

Elaine Luria (VA-02) Is Fighting For Coastal Virginia

Voters need to see digital ads, see ads on OTT, see ads on social media platforms (including Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat), and hear digital audio ads that Elaine Luria took an oath to protect and defend the Constitution during her twenty years of Naval Service, and in Congress she's fighting for Coastal Virginia by:

- *Protecting a woman's right to choose.*
- *Fighting for veterans.*
- *Repealing the unfair tax on Gold Star Families.*
- *Growing our Navy to stand up to Chinese Aggression.*
- *Working with police and getting millions of dollars for an upgraded 9-1-1 system on the Eastern Shore.*

Protecting A Woman's Right To Choose.

Elaine Luria Voted For The Women's Health Protection Act To Establish The Statutory Right For Patients To Receive And For Providers To Provide Abortions And To Prohibit Certain State Restrictions On Abortion. In July 2022 Luria voted for: "Passage of the bill that would statutorily establish that health care providers have a right to provide and patients have a right to receive abortion services, and it would prohibit certain restrictions related to abortion services. The bill would specify that rights established by the bill may not be restricted by certain requirements or limitations related to abortion services, including prohibitions on abortion prior to fetal viability, or after fetal viability if a provider determines that continuation of a pregnancy would pose a risk to a patient's life or health; requirements that patients disclose reasons for seeking an abortion or make medically unnecessary in-person appointments; requirements that providers provide medically inaccurate information or perform specific medical tests or procedures in connection with the provision of abortion services; limitations on providers' ability to prescribe drugs based on good-faith medical judgment, provide services via telemedicine or provide immediate services when a delay would pose a risk to a patient's health; and requirements for facilities and personnel that would not apply to facilities providing medically comparable procedures. It would also prohibit requirements or limitations that are similar to those established by the bill or that impede access to abortion services and expressly or implicitly single out abortion services, providers or facilities. It would specify factors that courts may consider to determine whether a requirement or limitation impedes access to abortion services, including whether it interferes with providers' ability to provide services; poses a risk to patients' health; is likely to delay or deter patients in accessing services or necessitate in-person visits that would not otherwise be required; is likely to result in a decreased availability of services in a state or region; is likely to result in increased costs of providing or obtaining services; or imposes penalties that are not imposed on other health care providers for comparable conduct. It would require a party defending a requirement or limitation to establish that it significantly advances the safety of abortion services or patient health and that such goals cannot be advanced by a less restrictive alternative measure. It would authorize the Justice Department, health care providers and private individuals and entities to bring a civil action in U.S. district court for injunctive relief against any state or government official charged with implementing or enforcing a requirement or limitation challenged as a violation of rights established by the bill. It would authorize district courts to award appropriate equitable relief, including temporary, preliminary or permanent injunctive relief, and to award costs of litigation to a prevailing plaintiff. It would require courts to 'liberally construe' provisions of the bill to effectuate its purposes. The bill is substantively identical to HR 3755, which the House passed in September 2021, but adds findings related to the June 2022 Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*." The bill passed by a vote of 219-210. [H.R. 8296, [Vote #360](#), 7/15/22; CQ, [7/15/22](#)]

- **The Women's Health Protection Act "Enshrine[d] The Protections Of Roe V. Wade Into Law."** "The House on Friday passed legislation that would protect access to reproductive health care, including the ability to travel across state lines for an abortion, as part of Democrats' efforts to minimize the consequences of the Supreme Court overturning *Roe v. Wade* last month. One bill, the Women's Health Protection Act, would enshrine the protections of *Roe v. Wade* into law. The House already passed the bill last year, but it did not advance in a Senate vote in May. The House passed the bill, 219-210, prompting applause from Democrats in the chamber." [Washington Post, [7/15/22](#)]
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The Women's Health Protection Act Prevented States From Prohibiting Abortions Before Fetal Viability Or After Fetal Viability When The Patient's Life Or Health Is At Risk. "The bill would prevent state governments from limiting a health care provider's ability to prescribe certain drugs, offer abortion services via telemedicine, or immediately provide abortion services when the provider determines a delay risks the patient's health, according to CRS. It also prevents states from requiring patients to make medically unnecessary in-person visits before receiving abortion services or forcing women to disclose their reasons for obtaining abortions and related services. WHPA would ban states from prohibiting abortion services before or after fetal viability when a provider determines the pregnancy risks the patient's life or health." [ABC News, [3/7/22](#)]

Fighting For Veterans

HEADLINE: "Luria Leads Effort Reducing Prescription Costs For Military Families, Retirees During COVID-19" [WAVY, [4/13/22](#)]

