A lifelong resident of Portland, Oregon, Congressman Earl Blumenauer is one of Oregon’s innovative leaders.  Raised in SE Portland, Earl attended Centennial High School.  While still a college student at Lewis and Clark College, he led the campaign in Oregon to lower the voting age. He was a key player just two years later as one of the youngest legislators in Oregon’s history in a landmark session for school funding, ethics reform and Oregon’s groundbreaking land use laws.

Elected to the US House of Representatives in 1996, Earl has been a tireless advocate for the 3rd Congressional District. He’s recognized for his creative, innovative policies and accomplishments, and also his political leadership in Oregon and nationwide. He is the leader in Congress for helping to increase access to safe drinking water and sanitation for poor people, the lack of which is an ongoing threat to global security and the leading cause of preventable death in the world.

In 2005, Earl fought to pass the bipartisan “Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act,” which established clean water as a major foreign assistance priority. He leads an annual effort to fund these critical programs and increase investments that provides millions of people with first-time access to clean water and sanitation.

Even with this commitment, millions of people worldwide lack access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation services. In 2009, Earl developed and passed H.R. 2030, the “Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act” to redouble U.S. efforts to help provide an additional 100 million of the world’s poorest with first-time access to safe and sustainable drinking water and sanitation.

In 2020, he founded the bipartisan Congressional International Water and Sanitation Caucus to create stronger coordination and prioritization between the 17 federal agencies that have a hand in managing and protecting international water resources.

He is currently a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Chairman of the subcommittee on Trade and a member of the subcommittee on Health. These assignments give Earl a unique platform to promote critical issues like Medicare for All and the Green New Deal. Earl has been a champion for rebuilding and renewing our nation’s infrastructure, economic security for families, protection of public lands, stopping gun violence, ending the prohibition of marijuana, and criminal justice reform.