

you to ask yourself this question: Will you allow your solemn vow of loyalty to President Trump to override your oath of office and your vow of fidelity to the Constitution?

Vote to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the joint resolution to terminate President Trump's phony declaration of an emergency at the southern border.

Unable to convince Congress to pay for his wasteful border wall, the president has decided to make an end run around the legislative branch, upending democratic norms and creating a dangerous precedent.

To pay for the wall, the Administration intends to rob money from critical military construction projects and from other parts of the Defense Department and the Treasury.

This would threaten national security, undermine the readiness of our military, and could disrupt critical infrastructure improvements that benefit service members and their families—all to prop up a political vanity project.

As a country, we should be focused on real law enforcement needs, not a border wall that will do virtually nothing to keep Americans safe.

Today's vote to block the president's emergency declaration is a critical first step, and I am proud to cosponsor this resolution.

I hope my Republican colleagues recognize that this isn't about politics—it's about defending our democratic institutions and the rule of law from presidential overreach.

It's about protecting our institution and our Constitution in the face of an unprecedented power grab from a president who rejects Congress' authority as a co-equal branch of government.

Mr. Speaker, the greatest power we have as members of Congress is the power of the purse. As we exercise that power, we should invest responsibly in priorities that strengthen and protect American families and communities.

We do not exist to rubber stamp the President. I urge my Republican colleagues to join us in defending our constitutional prerogatives and upholding the rule of law.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today had I been present, I would have voted in strong support of the bipartisan, privileged resolution to terminate President Trump's proclamation "Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Southern Border of the United States." I was detained due to severe weather and cancelled flights in Oregon.

While there is no doubt that our immigration system is broken, the president's wall and his proposed funding level is an irresponsible waste of taxpayer funds for a structure that would be ineffective and do very little for our national security. The emergency declaration is nothing more than a power grab by the president to fulfill a campaign promise, violating existing law and our constitutional system of separation of powers.

Congress has already rejected the president's proposed border wall, and alternatively, by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote, made robust investments in our border security. These investments include \$1.375 billion for approximately 55 miles of physical barrier along the southern border, \$564 million for im-

aging equipment at our ports of entry, \$100 million for new, additional border security technology, serious investments in the Alternative to Detention program to provide relief to overcrowded detention facilities, and additional funding for attorneys and courtroom expansion to assist with our country's growing immigration court system backlog.

Despite these important investments, the president has proposed taking more than \$6.7 billion to build his wall, including \$3.6 billion from the Department of Defense's (DoD) high-priority military construction projects. These funds are meant to support much-needed improvements on military bases around the world, and misallocating these funds could undermine the training, readiness, and quality of life for our men and women in the Armed Forces. He has also proposed stripping \$2.5 billion from the DoD's drug interdiction program, which could have serious impacts on our ability to combat the flow of illegal narcotics.

Furthermore, the Military Construction Codification Act only authorizes the Secretary of Defense to reallocate funds for construction projects during a national emergency if the project is "necessary to support" a "use of the armed forces." Our Armed Forces are not responsible for enforcing our immigration laws and using these funds in this way is in direct violation of existing law.

Of serious additional legal concern is the fact that the administration would need to seize significant amounts of property not owned by the federal government in order to build a wall. Currently, more than two thirds of border property is owned by private parties or the relevant states. In 1952, the Supreme Court held in *Youngstown Sheet and Tube* that President Truman's declaration of national emergency, even in the midst of an international armed conflict, did not permit him to unilaterally seize private property.

In recent days, more than two dozen former Republican lawmakers and almost 60 former senior national security officials have come out in opposition to President Trump's national emergency declaration. These individuals are united behind the idea that allowing the president to "ignore Congress" will deprive the American people "of the protections of true representative government."

The bottom line is that the president's national emergency declaration is an abuse of his constitutional authority and an affront to the separation of powers. Congress has the exclusive power of the purse, and the Constitution specifically prohibits the president from spending money that has not been appropriated. Congress entrusted the president with authority to reallocate funds during unforeseen and urgent situations, such as wars and natural disasters. By declaring an emergency when Congress has overwhelmingly rejected his border wall in favor of compromise legislation, President Trump is creating a dangerous precedent for future political disputes. Congress must reject this presidential overreach and assert its constitutional authority.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for this resolution to terminate the President's declaration of a national emergency on February 15, 2019. No such emergency exists on the U.S.-Mexico border. The President is using this declaration as a false pretense to divert taxpayer money, primarily away from the Department of Defense, toward the construction of a wasteful, ineffective wall along the southern border. This dec-

laration is an unacceptable abuse of power that circumvents the constitutional authority of Congress. For these reasons, I am a cosponsor of this resolution to terminate the declaration pursuant to the provisions of the National Emergencies Act.

I support taking action to make sure we have the appropriate personnel, equipment, facilities, and resources to protect our borders from criminal activity like trafficking in drugs or people. Building this wall is not a good investment and it will not stop crime or illegal immigration along our southern border. Instead of building walls, we should instead build bridges to those who are fleeing violence and legally seeking asylum in our country. I urge my colleagues to join me in rejecting the President's abuse of power by supporting this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 144, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 47) to provide for the management of the natural resources of the United States, and for other purposes.

PERMISSION TO EXTEND DEBATE TIME ON S. 47

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that debate under clause 1(c) of rule XV on a motion to suspend the rules relating to S. 47 be extended to 50 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the title of the bill.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.