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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair wishes to remind all Members about certain standards of decorum in the Hall of the House. Members are reminded that the announced policies of January 4, 2021, as updated on May 11, remain in effect with respect to the wearing of masks.

The Chair will reiterate that Members and staff are currently required to wear masks at all times in the Hall of the House except when a Member has been recognized by the Chair or when a Member acting as Chair is speaking.

The Chair reminds Members that the House is following the guidance of the Attending Physician, who has stated that the present mask requirement and other guidelines remain unchanged in the Hall of the House until all Members and floor staff are fully vaccinated. The Chair also informs Members that the Attending Physician's guidance is consistent with the Centers for Disease Control guidelines.

Members are further reminded that under House Resolution 38 the Sergeant at Arms is authorized and directed to impose a fine against any Member acting in violation of these policies.

The Chair expects Members to conduct themselves with appropriate decorum in the House Chamber at all times. That includes proper attire, behavior that is respectful of other Members and of staff, and adherence to mask requirements and other safety protocols intended to protect all of those present in the Hall of the House. To follow these basic standards of practice is to facilitate an atmosphere of respect for each other and for this institution.

The Chair appreciates the attention of the Members to these matters.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

INFLATION TAX

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, when the Democrats passed Mr. Biden's $1.9 trillion spending spree in March, a lot of people got a lot of free money, thousands of dollars in many cases. But the bill is already coming due for that free money, and as many of us warned, it turns out that free money is very expensive.

Indeed, it turns out that the very same families most harmed by the lockdowns will be the most harmed by paying the bill for the lockdown relief. It comes to about $15,000 for an average family, and the first installment is reflected in the rising inflation sapping the purchasing power of working families.

Government cannot put a single dollar into the economy that is not first taken out of the same economy. When government spends a dollar for you, it has already decided to take a dollar from you. And it can only be taken back in three ways: from your current earnings through higher taxes, from your future earnings through borrowing, and from your savings and purchasing power through inflation. There is no other way to pay for every dollar that government spends. Inflation is the most insidious of these taxes because it silently hollows out everything that a family labors to achieve.

Anyone who has gone near a gas station or a grocery store in the last few months can now see where their relief checks came from and how they are going to be paid back. The Democrats shut down productivity with their lockdowns, and then they flooded the economy with dollars. More dollars chasing fewer goods is the classic recipe for inflation. And this is just the first installment of the bill already coming due for the left's reckless spending.

The Consumer Price Index increased 4.2 percent in April. It was 2.6 percent in March, and it is 4.2 percent now. Core inflation is already growing faster than at any time since the end of the Carter administration.

Now, what does that mean, exactly? Well, it means that if you have managed to save $100,000 for your retirement, the government has just taken out $4,200 of it because your savings are now worth that much less. Your balance hasn't declined, but its purchasing power has lost $4,200.

Check your grocery bill or your utility bill. How much more are you spending to put food on the table or heat your home? There are other bad policies at work as well—green energy, for example—but a big part of that difference is your inflation tax, paid directly from the reduced purchasing power of your money. And that is true of everything you buy.

It doesn't stop there. The Democrats are promising a massive increase in corporate taxes while assuring the gullible not to worry, that only the corporations will pay it. But corporations don't pay corporate taxes; you do. You pay them as a consumer through higher prices. You pay them as an employee through lower wages. And you pay them as an investor through lower

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earnings—your 401(k), for example. There is no other way that a corporate tax can be paid. And the resulting reduction in productivity will further feed their inflation tax.

The Democrats' sick joke is this: Everything that the government has handed out to your family is already being taken back from your family through higher prices, and that pain is only beginning.

What makes the Democrats think that socialism will work any better here than every other country that has tried it? It consistently produces shortages, unemployment, inflation, poverty, and malaise wherever it is imposed. And I am afraid we will continue down this dismal path until Americans awaken to the simple economic realities that the Democratic socialists have now unleashed upon our country.

In his inaugural address, Thomas Jefferson surveyed the boundless bounties of our Nation and asked: ''With all these blessings, what more is necessary to make us a happy and a prosperous people? Still one thing more, fellow citizens: a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government.''

Madam Speaker, Americans deserve a wise and frugal government. But it is not enough to deserve it. We have to demand it at the ballot box.

SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT'S TAX PLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DEMINGS). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KHANNA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about President Biden's tax plan with some basic facts.

President Biden proposes no tax increases on 99 percent of Americans. This chart illustrates that, with 154 million Americans, not a single American in the 99 percent is going to pay a dime more.

In fact, they are getting a tax cut. We are giving them a tax cut with the child tax credit. We are giving them a tax cut with the earned income tax credit.

So the obfuscation on the other side to convince 99 percent of Americans that somehow their taxes are going to go up when President Biden is delivering a tax cut for them is just factually false.

What does this mean? If you work in manufacturing, if you are a nurse, if you are a teacher, if you are a doctor, if you are a lawyer, most likely, your taxes aren't going up. For the 99 percent—not just in the working class, but in the middle class, in the upper middle class—your taxes are not going up. They are going down.

In fact, the President has extended Trump's tax cut for those who are making under $75,000.

It is important we get those facts, and I want the American people to look at this chart. If you really fall in that sliver of the top 1 percent, your taxes are going up. If you are everyone else in the 99 percent, your taxes aren't going up. They are going down, in most cases.

So, people wonder how, in a democracy, we wouldn't want this. How wouldn't we want those who are going to make the most in the tiny 1 percent, why wouldn't the 99 percent want them to pay a little bit more? It turns out that the top 1 percent—and let's just be clear, if you make over $538,000, you are in that top 1 percent. I personally don't know a lot of doctors or lawyers or others who are making more than $538,000 a year.

But if you are in that 1 percent, you have made $4.8 trillion over this pandemic—$4.8 trillion. And the over 600 billionaires, they have made $1.6 trillion over the pandemic.

I know that because a lot of them are in my district. We have had the digitization of the economy. They are making a lot of money. Some of them are brilliant. Guess what they told me? They can afford to pay a little more.

Do you know what the market cap of companies in my district is? It is $10 trillion in Silicon Valley. That is more than the GDP of Russia. It is more than the GDP of most countries.

I laugh when people say this tag of socialism. My district is producing the most wealth in the world. The people there who say we want to pay a little bit more aren't socialists. They are wealth generators.

But here is what they know: They fall into this 1 percent, and they are saying we have made trillions of dollars. We have made billions of dollars. We would like to pay a little bit more so everyone can have healthcare, education, and nutrition in this country, and we are fine with other people in the working and middle class getting a tax cut.

That is the President's policy. It is a policy of helping working-class Americans, middle-class Americans, upper-middle-class Americans, and asking those who have done well to do a little bit more for our country.

It is a policy against inherited wealth because we are Americans. We don't believe in feudal estates. We don't believe what the law is right now, that if you buy $1 million of Facebook stock and that becomes $10 million and if you want to give it to your kids, that your kids don't have to pay tax on the appreciation of $9 million. We don't think that is right. We don't think you should be able to transfer wealth without paying any tax.

That is not the American way. That is what they used to do in old Europe's feudal estates, passing wealth generation to generation. That is the party of aristocracy, and that is what the Republicans would have you believe.

We are the party of free markets, free enterprise, and new entrepreneurs. We are the party of economic growth for everyone. We are not the party of dynastic wealth.

If you believe that everyone should have a shot in the free market economy, that you should have economic growth for everyone and opportunity for everyone, if you are against dynastic wealth, if you believe those who have made $4.8 trillion can pay a little bit more and you can have tax cuts for the working class and middle class, you should support President Biden's tax plan.

BORDER CRISIS IS GETTING WORSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TONY GONZALES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the crisis that is happening on our southern border.

My district, Texas 23, represents 820 miles of the Texas and Mexico border. That is 40 percent of our southern border.

Madam Speaker, the Biden border crisis is as bad as it has ever been, and it is only getting worse. Over 20,000 unaccompanied children have entered into our country, and that number is only rising.

These children don't have a voice. These children aren't represented. These children are nothing more than a stat on a paper, and that is wrong.

On Mother's Day weekend, of all days, these five young girls, babies, essentially, were found abandoned on a ranch in Texas.

□ 1015

Well, today, I am here to talk about their story and give them a voice.

Two of these girls, Ashley, who is 5 years old, and her sister, Valeria, who is 11 months old, are from Guatemala. Two of the other girls, Nasley, who is 7, and Cristal, who is 4, are from Honduras. They happen to be related. They are cousins.

As they have made this trek to America, they were dumped on a farm in Texas with no water and no food. The oldest of them is 7 years old. Imagine that you are 7 years old, and your responsibility is to take care of your younger sister that is 4 and take care and ensure that your cousins, who are 5 and 11 months, not only are okay, but survive the night. That is wrong on all accounts.

I want to tell a little bit more about this story. Sandra is the mother of Nasley and Cristal. Sandra has attempted to make this trek many times, and, unfortunately, she was turned around at the border several times.

So she goes off and she gives her children to smugglers. Why? Because she is desperate. The situation at our southern border is desperate, and we need to act now. We need to reform immigration, and we need to secure our southern border; not only for these young ladies here, but for all children who are

making that dangerous trek, and for all people who live along the border and see this every single day.

What is happening with these girls? They get put in HHS and then get released. Guess where they are going. They are going to Houston, Texas, to try to be reunited with a family member.

All cities of the United States are border cities. All States of the United States are border States. This crisis has continued to spiral out of control, and we, here in Congress, as well as the administration, must come together and reform immigration and secure our southern border.

RESPONDING TO CYBERATTACKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, as I rise, gasoline is once again flowing through the Colonial Pipeline, and we are getting ready to undertake our routine briefs—those of us who sit on the Intelligence Committee and the Committee on Homeland Security—of this week's cyberattacks. Many of them will have come from Russia, from China, from North Korea, from Iran, or from some shadowy criminal group, which is often sheltered or at least tolerated by one of these countries. Many will have succeeded in stealing critical data or penetrating essential networks. Only a few, like the recent attacks on the Colonial Pipeline, will ever become publicly known.

There is a long list of things that we must do to stop these attacks. We should require private companies to tell the public, or at least the government, when these attacks occur. We should make sure that experts in places like the NSA and the FBI are working side-by-side with network operators to address these attacks, and we should have a clear policy on the payment of ransom to ransomware attacks.

But at the very top of the list is the need to fundamentally change the game by establishing a sure and swift deterrence.

Time and again, we do too little, too late.

Five years ago, President Obama responded to the Russian attack on our 2016 election, the very essence of our democracy, with the expulsion of 35 so-called Russian diplomats and the closing of a few secondary Russian facilities, and he told Putin to ''cut it out.'' Putin barely felt the slap on the wrist.

We know that, because fewer than 4 years later, a Russian intelligence agency used a supply chain attack on Microsoft and SolarWinds to penetrate thousands of networks, including those of the Federal Government. In response, the United States—you guessed it—expelled some Russian diplomats.

For the bad guys, the cost of doing business is very low indeed.

It is time to strike back using our unparalleled offensive cyber capabilities with the ferocity and precision and, yes, the proportionality that these and many other cyberattacks would have provoked had they been undertaken kinetically.

Let's hurl the full weight of the American legal, diplomatic, and cyber capabilities against DarkSide and the organizations or countries that assisted it. There is no reason why our immense power, if applied, can't result in jailed hackers, businesses sanctioned into bankruptcy, emptied bank accounts, and melted computers.

The same goes for Putin, who draws no formal distinction between the Kremlin and the private groups who supply it with propaganda, mercenaries, and hacking services. Putin respects only the Machiavellian language of force and retribution. For him, all else is tactical. So let's demonstrate the cyber capabilities we have spent billions of dollars developing. Let's make sure that he and the oligarchs who support him feel the fear and anxiety felt by millions of Americans contemplating crashed email systems and gasoline lines down the street.

The objection to my arguments has always been consistent: that as a highly networked nation, we are particularly vulnerable to a cyber tit-for-tat. In a cyber exchange, the Russians, the Chinese, or the Iranians might choose to attack our critical infrastructure, like, say, a gasoline pipeline. Yes, there is risk, but that risk must be weighed against the fully unacceptable status quo.

Hitting back isn't the only answer. It is part of the answer. In this new world, a credible deterrent must be combined with clearly articulated international rules, norms, and an understanding of our national doctrines: all the things that helped keep the Cold War with the Soviets from becoming hot.

Above all else, however, it is time to change the game and impose the meaningful costs that will finally deter our adversaries. Until we do, we are all just waiting for the next Colonial Pipeline attack.

GETTING AMERICANS BACK TO WORK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEHLS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NEHLS. Madam Speaker, I stand here today after speaking with business owners across my district and the country. I have heard story after story of businesses struggling to get entry-level, minimum-wage workers back to work. Why is that? Because they are actually having to compete, not against COVID or lockdowns, but against the Federal Government to get employees back to work.

In my home State of Texas, you can make up to $535 in unemployment insurance, but add in the additional $300 per week payments that came from Federal COVID relief, and that is $835 per week not to work. That equates to nearly $21 an hour. That is exactly why Texas and 20 other States have opted out of Federal COVID unemployment insurance benefits. But there are still States where business owners are being forced to compete against the Federal Government for employees.

My own brother, Tyler, who owns a construction company in Wisconsin, told me business has picked up for him. What a blessing. Now, he is trying to hire additional employees to grow his business. He has just got one problem: Folks are telling him they are making more sitting at home at $17.50 an hour. They tell him if he wants them to work, he is going to have to pay them $25 an hour.

Situations like my brother Tyler's were hardly an unexpected consequence of paying workers more not to work. So expected, it seems as though when Democrats failed to get their minimum wage hikes through the Senate in February, they used the Federal unemployment insurance program to accomplish the same result, albeit temporarily.

While there are many who are still struggling from the effects of COVID, whether it be from health effects or the effects of lockdowns on their business, millions more are taking advantage of the unemployment insurance system and sitting at home playing Xbox instead of working and being productive members of society.

On top of a labor shortage driven by the Federal Government paying people not to work, President Biden is proposing historic levels of spending and raising taxes on our job creators. His multi-trillion-dollar proposals, like his $2.3 trillion American Jobs Plan and $1.8 trillion American Families Plan, will cost thousands of jobs through tax hikes amid an already struggling market.

What message does raising the corporate tax rate send to job creators when they are trying to rebuild in the aftermath of the pandemic? It sure sounds like we are telling them to take their business overseas or hire less.

To bounce back from the Biden administration's dismal job reports in April, which showed just 266,000 new jobs added, certainly underperforming the Dow Jones estimate of 1 million new jobs, we need to be stimulating economic opportunity and growth with less taxes and less regulation, which will create good-paying jobs that encourage people to get back in the workforce.

What won't fix our struggling economy is throwing money at the problem, which seems to be all the Washington swamp knows how to do. The liberal tax-and-spend model is failing our economy and failing the American people. Gas prices are up, homes are more expensive, and the per pound cost of copper is more than double what it was just 12 months ago.

We are not going to spend our way out of this mess with $1-trillion programs that do nothing but serve liberal

special interests. We do it by letting the free market flourish through lower taxes, lower regulation, and more economic freedom.

This model worked under President Trump, who delivered record lows in unemployment for Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and women, and it will work again, if only the Biden administration will put the American people first and not special interests.

ELECTION CONTEST DISMISSED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) for 5 minutes.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, last week, we passed a resolution dismissing the last House election contest of the 2020 cycle, in the 14th District of Illinois.

Before this resolution came to the floor, the Committee on House Administration approved it with unanimous bipartisan support.

I am incredibly honored that my community chose me to represent them in Congress again, and I look forward to a productive term.

But I am not here to take a victory lap. This is an important moment, not because of which candidate won, but because the constitutional rights of my constituents were upheld, despite my opponent's efforts to disenfranchise the very people he sought to represent.

Much like the previous President, my opponent ignored voters' voices by declaring himself the winner days before the results were in. Once the votes had been tallied, he again joined the former President in making baseless allegations of fraud and conspiracy.

After a careful consideration of the merits of his case, the committee found that my opponent's many arguments about supposed irregularities failed to add up to a credible claim to the result he wanted.

Exhibiting the utmost disrespect for his own would-be constituents, he even went so far as to attempt to invalidate thousands of ballots, under a technicality that the Illinois Supreme Court had already deemed invalid under both the State and Federal Constitutions.

Specifically, the court warned that the standard my opponent sought to apply in this case would allow corrupt officials to deliberately toss out ballots of voters whom they had reason to believe voted otherwise than they desired, which is exactly what he attempted to do.

By passing the resolution dismissing this baseless contest, the House upheld the results that were verified by seven county clerks, including four Republicans, and certified by the State of Illinois.

On behalf of my constituents whose voices were heard despite these efforts to silence them, I want to thank the many election officials and volunteers who safely and successfully administered the highest-turnout election in history, during a pandemic.

I also want to thank the House Administration Committee and its hardworking staff for faithfully carrying out the Federal Contested Elections Act by rejecting this attempt at disenfranchisement.

Unfortunately, the contest in my district was just one battle in a war that is still ongoing, a war on democracy, on voting rights, and on truth itself.

It will take more than a resolution to defeat the big lie: a seditious effort to delegitimize the 2020 election and every future election.

As the so-called debate about widespread fraud that did not occur raged on, I have been shocked and horrified by the willingness of so many people to tell dangerous, flat-out lies, people who should know better, including, terrifyingly, elected officials at every level of government.

I desperately hope for a future where the fabric of reality itself is no longer under attack, because there can be no compromise here. There is nothing to compromise on. The choice is simple: truth or lies.

In the meantime, Madam Speaker, let me tell you about the reality that others have left far behind. The reality is that the American people chose Democrats to lead the House, the Senate, and the White House. In reality, Americans voted for healthcare, for childcare, and for a safe climate and environment.

□ 1030

In reality, Americans chose historic numbers of women, people of color, and LGBTQ people to represent them in this Chamber.

There are people who refuse to face this reality, like my erstwhile opponent, the former President, and far too many others in positions of great responsibility. Their denial of the truth is incompatible with the democracy we all swore an oath to defend.

A few months ago, we endured a violent insurrection here in this building, an all-too-real manifestation of this widespread assault on reality. We survived the attack, but we are still in the midst of an insidious erosion of norms and policies that threatens our democracy, including by sowing distrust of our elections and our democratic institutions.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in rejecting these attacks on our democracy by living as though the truth were true.

FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BONUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. FITZGERALD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk briefly on a topic that has come up numerous times already this morning. I just attended a meeting of the Small Business Committee in which we had an extensive discussion as well.

If you remember back when the CARES package was moving through Congress, there were a number of legislators who identified that an issue was being created that didn't need to necessarily be created, and that was additional dollars being set aside for those who would find themselves unemployed.

As a former State legislator in Wisconsin, I had kind of gone through a process back in 2008 and 2009, which basically was an unemployment insurance fund—and I would underscore the idea insurance—that was in the red. It was as a result of the number of unemployment claims that were being made in my State.

There was a nonpartisan commission that had been created to kind of oversee this process, without getting too far into the details. It had worked, where there had been some give and take. Employers and those who represented employers knew that there would be X amount of dollars taken out of everyone's payroll that would supplement or pay for the premiums associated with unemployment, and the system worked. But when the uptick came as a result of the economy sputtering at the time, it went into the red.

It is just a reminder, I think, of what we find ourselves kind of in the midst of right now. As I said, some earlier speakers referenced this. We have this $300-a-week bonus that so many people are calling it right now. And I get it; I am not trying to be too judgmental on people who actually find themselves in that position.

But what we are hearing from employers is that, as a result of the new dollars being in that unemployment system, it is doing two things. The first thing it is doing is obviously putting the regular private-sector market that employers are typically used to, and it is forcing them to kind of either increase wages to the point where it doesn't work for them. It just won't work for their small business model. They can't afford it and still be able to put out goods and services.

The other thing it does, though, is it keeps people on unemployment. So what we are experiencing in our State—and I think I am hearing that other States are experiencing the same thing, and I think we are up to 19 different States right now—Governors have made a decision to pull back on the $300 a week. It is certainly cratering these unemployment insurance pots again. They can't keep up with it.

So I am here today to just tell the constituents of Wisconsin and, really, nationwide, as we see State by State and the economy kind of moves in one direction, that there has to be a change. It is not even a partisan issue. Something has to give here in the short term, and I would certainly hope that President Biden would take a deeper look at this. I think the House and the Senate should actually move in

a direction where there would be some type of reduction in these benefits very soon.

I am very worried about this whole idea that there are a number of individuals out there right now who, I think, find themselves in a position where, you know, they are going to wait. They are just going to wait. They are going to wait for September to come, they are going to wait for October to come before they really start to reengage.

The other thing in Wisconsin and other States that exists, when you are on unemployment insurance, you had to go out and look for a job. You know, you had to talk to employers and you had to develop your soft skills, which means, you know, making sure you are ready for work and you get to work on time. I am a little concerned that the pandemic has had a direct effect on that as well.

Madam Speaker, I just wanted to be here this morning to highlight these issues again. I would like to work with the other side of the aisle and I would like to work with the President to make sure that we can find a way of reversing what I think is a path that is really going to jeopardize our entire nationwide economy.

PREVENTING FUTURE PANDEMICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss what we must do to prevent the next pandemic and why it is not only a global health issue, but also an environmental one.

The origins of the pandemic we are battling now are clear: unsanitary, unsafe wildlife markets.

These markets, which are prevalent in some areas of Asia and Africa, but are present everywhere, including in the United States, are fed by trade in wildlife; some of it legal; some of it illegal; all of it very dangerous.

They are breeding grounds for a strain of viruses known as zoonotics, which are diseases born from the unnatural intermingling of the bodily fluids of different species in an unsafe and unsanitary market that sold wildlife, living and dead, for human consumption.

Other zoonotics include SARS, MERS, Zika, Ebola, swine flu, bird flu, HIV/AIDS, and now COVID. COVID–19 has truly opened the world's eyes to the danger of these markets and the global impact, and it should open our eyes to just how urgent the need for legislation around this is in order to prevent the loss of millions of lives.

That is why over the course of the last year I wrote the Preventing Future Pandemics Act along with my friend, Mr. FRED UPTON, and Senators CORY BOOKER and JOHN CORNYN in the Senate. We may not agree on much, but we agree on this: We have the power to prevent the next pandemic, and to do nothing would be an act of negligence.

A vital lesson that we need to learn from COVID is that we must fundamentally change the way that we interact with wildlife globally if we want to stop this from happening again. This means stopping deforestation and other habitat destruction, slowing and ending global climate change, and global shutdown of live wildlife markets.

Already we have seen how changes in temperature and weather patterns and encroaching human development have brought people and wildlife into more frequent and more intimate contact. Human consumption of wildlife is simply the most dangerous form of that contact.

To get at the root of this problem, the Preventing Future Pandemics Act would establish the official foreign policy of the U.S. to be that we would work with other countries to shut down these markets, end the trade in terrestrial wildlife for human consumption, and build international coalitions to reduce the demand for wildlife as food.

The bill would authorize funding for USAID to work on reducing demand for consumption of wildlife from wildlife markets, and support shifts to alternate sources of food and protein in communities that rely upon this consumption for food security.

Moreover, to truly lead by example, this bill would end the import and export of wildlife for human consumption in and out of the United States.

While wildlife is not a major source of protein in our country, these markets do exist here, and they still pose a danger. If we are to establish and maintain a position of international leadership on this issue, we must practice what we preach.

This bill will help us take significant steps to break down the silos between global health and conservation, because we know unequivocally that if we try to treat these as separate problems, we fail to solve either problem.

After the economic and social devastation of the past year, and the way that COVID–19 has upended all of our lives, it is my view that the Preventing Future Pandemics Act is a national security bill, a conservation bill, an animal wildlife bill, a small business bill, a travel industry bill, a manufacturing bill, a retail bill, a mental health bill, a housing bill, and a public transit bill. It is a bill to protect our lives and livelihoods from the threat of human consumption of wildlife and the associated wildlife trade.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to rally around this in order to potentially save the world from suffering the consequences of inaction and standing by hopelessly as we watch another pandemic ravage our world.

The next pandemic can be stopped, and the Preventing Future Pandemics Act is a vital first step. Let's do it together.

AFGHANISTAN WITHDRAWAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I agree with the comments of many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle expressing grave concern over the President's decision to establish a date certain for the withdrawal of all U.S. military forces from Afghanistan. I believe this decision is deeply misguided, and it is damaging to the long-term national security interests of the United States and our allies.

The strawman argument of ending forever wars might be a convenient campaign slogan, but it is strategically naive and deeply offensive to those who have volunteered to fight to ensure that the very organization which attacked us on September 11, 2001, is incapable of ever doing it again.

This is their job. It is a job that I did on four deployments. It is our sworn duty. It is their sworn duty. They are proud to do it, and we honor them for it.

The truth is our force levels in Afghanistan are a fraction of what they once were, and have been steadily decreasing for years. Maintaining a small residual force is not an unaffordable or unsustainable burden. More than any other deployment in the world, the U.S. and NATO presence in Afghanistan delivers tangible strategic benefits to the U.S. at a relatively small and ever-decreasing cost, not to mention the immense humanitarian benefit to the people of Afghanistan itself, especially the women and the girls.

The recent violence committed by the armed forces in Afghanistan only proves that the Taliban, al-Qaida, and ISIS-K clearly see this announcement as a full-fledged capitulation, and it reveals their true nature as untrustworthy and savage.

A military withdrawal must always be based on conditions, not a calendar. By establishing a specific date, we are simply surrendering the hard-fought leverage we have gained over two decades, and we are inviting the Taliban to embark on a vicious reign of terror against the Afghanistan people.

Furthermore, as a military man, I am utterly dismayed that we did not take the necessary steps to secure and prepare standoff basing in the region to project power when needed to conduct counterterrorism operations and to support the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces before announcing the withdrawal.

We put the cart before the horse. We now have a moral obligation to ensure that the Afghan security forces can continue functioning with the proper military and financial support to keep the Taliban from once again plunging Afghanistan into darkness.

Finally, and most urgently, we must honor our promises and keep faith with our partners and allies. Our values must remain the foundation of our foreign policy. If our partners and allies

lose faith in our ability to back them up, we willingly cede the field to an enemy who seeks our destruction.

It is now, unfortunately, a moral imperative to find a way to expedite the safe passage of the very people who stood by us for nearly two decades. They have been loyal to our shared vision and have sacrificed so much to the pursuit of democracy. Their safety must be an absolute priority for this administration.

So far, we have not observed sufficient urgency in developing an interagency plan to do this and in requesting the necessary resources and authorities from Congress. If we don't do this, the Afghans who helped our military will be hunted down and murdered by the Taliban.

We must ask ourselves: Did we learn anything from our clumsy withdrawal from Iraq in 2011?

The only thing more expensive than maintaining a moderate level of stability in a country like Afghanistan is the bloodshed and cost we will bear if we are forced to return.

This is not an academic, hypothetical consideration, nor is it a partisan issue. Like many others on this side of the aisle, I repeatedly and publicly expressed my deep concerns over President Trump's impulse for a hasty withdrawal.

The Taliban is still allied with al-Qaida. If the Taliban prevails after our withdrawal, it is very likely that al-Qaida will once again have a safe haven to conduct terrorism, and this is the very reason we invaded Afghanistan in the first place.

Fortunately, pushback from Congress and the previous administration slowed the withdrawal process while retaining negotiating leverage and key counterterrorism capabilities. Unfortunately, from my vantage point, this latest decision has abandoned any semblance of strategy. It is a retreat.

This hasty withdrawal is a tragic mistake, and we are going to regret it. I urge the President to change course before it is too late.

□ 1045

HONORING MICHAEL LECIK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. SPANBERGER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember the life of a courageous, kind, and selfless Virginian, Mike Lecik.