- **Elaine Luria Led The Effort To Ensure That TRICARE Beneficiaries Would Not Have To Pay A Co-Pay Even When Not At A Military Treatment Facility Pharmacy.** "Congresswoman Elaine Luria spearheaded a bipartisan effort on Sunday hoping to temporarily eliminate copays on prescription drugs for TRICARE insurance users during the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to the pandemic, some installation commanders have suspended base access for retirees and survivors to lessen the chances of mission-critical personnel being exposed to the virus. This means many TRICARE beneficiaries can no longer access military treatment facility pharmacies, forcing them to transfer prescriptions to mail order from retail pharmacies. While prescriptions are copay-free at military treatment facilities, they may have \$10 to \$29 copays at regular retail pharmacies." [WAVY, [4/13/22](#)]

HEADLINE: "Luria Looks To Help Military With Lower Prescription Costs." [13 News Now, [4/30/20](#)]

- **Elaine Luria Authored Legislation To Reduce Prescription Co-Pays For Military Families And Retirees.** "Congresswoman Elaine Luria (D-Va. 02) has authored the 'Help our Heroes Access Medicine Act.' The bill would reduce prescription drug co-pays during the coronavirus outbreak. Right now under Tricare, it's cheaper to get medication in person at a military pharmacy than it is to get it sent to your home by mail. This legislation would temporarily waive Tricare copays." [13 News Now, [4/30/20](#)]

Elaine Luria Led An Effort Calling On Congressional Leadership To Eliminate Copays On Mail Order Prescriptions For Military Families And Retirees. "Congresswoman and Navy veteran Elaine Luria is leading an effort calling on Congressional leadership to temporarily eliminate copays on mail-order prescriptions for military families and retirees with Tricare during the coronavirus pandemic. Now that many retirees and military families are barred from installation pharmacies and have to turn to mail-order services to fill their prescriptions, that means they'll have to pay copays for their medication. Luria, a Democrat representing Virginia in the House, is calling on leaders in Congress to prevent that in the next COVID-19 relief package." [Audacy, [4/14/20](#)]

Repealing The Unfair Tax On Gold Star Families

Elaine Luria Introduced The Gold Star Families Tax Relief Act, Legislation To Stop An Unfair Tax On Gold Star Families. "Virginia 2nd District Congresswoman Elaine Luria said bipartisan momentum is building behind legislation she introduced that will repeal a tax increase on Gold Star families. The tax hike was part of the tax law overhaul passed by Congress in 2017, and it has families paying taxes on survivor benefits. Spouses of the fallen sometimes sign over earned benefits to their children to ensure the family receives all the benefits. Since the new tax law brought changes to how children's assets are taxed, the families who were formerly obligated to pay 12 to 15 percent in taxes on the income saw a rate jump to 37 percent. Luria's bill, the Gold Star Family Tax Relief Act (H.R. 2481), would classify such survivor benefits as earned income, significantly reducing the tax burden." [13 News Now, [5/16/19](#)]

Gold Star Families Received Relief From Unfair Taxes After Language To Correct The Tax Was Included In The Federal Budget. “Gold Star families hit by unexpected, large tax bills earlier this year will see that debt erased under language included in the massive federal budget deal passed by Congress this week. Advocates have said the so-called military ‘kiddie tax’ cost some families as much as \$10,000 last spring, and could have meant even bigger bills next spring for thousands of families. Now, under the fix included in the \$1.4 trillion budget deal headed to the White House, that burden will be erased and families will be able to apply for refunds for last year’s taxes.” [Military Times, [12/19/19](#)]

- **Elaine Luria Was The Sponsor Of The Language To Fix The Tax Burden On Gold Star Families.** “In a statement, Rep. Elaine Luria, D-Va. and the sponsor of the tax fix language, called the measure an urgent priority to help “America’s most heroic families” recover from a congressional mistake. The fix itself had been non-controversial, with members from both parties expressing support for the idea over the last few months. But the legislation was stalled amid other budget fights until the final days of this year’s session. President Donald Trump is expected to sign the measure into law before midnight on Friday. If he opts not to finalize the budget bills, it would trigger a partial government shutdown.” [Military Times, [12/19/19](#)]

Elaine Luria Was One Of The Leaders In Congress On The Effort To Correct The Tax Burden On Gold Star Families. “The changes to the kiddie tax in the 2017 law were made in an effort to simplify it, but they had the unintended consequence of raising taxes on survivor benefits received by the children of deceased military members. Luria was one of the leaders in Congress on the effort to undo the kiddie tax changes.”

