers. It would provide $200 billion to establish a fund providing grants for employers to provide hazard pay to essential employees at $13 per hour above regular wages during the COVID-19 crisis. It would provide $75 billion to the Health and Human Services Department for a national testing and contact tracing initiative and $100 billion for HHS to reimburse health care providers for expenses and lost revenue related to COVID-19. It would increase federal contributions to state Medicaid programs and eliminate cost sharing for coronavirus treatments under
Medicare and Medicaid. It would create a special enrollment period during the public health emergency for Affordable Care Act marketplace health plans and Medicare Parts A and B, and it would establish "risk corridor" programs to make federal payments to issuers of most private health insurance plans and Medicare Advantage plans. It would provide an additional tax rebate of $1,200 to individuals or $2,400 to those filing a joint return, increased by $1,200 for each of up to three dependents. It would extend through January 2021 federal unemployment compensation benefits of up to $600 per week under previous coronavirus response legislation. It would extend through 2021 requirements for employers to provide additional sick and family leave, and expand the requirements to apply to all private employers. It would extend the Paycheck Protection Program for small business loans through 2020; remove loan forgiveness requirements related to minimum amounts used for payroll costs; and establish set-asides for businesses with 10 or fewer employees, nonprofit organizations, and community financial institutions. It would provide $45 billion for Treasury Department payment of private student loans up to $10,000 for economically distressed borrowers, and it would provide up to $10,000 of loan forgiveness for all federal student loans. It would expand a March 2020 provision to prohibit all evictions and foreclosures for one year and establish a temporary moratorium on consumer debt collection from consumers and debt collection from small businesses and nonprofits. It would provide $3.6 billion for payments to states for coronavirus response related to the 2020 elections and require states to offer same-day voter registration and an early voting period of at least 15 consecutive days. It would also provide $25 billion to the U.S. Postal Service and $410 million to the Census Bureau. Among other provisions, it would eliminate the existing $10,000 cap on federal tax deductions for state and local taxes for tax years 2020 and 2021.” The bill passed by a vote of 208-199. [HR 6800, Vote #109, 5/15/20; CQ, 5/15/20]

The HEROES Act Included Provisions That Would Extend Federal Funding Of Expanded Unemployment Compensation Benefits Through January 2021 And Provide An Additional Round Of Tax Rebates Of $1,200 For Individuals With Incomes Of $75,000 Or Less. “It would extend federal funding of expanded unemployment compensation benefits through January 2021 and provide an additional round of tax rebates of $1,200 for individuals with incomes of $75,000 or less.” [CQ, 5/15/20]

The HEROES Act Included A Provision That Would Extend The Paycheck Protection Program For Small Business Loans Through 2020, Remove Loan Forgiveness Requirements And Establish Set-Asides For Businesses With 10 Or Fewer Employees. “It would extend the Paycheck Protection Program for small business loans through 2020; remove loan forgiveness requirements related to minimum amounts used for payroll costs; and establish set-asides for businesses with 10 or fewer employees, nonprofit organizations, and community financial institutions.” [CQ, 5/15/20]

The HEROES Act Included The Every Worker Protection Act Of 2020, Which Would Mandate The Occupational Safety And Health Administration To Promulgate An Emergency Temporary Standard To Ensure Employers Protects Workers During The COVID-19 Pandemic. “The legislation, which was introduced on Tuesday, includes the Every Worker Protection Act of 2020, which would mandate the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to promulgate an Emergency Temporary Standard to ensure that employers protect workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The NNU petitioned OSHA for an Emergency Temporary Standard on March 4, 2020, and have been advocating for a congressional mandate for the standard since that time. This standard would prevent hospital managers and other employers from locking up personal protective equipment or providing incorrect protective equipment, and it would ensure that employees receive the education and training needed to use PPE safely.” [National Nurses United, 5/13/20]

The HEROES Act Ensured The Increased Production And Delivery Of PPE And Other Medical Supplies. “The legislation would also ensure the increased production and delivery of PPE and other medical supplies, through the use of the Defense Production Act and new systems for reporting, transparency, and coordination of supply chain logistics. The bill establishes a Medical Supplies Response Coordinator who would coordinate all efforts of the federal government related to the supply and distribution of critical medical supplies and equipment, and also includes the COVID-19 Emergency Medical Supplies Enhancement Act, which would ensure the
sufficient use of the Defense Production Act for increased production of PPE and other necessary medical supplies.” [National Nurses United, 5/13/20]

The HEROES Act Included Premium Pay For All Essential Workers. Including Nurses, And Appropriations For Public Health Programs, State, Local, And Tribal Governments, And Mass Testing And Tracing Programs. “The union also applauded the bill for including premium pay for all essential workers, including nurses, across the country who have been risking their lives to do their jobs and care for patients. Additionally, NNU praised the bill for including strong appropriations for public health programs, state, local, and tribal governments, mass testing and tracing programs, and the postal service. The union also applauded the bill for providing child and family care subsidies for frontline workers, eliminating the exemption of health care workers and emergency responders from emergency FMLA leave and from emergency paid sick leave, increasing Medicaid funding, housing assistance, and extending unemployment benefits through January.” [National Nurses United, 5/13/20]

National Nurses United, The Largest Union Of Registered Nurses In The Country, Endorsed The HEROES Act, Saying It Included Protections That Nurses And Other Frontline Workers Needed. “Today National Nurses United, the largest union of registered nurses in the country, endorsed the fourth coronavirus stimulus package introduced by House Democrats. The union, which represents more than 150,000 nurses across the country praised the bill for including the protections that nurses and other frontline workers need, and for addressing many of the other challenges that working families and communities are facing during this pandemic.” [National Nurses United, 5/13/20]