Service was an unwavering part of who Mike was. Throughout his career, Mike served as an Air Force firefighter, an assistant fire chief with the U.S. Department of Defense, and the assistant chief at the Huguenot Volunteer Fire Department in central Virginia.

As an Air Force firefighter, Mike deployed twice to the Middle East. After coming home to Powhatan County, he was proud to serve in his local volunteer fire department. He cared deeply for his community and his country. A few years ago, Mike was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a blood cancer linked to the dangerous conditions of his service as an Air Force firefighter.

I first got to know Mike because the VA did not recognize this connection, and he wanted to do something about it. He wanted to learn more about how the system could be changed for the better and for the benefit of his fellow servicemen and -women.

This fight was not just about getting the support that he needed; rather, it was about the thousands of firefighters just like him who faced this challenge. Mike truly wanted every veteran firefighter to get the care they deserved.

Mike passed away earlier this year at the age of 41.

Mike was dedicated to his community, the safety of his neighbors, and, above all, his family. It was my honor to have him as a constituent.

Mike leaves behind a family and a community that deeply cared for him, and he leaves behind a cause that is worth championing.

Across the board, firefighters are more likely to be exposed to certain carcinogens. They are more likely to suffer certain diseases and illnesses because of their career. And they experience higher rates of cancer than the general U.S. population.

This connection is well-documented by scientific research, but it is yet to be recognized by the VA, the Federal agency entrusted with caring for those who have borne the battle.

Military firefighters put their lives on the line each day—not just to defend our country but also to selflessly defend their fellow servicemembers. But to this day, thousands of veteran firefighters are left uncovered by the VA for certain types of cancer treatments.

Earlier this year, I reintroduced the Michael Lecik Military Firefighters Protection Act in Mike's name to fix this longstanding issue. This bipartisan legislation would make sure diseases like Mike's are recognized as presumptive service-connected disabilities.

By recognizing the long-term effects of military firefighting and the diseases that can arise from this career over time, our bill would provide much-needed peace of mind and security to thousands of veteran firefighters and their families. It would lift an undue burden off thousands of veterans experiencing severe and often-terminal illnesses.

Right now, the VA doesn't cover significant treatment costs like those faced by Mike, as the VA, in many cases, does not recognize the direct service connection between firefighting and cancer as a presumptive service-connected disability beyond 1 year following Active Duty.

Our legislation would establish the presumption that veteran firefighters who become disabled by serious diseases, including heart disease, lung disease, and certain cancers like Mike's, within 15 years of separating from Active Duty contracted the illness due to their service in the military.

By creating this presumption, the VA would be required to provide equitable disability benefits and treatment cost coverage to veteran firefighters like Mike.

This legislation has the support of Democrats and Republicans from across the political spectrum, including many who have served our country.

Specifically, I would like to thank my Republican colleague, Congressman BACON from Nebraska, himself an Air Force veteran of nearly 30 years, for his continued partnership in leading this bill. I thank Congressman BACON for recognizing that this issue should unite us all because we all represent veterans with stories like Mike's.

Even as he was engaged in the battle of his life—for his life—Mike was eager to make progress on this issue. When I first reached out to Mike to ask whether he would like to be involved with the legislation, he never hesitated.

Mike had already been in touch with our team about some of his issues with the VA. And when asked if he wanted to take up this challenge and make a difference through the legislative process, he said: ''Absolutely.'' He was ready to take up the mantle for his fellow vets. It was his honor.

Even as his illness progressed, he stayed apprised of new developments on this legislation, and my team was humbled to work with him. He showed incredible strength and determination that we will never forget.

The Michael Lecik Military Firefighters Protection Act is about a fundamental question: How do we show our gratitude and appreciation to those who served, to those who have put on the uniform, and to those who have worked under hazardous and dangerous conditions to keep their countrymen and fellow servicemembers safe?

The answer is found beyond platitudes. It is found beyond spoken promises. It is found in action. And it is found in delivering the benefits our veterans have earned through their sacrifice.

No veteran who puts on the uniform should repeatedly have to make the argument that their injury, their illness, is connected to their service when the evidence is so apparent—to the degree that the majority of our States have already recognized the link between these serious diseases and the occupational hazards of firefighting and have enacted presumptive disability laws.

In the case of Mike and thousands of firefighters like him, no veteran should experience a VA that refuses to help cover the costs of treating their service-connected cancer.

As I urge my colleagues to recognize the urgent need to pass the Michael Lecik Military Firefighters Protection Act, I am thinking of his wife, Tiffany, and his three daughters, Amery, Aubrey, and Addy. He loved them deeply, and I work in his honor.

STANDING WITH ISRAEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my unwavering support for the United States' greatest ally in the Middle East and the region's only democracy, Israel.

When I visited the region, I saw firsthand the proximity of the danger Israelis face on a daily basis.

With the Gaza Strip controlled by the Iranian-funded terror group Hamas, rockets are always pointing at the Jewish state. It is estimated that the militant group has more than 30,000 rockets and mortars at their disposal.

For the past week, Israel and its people have been bombarded by more than 3,000 rockets launched from within Gaza. Thank goodness for the Iron Dome, which, despite being overwhelmed, saved countless lives.

While some on the other side of the aisle and in the media attempt to draw a moral parallel between Hamas and Israel, there is simply no comparison to be made.

As Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said: ''You cannot equate a democracy that values life with a terror organization that glorifies death.''

Israel has an absolute right to defend itself, and while they make every effort to keep Palestinian civilians from harm, Hamas continues to intentionally target population centers, seeking death and destruction.

Hamas is not interested in peace. They are not interested in working toward a lasting solution. Their only objective is to eliminate the Jewish state.

Why some would choose to back Hamas despite its atrocious human rights record is beyond me. Why back a regime that stifles free speech, prosecutes and assaults the press, treats women as second-class citizens, and has laws on the books that condemn its own citizens to death simply for selling land to a Jewish person?

Madam Speaker, it is mind-boggling.

I stand with Israel, and in doing so, I stand for peace.

CONGRATULATING GRACE CHRISTIAN GOLF TEAM

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, author and avid golf fan P.G. Wodehouse once remarked: Golf ''is the infallible test. The man who can go into a patch of rough alone, with the knowledge that only God is watching him, and play his ball where it lies is the man who will serve you faithfully and well.''

Fittingly, I rise today to recognize Grace Christian School of Staunton, whose golf team won its first Virginia Association of Christian Athletics State championship.

The Warriors shot an 18-hole total of 355 in the championship tournament at the Club at Ironwood to overcome its closest competitor by 32 strokes.

Caleb Maas led the Warriors with an impressive 86, while Preston Fitzgerald and Maddie Helmick each shot a pair of 87s, with Isaiah Farlow carding a 95.

Maas, Fitzgerald, and Helmick were also named to the all-State team for their performances throughout the season.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the athletes, coaches, and staff on an excellent season. I wish them all the best of luck moving forward. And keep hitting them straight.

NEW INFRASTRUCTURE AGENDA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. Bordeaux) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Madam Speaker, like so many of us in this Chamber, I spend a lot of time on the road driving from event to event.

As someone who represents the metro Atlanta area, I have spent far more hours than I care to admit sitting on I–85 in bumper-to-bumper traffic. My staff have all had the experience of being on the phone with me as I pull off the road and try to find a spot with a strong signal in order to call into events because there is just no way I will make it in time with all the traffic.

Congestion is one of the issues we all hear about with frequency. It is not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue. It is a question I get frequently, regardless of whether I am at a townhall, speaking to a Chamber of Commerce, or visiting a small business: What is being done to ease congestion?

This question is particularly important as we continue to have a national conversation on infrastructure. Having spent my career in public policy and public finance, I know how important it is that we make smart investments today to set us up for success tomorrow.

That is why recently I rolled out my infrastructure agenda. I call it FutureFit The Suburbs.

FutureFit The Suburbs is a vision to address our growing needs in the suburbs to make smart investments now to prepare for the next century, from preparing for the impact of climate change to building the transit system of tomorrow.

This agenda focuses on the needs of fast-growing suburbs, recognizing the need for transit and congestion relief in order to maintain economic viability while addressing the climate crisis, and doing all of it in a way that leverages public-private partnerships in a fiscally responsible manner.

The key is to do well by doing good. This initial launch of FutureFit The Suburbs contains four initiatives.

First, I am proud to be introducing a new piece of bipartisan legislation today, the Build Up the Suburbs Act, along with Congressman CARLOS Gimenez from Florida, and my Georgia colleague, Congresswoman LUCY MCBATH.

Imagine a regional bus rapid transit system that would run along our major highways and express lanes, developing an electric bus equivalent of commuter rail to help people get from suburban hubs to major commercial hubs while skipping the traffic. The Build Up the Suburbs Act would fund exactly that.

The next time you need to go to the airport, wouldn't it be easier if you didn't have to budget in an extra hour or two just to get there?

Tomorrow, I will be introducing the National and Regional Greenways Act to provide funding for the construction and expansion of greenways across the country, corridors of land connecting disparate communities with beautiful recreational space and environmentally friendly travel routes, thereby reducing congestion and emissions.

This program would support projects like the visionary Chattahoochee River Greenway, a proposed multiuse path that would run along the Chattahoochee River in Georgia.

Beyond immediate transit priorities, FutureFit The Suburbs focuses on how we can be smart in leveraging the power of public-private partnerships to maximize available resources. For example, as more and more shopping goes online, retail malls, and the large plots of land that they sit on, are going unoccupied and unused, taking up valuable real estate. Through low-interest and guaranteed loan programs, these areas can be restored in a way that serves the community.

Finally, creating a national infrastructure bank would provide Federal seed money to leverage significant private sector investment in major infrastructure projects. Private investment is on the sidelines and looking to invest in our roads, bridges, broadband, and electric charging infrastructure.

Change is coming, whether we like it or not. We can make smart investments now that enhance our quality of life, or we can spend a lot more time, money, and effort retrofitting the same projects years down the road.

By investing now, we can help slow the effects of climate change, create jobs, and position the suburbs for success in the years to come.

CELEBRATING JULIA TUCKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure being here today. As we say in east Tennessee, you class up the joint. Thank you for allowing me to be here.

Today, I rise to celebrate the 90th birthday of one of my dearest friends, Julia Tucker, 90 years old.

Julia has served the Knoxville community in many different ways over the years. Julia was the first woman to chair the Knoxville City School Board, where she served with my daddy.

Julia is a force to be reckoned with, and she fights for things that are important to her. Julia once saved her unconscious neighbors' lives during a gas leak by dragging them out of their house.

Since Julia's son, Bill, lost his tragic battle with AIDS in 1991, Julia has dedicated her life to raising money and awareness to combat the disease and also to fight the bigotry. I still have his minibike, a ''Lil'' Indian, in my collection, and I treasure it very much.

Julia also honored her son by building Williamswood Castle, which is a castle modeled after a Scottish hunting lodge, in Knoxville, Tennessee, Madam Speaker. Bill was a historic preservationist way before his time. People weren't doing things like that, and Bill kind of set the mark for it. Bill was incredibly proud of his family's Scottish heritage, and this castle is a unique way for Julia to preserve her son's memory.

Julia allowed my sweet little girl, Isabelle, to have her birthday party there, and it was magical.

Julia also serves on committees and boards for local organizations. Julia adopts orphan dogs—I guess me being one of them—and fiercely loves her family and friends.

When I was mayor of Knox County, I had the privilege of publicly recognizing Julia's exemplary work in the community, and now I am pleased to stand on the House floor and wish her a happy 90th birthday.

Julia was the first person I knew who had cable TV. She introduced me to Shirley Temples and rare roast beef sandwiches when I was a little boy.

Madam Speaker, I wish Julia a happy birthday. Julia is loved by many people, and especially the Burchetts.

□ 1100

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CORPORAL ROLLEN DELANO BRADSHAW

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Rollen Delano Bradshaw, an American hero and Korean War veteran, as Tennessee's Second Congressional District's Veteran of the Month.

Corporal Bradshaw was rejected three times from joining the military during the Korean War because of his partial blindness, but he didn't let that get in the way of his patriotism. With just a seventh-grade education and a whole lot of persistence, he memorized the eye chart and was accepted into the United States Army on his fourth attempt.

Corporal Bradshaw served in Korea for 18 months, where he worked as a postal clerk delivering mail to his fellow soldiers. While deployed, Corporal Bradshaw earned the Korean Service Medal with Bronze Star, the United Nations Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.

Following his service, Corporal Bradshaw spent 17 years in American Legion leadership roles, serving as commander at Post 120 for 15 years and as Tennessee's national executive committeeman for 20 years.

Corporal Bradshaw remains dedicated to his military fraternity to this day. Every year, he coordinates Loudon County's Memorial Day and Veteran's Day ceremonies. Our country's heroes are the men and women of our Armed Forces and those that wear our country's badges, like Corporal Rollen D. Bradshaw, who served and sacrificed for our freedom.

Thank you for your service. And, brother, I am truly sorry to hear about the passing of your sweet wife.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF JOHN EADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, as our Nation approaches Memorial Day 2021, I am deeply privileged to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the true story of a great soldier and an agonizing battle during the War in Vietnam.

The story recounts the superhuman valor of a great army soldier named John Eade, heroic son of my hometown of Toledo, Ohio. John is held in the highest esteem by all who know him. He is a faithful friend and a true patriot, a superlatively strong soldier, yet a humble decorated warrior for liberty. Yes, he is a Purple Heart and more. He has been tested beyond human limits his entire life. He has triumphed against overwhelming odds, including lifelong war wounds, time and time again.

In November 1965, Sergeant John Eade, then 21, was deployed in Vietnam, a fire team leader in the 1st Calvary division and its ill-fated 2nd Platoon, Alpha Company. On November 14, 1965, Sergeant Eade and his team were sent to reinforce their sister battalion that was engaged in very heavy fighting at Landing Zone X-Ray in La Drang Valley. Two days later, believing the enemy was destroyed and the worst fighting seemingly over, the 1st and 2nd Platoons Bravo were all choppered out. But John Eade and his team left Landing Zone X-ray the morning of November 17, marching 10 kilometers to nearby Landing Zone Albany. They were the first to arrive.

They established the command post and defense perimeter, and other companies were still coming up the trail. Sergeant Eade, with Alpha's 2nd Platoon, was sent into the trees to the left while the 1st Platoon went right. That is when the two much larger North Vietnamese regiments encamped nearby attacked.

Sergeant Eade's platoon was immediately pinned down in ferocious hand-to-hand combat as the North Vietnamese swarmed down on them through the trees. Sergeant Eade reflected, ''it was like a gang fight. It was small groups of us versus small groups of them. It got down to knives. It got down to choking people.''

Sergeant Eade and his team, Wilbert Johnson, Barry Burnite, and Oscar Barker, Jr., tried to outflank the attacking Vietnamese but were badly outnumbered. Eade recounts: ''Burnite, a machine gunner, was hit in the chest by shrapnel and his gun was disabled. Johnson, his crewman, dragged Burnite 30 meters back to a position of cover in an effort to save him.'' Eade recounted, ''It was the greatest feat of human strength I have ever witnessed. I don't know if Burnite was still alive.''

Johnson and Barker holed up amongst some trees and continued to fight. Johnson was killed and Eade was shot in the gut and the right shoulder, forcing him to fire his M–16 left-handed. Under RPC fire, Eade said his legs and boots were sprayed with shrapnel that left a large piece stuck in his foot, leaving him unable to walk.

Barker tended to Eade's wounds. Everyone else was dead. Eade urged Barker to flee 50 meters beyond the woods where the command element was situated. Barker refused. Shortly thereafter, Barker was shot and Eade attended him as he slowly died. Eade later reflected: ''I don't think anyone who studies war doesn't get stuck on the Battle of Thermopylae. It is that thing of standing our ground to the last man. If you had your chance to cut out or stay, you would have stayed.''

Despite some misgivings, according to official records, the U.S. Command Post called in a napalm strike on Sergeant Eade's position. As a result, Sergeant Eade was set on fire and severely burned because of the air strike. He was further weakened but still alive. He managed to roll in the dirt to put out the flames.

Sergeant Eade recalled that, among his problems, the napalm proved inconsequential. In fact, he said, ''the napalm served a purpose by flushing the enemy out and gave me an opportunity to reduce the Vietcong numbers.''

Later in the afternoon, still conscious but bleeding, he said he was surprised by the sudden appearance of three enemy soldiers behind him. ''There were three North Vietnamese looking at me, one with a pistol.'' Eade said he shot and killed two, but was shot in the face by the one with the pistol.

The small caliber bullet destroyed his right eye socket and shattered parts of the sinus, making it difficult to breathe. He was knocked unconscious. When he came to, the third Vietnamese was gone.

Small groups of North Vietnamese continued moving through the area until about midnight, Eade said. And he stopped using his rifle after dark so he wouldn't give away his position. He said he managed to crawl around and throw grenades at some parties he assumed were removing their dead after midnight. The enemy activity ended. He recalls it was a struggle to stay awake. He was on his third night without sleep and believed if he fell asleep, he would be found and killed.

Dawn came. He was still alive, though horribly wounded. Around 9 or 10 in the morning, Infantryman Eade

said he heard someone moving toward him. He prepared to shoot but held his fire and then saw the shape of an American helmet.

''I yelled at them, 'Give me some water.' I was really thirsty. He looked at me and said, 'You're shot in the stomach. I can't give you water.' I told him I had been drinking water all night. But the soldier said 'no.' So I asked him for some morphine. I told him I used mine up on the other wounded. It really hurts. The soldier said: 'You are shot in the head. I can't give you morphine.' So I said, 'Well, give me a cigarette.' They gave me that. And he said he never stopped smoking after that.''

John Eade was awarded the Purple Heart.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the entire story of John Eade, a great American soldier.

JOHN EADE: ''I AM GOING TO DIE WELL''

[From the Boston Herald, Nov. 15, 2010]

(By Jules Crittenden)

There are people who have the ability to surprise you with the evidence, against long odds, that it is possible to retain a sense of wonder, some ideals and even wistful dreams, when cynicism, demons and nightmares should have won out a long time ago.

John Eade is like that, the kind of person you're always glad to see. You know you'll walk away with a little of that energy he barely manages to conceal behind a quiet facade, still retaining in his 60s—despite severe war wounds—an infantryman's ability to walk 25 miles on short notice.

And you know Eade will always leave you with something to think about—like what he had say about the Spartans at Thermopylae, when the movie ''300'' came out a few years back.

It came up in one of our late-night phone conversations. Eade said he had been captivated by the story when he was in high school in Toledo, Ohio. Forty-odd years later, he was still.

''I don't think anyone who studies war doesn't get stuck on Thermopylae. It's that thing of standing your ground to the last man,'' Eade said. ''Three days of fighting set up the Persians for their ultimate defeat. It changed history. It has taken on mythic proportions. You want to be one of the 300. If you had your chance to cut out or stay, you'd have stayed.''

Eade said it almost casually, like any of us would do that. Most people can only wonder if they would. But Eade knows what he is talking about. He's an authority on the subject.

In November 1965, Sgt. John Eade, then 21, was in Vietnam, among the first American regulars there, a fire-team leader in 2nd Platoon, Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion of the historically ill-fated 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. They had already seen some combat, and as former paratroopers turned Air Cav, were a confident, well-trained and cohesive unit.

Over Nov. 14, 15, and 16, elements of 2/7 Cav were sent in to reinforce its sister battalion, 1/7 Cav, in the heavy fight at Landing Zone X-ray in the la Orang valley, where a reconnaissance in force had encountered a large force of North Vietnamese regulars. On the 16th, with the enemy at X-ray destroyed and the worst seemingly over, 1/7 was choppered out, along with 2/7's Bravo. The rest of 2/7, with a company of 1/5 Cav, left X-ray the morning of Nov. 17, marching 10 kilometers to Landing Zone Albany. Just short of Albany, the lead elements captured a couple of North Vietnamese soldiers. There was debate about whether they were deserters or an outpost.

Still mulling the implications, they moved on, the battalion CO calling his company commanders ahead for a conference. In Albany's clearing of grassland and anthills, surrounded by forest, 2/7's Alpha Company began establishing a command post and a defensive perimeter within which the helicopters could land and take them home. The battalion's Delta, Charlie and Headquarters companies were still coming up the trail behind them, with 1/5's Alpha company bringing up the rear. Eade, with Alpha's 2nd Platoon, was sent into the trees to the left, while 1st Platoon went right. That's when the two North Vietnamese regiments encamped nearby attacked, along the length of the column.

Eade discussed his experience with me five years ago for a Boston Herald article. It was the first time he had done so in a public venue. He recalled that his platoon was immediately pinned down in ferocious fighting as the North Vietnamese swarmed on them through the trees.

''For the first hour and a half, it was intense hand-to-hand,'' Eade said. ''It was like a gang fight. It was small groups of us versus small groups of them. It got down to knives. It got down to choking people.''

First and 2nd platoons were taking the brunt of the attack on the landing zone's perimeter. Delta, Charlie, HQ and 1/5 Alpha companies, strung out along the trail, were also under heavy attack, with similar scenes of desperate combat playing out as hundreds of men, American and Vietnamese, engaged among the trees. Meanwhile, the Vietnamese who had cut off the column were directly assaulting the Alpha's command post among some anthills in the middle of the clearing.

Eade said he and his fire team, Wilbert Johnson, Barry Burnite and Oscar Barker Jr., had some freedom of movement along a line of brush and tried to flank the attacking Vietnamese.

''We wanted to hunt them down and give the platoon a chance,'' Eade said. ''We bit off more than we could chew.''

Burnite, a machine gunner, was hit in the chest by shrapnel and his gun was disabled. Johnson, his crewman, dragged Burnite 30 meters back to a position of cover in an effort to save him.

''It was the greatest feat of human strength I have ever witnessed,'' Eade said. ''I don't know if Burnite was still alive.''

Eade said he, Johnson and Barker holed up among some trees and continued to fight. Johnson was killed, and Eade was shot in the gut and the right shoulder, forcing him to fire his M–16 left-handed. Under RPG and mortar fire, Eade said his legs and boots were sprayed with shrapnel that left a large piece stuck into his foot, so he couldn't walk.

By about 3 p.m., much of the fighting had subsided around the fire team's two survivors, Barker and Eade. Barker tended to Eade's wounds in the lull, stuffing one of Eade's dirty socks into his shoulder wound to stop the bleeding because they were out of bandages.

''I knew and he knew that everyone else was dead,'' Eade said. He said he urged Barker to try to save himself and run for the command post, which Eade estimates was located about 50 meters of open ground beyond the woods, where the command element and mortars still held a perimeter.

''He refused to go,'' Eade said. Shortly after that, Barker was shot, and Eade had to watch him die. It was a sucking chest wound, and it took a long time, Eade said.

After Barker died, Eade was alone.

''My whole life, I've missed the people I was with,'' Eade said at that point in the conversation. ''I just miss them a lot.''

I asked him what his thoughts and emotions were at this time, as the last surviving man in his position with every expectation that he would be killed as the Vietnamese moved through the trees finishing off the wounded. I was under the impression that Eade had played dead to survive, but he said that wasn't the case.

''Playing dead was a way to die. It made no sense to me. Our job was to hold that position and kill the enemy,'' Eade said. ''I had this thing in my mind, part of the U.S. Army's General Orders and the soldier's code you learn in boot camp: 'I will never forget I am an American fighting man. I will never surrender of my own free will. I will continue to resist to the utmost of my ability. I will not leave my post until properly relieved.' ''

Eade said he kept repeating it himself.

''I don't think it was unique to me,'' Eade said, citing the actions of men like Barker and Johnson. He said his seemingly hopeless position was made easier by his belief, established weeks earlier after several men in the unit were killed in other actions, that he would not leave Vietnam alive. What Eade says about that may sound familiar to other veterans of heavy combat:

''It wasn't a matter of living or dying. It was taking care of each other and doing your duty. The anticipation of a future is what you give up. The question was not, 'Am I going to die?' We all know the answer to that. The question was, 'How am I going to die? I am going to die well.' ''

In the command post, Alpha Company's executive officer, Lt. Larry Gwin, reports they saw large groups of the enemy moving through 2nd Platoon's area. The command post remained under assault by waves of Vietnamese, still cut off from what was left of the rest of the battalion.

A couple of 2nd Platoon soldiers who had made it out of the woods and across the open grassland to the command post said they didn't think any Americans were alive in there. Despite some misgivings on the part of some officers, the decision was made to thwart a Vietnamese attack on the command post by calling in a napalm strike on 2nd Platoon's position.

''I think they made the right decision,'' Eade said. He was on the edge of the A–1 Skyraiders' napalm strike.

''It set me on fire, but I managed to roll in the dirt and put it out,'' Eade said, adding that among his problems, the napalm proved inconsequential. In fact, he said, the napalm served a purpose. ''It flushed them out and gave me an opportunity to reduce the numbers.''

Later in the afternoon, Eade said he was surprised by the sudden appearance of three enemy soldiers behind him.

''There were three North Vietnamese looking at me, one with a pistol.'' Eade said he shot and killed two, but was shot in the face by the one with the pistol. The small-caliber bullet destroyed his right eye socket and shattered parts of his sinuses, making it difficult to breathe. He was knocked unconscious, and when he came to, the third Vietnamese was gone.

''I was angry at myself for being shot in the head. I was angry at myself for being careless. I was really pissed off at the North Vietnamese. It was probably the most maniacal moment of my life,'' Eade said. He declined to elaborate.

Small groups of North Vietnamese continued moving through the area until about midnight, Eade said. He said he stopped using his rifle after dark so he wouldn't give away his position. He said he managed to crawl around and throw grenades at some

parties he assumes were removing their dead.

''There was no shortage of grenades lying around,'' Eade said.

After midnight, the enemy activity ended. He recalls that it was a struggle to stay awake. He was on his third night without sleep, and believed that if he fell asleep, he would be found and killed.

Dawn came. He was alive, though severely wounded. Around 9 or 10 in the morning, Eade said he heard someone moving toward him. He prepared to shoot, but held his fire. Then he saw the shape of an American helmet.

''I yelled at them, 'Give me some water!' '' Eade said. ''I was really thirsty. He looked at me and said, 'You're shot in the stomach. I can't give you water.' I told him I had been drinking water all night, but he said no. So I asked him for some morphine. I told him I had used mine up on the other wounded. 'It really hurts,' I said. He said, 'You're shot in the head. I can't give you morphine.' So I said, 'Well, then give me a cigarette.' They gave me that.''

He said he had never smoked before, but hasn't stopped since.

Eade's experience was similar to what hundreds of men up and down the column experienced over the prior afternoon and night, though many did not survive the first few hours after the Vietnamese broke through and enveloped them shortly after 1 p.m. on the 17th.

Gwin, who remembers firing at the oncoming Vietnamese, and firing again to keep them down, has said he is haunted by the memory of the American dead that he saw strewn across the grassland and throughout the trees on the morning of the 18th. He reports that the discovery of Eade alive where 2nd Platoon had been destroyed was a tremendous morale booster for the survivors. When the battle was over, Gwin said, the battalion that had marched to LZ Albany could fit into four deuce and a half trucks. Nearly three-quarters of them had been killed or wounded in a matter of hours. But he said that despite the trauma, morale was high and remained so in following weeks as replacements rotated into nearly empty platoon tents and the battalion prepared to return to the field.

''The survivors rallied and cheered the fact that we had held the ground. We knew that we had killed a lot of them. We had given as good as we had gotten,'' said Gwin. ''The morale was very high in a perverse sort of way, because we had survived it.''

Eade objects to the notion that his platoon, while largely destroyed, was overrun. He argues that he stayed alive, kept fighting, and remained in position. His platoon held.