With Honor Action Thanked Elaine Luria For Her Work To Ease The Tax Burden On Gold Star Families. “With Honor Action is launching a digital and print buy today thanking Congresswoman Elaine Luria for her hard work to help Gold Star families – families who have lost a loved one in military service. Congresswoman Luria’s leadership on the Gold Star Family Tax Relief Act significantly eases the tax burden on Gold Star families, some of whom faced thousands of additional dollars in taxes on their survivor benefits.” [With Honor Action, Press Release, [1/30/20](#)]

Growing Our Navy To Stand Up To Chinese Aggression

HEADLINE: “Elaine Luria Wants To Fight For A Stronger Navy — But First She Has To Get Reelected. [Defense News, [7/13/22](#)]

Luria Led A Bipartisan Effort To Boost Defense Spending And Often Grilled Officials About The Size And Readiness Of The Navy To Face China. “To Democrats, Luria is a pivotal player in their quest to maintain a majority in the House — even as she finds herself at odds with fellow members of her party. To shipbuilders and sea power supporters, she’s an ally; to the Navy, she’s both a supporter and a skeptic. Last month, she led a bipartisan coalition to boost defense spending, and she often uses her military experience to grill officials on both the size and readiness of the Navy’s fleet, and whether those factors are sufficient enough to win a war against China.” [Defense News, [7/13/22](#)]

Virginia’s 2nd District Is Home To A High Concentration Of Shipyard Workers. “It’s a focus Luria’s betting will resonate in Virginia’s 2nd District, home to a high concentration of shipyard workers, service members, veterans and their families. The district is adjacent to the Hampton Roads area, whose local economy is tied to Naval Station Norfolk, home of the most U.S. Navy personnel, and to Norfolk Naval Shipyard, which services nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and submarines on the East Coast.” [Defense News, [7/13/22](#)]

Elaine Luria Announced That The House Armed Services Committee Would Advance Several Of Her Priorities For Growing The U.S. Navy’s Fleet. “Today, House Armed Services Committee (HASC) Vice Chair Rep. Elaine Luria (D-VA), announced that the committee will advance several of her priorities for growing the U.S. Navy’s fleet, expanding shipbuilding and repair capacity, and addressing childcare needs for military families in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2023.” [Office of Congresswoman Elaine Luria, Press Release, [2/8/22](#)]

Working With Police And Getting Millions Of Dollars For An Upgraded 9-1-1 System On The Eastern Shore

HEADLINE: Rep. Luria Delivers Federal Funding For Local Projects. [Eastern Shore Post, [4/21/22](#)]

Elaine Luria Announced More Than \$11.2 Million In Federal Grants To Eastern Shore. “Rep. Elaine Luria was on the Eastern Shore Monday for a daylong series of events celebrating more than \$11.2 million in federal grants awarded for three Eastern Shore projects. In March, Luria announced more than \$18.5 million in awards for seven community projects across the congressional district.” [Eastern Shore Post, [4/21/22](#)]

Eastern Shore Received \$8.2 Million To Pay For Upgrades To The Public Safety Radio Communication System “Luria’s first stop Monday was at the Eastern Shore of Virginia 9-1-1 Center in Accomac. Federal community project funding of \$8.2 million will help pay for critically needed upgrades to the public safety radio communication system on the Shore. ‘This is the place where all the 911 calls, whether it’s a voice call or a text call — they all come here and then we take care of it from there,’ transferring the calls to the appropriate agencies for response, said Jeff Flournoy, Eastern Shore of Virginia 911 director, who kicked off the event in Accomac.” [Eastern Shore Post, [4/21/22](#)]

Congresswoman Luria “Stepped Up To The Plate” To Deliver The Grant In The “Bottom Of The Ninth.” “‘We’ve been working on this project at the 911 Commission since 2019. We’ve worked hard to try to prepare to get this ready and as we were kind of getting into the last hour, I had a conversation with Mike Mason, the county administrator from Accomack County. We heard about this grant funding, and I said, ‘Mike, this might be a great opportunity for us.’ ‘...This was like the bottom of the ninth and we needed a walk-off home run. So we contacted Congresswoman Luria’s office and we pitched the idea of trying to get money for this grant — and lo and behold, we called in a pinch hitter, Congresswoman Luria; she stepped up to the plate. It was a pitch that was right down the center. She swung for the fence and it was a home run. It was a game winning home run, \$8.2 million for a regional project.’” [Eastern Shore Post, [4/21/22](#)]