Gwin, noting that 2/7 Cav held its ground in one of the bloodiest days any battalion has experienced in U.S. military history, said, ''John's platoon held. If they hadn't done what they did, we would have been overrun.''

Eade was medevac'd, and none of his comrades saw him again for decades. Gwin said that years later after they were reunited, he and other la Orang vets tried to get a combat award for Eade. Gwin, who earned a Silver Star for his actions at LZ Albany and completed 45 combat assaults in his year in Vietnam, said he believes Eade's actions merit a Distinguished Service Cross. But because there were no living American witnesses to Eade's actions, Gwin said, the effort was unsuccessful. Eade himself has said, regarding decorations, he is satisfied with the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Eade spent 1966, the year after the la Drang, in the U.S. Army hospital at Valley Forge. That's where the mother of his fire team's machine gunner, Barry Burnite, came to see him.

''I don't know how she found me,'' Eade said. ''She asked me, how did her son die? I kind of told her the truth and I kind of didn't. I cleaned it up a bit. The uncontrollable grief of that woman has stayed with me my whole life. Her pain and her grief was more than I could bear to look at. I can never think about it without wanting to cry.''

Eade, though battered and disfigured, recovered and went to university in the late 1960s. He became an architect. He pursued a career through what he called ''serial jobs,'' staying only until he became restless or angry, and moving on. He was largely solitary, and to this day closely guards his privacy. Eade became chief of inspectional services for the City of Boston in the 1990s, which is where I first met him. A lightly built, soft-spoken man with an eyepatch, an unexpected character in City Hall, a little odd and engaging. Serious about his work, he had a reputation for toughness and honesty. I only learned about his history several years later, and then it was by odd coincidence, through Gwin, our mutual friend, by then the informal head of a small informal group of combat veterans, some Boston lawyers and investment bankers who form a sort of movable VFW down in the businesss district.

Gwin had seen Eade's name in a local newspaper article and sought him out. Eade had been out of touch with his fellow la Drang vets for nearly 40 years, having made no effort to get in touch.

''You have to understand. All my friends were dead,'' Eade explained.

It was one of those typical silver-bullet Eade statements. He has a gift, or maybe the curse for it. Unsentimentally, matter-of-factly plumbing a terrible depth of human experience in a few words.

These days, Eade seems to have friends everywhere he goes. There is always someone who walks up, glad to see him, when we walk through the city. They say little things about him in brief asides, something he did one time or another. I don't know how many of them know that this quiet, gentle man is still a soldier, prouder of nothing more than to have been an American combat infantryman who held his ground.

THE KLAMATH PROJECT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I want to speak a little while today on the issue going on with the Klamath Basin, which straddles Northern California and Southern Oregon, and the water supply that has been a long-time issue and dispute up there for many purposes, agriculture, hydroelectric power, and endangered fish species, and how these are going to be shared, adjudicated, et cetera.

Currently, the battle in the basin there is how waters can be delivered to agriculture. Last year, in 2020, the situation was very dire where, initially, 140,000 acre-feet was promised to the growers up there. And then they went ahead and started their planning process. They had their crops in the field based on that number. The Bureau of Reclamation decided they were going to pull that back and not deliver that water.

We were able to work with the Department of the Interior and restore that water so that the crops that are already in the field planted would not die, that massive investment and massive loss to the farmers and to the community would not happen.

This year, we have a similar path. In March, the Bureau estimated they would deliver 130,000 acre-feet of water, 10,000 acre-feet less than last year. This of a water right that belongs in the basin of 390,000 acre-feet when fully delivered.

And that is where we need to really discuss this today, is that we are talking about the elevation of the lake here. We have, at the full mark, 4,143.3 elevation is a maximum lake. The project goes as low as 4,136 right down here. So that represents a heck of a lot of water. The farmer's share of this, the 561 is the 390,000 I had mentioned. Currently, the lake sits at 4,140.4 feet of elevation, so that represents availability of 307,000 acre-feet of water supply.

Now, the species of fish that we are talking about here are the longnose sucker fish that is in the lake. It lives in the lower part, the brown area of the lake there. And that is where it is best-suited. It is a bottom-feeding fish.

So the problem is that the Bureau of Reclamation, taking the cue from U.S. Fish and Wildlife, has decided that the water that belongs to the farmers has been adjudicated over time. The Oregon courts have held that these water rights do belong to agriculture. This is after NEPA and the ESA went into effect in the Endangered Species Act Oregon Water Resources Department began the process of detailing and adjudicating these rights.

So in reviewing the water rights of all the users in the basin, they noted that the Bureau claimed the reserved water rights apply only to the primary purpose of that water right, which is determined by a 1978 case, U.S. vs. New Mexico.

The Ninth Circuit determined in a 1983 case, the U.S. vs. Adair, that this land's reservation was for the purpose of agriculture. So as we apply that to the Klamath Irrigation area, the KID took the Bureau of Reclamation to court over its decisions to increase downstream flows to salmon, as well as the retention of water for the sucker fish.

So they want to retain this portion here for the sucker fish even though this portion of water does not belong to the Bureau or Fish and Wildlife to use for that purpose.

This project was created over 100 years ago for agriculture, to deliver water down this A Canal through a whole entire system there. This dam was completed, the Link River Dam, in 1921, to help regulate that source.

So in the process of Klamath Irrigation District having taken them to court, the State ultimately agreed with KID that the Bureau has the right to store the water and administer the

water in Upper Lake, but the Bureau of Reclamation does not have the permit, the license, the right to use the water themselves for salmon in the river or for the sucker fish that stay in the lake.

Going further, Section 8 of the Reclamation Act clearly states that the Federal Government cannot interfere with the laws of States relating to the control or distribution of water used in irrigation.

So in 1978, California vs. the U.S. certified that a State can impose requirements under distribution of water through a Federal reclamation project as long as they are consistent with clear Congressional directives as Congress set this back up over 100 years ago and ongoing. The Congress has made it clear multiple times that the Klamath Project was designed and established for irrigation.

So if you want to concede just for a moment, playing along with Fish and Wildlife, that the current level at 4,140.4, and you take it down to 4,138, there is 173,000 acre-feet of water available for farmers right now that should not be taken, even if you concede the sucker fish total.

So we have got giant problems in the basin.

MATERNAL MORTALITY CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, we are in the midst of a shameful healthcare crisis. In 2021, there is no reason that giving birth should be more dangerous for women today than it was for their mothers.

Despite declining rates and maternal mortality around the world, in the United States, the rates have been climbing in recent years. Decades of institutional racism in our society and our healthcare system have brought us to this moment.

Data released by the CDC last month shows that the maternal mortality crisis is only worsening, and the risks are even greater for Black women and other women of color. Black women are three times more likely, and indigenous women are more than twice as likely to die from pregnancy-related causes as non-Hispanic women. Even worse, more than two-thirds of the deaths are preventable.

Additionally, the rates of pregnancy-related complications are on the rise. And for every maternal death in the United States, there are approximately 100 women who experience severe maternal morbidity, or a ''near miss.''

As chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust and co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls, I have seen so many examples of how the healthcare system fails Black women.

Maternal mortality is a complex crisis with inequities stemming from many factors, including access to care, standardization of care, bias, and racism. Pregnancy and birth should be one of the happiest times for a family, but for Black women that is too often not the case, and we must take action now to begin saving the lives and protecting the health of Black women.

One of the most pressing issues related to the maternal mortality crisis we must address is access to high-quality, affordable healthcare. We know there are major risks associated with becoming uninsured shortly after pregnancy.

□ 1115

That is why I fought to have extended Medicare coverage included in the American Rescue Plan, so that women are able to receive postpartum care up to 1 year after birth instead of the existing 60 days of coverage.

But we need to take additional steps to incentivize every single State to permanently implement this policy. That is why, today, I am introducing the Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services Act, or Helping MOMS Act of 2021.

This bipartisan legislation will amend the American Rescue Plan to provide a permanent State option to extend postpartum Medicaid coverage from 60 days after delivery to a full year. The Helping MOMs Act would also authorize a 5 percent Federal medical assistance percentage rate for the first year that States adopt extended coverage.

Ensuring healthcare coverage for the entirety of the postpartum period will save lives and prevent needless complications that endanger the health of mothers and their babies. This is an important step forward, but is not the only change that is needed.

The Black maternal health crisis is a multifactorial epidemic, and solving it will require a multifaceted approach. That is why, tomorrow, I will reintroduce my Mothers and Offspring Mortality and Morbidity Awareness Act, or the MOMMA Act.

This comprehensive bill tackles a growing maternal mortality crisis and severe morbidity in five ways. The MOMMA Act will standardize maternal mortality and morbidity data collection across States and authorize a designated Federal agency to aggregate that data.

Maternal heath advocates agree that standardization of data across the country is critical in fully understanding this crisis and informing future decisions about how to improve women's healthcare.

This bill will empower the CDC to provide technical guidance and publish best practices to prevent maternal mortality and morbidity. It will authorize evidence-based national obstetric emergency protocol to save mothers' lives.

The MOMMA Act will expand healthcare coverage through the full postpartum year after giving birth.

Finally, the MOMMA Act will ensure improved access to culturally competent care training and workforce practices throughout the entire delivery continuum.

This aspect, in particular, is so important in addressing the harmful biases and misconceptions that are, unfortunately, persuasive through our healthcare system, but especially rampant when it comes to Black maternal health. We have already lost too many mothers to this crisis.

While many of us celebrated Mother's Day just a few weeks ago, families across the country mourned lost mothers and babies and remembered traumatic and unacceptable birth stories.

I have talked with husbands who are so frustrated with the way their wives were treated, and wonder if there is something else they could have done to protect them. I have heard the heartbreaking stories of tragedy and loss directly from these fathers. I have cried with them and shared their pain.

I introduce these bills, the Helping MOMS Act and the MOMMA Act, in honor of those mothers and families, and recommit myself to always fighting for the health and safety of women.

WORKING TO HELP LOUISIANA STAND BACK UP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, it has been 9 months since Hurricanes Laura and Delta devastated southwest Louisiana.

Our region has endured natural disaster after natural disaster. This past year has been incredibly challenging: two very powerful, major hurricanes; a crippling ice storm; and this week, ongoing, a severe rainfall event that is causing homes and businesses to flood.

Many families will have to again restart the difficult process of rebuilding their lives. Our people have been resilient in the face of great adversity, a show of incredible strength.

But the need for help from the Federal Government is dire. While much work has been done, southwest Louisiana has long-term recovery needs. To date, we have worked with our Federal partners to deliver well over $1 billion in disaster relief to Louisiana, with more on the way.

We have worked with President Trump and President Biden to secure increased Federal assistance through cost-share adjustments, now at levels of 90 and 100 percent.

These resources have supported southwest Louisiana's most immediate needs: housing and rental assistance, utility repairs, debris removal, hazard mitigation, and other disaster response costs.

Due to the COVID–19 pandemic and related bills, these Federal disaster accounts have received supplemental funding well beyond normal appropriations and are still available to the people of southwest Louisiana.

However, our region requires additional support in the form of long-term

recovery resources, primarily through community block grant funding.

Louisiana's Governor issued a formal request to the Biden administration in January of this year. My office has supported our Governor's request in every way through every channel. We worked for months to build support in Congress for long-term recovery resources, and our efforts to build that coalition has been successful.

While that support exists broadly, the Biden administration must first respond to our Governor's official request for supplemental disaster funding. President Biden must formally request specific supplemental disaster relief from Congress. Only then can our brotherhood of support take action here in the House of Representatives. That is the way it works. We have communicated these extreme needs directly to the Biden administration and House leadership.

Additionally, the State must do more to ensure private insurance companies are treating Louisiana citizens fairly. This has been a significant issue that has frustrated Louisiana citizens and hindered our recovery efforts.

I will not stop fighting for the citizens of south Louisiana, and I ask that my colleagues here in this body stand with us. I ask that our President stand with the people of Louisiana. We are one Nation. As a Republic of sovereign States, we have never failed to come to each other's rescue in the wake of natural disaster. Now is one of those moments.

This is a time when Americans must stand together as one. Every day, we are working to help Louisiana stand back up.

VIRGIN ISLANDS ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, the Virgin Islands of the United States sits at the most southern, most easterly point of the United States. Because of this geographic position and its proximity to South America and its almost sentry lighthouse position to the rest of the Caribbean, it has been fought over; exploited by many nations; owned by seven; and used as a base by pirates, privateers, rum and drug runners, and even great corporations.

Despite so much potential, the benefits of our location, climate, our deep ports—one of the deepest in the Caribbean, our fertile soil—the people of the Virgin Islands have not received equitable return on investment and have instead been the spoils of others.

Our people continue to work to create economic benefits for our homes, jobs, skills, revenue, financial independence. Our journey in oil refining is one such chapter in that search.

In the 1960s, the Virgin Islands began refining oil. Our island of St. Croix became the second-largest petroleum refinery in America. In 2012, the refinery closed, exacerbating the shocks of the Great Recession, leading to unemployment rates of 18 percent. Our government made the decision to work to bring the refinery back and, after several years, the terminal and refinery reopened.

In the last few weeks, my office has been in contact with the EPA regarding air emissions incidents, odors, and emissions around the vicinity of the refinery, which threaten the health of residents and our environment.

On May 14, the EPA ordered Limetree Bay, the owners of the terminal and refinery, to pause all operations on the St. Croix refinery due to multiple improperly conducted operations that present an imminent risk to public health. Limetree Bay is in a community that is disproportionately affected by environmental burdens, and recent incidents have raised significant environmental justice concerns.

My office has continued to discuss with the EPA regarding the shutdown of the refinery, which, when fully operational, contributes tremendously to the Virgin Islands' economy. I have also been in contact with the owners of the refinery, as well as the Virgin Islands local government, and I will share with you all, with this Congress, what we can do to rectify the issue.

But part of my concern and one of the reasons I came to Congress was to create mechanisms and funding, incentives so that communities like the Virgin Islands, places long-neglected, can have the tools, funding, incentives, stable schools, healthcare, to create diverse sustainable industry.

As I have said in the past, and continue to reiterate, the current problems in my community further demonstrate the need for so many communities like it to have a diversified economy. This would provide flexibility. A diversified economy creates an economic health in a community, not tied to a single industry or market sector. It also creates and supports innovation.

Not only do companies support one another financially, but they engender an ecosystem of new ideas and product generation. I recognize that funding from the American Rescue Plan should not only be used by the Virgin Island's government to undergird our most vulnerable citizens, our children, mentally ill, our seniors; it should be used to support creation of clean resilient jobs.

I and other Democrats recognize that we must rebuild our communities and our economy better than before through the American Jobs Plan. Now is the time to think boldly with a once-in-a-century investment to create millions of good-paying jobs to ensure America can outcompete any other country in the world.

The President has promised to deliver clean drinking water, a renewed electric grid, high-speed broadband; build, preserve, retrofit more than 2 million homes and commercial buildings; modernize our Nation's schools and childcare facilities; upgrade veterans' hospitals and Federal buildings.

The President's plan includes $20 billion for new programs that will reconnect neighborhoods like the Virgin Islands, cut off by historic investments, and ensure new projects increase opportunity, advance racial equity and environmental justice, promote affordable access, safeguard critical infrastructure and services, and defend vulnerable communities.

President Biden will call upon Congress, our body, to ensure that new jobs create clean energy, and manufacturing and infrastructure are open and accessible to women and people of color. The House is working on this. We have a historic package to build back better, creating jobs and justice.

MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank our men and women in uniform and remember those who gave their life for this country.

The month of May is recognized as Military Appreciation Month, and we have several days dedicated to honoring our servicemen and -women, as well as their families.

May 7 is Military Spouse Appreciation Day. May 8 is Victory in Europe Day, marking the end of World War II in Europe. May 15 is Armed Services Day, where we thank Active Duty members from all branches of the military.

□ 1130

But on the last day of May, we have our most solemn occasion, Memorial Day, where we mourn those whom we lost in defense of this Nation.

The tradition of Memorial Day dates back to 1864 in Boalsburg, Pennsylvania. Three ladies decorated the graves of fallen Civil War soldiers, and the custom has continued every year since then. Boalsburg still puts on a traditional Memorial Day celebration, complete with a parade, a community walk to the cemetery, speeches, military reenactments, and much more.

In the days leading up to Memorial Day, many place flags or lay wreaths at the graves of our soldiers. We gather with friends and family to attend parades and special services to remember those lost.

As we take the time to thank our Active Duty members and remember the fallen, we must also never forget the soldiers who have not returned home.

As the father of a wounded warrior, I thank God every day he returned home safely. Not every family has been as lucky, and we owe our greatest efforts to recovering the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Currently, there are more than 80,000 American servicemembers who remain unaccounted for, from World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, the Cold War, and the gulf wars. We must uphold our promise to our POW/MIA who made the ultimate sacrifice and work to return these members home to their families.

That is why today I am introducing the Prisoners of War and Missing in Action Trade Agreement Resolution. As we develop trade ties in regions where servicemembers once engaged in combat, we must make every effort to guarantee these countries are active participants in aiding in the recovery of our fallen soldiers. While several of these nations have worked to assist in the research and recovery efforts, many challenges still exist.

This resolution ensures that as we enter mutually beneficial trade agreements, our trade partners will commit to the research and recovery efforts of our Nation's missing servicemembers.

In addition, it also sends a message to the families of those who are still waiting for their loved ones to return home. The United States will uphold the eternal promise to our Armed Forces to always bring our men and women home.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, especially in advance of Memorial Day weekend. As Memorial Day approaches and we make plans to see family and friends and to attend services and parades, let us remember that our freedom is not free and we owe thanks to those who died in sacrifice.

May God bless them, and may God bless the United States of America.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 31 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BUSTOS) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy God, abide with us in our walk this day.

When the path isn't clear, grant us the gift of Your discernment.

When we stumble over our own pride, pick us up and strengthen us with humility.

Should we be caught in the web of deceit, free us by Your truth.

When temptation lures us off course, hold us accountable to the direction You intend for us.

If along the way we should be injured by another in word or deed, fill our hearts and minds with forgiveness.

When we are detoured by demands, help us to focus on to Your priorities.

If we are overcome by anger at those who journey with us, may Your kindness temper us that we may in turn be kind.

When words get lost in misunderstanding, give us the gift of gentleness that love would be found in our answers.

As we face danger, grant us courage.

In the search for answers, may we find faith.

And for Your many blessings as You guide us through this day, may we always be thankful.

In Your sovereign name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. VALADAO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

> I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ALS AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. CROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the importance of ALS Awareness Month and continued Federal support of funding towards a cure for ALS.

ALS a progressive nervous system disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, causing loss of muscle control.

This devastating disease can affect anyone, anywhere, at any age, and, still today, is always fatal.

Veterans are twice as likely to develop ALS, which is why ALS has been designated a service-connected disease.

Not only is there no cure for ALS, but there is also no effective treatment to halt or reverse the progression of the disease.

Patients typically live 2 to 5 years after diagnosis.

President Biden announced an initiative to leverage a $50 billion investment over the course of his presidency through a new HHS program, called ARPA-Health.

This investment would bring focus, scale, and innovation to combat devastating diseases like ALS, Alzheimer's, diabetes, and cancer.

Madam Speaker, the need is urgent, and I would encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting these investments. Our response must meet the moment.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT DAN McBRIDE

(Ms. HERRELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, in 1942, Dan McBride enlisted as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army. Sergeant Dan McBride is an American hero from New Mexico.

Assigned to Fox Company, 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne, Dan's job was a new modernization in military tactics. Paratroopers jumped out of perfectly good airplanes to parachute behind enemy lines.

On June 6, 1944, Dan jumped into Normandy on D-day as part of Operation Overlord. There he earned his first Purple Heart.

On September 17, 1944, Dan jumped into Holland as part of Operation Market Garden. There he earned his second Purple Heart.

In December of 1944, Dan and the 101st Airborne made their way to Bastogne, Belgium, where they held off a desperate push by the Germans in temperatures well below zero, with no winter clothes. The Battle of the Bulge is where Dan earned his third Purple Heart.

His actions did not go overlooked. Amongst the multitude of medals he was awarded, Dan and his fellow paratroopers, Dick Kline and James Martin, were featured in the book ''Three of the Last Screaming Eagles.''

That book has now been made into a documentary film called ''A Rendezvous with Destiny,'' which premieres on May 29 in Columbus, Ohio, at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum.

We owe so much to our World War II veterans, of whom we have fewer every day. I am so proud of Sergeant McBride. I can't think of a better way to honor his legacy than by immortalizing his story on film.

REBUILDING WITH THE AMERICAN JOBS AND FAMILIES PLAN

(Mrs. BUSTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the transformation that the American Rescue Plan has made in all of our communities.

A week or so back, I traveled to a town called Kewanee, Illinois, to visit our Head Start classrooms there.

There was a teacher named Miss Candice, who told me that she loves her job. But she doesn't stay for the pay, she doesn't stay for the benefits, but for the families.

Miss Candice has a student in her class, and before that student, she had that student's siblings. All of the siblings in that family had passed through her classroom. She feels that she has helped this family grow up. And she has.

The American Rescue Plan isn't just about the numbers, though. It is about the 143,000 children in the district I serve who will be helped, the 27 million children nationwide. Child poverty cut in half. We are rebuilding our communities all over this great country, and we can't stop now.

We can keep rebuilding with the American Jobs and Families Act. Today and together, we can make this a once-in-a century investment in our families, the future of our children, and our Nation.

Let's make sure teachers like Miss Candice can continue helping our families.

VIOLENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great concern over the Biden administration's foreign policy. The world has watched with growing concern as Hamas rockets have pummeled the Israeli people, forcing Israel to take retaliatory steps to protect its own citizens. This escalation occurs as the Biden administration has pivoted away from anything useful in the Middle East, neglecting Israel, which is one of our strongest allies.

Just recently, we have learned that over $15 million in foreign aid from this year's phony Democrat coronavirus package went to the Palestinians, who take their orders from the terrorist group Hamas, which is a proxy state for Iran, who wishes the total eradication of Israel. What message does this send to our allies, sending money to both sides?

Similarly, President Biden is looking to restart the Obama-Biden Iran nuclear deal that President Trump smartly left. That naive accord had broad bipartisan opposition, including from now-Senate Majority Leader CHUCK SCHUMER, and was strongly opposed by Israel. It is astounding that President Biden would take the word of the Iranian Government, whose leaders call us their sworn enemy, and spurn our strongest ally in the region, Israel.

We have got to do better.

BRINGING AWARENESS TO TARDIVE DYSKINESIA

(Mr. PETERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise during Mental Health Awareness Month to bring attention to tardive dyskinesia, or TD, a persistent and potentially disabling movement disorder that can be a side effect of medications prescribed to treat mental illness.

According to a survey of people diagnosed with TD, more than half reported that the disorder seriously disrupts their sleep and their ability to work. People living with TD often face stigma, which can worsen mental health symptoms and cause withdrawal from society.

While TD affects over half a million people in the United States, it remains a relatively unknown condition, often unrecognized, and patients suffering from the illness may be misdiagnosed.

Earlier this month, Senator CHRIS MURPHY introduced S. 184, recognizing the week of May 2 to May 8 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week.

Improving awareness and understanding of TD will help reduce the stigma of mental illness and help us provide better treatment to this underserved patient population.

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize May as National Foster Care Month and to say thank you to every parent, volunteer, and mentor who work with our foster children.

I am a proud member of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth and had a foster brother growing up, who is still part of my family.

During this month, we renew our commitment to ensure that every child has a safe and loving family.

I know firsthand how a supportive and loving home can make all the difference in a young person's life.

There are over 460,000 children and youth in foster care. These children and youth range from infants to 18 years old, when they age out.

Foster youth who transition out of the foster care system without a permanent home are at a higher risk of unemployment, poor educational outcomes, health issues, early parenthood, long-term dependency on public assistance, increased rates of incarceration, and homelessness.

Every child deserves a safe, supportive, and permanent family. We have the responsibility to continue to create policies that will improve the outcomes of the overall well-being of foster youth and their families.

SUPPORT FOR LONGSHORE AND HARBOR WORKERS

(Mr. MRVAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight legislation that I recently introduced, the Longshore and Harbor Workers COVID–19 Compensation Act.

I am extremely proud that this is my first piece of legislation and that it serves to protect the health, safety, and livelihoods of our Nation's maritime workers.

The current health pandemic has created serious challenges for these essential workers, including unpaid, mandatory quarantine requirements resulting from COVID–19 contraction or exposure.

In the First Congressional District of Indiana, the Burns Waterway Harbor generates more than $15 billion in business revenue and supports over 80,000 workers, including union jobs with the International Longshoremen's Association.

I appreciate the support of my chairman on the House Education and Labor Committee, BOBBY SCOTT, and I look forward to working with all of my colleagues to support this invaluable workforce and to move this legislation forward as soon as possible.

WORSENING DROUGHT CRISIS IN CALIFORNIA

(Mr. VALADAO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the worsening drought crisis in California, which has become so devastating that farmers are abandoning their crops in the fields.

This was an asparagus field in Firebaugh, a small, rural town in my district. Recently, the farmer made the difficult decision to abandon the crop in that field to preserve water for his melon crops instead. You can clearly see the destruction this drought has wreaked on his farmland.

Promised water will now not be delivered. Farmers all over California are unable to bring their crops to harvest, crops that would have fed families across the United States.

With legislation like my bill, the RENEW WIIN Act, those farmers might have been able to save their fields rather than be forced to waste and destroy half-grown produce our Nation relies on California to grow.

If the House majority continues to refuse to take up legislation to address the drought, farmers won't have to choose between asparagus or melons, because they won't have the water to grow any food at all.

CLOSING A LOOPHOLE THAT BLOCKS PHARMACEUTICAL COMPETITION

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, today, I urge my colleagues to pass the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act, which will close a loophole that blocks pharmaceutical competition and prevents innovative treatments for opioid abuse disorders from coming to the market.

The opioid crisis in this country, as you know, is very serious, and the COVID–19 pandemic has only exacerbated the problem. Because the pandemic and all of its underlying issues—fear of the virus, increased economic hardship, and the challenges of staying at home and maintaining a safe distance—opioid abuse disorders are skyrocketing, and the epidemic has taken a toll on communities in every corner of the country.

I am proud to co-lead this piece of legislation and that our Democratic majority pushed ahead with bringing it to the floor again for a vote amid last week's partisan attempts to hold this legislation hostage, because fighting the opioid epidemic cannot wait any longer.

In the past 20 years, we have seen a drastic increase in opioid addiction, with nearly every State in the Nation seeing a spike in overdose deaths. Passing our Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act will help curb the senseless loss of life by expanding treatment options and driving down costs of new medicines.

□ 1215

HONORING CAPTAIN MICHAEL D'ANGELO GARIGAN

(Mrs. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary life of Captain Michael D'Angelo Garigan, a dedicated law enforcement officer from my district, who passed away earlier this year.

Officer Garigan was born in Gordon County to a well-known and highly respected family. A Calhoun resident all his life, Captain Garigan invested in his community and bettered the lives of everyone around him.

Captain Garigan served the people of Gordon County for over three decades as a deputy, detective, and coordinator for the Gordon County Sheriff's Office. In fact, Captain Garigan was decorated over a dozen times for exemplary police work.

Outside the office, Captain Garigan was an active member of his community, serving his church as a deacon, broadcasting high school football games on the radio, and umpiring baseball and football games for local youth leagues.

Captain Garigan's exemplary contribution to the people of Gordon County should be honored and remembered. That is why I have introduced House Resolution 301, commending Captain Garigan for his devotion to his family, community, church, and the Nation.

My thoughts and prayers are with Captain Garigan's family and the people of Gordon County.

LET'S GET BACK TO WORK

(Mr. TIMMONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, there are nearly 8 million job openings in the United States right now, yet the Federal Government is currently paying people to stay home instead of going to work.

Last year, the government took steps to protect and support the American people during a once-in-a-lifetime global pandemic. It was the right thing to do at the time. Now science tells us that we can resume life as normal.

Federal money was able to support workers during the peak of the pandemic, but now the best recovery plan is employment. The answer to our supply chain issues, rising unemployment rate, and inflation is not to continue to throw trillions of dollars at this problem. The real solution is to get people back to work.

We need to follow the lead of States, like my home State of South Carolina, and discontinue participation in the Federal unemployment programs.

Vaccines are available to anyone who chooses to get one. Let's get back to work.

RISING UNEMPLOYMENT

(Mr. GUEST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, former President Ronald Reagan once said, ''The best social program is a job.''

Job creation and growing our economy are bipartisan issues that benefit all Americans.

This past year, we saw the impact that COVID had on our businesses, both large and small. But now, as we are reopening the economy, many employers are unable to find workers to keep up with the high demand for goods and services.

A major roadblock to businesses being able to hire staff comes from the Federal supplemental unemployment payments made on top of the unemployment already received by the States. These payments have caused many potential employees to continue collecting unemployment from the government rather than reentering the workforce.

Thankfully, many Republican Governors, including Mississippi's Governor Tate Reeves, have ordered the end of the Federal unemployment payments now that the economy is open.

As a Congress, we need to follow the example of Mississippi and other States and bring this program to a close, as more Americans find it possible to return to normal life.

THE EXEMPLARY CAREER OF TOM TENBRINK

(Mr. HUIZENGA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary career of Tom TenBrink and his legacy of service, dedication, and success in the Jenison community. On behalf of west Michigan, it is an honor to express my appreciation and gratitude for his many years of service to the students, staff, and families of Jenison Public Schools.

Mr. TenBrink's distinguished career with the Jenison Public Schools is coming to an end, as he is retiring after 34 successful years, 18 of which were spent as superintendent of the district.

As a faithful servant to west Michigan, Mr. TenBrink has spent his tenure establishing Jenison Public Schools as a destination district. He has fostered a family culture, prioritizing the importance of adopting attitudes of servant leadership, while also maintaining a commitment to educational excellence.

His steadfast leadership has led to the creation of the Jenison International Academy, the development of a K–12 Spanish immersion program, and the building of the Jenison Center for the Arts and a new Kids First early childhood center. Furthermore, the district has earned countless accolades under his leadership.

Tom, thank you for your leadership, dedication, and commitment not only to the students, but to the Jenison community and all of west Michigan. I hope you enjoy retirement knowing that Jenison and Georgetown Township would not be the place it is today without your leadership.

GET AMERICA BACK ON TRACK

(Mr. MANN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge Americans who can get back to work, get back to work.

It has been more than a year since the pandemic shut down the country. Today, nationwide coronavirus cases have dramatically decreased, and cases in Kansas alone are only 7 percent of what they were in January. We are getting back to normal. Businesses are ready to reopen and welcome back customers.

Unfortunately, President Biden's bonus, the new monthly unemployment checks being distributed on top of the checks unemployed persons already receive, is paying a premium for potential workers to remain at home rather than finding work. I have heard from

countless small business owners in the Big First who cite the Biden bonus as the reason why they cannot find workers and completely reopen.

The data doesn't lie. There are nearly 8 million open jobs in America right now, a new record. The Biden bonus, at a time when employers are searching for workers, is unwanted Federal Government interference in the marketplace.

I recently joined fellow Kansas Republicans in urging the Kansas Governor to opt out of enhanced unemployment benefits. I cosponsored the Help Wanted Act, which addresses the severe labor shortages caused by the Federal unemployment policy.

It is time to take off the masks, get our kids back to school, get our businesses open, and get people back to work so we can get America back on track.

LET US RESUME THE PEOPLE'S BUSINESS

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, the pandemic has taken a terrible toll on the country. The pandemic has taken a terrible toll on Congress. In its current state, Congress is not working. We have restrictions on the voting process, we have widespread proxy voting and remote hearings. That has all contributed to the current state of dysfunction. But the good news is this can be fixed.

Look, the Doctors Caucus are Members of Congress with medical backgrounds, well-versed in evaluating medical risks and benefits for patients, proposed courses of action, and we have worked vigorously to educate our constituents that the coronavirus vaccines are safe and effective, yet we are not setting a good example of what happens when vaccine participation is high.

The Doctors Caucus has sent requests to the Office of the Attending Physician and the Speaker of the House appealing for updated guidelines consistent with the science and the Centers for Disease Control.

There will be a motion on the floor of this House later this afternoon, fully supported by members of the Doctors Caucus. I urge all Members to carefully consider that proposal and to vote in favor.

CONDEMNING THE HORRIFIC SHOOTINGS IN ATLANTA

(Ms. LETLOW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LETLOW. Madam Speaker, as a woman of faith, I am called to love my neighbor as myself and to bear one another's burdens. My heart is heavy with the burden, pain, and loss experienced by the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

Unfortunately, we have seen a nationwide rise in hateful and harmful acts toward Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Targeted violence against anyone based on who they are cannot be tolerated. It is not who we are as a people and goes against everything we represent as a nation.

Today, I had hoped to be able to support H. Res. 275, condemning the horrific shootings of the eight Asian women in Atlanta, to honor the lives of the victims, and recognize the basic American fundamentals that reject hatred and violence.

Instead, what would have been a fitting and honorable resolution ended up being just another vehicle for delivering cheap shots against our former President.

I am disappointed that I cannot support this resolution as written.

GREATER HALL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AGRIBUSINESS AWARDS

(Mr. CLYDE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2021 recipients of the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce's annual agribusiness awards.

The Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce comes together each year to recognize and celebrate the contribution of agriculture in our everyday lives. We were blessed to be hosted by the Echols family at Jaemor Farms this year.

The Farmer of the Year award went to Mr. Scott Glover of Glo-Crest Dairy and Mountain Fresh Creamery. In fact, I recently had the privilege to tour Mr. Glover's farm, and it was indeed an impressive operation.

The Friend of Agriculture award was given to the Hall County School District's Agri-Business Center for their agriculture programs and the related education they provide to their students.

Cargill, Incorporated, was awarded the Outstanding Agribusiness award for its generous donations of nearly $100,000 in the past number of years.

Additionally, Mr. Phil Hulsey was inducted into the Hall County Agriculture Hall of Fame for his incredible lifetime contributions as a dairyman.

Agriculture is the leading industry in Georgia, bringing in about $73 billion annually. I thank the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce for allowing me the opportunity to join them in honoring agricultural leaders in Hall County, Georgia.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate this year's winners on their achievements in the agriculture industry.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF JASON PHELPS

(Ms. TENNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize my constituent services director, Jason Phelps, of New Hartford, New York, for 20 years of outstanding service to the people of upstate New York.

Jason began his service as an intern for former Congressman Sherry Boehlert in Washington, D.C., and, after a short time working for a nonprofit, became a member of Boehlert's Utica staff, where he dedicated himself to veterans' case work. Jason has worked for five different Members of Congress in the Mohawk Valley and has served countless veterans across the region.

No matter how complex the case, Jason is always ready to jump in to assist our veterans. From cutting through VA red tape, to making sure a veteran and their family receives the Purple Heart they earned through their service, Jason approaches each case with determination and compassion.

Not only is Jason an amazing veterans' advocate, he is also a role model and an inspiration to the many staff and interns he has worked with in all these offices throughout the years.

Jason, thank you for your many years of service to our brave veterans and for also being the guiding light for our staff and our community. We all look forward to working with you for many more years to come.

REMEMBERING ANDRE THE GIANT

(Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, last but certainly not least, today I rise to honor the life of the eighth wonder of the world on what would have been his 75th birthday: Andre Roussimoff, better known as Andre the Giant, who spent his final years in the small town of Ellerbe, right in the middle of the Ninth District of North Carolina.

Standing 7 feet 4 inches tall and weighing over 500 pounds, Andre was known for his time in the World Wide Wrestling Federation, where he was a fan favorite. During his professional career, he headlined WrestleMania and also defeated Hulk Hogan to win the WWF World Heavyweight Championship. To nonwrestling fans, he is best known for playing the role of Fezzik in the 1987 film ''The Princess Bride.''

Despite his great size, those who knew him found him to be gentle and kind. Andre passed away at the age of 46 in 1993, and his ashes were scattered on his beloved Ellerbe ranch.

I am proud today to pay tribute to the memory of Ellerbe's most famous resident.

□ 1230

FAIRNESS IN ORPHAN DRUG EXCLUSIVITY

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 403, I call up

the bill (H.R. 1629) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). Pursuant to House Resolution 403, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1629

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act''.

SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIVE APPROVAL OR LICENSURE OF ORPHAN DRUGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 527 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360cc) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''Except as provided in subsection (b)'' and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (b) or (f)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIVE APPROVAL, CERTIFICATION, OR LICENSE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For a drug designated under section 526 for a rare disease or condition pursuant to the criteria set forth in subsection (a)(2)(B) of such section, the Secretary shall not grant, recognize, or apply exclusive approval or licensure under subsection (a), and, if such exclusive approval or licensure has been granted, recognized, or applied, shall revoke such exclusive approval or licensure, unless the sponsor of the application for such drug demonstrates—

''(A) with respect to an application approved or a license issued after the date of enactment of this subsection, upon such approval or issuance, that there is no reasonable expectation at the time of such approval or issuance that the cost of developing and making available in the United States such drug for such disease or condition will be recovered from sales in the United States of such drug, taking into account all sales made or reasonably expected to be made within 12 years of first marketing the drug; or

''(B) with respect to an application approved or a license issued on or prior to the date of enactment of this subsection, not later than 60 days after such date of enactment, that there was no reasonable expectation at the time of such approval or issuance that the cost of developing and making available in the United States such drug for such disease or condition would be recovered from sales in the United States of such drug, taking into account all sales made or reasonably expected to be made within 12 years of first marketing the drug.

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—For purposes of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1), the Secretary and the sponsor of the application for the drug designated for a rare disease or condition described in such paragraph shall consider sales from all drugs that—

''(A) are developed or marketed by the same sponsor or manufacturer of the drug (or a licensor, predecessor in interest, or other related entity to the sponsor or manufacturer); and

''(B) are covered by the same designation under section 526.

''(3) CRITERIA.—No drug designated under section 526 for a rare disease or condition pursuant to the criteria set forth in subsection (a)(2)(B) of such section shall be eligible for exclusive approval or licensure under this section unless it met such criteria under such subsection on the date on which the drug was approved or licensed.''.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendments made in subsection (a) shall apply to any drug that has been or is hereafter designated under section 526 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360bb) for a rare disease or condition pursuant to the criteria under subsection (a)(2)(B) of such section regardless of—

(1) the date on which such drug is designated or becomes the subject of a designation request under such section;

(2) the date on which such drug is approved under section 505 of such Act (21 U.S.C. 355) or licensed under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262) or becomes the subject of an application for such approval or licensure; and

(3) the date on which such drug is granted exclusive approval or licensure under section 527 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360cc) or becomes the subject of a request for such exclusive approval or licensure.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and add extraneous material on H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drugs Exclusivity Act, a bill that will help make some prescription drugs more affordable for the American people.

This Democratic Congress is committed to lowering the costs of prescription drugs so that families are no longer forced to choose between paying for a lifesaving drug or food and rent. This legislation today, H.R. 1629, closes the loophole that has blocked patients from accessing cheaper generic drugs.

Last Congress, this legislation passed the Energy and Commerce Committee and the House by voice vote. Last week, it garnered support from a large majority in the House but not the two-thirds necessary to pass under suspension of the rules. And so, we are here again today to debate and pass H.R. 1629 that will help us address two national crises: first, the soaring costs of prescription drugs; and second, the ongoing opioid epidemic.

Madam Speaker, this legislation does that by closing a very narrow but real loophole in a program known as the orphan drug program. This program was created through the Orphan Drug Act, which has been successful in basically doing more research and discovery of new therapies to treat and even cure rare diseases. The law incentivizes the development of these lifesaving therapies by awarding 7 years of market exclusivity to manufacturers who receive orphan drug status.

There are two ways that manufacturers can receive these incentives. The first is when manufacturers develop drugs approved to treat diseases with patient populations of 200,000 or fewer. And the second way is if the manufacturer believes that the research and development costs are not expected to be recouped by sales of the underlying drug. This is known as the cost recovery pathway. It is rarely used, but unfortunately, it has led to manufacturers sometimes inappropriately receiving additional exclusivity and, therefore, delaying lower cost generics from coming to the market.

For example, under certain circumstances, if a manufacturer receives orphan drug status for one drug, that status and its incentives can be passed on to future drugs if those drugs treat the same condition and have the same active ingredient. The status and incentives would be available even if those future drugs do not meet the orphan drug qualifications.

What this means, Madam Speaker, is that future drugs can benefit from the 7 years of market monopoly without having to demonstrate that the drug will treat a population of 200,000 or fewer or that they may not be able to recoup the costs of producing the drug.

As a result of this loophole, some manufacturers are marketing widely used drugs to large populations while also blocking generic competition from coming to market.

Now, if I can give an egregious example of this, it comes from one of our most effective drugs to combat opioid use disorder. In 1994, an oral formulation of buprenorphine was granted orphan drug status. At the time, it was not expected that the drug would be prescribed frequently, and as a result, it was unlikely the manufacturer would recoup its development costs. More than 20 years later, however, in 2017, the same manufacturer developed a new injectable formulation of the same drug with the same active ingredient to treat the same condition. As a result, the manufacturer was able to prevent cheaper generics from coming to market.

But by 2017, the opioid epidemic worsened. Our response to the crisis

evolved, and millions were eventually prescribed buprenorphine for treatment, generating billions of dollars in sales.

We know that buprenorphine was not an orphan drug as the law envisions. Nevertheless, the new injectable drug was automatically granted orphan drug status and exclusivity based on the original oral drug's orphan drug designation. This delayed the cheaper generic treatments for opioid use disorder from coming to market, and it kept the price of the drug high and limited access for those in need of treatment.

While the FDA eventually recognized this issue with this particular drug and revoked its orphan drug designation, its exclusivity delayed generic competition that otherwise would be on the market today.

The bottom line is, Madam Speaker, we need every tool available to combat the opioid epidemic, including low-cost, affordable medication treatments, and loopholes like this have to be closed.

H.R. 1629 would stop this from happening again in the future. It requires drug manufacturers to demonstrate in their application to the FDA that each drug application considered under the Orphan Drug Act cost recovery pathway would be unable to recoup development costs at the time of approval. This would include all drugs that seek the orphan drug designation under the cost recovery pathway, including the injectable buprenorphine example I just described. The bill would also ensure that these rules apply to drugs already on the market, so no drug manufacturers can claim orphan drug status without first meeting this requirement.

Now, I want to explain, because I know this is complicated, this bill is narrowly tailored to fix a narrow but very real loophole in the law. We cannot allow these manufacturers to game the system any longer, and that is why we have to close this loophole today.

I thank Congresswoman DEAN, who is the sponsor of the bill. The merits of this bill are obvious, and I know she is going to talk about it more, but that is why it has received strong bipartisan support. I am confident that it will once again get bipartisan support today, make its way through the Senate, and the President will sign it.

I regret that we were not able to pass this legislation last week under suspension, but I believe that we will come together today to close this loophole. I thank our ranking member of the full committee, Mrs. RODGERS, for all of her help with this.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act.

The Orphan Drug Act was enacted to incentivize the development of drugs that treat rare diseases. Products designated as orphan drugs may be entitled to 7 years of market exclusivity, meaning a drug produced by another manufacturer that contains the same active ingredient to treat the same condition is barred from entering the market during this time.

However, we have seen in recent years that some drug manufacturers, in an effort to block competition from the market, have tried to take advantage of a loophole in existing law. H.R. 1629 will close this loophole and prevent potential abuse of this program in the future.

We must preserve incentives to innovate, especially for drugs that treat rare diseases, while preventing bad actors from attempting to exploit those incentives to benefit from a national crisis, as was done during the opioid epidemic.

This legislation strikes that careful balance. This bill garnered both Republican and Democrat support last Congress. I hope we can continue to work together to move H.R. 1629 forward in the future on a bipartisan basis.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN), the sponsor of this bill.

I commend her for all the work she has done on this bill. This has been several Congresses now, and we are hoping this will be the final one where we get this bill passed.

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Ranking Member RODGERS and Chairman PALLONE for their leadership on this bill.

I, once again, rise in support of H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act.

This crucial legislation would close a current loophole that is used to block competition in the pharmaceutical marketplace.

The Orphan Drug Act of 1983 provided incentives for prescription drug manufacturers to develop products to treat rare diseases. This includes an exclusive 7-year marketing right for therapies that receive an orphan drug designation.

For a drug to qualify, it must either be a treatment for a disease or condition that affects fewer than 200,000 people in the United States or a drug intended for diseases that there is no reasonable expectation to recoup research and development costs.

It would require all drug manufacturers who obtain orphan drug status to prove that they have no reasonable expectation that they will recover R&D costs.

This legislation works to prevent companies from continuing to use orphan drug exclusivity status for a newly approved drug with an identical ingredient to the former version without having to prove the inability to recoup costs.

This exact circumstance, as the chairman described, happened when a manufacturer of a buprenorphine product tweaked an older product that had received orphan drug status and subsequently was given a renewed orphan drug exclusivity.

Buprenorphine is used as a treatment for opioid use disorder to help those recovering from addiction. Unfortunately, at the time, the opioid epidemic was raging, as it is today, and was by no means a rare disease. And the drug was by no means a market loser. It was a moneymaker.

Closing this loophole would ensure that products do not receive an unfair market advantage and will get more affordable drugs to patients. It ensures consistency with the spirit and intent of the Orphan Drug Act.

Know that we want to encourage and support the development of rare disease treatments and therapeutics. It is critically important. But we cannot allow this important incentive to be co-opted to allow for unfair market competition for drugs that are not a commercial loss.

This bill was supported unanimously last Congress and has broad support among patient advocates. This bill is about ensuring market competition, reducing barriers to the development of new treatments, and, ultimately, supporting patients.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from 16 patient advocacy organizations in support of this legislation.

MARCH 9, 2021.

Re H.R. 1629—The Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act.

Hon. MADELEINE DEAN,
Washington, DC.
Hon. MARC VEASEY,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES DEAN AND VEASEY:

Thank you for your leadership on the reintroduction of H.R. 1629, The Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act. Our nation is in crisis. Each day, 130 Americans die from an opioid overdose, and according to recent provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, between June 2019 and May 2020, the number of people who died of an opioid overdose increased by 38.4%.

We have a responsibility to ensure that all treatment options are made available to those living with opioid use disorder {OUD). Last year, this important legislation was approved by the House of Representatives unanimously. Unfortunately, the Senate was unable to also act on the measure before the 116th Congress adjourned. The new Congress now has an opportunity to pass this legislation swiftly and improve access to life-saving medication assisted treatments and prevent more lives from being lost. We, the undersigned organizations, support H.R. 1629 and urge quick passage of this important bill that will help ensure the availability of vital treatment options for OUD that can save American lives.

The Orphan Drug Act, enacted in 1983, allows the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to grant manufacturers Orphan Drug Designation (ODD) and Orphan Drug Exclusivity (ODE) to a product developed to treat rare diseases and conditions affecting less than 200,000 patients. In addition, a manufacturer also can qualify for ODD and ODE if more than 200,000 patients are affected, but there is ''no reasonable expectation'' of recovering development costs. Few know about

this option, and as a result it is exceedingly rare with only three uses to date.

In such cases, if a newly approved product has the same active ingredient as a previous product that received orphan designation and exclusivity because the FDA determined the original drug could not recoup its development costs, the newly approved product does not have to demonstrate the inability to recoup its development costs. It does not matter how much time has passed, or how much money the newly approved drug is predicted to make. This loophole creates the potential for abuses within the system, and it is not consistent with intent of the Orphan Drug Act.

Enacting H.R. 1629 will: fix this loophole in a narrow and targeted manner to prevent this abuse of the Orphan Drug Act; preserve incentives for development of products treating rare diseases and conditions; and ensure new treatment options come to market to treat OUD.

During this public health emergency, we need all the tools we can muster to fight this crisis. We should not tie one hand behind our back as the exploitation of this loophole would do.

More than 2.1 million Americans live with OUD, making this disease far from rare. This disease is a national public health emergency, and we need to close this loophole to ensure that all safe and effective treatments are available to fight this disease. Thank you again for your leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with you to help pass H.R. 1629.

Sincerely,

Advocates for Opioid Recovery, AIDS United, Aimed Alliance, Daniel's story, Center for U.S. Policy, Cover2 Resources, FORCE, Healthy Women, Maryland Heroin Awareness, Mother's Addiction Journey, No More OD's, Inc., NOPE Task Force, Prevention Action Alliance, Shatterproof, Tyler's Light, Young People in Recovery.

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the Statement of Administration Policy issued by the Office of Management and Budget on May 17 of this year in support of this bill.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 1629—FAIRNESS IN ORPHAN DRUG EXCLUSIVITY ACT—REP. DEAN, D–PENNSYLVANIA, AND TWO COSPONSORS

The Administration supports House passage of H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act. Orphan drug status is intended to encourage companies to develop promising drugs for rare diseases. Current law provides market exclusivity for drugs that treat any disease or condition which (A) affects fewer than 200,000 persons in the United States, or (B) affects more than 200,000 in the United States and for which there is no reasonable expectation that the cost of developing and making available in the United States a drug for such disease or condition will be recovered from that drug's sales in the United States. H.R. 1629 affects only drugs that qualify under the latter provision. Current law allows market exclusivity to be extended for a new version of the same drug without the drug developer having to show a lack of profitability for that new version as well. This legislation would close that loophole, requiring all drugs that obtain seven years of market exclusivity for conditions affecting 200,000 or more people to illustrate that they have no reasonable expectation of recovering R&D costs through U.S. sales.

The Administration applauds these steps to ensure Americans have access to high quality, affordable treatments.

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman PALLONE for his support on this bill, and I urge all members to support its passage.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I would ask for support for this bill from both sides of the aisle. As I have mentioned in the past, it has passed the House previously.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 403, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

□ 1245

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3233, NATIONAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE JANUARY 6 ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL COMPLEX ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3237, EMERGENCY SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL TO RESPOND TO JANUARY 6TH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 409 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 409

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3233) to establish the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3237) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), my friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Yesterday, the Committee on Rules met and reported a rule, House Resolution 409. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3233 to establish a National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act, under a closed rule.

The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their designees and provides one motion to recommit.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 3237, the Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6 Appropriations Act, 2021, under a closed rule.

The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees, and provides for one motion to recommit.

Madam Speaker, it has been 133 days since an angry mob of insurrectionists tried to stop the certification of a free and fair election in America. The question before us today is this: What are we going to do about it?

Some of my colleagues on the other side want to sweep this dark chapter under the rug. Just last week, one Republican said the events of January 6 resembled a ''normal tourist visit.''

Madam Speaker, I was here presiding over the House on January 6. People died that day. Police officers were beaten and bloodied. America's Capitol, the symbol of our freedom and the

citadel of our democracy, was desecrated by a mob that wanted to invalidate an election. There was nothing normal about it.

It is not normal for a mob to break into this complex to try and hang the Vice President of the United States and harm other elected officials.

It is not normal for insurrectionists to try to stop the certification of an American election, one that judge after judge after judge said was free and fair. And it is not normal for Congress to respond by doing nothing. That is why we are considering the underlying legislation contained in this rule. It will establish a bipartisan 9/11-style commission to investigate what happened, a commission led not by politicians, but by experts.

Now let me say this plainly: A vote for this commission is a vote to make sure this never happens again. And I want to recognize the incredible work of the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security in navigating this truly bipartisan deal. It is one that will keep the focus where it should be, solely on the events of January 6. And I look forward to the Commission's report at the end of the year. But the truth is, we cannot wait until then to fix what we already know needs fixing.

We need to upgrade the physical safety of this and other Federal buildings. We need to increase security in district offices, repay the National Guard for their service in the aftermath of the insurrection, and provide support to the overworked Capitol Police force that keep us all safe day after day.

Madam Speaker, this is how you respond responsibly to what happened 4 months ago, not with deflection or mistruths, but by taking action to protect not only this complex and those who work, serve, and visit here, but to also protect our very democracy, and making sure we never become a country that lets any angry mob decide who the next President will be.

Madam Speaker, only the voters can do that. We need to put the facts on RECORD here, to tell the truth and not spread lies. And the truth is that some on the other side are afraid to do anything around here because they are afraid, afraid of the truth, afraid because their leadership doesn't want to offend the ex-President and his big lie. That is all I could think of when I read the minority leader's deeply troubling statement opposing the January 6 commission.

Now, even though it is bipartisan, even though his own ranking member negotiated the deal, even though we gave him virtually everything he asked for during the negotiations, a Republican aide said it best when they were quoted in the press yesterday saying this: ''I think Kevin was hoping that the Democrats would never agree to our requests; That way the commission would be partisan and we can all vote ''no'' and say it is a sham operation, because he knows Trump is going to lose his mind.'' Lose his mind over a bipartisan commission.

Madam Speaker, this moment is a choice, a choice between the truth or siding with the originator of the big lie. To my friends on the other side, I am asking you to lead with the courage of your convictions. Vote your conscience. Support this bipartisan commission, not just because it is the right thing to do, but support it out of respect, out of respect for your colleagues, for your staff and the support staff here, for the Capitol Police, but, most importantly, respect for this institution.

Now, I have cast some tough votes in my career, but casting a vote to establish a bipartisan commission to establish an insurrection is not one of them. I appeal to my colleagues to do the right thing, to lead with courage, and support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts, Chairman MCGOVERN, for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today's rule covers two items. The first item I will discuss is H.R. 3237, a supplemental appropriations bill intended to provide security funding for the Capitol complex, including funding for the U.S. Capitol Police, the National Guard, and other agencies that responded to the January 6 attack on the Capitol complex, as well as to provide funds to address the coronavirus throughout a variety of agencies Congress directly controls.

Although the process leading to this bill started out with bipartisan negotiations, unfortunately, no deal was reached. Instead of negotiating with Republicans on our counterproposal, as is typical in these discussions, Democrats walked away, once again, choosing to go it alone with the bipartisan bill before us today.

Madam Speaker, it is truly disappointing that Democrats were unwilling to continue to work towards an agreement with Republicans on a matter of this magnitude, and given that the Senate is in no hurry to take up this legislation, a few additional weeks of discussion could and likely would have led to a bipartisan product instead of a product destined for the legislative graveyard.

In the wake of the January 6 attack, I would hope that the majority would join with Republicans and choose to speak with one voice. Instead, like so many items in this Congress, the majority has insisted on its way or the highway. And today, they are doing it so again with this partisan bill.

House Republicans and even some Senate Democrats have concerns with this package. The bill creates a rapid response force with the D.C. National Guard. Any rapid response force intended to provide backup for the United States Capitol Police and to protect the Capitol complex should be under the control of, and housed within Congress.

As a number of my colleagues mentioned during the debate in the Committee on Rules yesterday, housing these capabilities within the D.C. National Guard introduces the exact same concerns my friends on the other side raised in the aftermath of January 6, that Congress would be reliant on the executive branch to deploy this rapid response force.

Madam Speaker, I have deep concerns about putting this rapid response force under the control of any other entity, whether that is the government or the District of Columbia or the executive branch. I also have grave concerns about assigning this role to the military since this is undoubtedly a law enforcement function.

Further bipartisan and bicameral negotiations would have helped us to tailor the package to allay some of the serious concerns Members have, and at the same time would direct funds to where they are needed most.

Madam Speaker, I do know that what the House passes this week will not be the final word. And I am hopeful that in the not-too-distant future, the House will take up a different version of this package, one that has been negotiated with Republicans and that can pass the Senate, and I look forward to supporting that package before the President signs it into law.

Madam Speaker, our second item for today is H.R. 3233, a bill which establishes a national commission to investigate the January 6 attack on the United States Capitol complex.

I thank Ranking Member JOHN KATKO and Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON of the Committee on Homeland Security for their hard work in putting this legislation together. They took an unworkable and hyper-partisan proposal from the Speaker and turned it into a far better bill. I commend these two gentlemen for their desire to find bipartisan agreement.

However, I continue to have concerns with the legislation, concerns that could have been addressed if several of the amendments proposed at our Committee on Rules hearing would have been made in order.

□ 1300

On an issue this serious, the full House deserves the opportunity to debate and discuss areas of disagreement to see if we can find common ground. One of these areas of continued disagreement is that of scope, which remains too narrow in the proposal.

As the culture of our national politics has coarsened over the past several years, there has been a resulting broader wave of political violence in this country. This includes events like the 2017 domestic terror attack that targeted Republican Members of Congress at a baseball practice, and which would have been catastrophically worse but for the bravery of the U.S. Capitol Police officers who were present that day.

It includes the April 2 attack that killed U.S. Capitol Police Officer Billy Evans.

It includes the wave of violence, rioting, and property destruction that swept across the country last summer.

The commission should have specific flexibility to examine these events in their appropriate context.

I am also concerned about current language in the bill related to the ongoing work of law enforcement to bring the perpetrators of January 6 to justice. There are multiple investigations already underway. Several committees in both the House and the Senate have held, and will continue to hold, hearings on the topic.

The Architect of the Capitol is reviewing security vulnerabilities in the Capitol complex. As of yesterday, more than 450 people have been arrested in connection with the events of January 6, with at least 100 more arrests to come. All of these individuals will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, as well they should.

Given each of these ongoing investigations and proceedings, I fear that adding yet another investigation from this proposed commission would only muddy the waters and make achieving due process and reaching justice all that much harder.

For that reason, I supported an amendment offered in the Rules Committee that would ensure that the ongoing and critically important work of law enforcement would continue unimpeded by this commission. For reasons I do not fully understand, this amendment was blocked.

Moreover, in my personal opinion, the commission would benefit from any revelations emerging from the investigations currently underway.

In addition, I note that it was 14 months between the events of 9/11 and the creation of the 9/11 commission. During that time, many facts emerged that informed the investigation of the commission. The same could be true here. As such, it makes sense to take more time prior to commencing an undertaking like this commission.

Though I have reservations about the bill, I have no reservations at all about the job Ranking Member KATKO and Chairman THOMPSON have done. I am hopeful that this bill will be improved further as it proceeds through the legislative process.

Madam Speaker, I urge opposition to this rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I also agree with the gentleman that Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO deserve an enormous amount of credit. They negotiated a truly bipartisan deal.

I have taken note of the letter that Minority Leader MCCARTHY sent to Speaker PELOSI of all the things he wanted in this deal, and he got virtually every one of them, all in this bipartisan deal. Now, all of a sudden, it is not good enough.

All of the concerns that my good friend raised are addressed in this bill. The commission could look at anything and investigate anything related to the violence that occurred here on January 6.

I mean, what happened here, isn't that a big enough deal to merit an investigation?

I don't get it.

In the bill, by the way, is language that is quite clear about how this commission will not interfere with any other ongoing investigations. In fact, very similar to the 9/11 commission, it will be informed by other investigations and complement other investigations.

So, again, I urge my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to vote for this commission, out of respect for the people who work here, out of respect for this institution, out of respect for our democracy.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, as the Congresswoman from the District of Columbia, where the January 6 insurrection occurred, I was one of the first Members of Congress to call for and introduce legislation to create a 9/11-style commission to investigate the attack and to ensure that it never happens again. I strongly support the commission bill.

The supplemental security appropriations bill provides $66.7 million to eliminate the long-running deficit in the Federally-funded D.C. Emergency Planning and Security Fund. That fund pays for the unique public safety and security costs D.C. incurs as the Nation's capital, and is designed to cover the District's costs up front, so that D.C. does not have to expend local funds for Federal purposes and seek an appropriation to be reimbursed after the fact.

Over the last several years, our Republican colleagues have opposed fully funding the D.C. Fund. The January 6 insurrection shows Congress must never shortchange security in the Nation's Capitol again.

I also appreciate that the appropriations bill would mirror two of my bills.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

Ms. NORTON. I also appreciate that the appropriations bill would mirror two of my bills, prohibiting the use of funds in the bill to install permanent aboveground fencing at the Capitol complex, and requiring Capitol Police officers to wear body cameras.

In February, I introduced legislation to prohibit funds for permanent fencing at the Capitol complex, and in March the House passed my bill to require Federal police officers to wear body cameras as part of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up House Resolution 153, a resolution condemning the recent hate crimes committed against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. STEEL), my good friend, the author of the resolution, to further explain the amendment.

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the previous question.

If the previous question is defeated, Republicans will amend this rule to immediately consider House Resolution 153, the condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

This bipartisan bill was the very first bill I introduced in Congress.

I am here today to condemn the recent discrimination and violence the AAPI community has experienced. I spoke on this issue yesterday, and I am proud to be standing here again today.

I was born in Korea and raised in Japan. I am living my American Dream and I am a proud American. I am honored every day to represent my community in Congress. Unfortunately, hate crime against the Asian-American community is not new. And as an American who loves this country dearly, this issue is very personal to me.

Hate crimes committed against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have been on the rise since the start of the COVID–19 pandemic. Between March and December of last year, nearly 3,000 firsthand accounts of Asian-American and Pacific Islander hate crimes were recorded in the United States. The reporting has now been updated by the group Stop AAPI Hate, and between March 2020 and March 2021, more than 6,000 hate crimes or hate incidents were reported. This includes physical assault, verbal assault, and online bullying of Asian Americans.

My home State of California makes up more than 40 percent of these incidents and crimes. It is heartbreaking to read the news stories of these crimes, and my heart goes out to all those who have been victims of this violence. That is why the first bill I introduced in Congress in February was H. Res. 153. It is the only bipartisan legislation in the House of its kind, and I am proud that it has been cosponsored by several of my Democratic colleagues, including Congressmembers

KATIE PORTER, LOU CORREA, ALAN LOWENTHAL, and MIKE LEVIN.

This resolution is very simple. It condemns all expressions of anti-Asian and Pacific Islander intolerance, and calls on Federal, State, and local officials to work together to investigate and improve reporting of these crimes.

Yesterday, I spoke about how I was disappointed that this truly bipartisan resolution was not a part of this fixed conversation, and was not being considered on the floor. But, today, we have another opportunity to show solidarity with our AAPI community and vote on my bipartisan resolution.

Discrimination and hate against any community are against the fundamental values of American cultural. Discrimination and hate have no place in this great country. Madam Speaker, I am proud that my resolution has support from both sides of the aisle, unlike the other bills on the floor today. I hope we can work together to put an end to this hate. I am asking my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the previous question so that I can bring my bipartisan bill condemning hate crimes against AAPI on the floor.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I reference the text of S. 937 and H. Res. 275, a bill and a resolution we are considering this week. S. 937 was passed yesterday, and right after this debate, we are going to adopt H. Res. 275. They are two pieces of legislation condemning hate crimes against Asian Americans in this country.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Ms. SHERRILL).

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3233, which creates a bipartisan independent commission to investigate the attacks on the Capitol on January 6.

Why do we need this commission?

We need this commission because the American people must understand exactly what happened so we can all forge a more resilient democracy.

We need this commission because, on January 6, I was lying on the floor to avoid possible shooters in this very Chamber, holding a gas mask in one hand and a phone in the other as I called my husband in case I didn't make it home.

We need this commission because, despite our own experiences, despite video footage, despite testimony by police, it has been suggested that this was simply a normal tourist event. Well, we have a lot of tourism where I am from. People visit our beautiful shore and historic sights, and no tourist event I have ever seen looks like that day.

As The New York Times reported: The pure savagery of the mob was breathtaking, as cataloged by injuries inflicted. One police officer lost an eye; another, the tip of his finger. Still another was shocked so many times with a taser gun that he had a heart attack.

Madam Speaker, we need this commission.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1315

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO).

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, when I joined the Marine Corps, the most sacred part of my oath was to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. I took that oath again when I was sworn into office as a Member of Congress. I never thought I would have to defend this oath against domestic enemies on the floor of Congress—but on January 6, I did.

Democracy is fragile. We have seen it across the world: When leaders cower in the face of an attack on democracy, it can be lost. Let's be clear: Democracy itself was violently attacked on January 6. If we don't stand up for it, it will happen again. If we don't tell the truth about what happened on January 6, it will happen again. If we don't have swift and harsh accountability for everyone involved in January 6, it will happen again.

If all of us don't stand up to traitors and cowards in defense of our Constitution, January 6 will happen again. That is why all of us have an obligation today to defend our democracy and support the creation of a national commission to investigate the January 6 attack, because it can never be allowed to happen again.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a statement from the family of United States Capitol Officer Howie Liebengood, who died by suicide. His death was a direct result of the trauma and strain from the January 6 attack.

Madam Speaker, in the statement, the family of Officer Liebengood states: ''We believe a thorough, nonpartisan investigation into the root causes of and the response to the January 6 riot is essential for our Nation to move forward. Howie's death was an immediate outgrowth of those events.''

LIEBENGOOD FAMILY STATEMENT ON THE JANUARY 6TH COMMISSION AND SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL

FAMILY OF FALLEN USCP OFFICER HOWIE LIEBENGOOD CALLS ON CONGRESS TO PASS BOTH PIECES OF LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, DC—Today, the Office of Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton (D–VA) released the following statement from the family of United States Capitol Police Officer Howie Liebengood regarding the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act and the Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6th Appropriations Act.

''We believe a thorough, non-partisan investigation into the root causes of and the response to the January 6th riot is essential for our nation to move forward. Howie's death was an immediate outgrowth of those events. Every officer who worked that day, as well as their families, should have a better understanding of what happened. Uncovering the facts will help our nation heal and may lessen the lingering emotional bitterness that has divided our country. We implore Congress to work as one and establish the proposed Commission.

''Additionally, improved mental health for USCP officers has been one of our goals for the past four months. Through the tireless efforts of Congresswoman Wexton, we are honored a wellness program bearing Howie's name has been proposed in the security supplemental along with more resources for the program. We welcome and support the new funding and staffing initiatives that will help prevent future tragedies among the USCP.''

Howie C. Liebengood grew up and lived in Vienna, Virginia and was Congresswoman Wexton's constituent. He was raised in the Capitol Hill community, where his father, Howard S. Liebengood, served for decades as a Hill staffer and later the Senate Sergeant at Arms. Howie received a Bachelor's Degree at Purdue University, a Master 's Degree at the University of Memphis, and started a career as a race car driver in the 1990s. Howie joined the Capitol Police in 2005 and served as an officer for 15 years He was assigned to the Senate division and often worked at the Delaware entrance of the Russell Senate Office Building. Howie took his life on January 9, and his death was a direct result of the trauma and strain from the January 6th attack on the Capitol and the around-the-clock shifts in the subsequent days. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Serena McClam Liebengood, his siblings, John Liebengood and Anne Winters, and many family and friends who loved him dearly.

Following Howie's death, Dr. Liebengood and Howie's family have been advocating [iqconnect.house.gov] to have Howie's death designated ''in the line of duty;'' to support much needed USCP reforms; and to promote positive change around mental health issues for his fellow law enforcement officers, both with the Capitol Police and with law enforcement agencies generally.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, there is hardly anything this Congress can do that will be more important than having a bipartisan commission to look at the insurrection that occurred in this Capitol on January 6. There was an attempt to overturn our Constitution and to displace the electoral college and the peaceful transition of power that makes our country unique and special among the countries of the world.

This wouldn't have happened but for the President at the time telling people to come to Washington on January 6—no other date but the day of the electoral college—to fight like hell or you won't have a government anymore and telling them he would walk with them to the Capitol and told them where to go.

This cannot happen again. If we don't have this commission and reveal the truth, it will happen again. There is only one reason you wouldn't vote for this, Madam Speaker: if you can't handle the truth. Get the truth out.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a May 19 letter

from the Bipartisan Policy Center in support of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

In the letter, the cochairs of the 9/11 Commission, Governor Tom Kean and Representative Lee Hamilton state: ''A full accounting of the events of January 6 and the identification of measures to strengthen the Congress can help our country heal.''

[From BPC Action]

BPC ACTION URGES SUPPORT FOR H.R. 3233

H.R. 3233, the ''National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act,'' is a crucial step for the country to get the truth of those shocking events and agree on how to ensure they never occur again. The Bipartisan Policy Center is encouraged that the agreement reflects the principles of 9–11 Commission chairs Gov. Tom Kean and Rep. Lee Hamilton, who stated, ''A full accounting of the events of January 6th and the identification of measures to strengthen the Congress can help our country heal.''

A single narrative of the facts of that day and actionable recommendations for preventing them from recurring are the predicate for ensuring our democracy is respected and protected. This bipartisan, independent commission is structured so experts will be empowered to objectively assess the evidence and chart a path forward.

In this midst of opportunity for growth and healing, it is crucial that we reflect on our history: the strength of the 9/11 commission was that it was bipartisan and unified by the imperative of national security. Twenty years later, we are reminded of the security challenges this nation faces, and we must come together in the same way we did following 9/11.

We applaud the House and Senate committees and law enforcement investigations that have laid groundwork for an independent commission to begin its work—and House and Senate leaders, especially Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON and Ranking Member JOHN KATKO, for creating a process that has a real chance for success. We urge Congress to support H.R. 3233.

[From Issue One]

JOINT STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR TOM KEAN AND CONGRESSMAN LEE HAMILTON, CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION

''We very strongly urge House Members to support H.R. 3233, the bipartisan National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex. That bill would create a 9/11 style commission to investigate the January 6th assault on the U.S. Capitol. That was a dark day in American history, one of the darkest.

''As Chairman and Vice Chairman of the 9/11 Commission, unity of purpose was key to the effectiveness of the group. We put country above party, without bias, the events before, during and after the attack. We sought to understand our vulnerabilities in order to prevent future attacks or future acts of terrorism.

''Today, democracy faces a new threat. The January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol was one of the darkest days in the history of our country. Americans deserve an objective and an accurate account of what happened. As we did in the wake of September 11, it's time to set aside partisan politics and come together as Americans in common pursuit of truth and justice.''

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), who is the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 409, which allows for the debate on H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act. After months of negotiations, last week I was pleased to introduce this measure with the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO).

Back in 2007, I was proud to be the lead sponsor of legislation to implement the unfulfilled recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. I can say with certainty, at that time, I could never have imagined that I would be standing here today, almost 15 years later, advocating for the establishment of a 9/11-style commission to investigate a violent domestic attack on the United States Capitol.

On January 6, the world watched Americans storm the Capitol and engage in violence to try to intimidate and prevent Congress from carrying out its constitutional duty to certify a Presidential election, a solemn process central to the peaceful transfer of power in our democracy.

Like the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the events of January 6 have cast a long shadow on our country. Like the 9/11 terrorist attacks, it has raised fundamental questions about information-sharing, coordination, preparedness, and response at all levels of government.

When the defenses around the citadel of our democracy fail as profoundly as they did on January 6, then attention must be paid. At least one Capitol Police Officer died because of the cause of the violence that day. Others died too, and injuries were extensive also—not the least of which is the body blow of Americans' confidence that the reforms undertaken after 9/11 would deliver better information-sharing and coordination to keep us secure.

H.R. 3233 authorizes the establishment of a 10-member commission that mirrors the 9/11 Commission, the gold standard for bipartisan commissions. The January 6 Commission would be required to investigate and report on all the facts and causes of the attack including relevant influencing factors that may have contributed to the attack.

Given how politically charged the events of January 6 have become, we need to come together in a patriotic, bipartisan way and approve this independent body, just as we did when we approved the creation of the 9/11 Commission. The 9/11 Commission acted not out of partisanship, but out of patriotism. We need that same sense of duty today. Apathy is not a security strategy, and neither are ignorance or willful disregard.

After such a shocking attack, nothing short of a full accounting of what took place will put us on the path to improving our homeland security.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, the distinguished chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, for his excellent work on this bill; and I want to thank his ranking member and negotiating partner. I think they, frankly, moved us in the right direction toward agreement.

We continue to have concerns. It is a long, legislative process. Obviously, we will have to pass something through the Senate as well. So it is my hope we can build upon their work and continue to move forward.

We are not prepared at this time to provide huge support for this bill. We think it can continue to improve. But that doesn't take anything away from my appreciation and admiration for the gentleman from Mississippi for his good work. We will continue to try and work with him and others and get to a place we can all come to agree.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, let's be clear that opposition to this commission is not about substance or policy; it really is about politics, plain and simple. At least, my Republican colleagues in the Senate side are willing to admit that. Senator THUNE said that there is concern among Republicans that the findings could be ''weaponized politically and drug into next year''.

I get that his members want to ''be moving forward and not looking backward,'' but this was an attack on the United States Capitol, and all the people who work here. It was an attack on our democracy.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a CNN article entitled ''Republicans fear January 6 probe could undercut 2022 midterm message.''

[From CNN, May 19, 2021]

REPUBLICANS FEAR JANUARY 6 PROBE COULD UNDERCUT 2022 MIDTERM MESSAGE

(By Manu Raju)

Senior Republicans are making clear they have little interest in moving forward with a sweeping January 6 investigation in part because a detailed probe could become politically damaging and amount to a distraction for their party just as control of Congress is at stake in next year's midterm elections.

Publicly and privately, Republicans are making that case, with Senate GOP Whip John Thune noting that there's concern among some GOP members that the findings of the probe ''could be weaponized politically and drug into next year.'' ''I want our midterm message to be on the kinds of things that the American people are dealing with: That's jobs and wages and the economy and national security, safe streets and strong borders—not relitigating the 2020 elections,'' Thune told CNN. ''A lot of our members, and I think this is true of a lot of House Republicans, want to be moving forward and not looking backward. Anything that gets us rehashing the 2020 elections I think is a day lost on being able to draw a contrast between us the Democrats' very radical left-wing agenda.''

Thune's comments came moments after Senate GOP Leader Mitch McConnell announced his opposition on the floor, contending it would duplicate ongoing probes

and contending the deal—which was reached between a House Republican and House Democrat—is designed to find a conclusion that would be in ''Democrats' hands.'' The commission would be structured so 10 members—chosen equally between the leaders from both political parties—could report by year's end on what happened on January 6, as well as the ''influencing factors'' behind it.

It's clear that such an investigation would also look at then-President Donald Trump's role in promoting the January 6 ''Stop the Steal'' rally, his lies that the election was stolen and his efforts to subvert the will of voters. Moreover, it could put an uncomfortable focus on some conservative GOP senators and House members who sought to overturn the election results in Congress, while keeping the issue front-and-center as the investigation plays out over the next year.

And there are ample questions about whether House GOP Leader Kevin McCarthy would be forced to testify to explain what Trump was saying on January 6 given the two spoke during a heated phone call that day.

''It would be a distraction,'' one senior GOP source told CNN, arguing any investigation should also look at left-wing extremism as well.

Similar concerns were voiced through the Senate Republican Conference on Wednesday, coming hours after a group of members huddled privately with McCarthy earlier in the morning.

Sen. John Cornyn, a Texas Republican and member of leadership, said that in addition to his concern about a commission's work overlapping with criminal probes, he accused House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of pushing the investigation to help Democrats' chances at keeping control of Congress.

''Well, part of the concern is that's the plan,'' Cornyn said. ''That's Pelosi's plan.'' If the probe dragged out until the next year, he added: ''That would be the Democrats' dream. . . . I generally don't try to help Democrats.''

While the bill is expected to pass the House on Wednesday, it's an open question whether it will pass the Senate, where 60 votes would be needed to break a GOP filibuster.

Thune, the chief GOP vote counter, said they haven't taken the caucus' temperature yet on the plan.

''I would say that there's a skepticism about what's happening in the House right now and whether or not what comes out is a proposal that will be fair.''

Sen. Gary Peters, who chairs the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, said there's a reason why Republicans are battling the commission.

''They're afraid of the truth because it puts them on the wrong side of what is right,'' Peters, a Michigan Democrat, said Wednesday.

Asked if he is concerned the probe could last into the midterm season when the GOP wants to focus on jobs, Republican Sen. Thom Tillis of North Carolina said: ''There's a lot of stuff we need to focus on.''

''Why shift our attention away from that, when we already have an infrastructure in place to address a lot of the things that the commission seems to be stood up to address,'' Tillis asked. ''Seems redundant.''

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of truth and justice. The chairman and the ranking member are two honorable men. We all can see this, Madam Speaker, and I am happy about that.

That attack was born of lies. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the worst external terrorist attack in our modern history. The gravest attack ever on American democracy came 133 days ago. That attack was born of lies. It was born about the voting, about elections, and about our democracy. These lies divided our country. They spread across our land like a plague.

On December 11, I warned on this floor of elected officials across this Nation amplifying big lies. On January 6, the world saw the result. Like the 9/11 Commission it is modeled after, this commission must hold allegiance only to the truth. A full investigation of this attack must reflect on how the spark of insurrection was ignited and who fanned the flames. It is our sacred duty, Madam Speaker.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT).

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and the underlying bills. January 6 was an unprecedented event that exposed the real threat to the beating heart of our democracy: our Capitol and all of us who work in it.

Shortly after the insurrection, I expressed the need to form a 9/11-style commission, not only to get to the bottom of this and who was responsible for it, but also to ensure that it never happens again. This is exactly what these bills do, Madam Speaker.

The security of our Capitol and our democracy is not a partisan issue. However, the other side of the aisle has attempted to turn this into a sideshow, Madam Speaker, into a circus. I submit to you that the attempted murder of our Vice President, the attempted murder of our Speaker, and the attempted murder of any one of us is not a sideshow, it is not a circus, it is a real threat to everyone across this great land.

Taken together, these two critical bills will help us finally recover from the January 6 insurrection. We must ensure that these sacred Halls will never again be overrun by racist thugs against our democracy.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and the establishment of a national commission to study the events of January 6, 2021. The January 6 insurrection was a violent and bloody attack on our democracy. Domestic terrorists stormed this building. They did so in order to stop the peaceful transition of power and to keep Donald Trump in office, even after he lost the 2020 election fair and square.

We have never seen this type of attack before in this country. I pray we never will again. That is why we need to establish a national commission to understand how this happened, to gather all the facts surrounding these events, and, most importantly, to ensure it never happens again.

I want to thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for working across the aisle to establish this bipartisan commission. The people who took part in this insurrection caused great damage to this building, dozens of people were injured, and five people lost their lives. But despite the horror of that day, our democracy endured.

This commission will allow us to understand how this happened and how we prevent it and gather all the facts. The search for truth matters. Protecting our democracy matters. This should be a bipartisan vote to strongly support the work of this commission.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I am having trouble trying to figure out exactly what the problem that some of my Republican colleagues may have with this bill. Maybe, based on the lack of speakers, they are having trouble figuring it out too.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON), who is a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the rule and underlying bills before us today.

It has been over 4 months since the attack on the Capitol, an attack which disrupted a joint session of Congress and threatened one of the most essential pillars of our American Government: the peaceful and democratic transfer of power. That lawless assault threatened not just the foundations of our government, but also the lives of those who served their fellow citizens here. That assault shattered the illusion of security and sanctity of this building, the United States Capitol.

We remain eternally grateful for the bravery and patriotism of the members of the U.S. Capitol and D.C. Metropolitan Police who heroically defended this building, its occupants, and our democracy.

But it is long past time to launch an independent, bipartisan examination of what occurred on January 6, why it occurred, and how to prevent it from ever happening again. We need a commission with the power and authority to collect evidence and make recommendations across multiple agencies, committees, and branches of government impacted by the attack.

Almost as soon as the tear gas and broken glass had been cleared in the wee hours of January 7, we began hearing calls for unity. But what has remained illusive is a shared set of facts behind which the Nation can unify and forge a path to healing and accountability for the events of January 6. That path starts with these bills.

We cannot repair the damage to our government and the rule of law so long

as we have national leaders or those who seek to be propagating lies about why our government was attacked and the gravity of the events of January 6. Those falsehoods are incredibly dangerous, and so long as they remain unchallenged by a bipartisan, independent commission, we are never going to get past the dark part of our history.

In addition to creating this bipartisan commission, we also need to pass the emergency supplemental appropriations bill to fund the many additional expenses which were created by the Capitol attack, including overtime, staffing, training for law enforcement, reimbursing the National Guard, and so much more.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote for this rule.

□ 1330

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding.

I was here on 9/11, and I could see the billowing smoke as we ran for our lives as the planes were hitting the Pentagon and the aftermath.

I was here on January 6 when screaming voices came and glass began to break, as the video has shown us, the video of the beatings. My tribute to all the officers—we have heard the story of Officer Fanone.

All we want is truth, and all we want is for the big lie to be undone.

It is important to support H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and the underlying emergency supplemental that General Honore and his committee so aptly did.

I thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for their hard work. Be reminded of the fact that it was the former President still lingering, lashing around instead of allowing the transfer of peaceful government to go. He is now pushing big lies.

I wanted the Vice President to live. I wanted the Speaker to live. I wanted Members to live. I wanted Black officers not to be under the threat of racist overtones. So this commission will listen to it all.

I ask my colleagues to get rid of the big lie, stand by the Constitution, the flag, and justice and equality for all. Pass H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

Mr. Speaker, as Chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Homeland Security, and Terrorism, and a senior member of the Homeland Security, and Budget Committees, I rise in strong support of the rule governing debate of H.R. 3237, the Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6th Appropriations Act of 2021, and H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex.

H.R. 3237 provides $1.9 billion in funding to respond to the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021, when thousands of domestic terrorists inspired by the 45th President stormed the U.S. Capitol in a violent, crazed, and desperate effort to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress prescribed by the Constitution to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world.

H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the Capitol Complex Act, which establishes a national commission charged with investigating and reporting upon the facts and causes of the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol as well as the influencing factors that may have provoked the attack on our democracy.

Specifically, the January 6 Commission's mandate includes:

1. examining and evaluating evidence developed by relevant Federal, State, and local governments, in a manner that is respectful of ongoing investigations, regarding the facts and circumstances of the attack;

2. building upon other investigations regarding the attack and targeted violence and domestic terrorism related to such attack; and

3. reporting to the President and Congress regarding its findings, conclusions, and recommendations for corrective measures taken to prevent future acts of targeted violence and domestic terrorism and improves the security posture of the United States Capitol Complex in a manner that preserves the accessibility of the Capitol Complex for all Americans, and strengthen the security and resilience of nation and American democratic institutions against domestic terrorism.

Like September 11, 2001, we cannot and must not ever forget the existential threat faced by our democracy on January 6, 2021, when thousands of domestic terrorists inspired by the 45th President stormed the U.S. Capitol in a violent, crazed, and desperate effort to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress prescribed by the Constitution to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world.

Mr. Speaker, the morning of September 11, 2001 is, and will always be, a day like no other.

It is a day all living Americans will remember because not since Pearl Harbor had there been such a dastardly and deadly attack on American soil.

On that day, we were united in our shock and anger and sadness and in our resolve to defend our country and protect the freedoms that has made America the greatest country in the history of the world.

I experienced the same gamut of emotions on January 6: grief, hope, resolve, and fierce commitment to protect our country.

Mr. Speaker, the assault on the U.S. Capitol by domestic terrorists and insurrectionists rightly takes its place as one of the darkest moments in our nation's history since the Civil War.

Mr. Speaker, the January 6 insurrection caused tragic loss of life and injuries, while leaving behind widespread physical damage to the Capitol Complex and emotional trauma for Members, Congressional employees, and the Capitol Police.

It bears repeating often that the Congress and the nation owe undying gratitude to the men and women who answered the call of constitutional duty and heroically won the day on that bloody and deadly afternoon.

That is why I introduced H. Res. 169, a resolution commending the officers of the United States Capitol Police Department, the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, DC, and other law enforcement personnel for their selfless and heroic service in defense of American democracy in responding to the assault on the United States Capitol by domestic terrorists on January 6, 2021.

H. Res. 169 notes that the January 6, 2021 siege of the Capitol assault resulted in one of the worst days of injuries for law enforcement in the United States since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks but that the officers of the United States Capitol Police Department, the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, DC, and other uniformed law enforcement officers stood their ground in defense of American democracy while being attacked metal pipes, discharged chemical irritants, and other weapons.

The resolution conveys the thanks and appreciation of a grateful nation to them for their selfless and heroic service, encourages all educational and media institutions throughout the United States to teach and celebrate the story of their heroism and patriotism; and calls upon all Americans to read, celebrate, and revere the Constitution of the United States, fidelity to which is the surest best means of forming a more perfect union, establishing justice, ensuring domestic tranquility, providing for the common defense, promoting the general welfare, and securing the blessing of liberty to them and their posterity.

Mr. Speaker, the domestic terrorists and seditionists who attacked the Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 were not, as some of their ardent defenders and apologists across the aisle have stated falsely, on a "normal tour visit"; nor was their effort to lay siege to the Capitol and disrupt the processes of government an act of persons who love their country.

And it is absurd to suggest that it was a celebration of the United States and what it stands for when the leading edge of terrorists desecrated the Capitol by offensively parading the treasonous Confederate flag through the building and when, because of their insurrection, several members of law enforcement made the supreme sacrifice and scores more were seriously injured.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few moments to explain why the intended purpose of the January 6 insurrection—to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world—was the greatest threat to the American Experiment since the Civil War when the proslavery forces would rather make war than let the nation survive and the pro-freedom forces would accept war rather than let the nation perish.

The Framers understood and declared to the world that democratic governors derived their powers from the knowing and voluntary consent of the governed as expressed in free, fair, and unfettered elections unmarred by the influence or sabotage of any foreign country or entity not a member of the political community.

The most important feature of a democracy is that it is the voters who alone can confer the legitimate consent and authorization necessary to govern upon the governors who are then duty-bound to represent the voters' interests, and only their interests.

Mr. Speaker, the fundamental democratic compact between the governed and the governors is that the latter's authority and continuance in office comes exclusively from the governed and allegiance is owed exclusively to the governed.

This agreement can only be reached through free and fair elections, a breach of which threatens the vitality and viability of the social contract upon which democratic self-rule of, by, and for the people depends.

Mr. Speaker, President Lincoln called the United States the "last best hope of man on earth" and stated at Gettysburg the importance of finishing the work we are in to ensure that "government of the people, for the people, by the people does not perish from the earth."

By our actions in voting to establish and empower a National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the Capitol Complex, we are taking an indispensable step in ensuring the preservation of our democracy, which has been the envy of the world for more than 240 years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in voting for the rule and the underlying legislation, H.R. 3237, the Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6th Appropriations Act of 2021, and H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining for us on both sides.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CICILLINE). The gentleman from Massachusetts has 6½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Oklahoma has 17½ minutes remaining.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members here today to read today's Washington Post editorial questioning Leader MCCARTHY's political courage in opposing this bill and calling for him to testify under oath about his eyewitness experience of the violence and former President Trump's apparent indifference to it.

The editorial also criticizes his false equivalence of Black Lives Matter protests to the Capitol invasion and his minimization of the insurrection's significance, which only encourages the lies on which it is based.

I include that article in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, May 18, 2021]

OPINION: KEVIN MCCARTHY PLUMBS NEW DEPTHS OF POLITICAL COWARDICE

(Opinion by the Editorial Board)

Democratic and Republican negotiators agreed last week to create a high-level, expert commission with subpoena power to conduct an examination of the Jan. 6 Capitol invasion, one of the lowest moments in U.S. history. But House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R–Calif.) on Tuesday threw his negotiators under the bus, condemning the compromise and vowing to oppose the bill creating the commission when it comes to a House vote Wednesday.

Many Republicans do not want an impartial panel to remind the public of their party's role in the event. A fair inquiry would examine how GOP lawmakers fed the election lies that inspired the mob, and how they built Jan. 6, which should have featured a pro forma counting of electoral votes, into a showdown over the 2020 presidential election. Republican lawmakers who signed a spurious lawsuit seeking to overturn the results bear some guilt; those who went on to object to the counting of electoral votes from several swing states bear even more.

An honest proceeding would also require Mr. McCarthy to testify under oath about his eyewitness experience of the violence—and to then-President Donald Trump's apparent indifference. Mr. McCarthy has resisted offering the public a frank accounting of his interactions with Mr. Trump, including on a phone call during which Mr. McCarthy reportedly begged Mr. Trump to stop the mob. Mr. McCarthy has concluded that whatever political benefits he receives from embracing Mr. Trump are worth the price of his integrity.

If there are to be hearings, Mr. McCarthy argued, they should examine not only the Capitol invasion but other politically motivated violence, such as the riots surrounding the Black Lives Matter protests last summer. The point is to draw a false equivalence between a historically unique attack on the nation's seat of government, in which Mr. Trump and other Republicans are directly implicated, and crimes that left-leaning activists committed—crimes that did not occur in the halls of Congress, that did not aim to interrupt the peaceful transition of power, that did not reflect a plot to overturn a presidential election.

Mr. McCarthy knows Democrats will never endorse a panel designed to mislead the nation about Jan. 6, so his proposal for a broader mandate is a ruse: He simply does not want any investigation at all. House Democrats should nevertheless advance the compromise plan on Wednesday. Then the public will see whether there are 10 Senate Republicans willing to approve the deal. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R–Ky.) on Tuesday did not rule out supporting it, raising minor concerns about its structure that should be negotiable. But if Senate Republicans capitulate to the calculations driving Mr. McCarthy, House and Senate committees should use their subpoena power to conduct their own investigations, even if that means Democrats lead the inquiries without Republican cooperation.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, the January 6 insurrection against our Congress, our Constitution, and our election was one of the worst political crimes in American history.

It interrupted the peaceful transfer of power. It injured, wounded, hospitalized more than 140 law enforcement officials who were punched, kicked, maced, spat upon, and speared by Confederate battle flags, Donald Trump flags, American flags. They had eyes gouged. One lost several fingers.

They turned the Capitol of the United States and this Chamber into a crime scene.

The independent January 6 commission legislation brought forth by Chairman THOMPSON, a Democrat, and Congressman KATKO, a Republican, is bipartisan in composition: five Republicans and five Democrats, equal subpoena power. It is nonpartisan in design and in function.

Its whole purpose is to determine the events and the causes of those events on January 6 so we can prepare effectively to stop it from ever happening again to the people of America.

The key precedent was the 9/11 Commission, which was critical for mobilizing public attention to the dangers of al-Qaida and other foreign terror networks and helping us to rectify inadequacies in our security infrastructure and to prepare to defend our democracy.

Today, the number one security threat facing the American people is domestic violent extremism, and we saw what domestic violent extremism can do when it broke into our House on January 6.

According to the Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas: "Domestic violent extremism poses the most lethal and persistent terrorism-related threat to our country today."

Abraham Lincoln made a beautiful speech that I recommend to all of my colleagues before they vote on this legislation today, the Lyceum Address, where he said all the armies of Europe, all the armies of Africa and Asia, could never conquer American democracy. But if there is a mortal threat to us, it will come from within, from dissension within, and threats to the constitutional order from within.

We must pay attention to what happened on January 6, and we must honor those brave men and women who fought for hours against medieval-style waves of violence raining down upon them on that day. And we must do honor to future generations of Americans to find out exactly what happened and why, and how to stop it in the future.

Let's pass this legislation today.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I oppose the rule. The majority is proposing two significant pieces of legislation today. Unfortunately, concerns remain with both of them.

H.R. 3237, the supplemental appropriations package intended to provide funds for the security of the Capitol complex is, unfortunately and unnecessarily, a partisan bill.

It was the subject of bipartisan negotiations, and there is no reason we could not have gotten to a bipartisan result had the majority wanted to do so. Instead, we are left with a partisan package that does not meet the needs of the institution and, frankly, has no chance of becoming law in its current form.

I would urge my friends particularly to look at the section relating to the rapid response force. That is something where I think, honestly, with a little bit more reflection, we could find some common ground.

I think it is a mistake to put a force like that under the control of either the District of Columbia or the executive branch. I think we need direct control of that ourselves. I know some of my colleagues on the other side feel strongly that way, too. It simply

makes sense that if we are having a crisis here, we ought to make the decision if we need an extra force.

I think if we keep working at it, we are going to find some common ground there, and I hope that we do.

H.R. 3233 establishes a commission to investigate the January 6 attack on the Capitol complex. Here, too, I want to acknowledge that real progress was made in the course of negotiations, and I want to commend particularly Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for having brought us closer to agreement.

However, on our side, many of us continue to have reservations about this bill and the parameters of the commission itself. After all, the events of January 6 did not occur in a vacuum. If we truly hope to find answers for the American people, then we must take into account everything, all the other political violence that has taken place in recent years.

I would just ask my friends to go back—and I know they have—and look at the 9/11 Commission, which did exactly that. It didn't just look at 9/11. It looked at the attack on the USS *Cole*. It went back to the attack on the African Embassies that we experienced.

There is room here, I think, for context and additional discussion. We also have concerns structurally with some of the staffing provisions and other items that I have mentioned that we hopefully would look at. We would like to continue to work on that.

I think we could have made good progress had any of the amendments that were offered in the Rules Committee been made in order. My friends chose not to do that. That is their privilege to do so, but I think it probably obstructed what could have been a larger bipartisan vote for this particular piece of legislation.

But, again, we will see going forward. What we do here isn't the final arbiter. This is one stage in the process. The United States Senate is the next stop. Hopefully, there will be some changes made there. Then, it will have to come back here. We should look at both of these matters as stops in a journey, or parts of a journey, not as the final decision on any of them.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the previous question and ''no'' on the rule, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I am deeply disappointed that any of my Republican colleagues would oppose the creation of this commission. There is a lot of talk all the time about the need for bipartisanship, and that is what we have here. This is true bipartisanship.

The distinguished minority leader sent a letter to Speaker PELOSI asking for an equal 5:5 ratio in appointments by Democrats and Republicans on this commission. He got it.

He asked for coequal subpoena power. He got it.

He asked for no inclusion of findings or other predetermined conclusions which ultimately should be rendered by the commission itself. He got it.

Now, maybe the gentleman didn't think he would, but Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO, who was appointed by the minority leader to negotiate on behalf of the Republicans, came to a deal, a genuinely bipartisan deal to look into the horrific acts of what happened in this Chamber on January 6.

I was here that day. They were not ordinary tourists who came in here. My colleagues on the Republican side who are here today, there are pictures of them helping to barricade the doors. They know exactly what happened on January 6.

Those people who attacked the Capitol were not here to make a political point. They were here to desecrate this building and hurt people.

We, as Members of Congress, signed up for this job. But I want Members to vote for this commission, not because of us, but because of the people who work here, our staff, the support staff, the Capitol Police, the people who work in our cafeterias, the people who maintain this building. They were traumatized by what happened here.

Our response to all of this is: Well, let's move on. Let's not do this, in spite of a truly bipartisan negotiation and a bipartisan commission.

This is so disappointing. I mean, don't talk to us about bipartisanship, and then when you get it, you turn your back on it.

Madam Speaker, I am sick and tired of those who want to hover around mistruths and lies and spread conspiracy theories. What happened 133 days ago can never be normalized. We all have to speak the truth, and we must act to prevent it from ever happening again. That starts with not only passing this rule but passing this bipartisan bill to establish a bipartisan commission to produce a report for the American people so that we know clearly and credibly as to what happened and that we can take additional actions to make sure it never happens again.

As I said in my opening, vote for this out of respect for this institution, out of respect for our democracy, out of respect for the truth, out of respect for the people who work for you, who come here every day and work for you. We owe it to them and to this country to move forward.

The material previously referred to by Mr. COLE is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 409

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the resolution (H. Res. 153) condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian-American and Pacific Islanders. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

SEC. 4. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 153.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

□ 1345

CONDEMNING THE HORRIFIC SHOOTINGS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA, ON MARCH 16, 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 275) condemning the horrific shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 16, 2021, and reaffirming the House of Representative's commitment to combating hate, bigotry, and violence against the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 245, nays 180, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 149]

YEAS—245

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amodei
Auchincloss
Axne
Bacon
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Himes

Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCaul
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Mfume
Miller-Meeks
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Steel
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth
Young

NAYS—180

Aderholt
Allen
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davidson
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Letlow
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—4

Golden
Larson (CT)
Scott, David
Webster (FL)

□ 1420

Messrs. CLINE and CALVERT changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER changed her vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Buchanan (Dunn)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Carter (TX) (Calvert)
Courtney (Hayes)
Crenshaw (Pfluger)
Deutch (Rice (NY))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Mullin (Lucas)
Napolitano (Correa)
Ocasio-Cortez (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Axne)
Waters (Barragán)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)
Young (Joyce (OH))

FAIRNESS IN ORPHAN DRUG EXCLUSIVITY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 1629) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 23, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 150]

YEAS—402

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carl
Carson
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Dunn
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)

Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—23

Biggs
Boebert
Brooks
Budd
Carter (GA)
Duncan
Estes
Foxx
Fulcher
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Greene (GA)
Harris
Higgins (LA)
Jordan
Lamborn
Long
Rose
Rosendale
Roy
Rutherford
Smith (MO)
Steube

NOT VOTING—4

Davis, Danny K.
Garamendi
Golden
Webster (FL)

□ 1453

Mr. TURNER changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Buchanan (Dunn)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Carter (TX) (Calvert)
Courtney (Hayes)
Crenshaw (Pfluger)
Deutch (Rice (NY))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Mullin (Lucas)
Napolitano (Correa)
Ocasio-Cortez (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Axne)
Waters (Barragán)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)
Young (Joyce (OH))

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3233, NATIONAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE JANUARY 6 ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL COMPLEX ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3237, EMERGENCY SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL TO RESPOND TO JANUARY 6TH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 409) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3233) to establish the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3237) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 217, nays 208, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 151]

YEAS—217

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Kahele
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—208

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jacobs (NY)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kinzinger
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Letlow
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meijer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Pfluger
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—4

DeLauro
Golden
Suozzi
Webster (FL)

□ 1526

Ms. HERRELL changed her vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, I inadventently missed Roll Call vote number 151 on ordering the Previous Question, regarding H. Res. 409. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Buchanan (Dunn)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Carter (TX) (Calvert)
Courtney (Hayes)
Crenshaw (Pfluger)
Deutch (Rice (NY))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Mullin (Lucas)
Napolitano (Correa)
Ocasio-Cortez (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)

Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Axne)
Waters (Barragán)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)
Young (Joyce (OH))

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 216, nays 208, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 152]

YEAS—216

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Kahele
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—208

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jacobs (NY)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kinzinger
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Letlow
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meijer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—5

Garamendi
Golden
Long
Loudermilk
Webster (FL)

□ 1557

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Buchanan (Dunn)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Carter (TX) (Calvert)
Courtney (Hayes)
Crenshaw (Pfluger)
Deutch (Rice (NY))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Mullin (Lucas)
Napolitano (Correa)
Ocasio-Cortez (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Axne)
Waters (Barragán)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)
Young (Joyce (OH))

NATIONAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE JANUARY 6 ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL COMPLEX ACT

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 409, I call up the bill (H.R. 3233) to establish the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 409, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3233

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act''.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION.

There is established in the legislative branch the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex (hereafter referred to as the ''Commission'').

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

Consistent with the functions described in section 4, the purposes of the Commission are the following:

(1) To investigate and report upon the facts and causes relating to the January 6, 2021, domestic terrorist attack upon the United States Capitol Complex (hereafter referred to as the ''domestic terrorist attack on the Capitol'') and relating to the interference with the peaceful transfer of power, including facts and causes relating to the preparedness and response of the United States Capitol Police and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement in the National Capitol Region and other instrumentality of government, as well as the influencing factors that fomented such attack on American representative democracy while engaged in a constitutional process.

(2) To examine and evaluate evidence developed by relevant Federal, State, and local governmental agencies, in a manner that is respectful of ongoing law enforcement activities and investigations regarding the domestic terrorist attack upon the Capitol, regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding such terrorist attack and targeted violence and domestic terrorism relevant to such terrorist attack.

(3) To build upon the investigations of other entities and avoid unnecessary duplication by reviewing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of other executive branch, congressional, or independent bipartisan or non-partisan commission investigations into the domestic terrorist attack on the Capitol and targeted violence and domestic terrorism relevant to such terrorist attack, including investigations into influencing factors related to such terrorist attack.

(4) To investigate and report to the President and Congress on its findings, conclusions, and recommendations for corrective

measures that may include changes in law, policy, procedures, rules, or regulations that could be taken to prevent future acts of targeted violence and domestic terrorism, including to prevent domestic terrorist attacks against American democratic institutions, improve the security posture of the United States Capitol Complex while preserving accessibility of the Capitol Complex for all Americans, and strengthen the security and resilience of the Nation and American democratic institutions against domestic terrorism.

SEC. 4. FUNCTIONS OF COMMISSION.

The functions of the Commission are to—

(1) conduct an investigation of the relevant facts and circumstances relating to the domestic terrorist attack on the Capitol, including relevant facts and circumstances relating to—

(A) activities of intelligence agencies, law enforcement agencies, and the Armed Forces, including with respect to intelligence collection, analysis, and dissemination and information sharing among relevant instrumentality of government;

(B) influencing factors that contributed to the domestic terrorist attack on the Capitol and how technology, including online platforms, financing, and malign foreign influence operations and campaigns may have factored into the motivation, organization, and execution of the domestic terrorist attack on the Capitol and targeted violence and domestic terrorism relevant to such attack; and

(C) other entities of the public and private sector as determined relevant by the Commission for such investigation;

(2) identify, review, and evaluate the causes of and the lessons learned from the domestic terrorist attack on the Capitol and targeted violence and domestic terrorism relevant to such attack regarding—

(A) the command, control, and communications of the United States Capitol Police, the National Guard, the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement in the National Capitol Region on or before January 6, 2021;

(B) the structure, coordination, operational plans, policies, and procedures of the Federal Government, including as such relate to State and local governments and nongovernmental entities, and particularly with respect to detecting, preventing, preparing for, and responding to targeted violence and domestic terrorism;

(C) the structure, authorities, training, manpower utilization, operational planning, and use of force policies of the United States Capitol Police;

(D) the policies, protocols, processes, procedures, and systems for sharing of intelligence and other information by Federal, State, and local agencies with the United States Capitol Police, the Sergeants at Arms of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Government of the District of Columbia, including the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, the National Guard, and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement in the National Capitol Region on or before January 6, 2021, and the related the policies, protocols, processes, procedures, and systems for monitoring, assessing, disseminating, and acting on intelligence and other information, including elevating the security posture of the United States Capitol Complex, derived from instrumentality of government, open sources, and online platforms; and

(E) the policies, protocols, processes, procedures, and systems for interoperability between the United States Capitol Police and the National Guard, the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement in the National Capitol Region on or before January 6, 2021; and

(3) submit to the President and Congress reports required pursuant to section 10 containing such findings, conclusions, and recommendations, which may include changes in law, policy, procedures, rules, or regulations, to improve the detection, prevention, preparedness for, and response to targeted violence and domestic terrorism and improve the security posture of the United States Capitol Complex and ensure the security of Members of Congress and staff.

SEC. 5. COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION.

(a) MEMBERS.—The Commission shall be composed of ten members, of whom—

(1) one member shall be appointed jointly by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the majority leader of the Senate to serve as Chairperson of the Commission;

(2) one member shall be appointed jointly by the minority leader of the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the Senate to serve as Vice Chairperson of the Commission;

(3) two members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(4) two members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(5) two members shall be appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; and

(6) two members shall be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate.

(b) QUALIFICATIONS; INITIAL MEETING.—

(1) NONGOVERNMENTAL APPOINTEES.—An individual appointed to the Commission may not be an officer or employee of an instrumentality of government.

(2) OTHER QUALIFICATIONS.—It is the sense of Congress that individuals appointed to the Commission should be prominent United States citizens, with national recognition and significant depth of experience in at least two of the following areas:

(A) Governmental service.

(B) Law enforcement.

(C) Civil rights, civil liberties, and privacy.

(D) The Armed Forces.

(E) Intelligence.

(F) Counterterrorism.

(G) Cybersecurity.

(H) Technology.

(I) Law.

(3) INITIAL MEETING.—The Commission shall meet and begin the initial operation of the Commission as soon as practicable, but not earlier than 15 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) TIMING FOR APPOINTMENT.—All members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than 10 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) QUORUM; VACANCIES.—After its initial meeting, the Commission shall meet upon the call of the Chairperson or a majority of its members. A majority of members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, but shall be promptly filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(e) COMPENSATION.—Each member of the Commission may be compensated at not to exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for a position at level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5, United States Code, for each day during which that member is engaged in the actual performance of the duties of the Commission.

(f) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Commission shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provision under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 6. POWERS OF COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) HEARINGS AND EVIDENCE.—The Commission or, as delegated by the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson, any subcommittee or member thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out this Act—

(A) hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, receive such evidence, and administer such oaths as the Commission or such designated subcommittee or designated member may determine advisable; and

(B) subject to paragraph (2)(A), require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, or documents, or any other paper or electronic material, as the Commission or such designated subcommittee or designated member may determine advisable.

(2) SUBPOENAS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may issue subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of any evidence relating to any matter which the Commission is empowered to investigate under this Act. Such subpoenas shall be issued by agreement between the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Commission, or by the vote of a majority of the members of the Commission. The attendance of witnesses and the production of evidence may be required from any place within the United States at any designated place of hearing within the United States.

(B) FAILURE TO OBEY A SUBPOENA.—If a person does not obey a subpoena issued under subparagraph (A), the Commission is authorized to apply to a United States district court for an order requiring that person to appear before the Commission to give testimony, produce evidence, or both, relating to the matter under investigation. The application may be made within the judicial district where the hearing is conducted or where that person is found, resides, or transacts business. Any failure to obey the order of the court may be punished by the court as a civil contempt.

(C) SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION.—The United States district court in which an action is brought under subparagraph (B) shall have original jurisdiction over any civil action brought by the Commission to enforce, secure a declaratory judgment concerning the validity of, or prevent a threatened refusal or failure to comply with, any subpoena issued by the Commission.

(D) SERVICE OF SUBPOENAS.—The subpoenas of the Commission shall be served in the manner provided for subpoenas issued by a United States district court under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for the United States district courts.

(E) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—All process of any court to which application is made under subparagraph (A) may be served in the judicial district in which the person required to be served resides or may be found.

(b) CONTRACTING.—The Commission may, to such extent and in such amounts as are provided in appropriation Acts, enter into contracts to enable the Commission to discharge its duties under this Act.

(c) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may secure directly from any Federal department or agency information, including any underlying information that may be in the possession of the intelligence community, that is necessary to enable it to carry out its purposes and functions under this Act. Upon request of the Chairperson, the chairperson of

any subcommittee created by a majority of the Commission, or any member designated by a majority of the Commission, the head of such department or agency shall furnish such information to the Commission.

(2) RECEIPT, HANDLING, STORAGE, AND DISSEMINATION.—Information shall only be received, handled, stored, and disseminated by members of the Commission and its staff consistent with all applicable statutes, regulations, and Executive orders.

(d) ASSISTANCE FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

(1) GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION.—Upon the request of the Commission, the Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, the administrative support services and office space necessary for the Commission to carry out its purposes and functions under this Act.

(2) OTHER FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.—In addition to the assistance prescribed in paragraph (1), Federal departments and agencies may provide to the Commission such services, funds, facilities, staff, and other support services as determined advisable and authorized by law.

(e) CONVEYANCES AND OTHER DEVISES.—The Commission may accept, use, and dispose of devises of services or property, both real and personal, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Commission.

(f) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Commission may use the United States mail in the same manner and under the same conditions as Federal departments and agencies.

SEC. 7. STAFF OF COMMISSION.

(a) APPOINTMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Chairperson, in consultation with the Vice-Chairperson, in accordance with rules agreed upon by the Commission, may appoint and fix the compensation of a Staff Director and such other personnel as may be necessary to enable the Commission to carry out its purposes and functions, without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, except that no rate of pay fixed under this subsection may exceed the equivalent of that payable for a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) PERSONNEL AS FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (18 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.)—

(i) the Commission shall be considered an employing office; and

(ii) the personnel of the Commission shall be considered covered employees.

(B) MEMBERS OF COMMISSION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to apply to members of the Commission.

(b) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Commission is authorized to procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the maximum annual rate of basic pay under level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.

(c) DETAILEES.—The head of any Federal department or agency may detail, on a nonreimbursable basis, any of the personnel of that department or agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out its purposes and functions.

SEC. 8. SECURITY CLEARANCES FOR MEMBERS AND STAFF.

The appropriate Federal departments or agencies shall cooperate with the Commission in expeditiously providing to the Commission members and staff appropriate security clearances to the extent possible pursuant to existing procedures and requirements, except that no person may be provided with access to classified information under this Act without the appropriate security clearances.

SEC. 9. NONAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Commission.

(b) PUBLIC MEETINGS AND RELEASE OF PUBLIC VERSIONS OF REPORTS.—The Commission shall—

(1) hold public hearings and meetings to the extent appropriate; and

(2) release public versions of the reports submitted pursuant to section 10.

(c) CONDUCT OF PUBLIC HEARINGS.—Any public hearings of the Commission shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the protection of information provided to or developed for or by the Commission as required by any applicable statute, regulation, or Executive order.

SEC. 10. REPORTS; TERMINATION.

(a) INTERIM REPORTS.—The Commission may submit to the President and Congress interim reports containing such findings, conclusions, and recommendations for corrective measures as have been agreed to by a majority of Commission members.

(b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 2021, the Commission shall submit to the President and Congress a final report containing such findings, conclusions, and recommendations for corrective measures as have been agreed to by a majority of Commission members.

(c) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission, and all the authorities of this Act, shall terminate upon the expiration of the 60-day period which begins on the date on which the Commission submits the final report under subsection (b).

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES BEFORE TERMINATION.—The Commission may use the 60-day period referred to in paragraph (1) for the purpose of concluding its activities, including providing testimony to committees of Congress concerning its reports and disseminating the final report.

SEC. 11. ARCHIVING.

The records of the Commission shall be transferred to the Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives and Records Administration upon termination of the Commission pursuant to paragraph (1) of section 10(c).

SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization under this section shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 13. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) DOMESTIC TERRORISM.—The term ''domestic terrorism'' has the meaning given such term in section 2331 of title 18, United States Code.

(2) INSTRUMENTALITY OF GOVERNMENT.—The term ''instrumentality of government'' means Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial agencies.

(3) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term ''intelligence community'' has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(4) MALIGN FOREIGN INFLUENCE OPERATIONS AND CAMPAIGNS.—The term ''malign foreign influence operations and campaigns'' has the meaning given such term in section 101(h) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3021(h)).

(5) TARGETED VIOLENCE.—The term ''targeted violence'' means an incident of violence in which an attacker selected a particular target in order to inflict mass injury or death with no discernable political or ideological motivation beyond mass injury or death.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

The gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

On January 6, the world watched Americans storm the Capitol and engage in violence to try and intimidate and prevent Congress from carrying out its constitutional duty to certify a Presidential election, a solemn process central to the peaceful transfer of power in our democracy.

Many of us sitting here today were rushed out of this very Chamber by Capitol Police to safety as violent attackers roamed the halls, hunting for our colleagues and the Vice President.

I was in the gallery that day watching the debate when this temple of our democracy was desecrated and debased.

At least one Capitol Police officer died because of the violence that day. Others died, too.

And there were extensive injuries associated with the attacks, not the least of which was the body blow to Americans' confidence that the reforms undertaken after the 9/11 terrorist attacks would make us more secure.

Like the 9/11 attacks, the events of January 6 have cast a long shadow on our country. And like the 9/11 attacks, the January 6 attack raises fundamental questions about information sharing, coordination, preparedness, and response at all levels of government.

We need a bipartisan commission made up of experts to come together to give us an unvarnished view of what happened that day, examine why our systems failed, and develop bipartisan recommendations for reform to address any identified gaps.

I am proud to be here with my partner on the Homeland Security Committee, the gentleman from New York, JOHN KATKO, to debate a bill that establishes a 10-member commission that mirrors the 9/11 Commission, the gold standard for bipartisan commissions.

The January 6 commission would be required to investigate and report on the facts and causes of the attack, including relevant contributing factors.

A commission of this nature, in some form, has been talked about by Members of Congress, national security experts, and others for some time now. Over the past 4 months, discussion drafts have been circulated, pros and cons have been weighed, and obstacles have been overcome to get us to this day.

Given how politically charged the events of January 6 have become, we need to come together in a patriotic, bipartisan way and approve this independent body just as we created the 9/11 Commission.

The 9/11 Commission acted, not out of partisanship, but out of patriotism. We need that same sense of duty today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this year, we will observe the 20th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. It will serve as a somber reminder of the fragility of our security, the bravery of our law enforcement and first responders, and the resilience of our democracy.

After the attacks on 9/11, Congress recognized the importance of establishing a bipartisan commission to investigate these brazen acts of terrorism. This body recognized the need to find the truth and help all of us understand how these heinous acts that not only forever changed our country, but also the entire world, could have been carried out.

The highly respected 9/11 Commission identified numerous challenges that needed to be addressed, which ultimately led to many concrete recommendations that were later enacted into law. These critical reforms vastly improved our information sharing, intelligence collection, vetting capabilities, and broader homeland security enterprise.

The security breach that took place at the U.S. Capitol on January 6 was completely unacceptable. It was a major breakdown in information sharing and preparedness, much like the shortfalls that existed prior to 9/11. It was not only an attack on this institution but an attack on our law enforcement brethren who defend us every day.

Unfortunately, we know that the Capitol, Federal buildings, and even Members of Congress remain a target for extremists of all ideologies, as we all saw most recently during the April 2 vehicle attack that took the life of Capitol Police Officer William ''Billy'' Evans.

The bill before us today, H.R. 3233, would create an independent, bipartisan commission to investigate the relevant facts and circumstances relating to the January 6 attack on the Capitol, as well as targeted violence and domestic terrorism relevant to that attack.

It also charges the commission with providing and finding recommendations to, among other things, prevent, prepare for, and respond to similar attacks; improve the security posture of the Capitol complex; and ensure the security of Members of Congress and congressional staff.

Modeled after the 9/11 Commission, this bill creates a 10-member panel with five commissioners appointed by each party and equal subpoena authority.

While the expedited December 2021 deadline would only give the commission about 6 months to do its job, there is good reason for that: The American people and the Capitol Police deserve answers and action as soon as possible to ensure that nothing like this ever happens again.

We must find answers to the many questions surrounding that day. What information was known leading up to January 6? Why was that information not shared with the proper entities? Why were Capitol Police officers left so unprepared? Who failed to provide them with support? Why did it take so long for reinforcements to come to their aid? How can we improve the decisionmaking and bureaucracy that is clearly hampering the Capitol Police and the security of the Capitol complex? How can we ensure that the Capitol, Members of Congress, and our staffs are secure from attacks? And how do we ensure that this is a safer place for the members of the Capitol Police force who risk their lives every day to protect us?

These are only a few of the many questions that need to be answered. The American people and the Capitol Police deserve those answers.

As I have called for since the days just after the attack, an independent, 9/11-style review is critical for removing the politics around January 6 and focusing solely on the facts and circumstances of the security breach at the Capitol, as well as other instances of violence relevant to such a review.

Make no mistake about it, Mr. THOMPSON and I know this is about facts. It is not partisan politics. We would have never gotten to this point if it was about partisan politics.

Thanks to the strong partnership with Mr. THOMPSON, the Homeland Security Committee remains a bipartisan committee focused on securing the Nation while leaving partisanship at the door, which is exactly what the American people expect of us.

Chairman THOMPSON and I were able to work together to block out all the political noise surrounding the January 6 attack and turn the Speaker's partisan proposal into a reasonable, nonpartisan bill.

Now, H.R. 3233 is nearly identical to the original commission bill, H.R. 275, that I, along with 30 other Republican cosponsors, introduced on January 13, 6 days after the attack.

I sincerely appreciate Chairman THOMPSON's robust collaboration and strong commitment, as well as his friendship, by working together on this effort. The American people expect Congress to put partisanship aside for the sake of our homeland security.

I fully recognize that in a diverse body like this, Members come down on different sides of different issues. I welcome that. We all should. That is America; because, after all, none of this is personal. It is about our mutual desire to keep America safe and secure. To my friends on both sides of the aisle, I welcome honest, vigorous, and civil debate.

At the end of the day, I strongly believe this is fair and necessary legislation. I encourage all Members, Republicans and Democrats alike, to put down their swords just for once and support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, let me just say to the ranking member, this won't be the last time that we put together legislation for the good of this country, I assure you of that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), the vice chair of the Homeland Security Committee.

□ 1615

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, when I was sworn in the week of January 6, I never imagined living through an insurrection against the U.S. Capitol during the electoral college vote count.

On January 6, I felt the same sense of shock and trauma that I had felt on 9/11. Like most of America, I took for granted that the peaceful transfer of power is so natural as to transcend even the most turbulent period of partisan politics.

I was wrong. We were all wrong. Democracy is too fragile to be taken for granted. It demands from all of us a vigilant defense.

As Members of the United States Congress, we took an oath to defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States. The insurrection against the U.S. Capitol was a literal and metaphorical assault on the very Constitution we have been charged with defending.

The January 6 Commission is, therefore, not a choice, but an obligation. We have a duty to investigate what happened and why it happened and who is responsible.

As a Congress, if we are not able or willing to ascertain the full truth surrounding an invasion of our very home,

of our Nation's Capitol, then why are we here? The 11th-hour attempt to sabotage a bipartisan, bicameral position is not a difference of opinion, nor is it politics as usual. It is an abdication of the oath that we took to uphold the Constitution.

The United States of America is not a cult of personality, it is a Nation of laws. And our loyalty should not be to one political figure or one political party. Our highest loyalty should be to our country and the Constitution that governs it.

We must never forget that the truth trumps politics. And if the truth is what we seek, then we have nothing to fear from bringing the clarity that only truth can bring to the chaos and confusion of January 6.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MEIJER).

Mr. MEIJER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strongest support for H.R. 3233, a bill to establish a bipartisan commission to investigate the disgraceful January 6 attack on this institution.

Let us be clear, the imperative to have a public, objective, fact-based investigation of the Capitol attack is not a partisan issue and it should never be treated as such. A violent mob breached this building to disrupt the lawful Presidential transition and threaten the lives of Vice President PENCE and Members of Congress. That this mob attacked the Capitol with the encouragement of prominent elected officials is a chilling reminder of President Reagan's warning that ''freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.''

Unfortunately, many who rightly criticized and condemned the attack that day have walked back their words or softened their speech. But even more troubling, there has been an active effort to whitewash and rewrite the shameful events of that day to avoid accountability and turn away from difficult truths.

If we avoid confronting what happened here just a few short months ago, we can be sure that intimidation, coercion, and violence will become a defining feature of our politics.

On the evening of January 6, as I was walking back to the Capitol after it was cleared of rioters, I received a text from a constituent who asserted that those who stormed the Capitol today were the true American heroes, that the election was a fraud, and that I must know that that was true. He then warned: ''You can bet that there will be more blood on Congress' hands if you let that stand.''

I refuse to accept that possibility, this abrogation of our sacred obligation to the Republic. There is no replacement for an independent, bipartisan commission with a mandate to produce a definitive report to the public to clear away myths and fictions and get right on the facts.

This is not picking at a scab. In order to scab over, a cut has to first heal. Rather than start to mend, the wound from January 6 was hastily bandaged and continues to fester. Only by airing it out and addressing what occurred can we hope to move past and heal. I applaud my friend, Congressman JOHN KATKO, for his good-faith, bipartisan leadership to put this commission in place.

Mr. Speaker, I supported this effort in January, I support it today, and I urge my colleagues to do so as well.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER).

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as a member of the Committee on Homeland Security, in strong support of H.R. 3233, Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO's bill to form a bipartisan, independent commission to investigate the January 6 domestic terrorism attack on the United States Capitol.

On January 6, the world witnessed an attempted insurrection against our government to overturn the will of the American people. I know that because I was right here in this House Chamber that day as doors were barricaded and Members and staff were forced to evacuate. The mob that stormed our Capitol, resulting in the death of a Capitol police officer, tore down the American flag and desecrated the seat of our democracy. These lawless thugs, led by members of extremist groups like the Oath Keepers, and Proud Boys, and Stop the Steal, attempted an insurrection. In the end, they failed. We gathered back together here, uncowed, and the electoral college was certified.

Mr. Speaker, but true healing cannot come without a serious investigation and real accountability. I am very proud that last night, the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, 29 Democrats and 29 Republicans, came together to endorse this legislation, putting aside politics to get to the bottom of what happened that day.

This bipartisan commission, modeled on the 9/11 Commission, will undertake an investigation into the facts and what caused the attack.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will help us deter further would-be extremists, and provide the law enforcement homeland security community with the tools needed to protect the Capitol and our country from future attacks.

I thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for their extraordinary leadership and months of hard work together on the bill, the way governing should occur.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join in support of securing and protecting the very foundation of our democracy.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), chair of the Democratic Caucus.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chair for his tremendous leadership.

Mr. Speaker, the January 6 bipartisan commission will explore what happened on that fateful day, why it happened, and how do we prevent another violent insurrection and attack on the Capitol from ever happening again.

In the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor, America had a bipartisan commission. In the aftermath of the September 11 attack, America had a bipartisan commission. In the aftermath of the attack on this Capitol on January 6, America should have a bipartisan commission.

The violent insurrection was an attack on the Congress, the Constitution, and the Capitol. Lives were lost. More than 140 officers were seriously injured. A violent mob stormed this building to assassinate the Speaker, hang Mike Pence, and hunt down Members of Congress. They urinated, defecated, and desecrated the citadel of our democracy.

It was a violent attack designed to bring about one objective; halt Congress from undertaking our constitutional responsibilities. And yet, a few of my colleagues seem to want to convince America that it was all puppies and rainbows. We will not be hoodwinked. We will not be bamboozled. We will not be led astray.

The January 6 bipartisan commission will find the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. And that is the American way.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN), the former Secretary of State from Rhode Island, who is now a member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3233. On September 11, 2001, I was a freshman in Congress. We suffered attacks that day because of a failure of imagination. Since then, I have dedicated myself to getting ahead of the curve, to seeing over the horizon, to preventing another such devastating surprise. Yet, on January 6, I, along with so many others, was caught by surprise.

In the past 5 months, I have reflected. What signs did we miss? Were we unprepared for a tide of American rioters? Why were some citizens actually taking the big lie about the election seriously enough to actually commit violence?

The January 6 commission will answer these and many other difficult questions and deliver a complete record for posterity of what could possibly have happened to bring about such a betrayal of our democracy.

We will not defeat darkness with darkness. We need light. We will not defeat lies with lies. We need truth. This commission will bring forth the truth and it is only the truth that can truly heal the rift that is tearing our country apart.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for their leadership.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON).

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, January 6 is going to haunt this institution for a long, long time. No, it was not the joyous day on Capitol Hill with our constituents celebrating the start of a new Congress and a new administration. COVID came first, then this.

So nearly 5 months later, we still don't have the answers to the basic questions: Who knew what? When? What did they do about it?

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, KATKO and THOMPSON, for the really good job on working together to establish a bipartisan commission seeking to find the answers to the questions that are still out there.

Hundreds of people were arrested. People died. Millions of dollars of damage to this building, feces spread on the walls, and, yes, the very core of democracy, this institution, was threatened.

I wasn't in the Chamber that day when the breach was attempted, but I heard the shouts, saw the flash bangs, smelled the gas on that sorry day. And if it had not been for the brave Capitol and Metropolitan policemen and women that day, who knows how many of our heads would have been swinging on those gallows that were constructed on the east front of the Capitol.

I talked to the exhausted SWAT team members, the police, and watched some of the body cams. I talked to some of our still-shaken colleagues who endured that day.

Mr. Speaker, we need the answers, not political rhetoric. That is what this bipartisan commission can provide for all of us, for our country. Let the truth shine in.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California, (Mr. CORREA).

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is simply about the truth. It is about the truth behind the assault on our Capitol on January 6. Enough with lies. Enough with conspiracy theories. The January 6 commission will have the power, power to find the truth. It will have subpoena power to compel people to testify, to testify under oath under penalty of perjury.

An attack on our Capitol, an attack on our democracy, an attack on the election of our President—these cannot be tolerated, and they cannot happen again.

What happened? What happened January 6? This bill is about sunshine, this bill is about transparency. That is why I ask for every Member on this floor, I ask you to vote ''aye'' on this most important measure.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I just want to note for the RECORD that the subpoena to which my colleague from California mentioned can only be issued if there is a consensus by both sides of the aisle on the commission. It is not something that one side can do unilaterally. And that is one of the key provisions of this, because it depoliticizes the process and it is a consensus-driven process.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), a member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, and I rise today understanding that William Cullen Bryant was right: ''Truth, crushed to earth, shall rise again.'' Whether you believe that it was just a group of tourists walking through the Capitol or not, you should want this commission.

□ 1630

If you believe that it was an insurrection, you should want this commission. You should want this commission because you cannot bury the truth in an earthly grave of lies and not realize the words of William Cullen Bryant, ''Truth, crushed to earth, shall rise again.''

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman THOMPSON and the ranking member for standing together to make this moment possible. Bipartisanship is achieved when you have good decent people who can stand together for the good of all.

God bless you, dear brothers.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and I thank the ranking member for showing, no matter how much confusion and upside down interpretation that leadership may give in changing their mind, truth will prevail.

Let us show what America is today. Let us show what unity is today. Let me take a few moments to explain why the intended purpose of the January 6 insurrection to disrupt the joint meeting of Congress to tally the votes of Presidential electors and announce the results to the Nation and the world was the greatest threat to the American Experiment since the Civil War, when the pro-slavery forces would rather make war than let the Nation survive, and pro-freedom forces would accept war rather than let the Nation perish.

Mr. Speaker, I was here on 9/11, and I understand what we did not get accomplished, yet when we became part of the Homeland Security Committee, we moved the 9/11 Commission that still stands as the standard-bearer for finding out what happened.

All the American people want, and those officers who were beat and beat and beat, is to find out the truth. This commission will help us find out the truth. It will answer the cry of those law enforcement officers who were called racial names. We will be able to explain why someone was trying to kill the Vice President, kill the Speaker, and kill Members of Congress.

This is a truth time. Can we stand for truth?

And might I add, I want to thank all of those officers who put their line in front for us. Let us get them the truth so the Nation will know the truth and so we can stand on the truth and be free.

Mr. Speaker, as Chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Homeland Security, and Terrorism, and a senior member of the Homeland Security, and Budget Committees, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the Capitol Complex Act, which establishes a national commission charged with investigating and reporting upon the facts and causes of the January 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol as well as the influencing factors that may have provoked the attack on our democracy.

Specifically, the January 6 Commission's mandate includes:

1. examining and evaluating evidence developed by relevant Federal, State, and local governments, in a manner that is respectful of ongoing investigations, regarding the facts and circumstances of the attack;

2. building upon other investigations regarding the attack and targeted violence and domestic terrorism related to such attack; and

3, reporting to the President and Congress regarding its findings, conclusions, and recommendations for corrective measures taken to prevent future acts of targeted violence and domestic terrorism and improves the security posture of the United States Capitol Complex in a manner that preserves the accessibility of the Capitol Complex for all Americans, and strengthen the security and resilience of nation and American democratic institutions against domestic terrorism.

Like the 9/11 Commission, the measure establishes a 10–person bipartisan commission with five commissioners, including the Chair, appointed by the Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate and five commissioners, including the Vice Chair, appointed by the Minority Leaders of the House and Senate.

Like the 9/11 Commission, the January 6 Commission will be granted authority to issue subpoenas to secure information to carry out its investigation but only upon agreement between the Chair and the Vice Chair or a vote by a majority of Commission members.

January 6 Commissioners must have significant expertise in the areas of law enforcement, civil rights, civil liberties, privacy, intelligence, and cybersecurity. Current government officers or employees are prohibited from appointment.

The January 6 Commission will be required to issue a final report with findings regarding the facts and causes of the attack, along with recommendations to prevent future attacks on our democratic institutions, by December 31, 2021.

Like September 11, 2001, we cannot and must not ever forget the existential threat faced by our democracy on January 6, 2021, when thousands of domestic terrorists inspired

by the 45th President stormed the U.S. Capitol in a violent, crazed, and desperate effort to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress prescribed by the Constitution to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world.

Mr. Speaker, the morning of September 11, 2001, is, and will always be, a day like no other.

It is a day all living Americans will remember because not since Pearl Harbor had there been such a dastardly and deadly attack on American soil.

My heart still grieves for those who perished on flights United Airlines 93, American Airlines 77, American Airlines 11, and United Airlines 175.

When the sun rose on the morning of September 11, none of us knew that it would end in an inferno in the magnificent World Trade Center Towers in New York City and the Pentagon and in the grassy fields of Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, as hard as it is to believe, out of a tragedy so overwhelming and horrific, something good and great emerged in the aftermath of September 11.

On that day there were no Republicans or Democrats; there were no Northerners or Southerners or West or East Coasters.

We were not Red State or Blue State; we were all simply Americans.

On that day, we were united in our shock and anger and sadness and in our resolve to defend our country and protect the freedoms that has made America the greatest country in the history of the world.

I experienced the same gamut of emotions on January 6: grief, hope, resolve, and fierce commitment to protect our country.

Mr. Speaker, the assault on the U.S. Capitol by domestic terrorists and insurrectionists rightly takes its place as one of the darkest moments in our nation's history since the Civil War.

Mr. Speaker, the January 6 insurrection caused tragic loss of life and many injuries, while leaving behind widespread physical damage to the Capitol Complex and emotional trauma for Members, Congressional employees, and the Capitol Police.

It bears repeating often that the Congress and the nation owe undying gratitude to the men and women who answered the call of constitutional duty and heroically won the day on that bloody and deadly afternoon.

That is why I introduced H. Res. 169, a resolution commending the officers of the United States Capitol Police Department, the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, DC, and other law enforcement personnel for their selfless and heroic service in defense of American democracy in responding to the assault on the United States Capitol by domestic terrorists on January 6, 2021.

H. Res. 169 notes that the January 6, 2021, siege of the Capitol assault resulted in one of the worst days of injuries for law enforcement in the United States since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks but that the officers of the United States Capitol Police Department, the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, DC, and other uniformed law enforcement officers stood their ground in defense of American democracy while being attacked metal pipes, discharged chemical irritants, and other weapons.

The resolution conveys the thanks and appreciation of a grateful nation to them for their selfless and heroic service, encourages all educational and media institutions throughout the United States to teach and celebrate the story of their heroism and patriotism; and calls upon all Americans to read, celebrate, and revere the Constitution of the United States, fidelity to which is the surest best means of forming a more perfect union, establishing justice, ensuring domestic tranquility, providing for the common defense, promoting the general welfare, and securing the blessing of liberty to them and their posterity.

Mr. Speaker, the domestic terrorists and seditionists who attacked the Capitol Building on January 6, 2021, were not, as some of their ardent defenders and apologists across the aisle have stated falsely, on a "normal tour visit"; nor was their effort to lay siege to the Capitol and disrupt the processes of government an act of persons who love their country.

And it is absurd to suggest that it was a celebration of the United States and what it stands for when the leading edge of terrorists desecrated the Capitol by offensively parading the treasonous Confederate flag through the building and when, because of their insurrection, several members of law enforcement made the supreme sacrifice and scores more were seriously injured.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few moments to explain why the intended purpose of the January 6 insurrection—to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world—was the greatest threat to the American Experiment since the Civil War when the proslavery forces would rather make war than let the nation survive and the pro-freedom forces would accept war rather than let the nation perish.

Mr. Speaker, the Framers had first-hand experience with the types of abuses and usurpations committed by political leaders who ruled them but were not accountable to them and detailed many of those wrongs in the Declaration of Independence.

The Framers understood and declared to the world that democratic governors derived their powers from the knowing and voluntary consent of the governed as expressed in free, fair, and unfettered elections unmarred by the influence or sabotage of any foreign country or entity not a member of the political community.

The Framers understood that if elections are influenced by foreign actors or authoritarian forces within, then voters are reduced from the great role of citizens to mere subjects, and government for and by the people is a sham.

The most important feature of a democracy is that it is the voters who alone can confer the legitimate consent and authorization necessary to govern upon the governors who are then duty-bound to represent the voters' interests, and only their interests.

Mr. Speaker, the fundamental democratic compact between the governed and the governors is that the latter's authority and continuance in office comes exclusively from the governed and allegiance is owed exclusively to the governed.

This agreement can only be reached through free and fair elections, a breach of which threatens the vitality and viability of the social contract upon which democratic self-rule of, by, and for the people depends.

Mr. Speaker, President Lincoln called the United States the "last best hope of man on earth" and stated at Gettysburg the importance of finishing the work we are in to ensure that "government of the people, for the people, by the people does not perish from the earth."

By our actions in voting to establish and empower a National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the Capitol Complex, we are taking an indispensable step in ensuring the preservation of our democracy, which has been the envy of the world for than 240 years.

I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the Capitol Complex Act.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE).

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the American people, our Republic, my colleagues, congressional staff, Capitol Police officers, and the late Officer Brian Sicknick, in support of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

Let me be very clear: What took place on January 6 in the United States Capitol Building was an act of domestic terrorism. To witness this hallowed place, the seat of our democracy, being breached and invaded by a mob of incensed blood-thirsty individuals, sycophants, all as we barricaded ourselves in our offices and on this floor, fearing for our lives, was devastating beyond belief. It was an attack on our democracy. Full stop.

This commission is necessary to ensure all parties involved are brought to justice and the American people are made aware of the facts and causes that led to this heinous act of domestic terrorism.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, how much time do we have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Mississippi has 16 minutes remaining. The gentleman from New York has 20 minutes remaining.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL).

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, today, our country has a choice: Our Constitution or chaos?

Our democracy was attacked on January 6. We survived this once, but we will not survive another attack. This commission ensures that we are better prepared if one is to come to this House again.

We don't just owe this to our democracy, we owe it to the men and women in uniform, who fought in hand-to-hand combat for hours to protect our lives. These are the cops that we see every day. These are the cops who take care of us. Three of them lost their life. One of them lost a number of fingers, and one of them had his eye gouged out. Don't walk away from these cops.

We can't agree on much as a country anymore. We choose the news that agrees with us. But this commission cannot be spun. The testimony is the testimony. It is unimpeachable. It is going to be factual. And we owe those facts, the ground truth, not only to our democracy, but to the police officers who so bravely served us that day.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New York (Miss RICE).

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

This cannot be said enough. January 6 was an act of domestic terrorism. An armed mob of insurrectionists stormed the Capitol intending to murder the Speaker, the Vice President, and Members of Congress.

We cannot let our friends on the other side of the aisle whitewash the events of that day. We cannot let them gaslight the American people by calling January 6 an ordinary tourist visit.

The 9/11-style commission we are proposing in this bill will issue a full report on the facts and provide recommendations to prevent future attacks.

Mr. Speaker, I truly appreciate Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for negotiating this bill in good faith.

I thank my friend, Ranking Member KATKO, for actually recognizing the events of January 6 and working to find a bipartisan path forward, despite the opposition in his own party. That is a true act of courage and being a true American.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS).

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, the insurrectionists attacked this very building we are standing in right now. The violent mob attacked, bear-sprayed, and beat down the police officers who protect us every day. 140 officers were injured, and we need to care about that. Some have died, and they deserved better.

Mr. Speaker, accountability and truth are the foundation upon which all of our rights and freedoms exist. We need answers, and this commission will give them to us. We need accountability, and this commission will pave the way for full accountability. We need an independent commission, and a vote against it is a vote for a cover-up.

Choose ye this day whom you will serve. Our democracy or the big lie?

History will remember us.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN).

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

So many questions have surfaced since the attempted insurrection from January 6, but one question encompasses everything: What happened?

A truth-telling commission will set the record straight about the January 6 uprising, its causes, and potential remedial measures. This is about a fact-finding and truth-telling mission. It was the very absence of these two things that helped bring the insurrection on January 6.

We can't move on until we look back and make sure we know what happened, why, and make sure it never happens again.

On behalf of fallen Capitol Police Officer Sicknick, the men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police, the congressional and Capitol Hill staff that keep our offices running, and the American people, we must uncover the truth.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. LURIA).

Mrs. LURIA. Mr. Speaker, like all of us, I watched with horror as our Capitol was overrun on January 6 by those seeking to overturn a free and fair election.

As a 20-year Navy veteran, I swore an oath multiple times throughout my career to support and defend our Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. As Members of Congress, we swear the same oath, and we swear this oath, not as a member of a political party, but as Americans. There is no carve-out for political expediency.

I implore every Member of this body to uphold their oath and vote in support of this bipartisan commission. The American people deserve to understand exactly what happened that day in January.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues not to turn this into a partisan litmus test, not to pit Republican against Democrat, and not to perpetuate the big lie. Finding the truth should not be controversial or a question of partisanship.

This is about our shared future, the future of this Congress, and the future of democracy. We must do this together, and I urge an ''aye'' vote.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a listing of national security, military, and elected officials, former Members of Congress, U.S. Attorneys, diplomats, all who have specific expertise in this matter before the body today.

LETTER FROM FORMER SENIOR NATIONAL SECURITY, MILITARY, AND ELECTED OFFICIALS CALLING ON CONGRESS TO CREATE A BIPARTISAN 1/6 COMMISSION

DEAR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: We are former senior national security, military, and elected officials who have represented or served Democrats, Republicans, or administrations of both parties. We write to encourage this Congress to establish an independent and bipartisan national commission to investigate the January 6th assault of the U.S. Capitol Complex and its direct causes, and to make recommendations to prevent future assaults and strengthen the resilience of our democratic institutions.

We also write to you with great urgency in light of what we collectively see as an exigent and growing threat. The events of January 6th exposed severe vulnerabilities in the nation's preparedness for preventing and responding to domestic terrorist attacks. The immediate security failings that permitted a lethal breach of the Capitol Complex by armed extremists raise serious questions and demand immediate solutions.

But January 6th was also the result of complex national security threats. These include coordinated disinformation campaigns, nontransparent financing of extremist networks, potential foreign influences, and white supremacist violent extremism, which the Department of Homeland Security identified in an October 2020 report as among ''the most persistent and lethal threat[s] in the Homeland.'' As FBI Director Christopher Wray testified to you recently, ''January 6th was not an isolated event. The problem of domestic terrorism has been metastasizing across the country for a long time now and it's not going away anytime soon.'' Understanding how these forces culminated in an attack on the infrastructure of our democracy is critical to preventing future attacks.

In the wake of September 11th, the administration and Congress jointly acknowledged that the attack's causes were complex and that an independent and well-equipped national commission was an essential tool to aid the federal government. Congressional inquiries, law enforcement activities, and a national commission not only worked in parallel, but critically complemented each other's necessary work. An independent commission should not supplant the ongoing work by the legislative and executive branches, but it can uniquely support them by providing comprehensive and expert recommendations for Congress to act upon.

Commissions—properly empowered, resourced, and led—can establish a full picture of events and an analysis of their causes, from which nonpartisan recommendations can authoritatively flow. With dedicated time, resources, and expert staffing, they can also exclusively focus on the matter at hand over an appropriate time horizon. Given the gravity of January 6th as a national security matter—the violent disruption to the transition of power and the continuing threat of future attacks—a national commission examining the lead up to the January 6th assault, and the attendant security lapses, is not only appropriate, but a critical component of the national response.

A failure to deploy the full suite of tools available to fully understand January 6th and address its causes will leave the Capitol, and the nation, vulnerable to future attacks. In bipartisan fashion, we have successfully marshaled these tools before, and we implore you to do so once again.

Sincerely,

(Note: All titles are former positions or military ranks held prior to retirement.)

Javed Ali, Senior Director for Counterterrorism, National Security Council.

Thad Allen, Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard; Commandant of the Coast Guard.

Wendy R. Anderson, Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Department of Defense.

Daniel Baer, U.S. Ambassador; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

Brian Baird, U.S. Representative, 1999–2011.
Daniella Ballou-Aares, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State.
Rand Beers, Acting Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; Deputy Homeland Security Advisor.
John Bellinger, Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State; Legal Advisor, National Security Council.
Tatyana Bolton, Cyber Policy Lead—Senior Policy Analyst, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
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Todd F. Buchwald, U.S. Ambassador, Office of Global Criminal Justice, U.S. Department of State.
Sharon Burke, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Operational Energy.
Daniel Byman, Professional Staff Member, 9/11 Commission.
Piper Campbell, U.S. Ambassador; Head U.S. Mission to ASEAN.
Kevin Carroll, Senior Counselor to the Secretary of Homeland Security; Senior Counsel to the House Homeland Security Committee.
J.E. Cartwright, General, U.S. Marine Corps; Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
Steven Cash, Chief Counsel, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein; Intelligence Officer, CIA; Assistant District Attorney, New York.
Michael Chertoff, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Peter Chiarelli, General, U.S. Army, 32nd Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.
James Clapper, Director of National Intelligence.
William Cohen, Secretary, U.S. Department of Defense.
Tom Coleman, U.S. Representative, 1976–1993.
Gary Corn, Colonel, U.S. Army, Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Cyber Command.
Thomas Countryman, Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Nonproliferation.
Ryan Crocker, U.S. Ambassador.
George Croner, Litigation Counsel, National Security Agency; Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice.
Carlos Curbelo, U.S. Representative, 2015–2019.
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J. Michael Daniel, Special Assistant to President Obama and Cybersecurity Coordinator.
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Greg Delawie, U.S. Ambassador.
Charles W. Dent, U.S. Representative, 2005–2018.
Murray Dickman, Chief of Staff to the Attorney General.
David Durenberger, U.S. Senator, 1978–1995.
R.P. Eddy, Director, National Security Council; Chief of Staff, U.S. Ambassador to the U.N.
Eric Edelman, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.
Mickey Edwards, U.S. Representative, 1977–1993; Chair, House Republican Policy Committee, 1989–1993.
Susan Elliott, U.S. Ambassador.
Jeffrey Feltman, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.
Brenner Fissell, Appellate Counsel, Guantanamo Bay Military Commissions.
Emil Frankel, Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation.
Charles Fried, Solicitor General of the United States.
Francis Fukuyama, Deputy Director, Policy Planning, U.S. Department of State.
Kim Fuller, U.S. Department of the Army, Director of International Affairs (Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary).
Larry Garber, USAID Mission Director, West Bank/Gaza.
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Glenn Gerstell, General Counsel, National Security Agency.
James Glassman, Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, U.S. Department of State.
Kevin Green, Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy.
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Jason Healey, Director, Critical Infrastructure Protection, Homeland Security Council.
Margaret Henoch, CIA Senior Intelligence Service.
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Cameron Hume, U.S. Ambassador.
Gordon Humphrey, U.S. Senator, 1979–1991.
Paul Douglas Humphries, CIA.
Carol Humphries, CIA, Captain, U.S. Navy Reserve.
Bob Inglis, U.S. Representative, 1993–1999, 2005–2011.
Steve Israel, U.S. Representative, 2001–2017.
Jeh Johnson, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Susan Koch, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Threat Reduction Policy.
Jim Kolbe, U.S. Representative, 1985–2007.
David J. Kramer, Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights & Labor.
David Laufman, Chief of the Counterintelligence and Export Control Section in the National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice.
J. William Leonard, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Security & Information Operations).
Jason Lewis-Berry, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of State.
Andrew Liepman, Deputy Director, National Counterrorism Center; Deputy Director, CIA/Counterterrorism Center; Director, Office of Iraq Analysis; Deputy Director, Weapons Intelligence Non Proliferation and Arms Control Center.
Robert Litt, General Counsel, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.
George Little, Press Secretary, Pentagon; Spokesman, CIA.
James Loy, Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard; Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Lewis Lukens, U.S. Ambassador.
Michael McFaul, Ambassador; Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Russian and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council.
Steven McGann, U.S. Ambassador.
Dennis McGinn, Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy; Assistant Secretary of the Navy.
Joseph Medina, Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps.
Christopher Mellon, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense.
Connie Morella, U.S. Representative, 2003–2006; U.S. Ambassador.
Janet Napolitano, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Elizabeth Neumann, Assistant Secretary for Counterterrorism and Threat Prevention, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Suzanne Nossel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.
William Owens, Admiral, U.S. Navy; Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.
Christopher Painter, Coordinator for Cyber Issues, U.S. Department of State.
William Perry, Secretary of Defense.
Larry Pfeiffer, Chief of Staff, CIA; Senior Director, White House Situation Room.
Annie Pforzheimer, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Afghanistan.
Randal Phillips, Senior Intelligence Service, CIA.
William Piekney, Senior Operations Manager, CIA.
Steven Pifer, Senior Foreign Service Officer; U.S. Ambassador.
Tony Pipa, Chief Strategy Officer, USAID.
Marc Polymeropoulos, Senior Intelligence Service, Directorate of Operations, CIA.
Allison Price, Senior Spokesperson, U.S. Department of Justice.
Deborah Pryce, U.S. Representative, 1993–2009.
Ben Rhodes, Deputy National Security Advisor.
Thomas Ridge, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Denver Riggleman, U.S. Representative, 2019–2021.
Thomas B. Robertson, U.S. Ambassador.
Tim Roemer, 9/11 Commissioner; U.S. Ambassador; U.S. Representative, 1991–2003.
Michael Rogers, Admiral, U.S. Navy; Commander, U.S. Cyber Command; Director, National Security Agency.
Todd Rosenblum, Deputy Under Secretary of Intelligence, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Paul Rosenzweig, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Nicholas Rostow, Legal Advisor to the National Security Council; Staff Director, U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.
Joel Rubin, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.
Nilmini Rubin, Director, National Security Council.
David Scheffer, U.S. Ambassador.
Robert Shanks, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Department of Justice; General Counsel, Overseas Private Investment Corporation; General Counsel, Peace Corps.
Christopher Shays, U.S. Representative, 1987–2009.
Douglas Silliman, U.S. Ambassador.
John Sipher, Senior Intelligence Service, CIA Clandestine Service.
Peter Smith, U.S. Representative, 1989–1991.
Suzanne Spaulding, Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Strobe Talbott, Deputy Secretary of State.
Miles Taylor, Chief of Staff, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
Tomicah Tillemann, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State; Speechwriter to the Secretary of State.
Kurt Tong, U.S. Ambassador.
Olivia Troye, Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Advisor to Vice President Mike Pence.
Stanley A. Twardy, Jr., United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, 1985–1991.
Alexander Vershbow, NATO Deputy Secretary General; Assistant Secretary of Defense; U.S. Ambassador.
Alexander Vindman, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army; Director for European Affairs, National Security Council.

Edward Walker, U.S. Ambassador; Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

James Walsh, U.S. Representative, 1989–2009.

Zach Wamp, U.S. Representative, 1995–2011.

Thomas Warrick, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Counterterrorism Policy, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

William Wechsler, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Special Operations and Combatting Terrorism.

Pamela White, U.S. Ambassador.

Christine Todd Whitman, Governor of New Jersey; Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Jonathan Winer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Law Enforcement; Special Envoy for Libya.

Tim Wirth, Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs; U.S. Senator, 1987–1993; U.S. Representative, 1975–1987.

Lawrence Wilkerson, Colonel, U.S. Army; Chief of Staff, U.S. Secretary of State.

Douglas H. Wise, CIA Senior Intelligence Service; Deputy Director, Defense Intelligence Agency.

Tamara Cofman Wittes, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

Stephen N. Xenakis, Brigadier General, U.S. Army.

Marie Yovanovitch, U.S. Ambassador.

Dov S. Zakheim, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

Peter D. Zimmerman, Chief Scientist, Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Chief Scientific Advisor, US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; Science Advisor for Arms Control, U.S. Department of State.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a joint statement from Governor Tom Kean and former Congressman Lee Hamilton in support of this commission.

[From Issue One]

JOINT STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR TOM KEAN AND CONGRESSMAN LEE HAMILTON, CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION

''We very strongly urge House Members to support H.R. 3233, the bipartisan National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex. That bill would create a 9/11 style commission to investigate the January 6th assault on the U.S. Capitol. That was a dark day in American history, one of the darkest.

''As Chairman and Vice Chairman of the 9/11 Commission, unity of purpose was key to the effectiveness of the group. We put country above party, without bias, the events before, during and after the attack. We sought to understand our vulnerabilities in order to prevent future attacks or future acts of terrorism.

Today, democracy faces a new threat. The January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol was one of the darkest days in the history of our country. Americans deserve an objective and an accurate account of what happened. As we did in the wake of September 11, it's time to set aside partisan politics and come together as Americans in common pursuit of truth and justice.''

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from Protect Democracy, Ian Bassin, Executive Director.

PROTECT DEMOCRACY,
Washington, DC, May 19, 2021.

PROTECT DEMOCRACY URGES REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPPORT H.R. 3233, THE NATIONAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE JANUARY 6 ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL COMPLEX ACT

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On January 6th the very foundations of our democracy—and our Congress and Capitol that lie at its heart—came under attack. More than 130 days later, Members of Congress, their staff, and their constituents are still struggling to come together to understand what happened and how to prevent it from ever happening again.

We strongly urge you to vote in favor of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act, which would establish an independent national commission to comprehensively investigate the January 6th attack on the U.S. Capitol Complex.

This bipartisan bill is a measured and thoughtful response to the attack. It will bring together a bipartisan group of experts to examine the facts and circumstances surrounding the January 6th attack. The Commission is structured to ensure it is a bipartisan endeavor: all reports must be agreed to by a majority of Commission members and the Commission may only issue subpoenas upon an agreement between the Chair and the Vice Chair or a vote by a majority of Commission members.

The Commission will build on the work that has begun in various congressional committees to gather information and hold hearings on the attack. It will not intefere with those ongoing efforts nor will it delay immediate security fixes to the Capitol Complex.

By creating this Commission, Congress can assure the American people, and all who work in the Capitol Complex, that these events and the circumstances leading up to them are thoroughly investigated outside of the pressured and partisan environment of Congress itself.

We are grateful to Chairman Bennie Thompson and Ranking Member John Katko for their leadership in advancing this critical legislation, and we urge continued bipartisan support for the bill. Today marks an important milestone toward seeking a shared understanding, protecting our cherished freedoms, and restoring faith in government.

Sincerely,

IAN BASSIN,
Executive Director, Protect Democracy.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, we have had a number of my colleagues come before us encouraging this body to support this commission and this legislation. They have spoken valiantly in support of it. They have put their hearts and souls into making sure that it is correct and proper.

I am happy, again, to share with my colleague from New York. I appreciate working with him, and I appreciate the ability to work out our differences. I think it should be part of the role model for future legislation in this body.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

□ 1645

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I also thank him for his great leadership working with Ranking Member KATKO on bringing this bipartisan legislation to the floor for a bipartisan commission.

Let's talk about where we are. Here we are in the Capitol of the United States. The dome of the U.S. Capitol has always been a beacon of democracy and hope to America and to the world. Under this dome, our Nation has abolished slavery; secured equal protections for all; ended a civil war; enfranchised women; established Medicare and Medicaid, voting rights and civil rights; and met the needs of the American people.

Under this dome, schoolchildren learn about their country's history and what we are doing to advance their future. They come here and see us honor those who have contributed to the success of our country: Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, et cetera. But they know that our Founders, those patriots, wanted us to be working for a better future as we honor our history.

Under this dome, when children learn about our country's history, they also learn about what we are doing for their futures. Legislators pass laws. The press engages with our democracy, reporting on it. Staff and workers enable all of this to happen.

This dome is a symbol of the determination of America. But this was not always so. Let us recall that the dome of the Capitol was built during the Civil War as our country was riven by brutal conflict. At the time, many said the iron and steel used for construction were needed for the war effort. They urged the President not to continue the work on the dome. President Lincoln said no. He knew that our country needed a symbol of strength and unity, a reminder of the shared ideals and common purpose that built our Nation.

It was a beacon of hope to guide us through times of darkness, and he knew that the work must continue as a sign of our strength and the unity of our country.

Mr. Speaker, on January 6, and in the days, weeks, and months after, the Capitol dome was, once again, such a beacon.

Would we prevail?

January 6 was the day called for in the Constitution to validate the Presidential election. It was not just another day in the life of Congress. That day, one of the darkest days in our history, our temple of democracy was under assault by insurrectionists.

The gleeful desecration of our Capitol resulted in multiple deaths and physical harm to over 140 members of law enforcement and terror and trauma among staff, workers, and even Members.

The insurrection was called for to impede our constitutional mandate, but the Congress returned to the Capitol that night to accomplish our purpose. We agreed in a bipartisan way that day that we would return to the Capitol, and that sent an important signal to the world.

The insurrection called for people to impede our constitutional mandate,

but we returned to the Capitol. Thanks to the courage of the Capitol Police, Members, and support workers, we showed the country and, indeed, the world that we would not be diverted from our duty and that we would respect our responsibility to the Constitution of the United States.

We take that oath to protect and defend the Constitution. Again, in a bipartisan way, we agreed to come back to the Capitol.

Today, over 4 months later, many questions regarding the circumstances of this assault on our democracy and response to it remain. It is imperative that we seek the truth of what happened on January 6.

To do that, Congress must, in a spirit, I believe, of bipartisanship and patriotism, establish an independent and bipartisan 9/11-type commission. Today, thanks to the leadership of Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON and Ranking Member JOHN KATKO, legislation to create such a commission is on the House floor.

It is important to note, Mr. Speaker, that this is happening 4½ months after the January 6 insurrection. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues know, but many were not here at the time, legislation establishing the 9/11 Commission, 9/11/2001, was not signed into law until the end of November 2002, over 14 months after the attacks.

So, people have been saying: How come we don't have a commission?

It takes time to build bipartisanship and come to agreement. Let us hope that the leadership that Mr. THOMPSON and Mr. KATKO have demonstrated will be leadership that we will follow and that we will continue in the most bipartisan way in order to seek the truth.

Today, 4 months later, many questions regarding the circumstances still exist. This commission is designed to be impartial and experienced. The legislation requires that the commissioners be ''prominent United States citizens with national recognition and significant depth of experience.''

It also indicates that they should not be Members of Congress or elected in another capacity. Commissioners will be appointed from the highest echelons of government service; law enforcement; civil rights, civil liberties, and privacy; Armed Forces; intelligence; counterterrorism; cybersecurity; technology; and law.

The commission will be, again, bipartisan and bicameral, with commissioners appointed by the majority and minority leadership in the House and Senate. It will be actionable and effective, culminating in a final report on the facts and causes of January 6, along with recommendations to prevent further attacks on our democratic institutions.

I heard earlier Chairman THOMPSON acknowledge the support and endorsement of the previous chairs of the 9/11 Commission, Governor Kean and Chairman Lee Hamilton from Congress, the co-chairs of the 9/11 Commission. They had written to us earlier about the need for such a bipartisan commission, but they also wanted not only to find out the truth so this doesn't happen again, but also to reinforce our commitment to democracy and take us on a path that is better and more unifying.

That is a responsibility we have, and that is a hope that I have emerging from this debate and this vote today, that we will be able to have a strong bipartisan vote that takes us down a path more unifying for our country. We have this opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, the press says to me: Why don't you just go do your own task force and your own select committee to investigate this? You have the votes, you have subpoena power, and you have this or that.

I said: I don't want to do that. We want this to be as it is shaped, bipartisan with shared responsibility and shared staff in a way that the public will have respect for the outcome.

To that end, 140 national security leaders have called for such a commission. This is what they have said: ''The events of January 6 exposed severe vulnerabilities in the Nation's preparedness for preventing and responding to domestic terrorist attacks. The immediate security failings that permitted a lethal breach of the Capitol complex by armed extremists raise serious questions and demand immediate solutions. . . . A failure to deploy the full suite of tools available to fully understand January 6 and address its causes will leave the Capitol, and the Nation, vulnerable to future attacks.''

This list is nonpartisan, 140 Democrats and Republicans. I don't even know what party some of them are.

I include their statement in the RECORD, Mr. Speaker.

LETTER FROM FORMER SENIOR NATIONAL SECURITY, MILITARY, AND ELECTED OFFICIALS CALLING ON CONGRESS TO CREATE A BIPARTISAN 1/6 COMMISSION

DEAR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: We are former senior national security, military, and elected officials who have represented or served Democrats, Republicans, or administrations of both parties. We write to encourage this Congress to establish an independent and bipartisan national commission to investigate the January 6th assault of the U.S. Capitol Complex and its direct causes, and to make recommendations to prevent future assaults and strengthen the resilience of our democratic institutions.

We also write to you with great urgency in light of what we collectively see as an exigent and growing threat. The events of January 6th exposed severe vulnerabilities in the nation's preparedness for preventing and responding to domestic terrorist attacks. The immediate security failings that permitted a lethal breach of the Capitol Complex by armed extremists raise serious questions and demand immediate solutions.

But January 6th was also the result of complex national security threats. These include coordinated disinformation campaigns, nontransparent financing of extremist networks, potential foreign influences, and white supremacist violent extremism, which the Department of Homeland Security identified in an October 2020 report as among ''the most persistent and lethal threat[s] in the Homeland.'' As FBI Director Christopher Wray testified to you recently, ''January 6th was not an isolated event. The problem of domestic terrorism has been metastasizing across the country for a long time now and it's not going away anytime soon.'' Understanding how these forces culminated in an attack on the infrastructure of our democracy is critical to preventing future attacks.

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Commissions—properly empowered, resourced, and led—can establish a full picture of events and an analysis of their causes, from which nonpartisan recommendations can authoritatively flow. With dedicated time, resources, and expert staffing, they can also exclusively focus on the matter at hand over an appropriate time horizon. Given the gravity of January 6th as a national security matter—the violent disruption to the transition of power and the continuing threat of future attacks—a national commission examining the lead up to the January 6th assault, and the attendant security lapses, is not only appropriate, but a critical component of the national response.

A failure to deploy the full suite of tools available to fully understand January 6th and address its causes will leave the Capitol, and the nation, vulnerable to future attacks. In bipartisan fashion, we have successfully marshaled these tools before, and we implore you to do so once again.

Sincerely,

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Charles Boustany, U.S. Representative, 2005–2017.

Steven Browning, U.S. Ambassador; Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

Todd F. Buchwald, U.S. Ambassador, Office of Global Criminal Justice, U.S. Department of State.

Sharon Burke, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Operational Energy.

Daniel Byman, Professional Staff Member, 9/11 Commission.

Piper Campbell, U.S. Ambassador; Head U.S. Mission to ASEAN.

Kevin Carroll, Senior Counselor to the Secretary of Homeland Security; Senior Counsel to the House Homeland Security Committee.

J.E. Cartwright, General, U.S. Marine Corps; Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Steven Cash, Chief Counsel, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein; Intelligence Officer, CIA; Assistant District Attorney, New York.

Michael Chertoff, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Peter Chiarelli, General, U.S. Army, 32nd Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.

James Clapper, Director of National Intelligence.

William Cohen, Secretary, U.S. Department of Defense.

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Susan Elliott, U.S. Ambassador.

Jeffrey Feltman, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

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Kim Fuller, U.S. Department of the Army, Director of International Affairs (Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary).

Larry Garber, USAID Mission Director, West Bank/Gaza.

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Kevin Green, Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy.

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David J. Kramer, Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights & Labor.

David Laufman, Chief of the Counterintelligence and Export Control Section in the National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

J. William Leonard, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Security & Information Operations).

Jason Lewis-Berry, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of State.

Andrew Liepman, Deputy Director, National Counterrorism Center; Deputy Director, CIA/Counterterrorism Center; Director, Office of Iraq Analysis; Deputy Director, Weapons Intelligence Non Proliferation and Arms Control Center.

Robert Litt, General Counsel, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

George Little, Press Secretary, Pentagon; Spokesman, CIA.

James Loy, Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard; Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Lewis Lukens, U.S. Ambassador.

Michael McFaul, Ambassador; Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Russian and Eurasian Affairs at the National Security Council.

Steven McGann, U.S. Ambassador.

Dennis McGinn, Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy; Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Joseph Medina, Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps.

Christopher Mellon, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Connie Morella, U.S. Representative, 2003–2006; U.S. Ambassador.

Janet Napolitano, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Elizabeth Neumann, Assistant Secretary for Counterterrorism and Threat Prevention, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Suzanne Nossel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

William Owens, Admiral, U.S. Navy; Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Christopher Painter, Coordinator for Cyber Issues, U.S. Department of State.

William Perry, Secretary of Defense.

Larry Pfeiffer, Chief of Staff, CIA; Senior Director, White House Situation Room.

Annie Pforzheimer, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Afghanistan.

Randal Phillips, Senior Intelligence Service, CIA.

William Piekney, Senior Operations Manager, CIA.

Steven Pifer, Senior Foreign Service Officer; U.S. Ambassador.

Tony Pipa, Chief Strategy Officer, USAID.

Marc Polymeropoulos, Senior Intelligence Service, Directorate of Operations, CIA.

Allison Price, Senior Spokesperson, U.S. Department of Justice.

Deborah Pryce, U.S. Representative, 1993–2009.

Ben Rhodes, Deputy National Security Advisor.

Thomas Ridge, Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Denver Riggleman, U.S. Representative, 2019–2021.

Thomas B. Robertson, U.S. Ambassador.

Tim Roemer, 9/11 Commissioner; U.S. Ambassador; U.S. Representative, 1991–2003.

Michael Rogers, Admiral, U.S. Navy; Commander, U.S. Cyber Command; Director, National Security Agency.

Todd Rosenblum, Deputy Under Secretary of Intelligence, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Paul Rosenzweig, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Nicholas Rostow, Legal Advisor to the National Security Council; Staff Director, U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Joel Rubin, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

Nilmini Rubin, Director, National Security Council.

David Scheffer, U.S. Ambassador.

Robert Shanks, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Department of Justice; General Counsel, Overseas Private Investment Corporation; General Counsel, Peace Corps.

Christopher Shays, U.S. Representative, 1987–2009.

Douglas Silliman, U.S. Ambassador.

John Sipher, Senior Intelligence Service, CIA Clandestine Service.

Peter Smith, U.S. Representative, 1989–1991.

Suzanne Spaulding, Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Strobe Talbott, Deputy Secretary of State.

Miles Taylor, Chief of Staff, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Tomicah Tillemann, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of State; Speechwriter to the Secretary of State.

Kurt Tong, U.S. Ambassador.

Olivia Troye, Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Advisor to Vice President Mike Pence.

Stanley A. Twardy, Jr., United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, 1985–1991.

Alexander Vershbow, NATO Deputy Secretary General; Assistant Secretary of Defense; U.S. Ambassador.

Alexander Vindman, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army; Director for European Affairs, National Security Council.

Edward Walker, U.S. Ambassador; Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

James Walsh, U.S. Representative, 1989–2009.

Zach Wamp, U.S. Representative, 1995–2011.

Thomas Warrick, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Counterterrorism Policy, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

William Wechsler, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Special Operations and Combatting Terrorism.

Pamela White, U.S. Ambassador.

Christine Todd Whitman, Governor of New Jersey; Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Jonathan Winer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Law Enforcement; Special Envoy for Libya.

Tim Wirth, Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs; U.S. Senator, 1987–1993; U.S. Representative, 1975–1987.

Lawrence Wilkerson, Colonel, U.S. Army; Chief of Staff, U.S. Secretary of State.

Douglas H. Wise, CIA Senior Intelligence Service; Deputy Director, Defense Intelligence Agency.

Tamara Cofman Wittes, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

Stephen N. Xenakis, Brigadier General, U.S. Army.

Marie Yovanovitch, U.S. Ambassador.

Dov S. Zakheim, Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller).

Peter D. Zimmerman, Chief Scientist, Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Chief Scientific Advisor, US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency; Science Advisor for Arms Control, U.S. Department of State.

Ms. PELOSI. After the bipartisan agreement on this commission was reached, the respected bipartisan chairs of the 9/11 Commission, Thomas Kean and Lee Hamilton, endorsed it, as was mentioned by the chairman and as I referenced earlier.

I want to repeat it because I think it bears repetition:

> We very strongly urge House Members to support H.R. 3233, the bipartisan National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex bill that would create a 9/11-style commission to investigate the January 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol. That was a dark day in American history, one of the darkest.
>
> As chairman and vice chairman of the 9/11 Commission, unity of purpose was key to the effectiveness of the group. We put country above party, without bias, the events before, during, and after the attack. We sought to understand our vulnerabilities in order to prevent future acts of terrorism.

The chair and vice chair went on to say:

> Today, democracy faces a new threat. The January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol was one of the darkest days in the history of our country. Americans deserve an objective and accurate account of what happened.

Mr. Hamilton and Governor Kean said:

> As we did in the wake of 9/11, it is time to set aside partisan politics and come together as Americans in common pursuit of truth and justice.

As I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, the Capitol of the United States has always been a glorious beacon of democracy for the American people and for the world.

This legislation is about something larger even than the commission, vital as the commission is. This legislation is about our democracy, about ensuring that the Capitol dome remains a symbol of freedom and about preserving America's role as an emblem of resilience, determination, and hope to the world.

Indeed, creating this commission sends a resounding message to terrorists both at home and abroad: The commitment of the United States Congress to the Constitution and to the American people is unshakeable.

In establishing the truth of January 6, this commission will protect our temple of democracy and our democracy itself. It will ensure that such an attack shall never happen again.

Can we just not wait, Mr. Speaker, for a time very soon when children come here to learn, where the press can cover in a more open way, and where the American people can come into the people's House?

That is what this Chamber has been called, the people's House. They come to witness the debate that affects their lives. And whatever our disagreement about policy, they are assured that we are unified in our commitment in honoring our Constitution and respecting the institution in which we serve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a strong bipartisan vote for H.R. 3233 to establish the national commission to investigate the January 6 attack on the United States Capitol complex. I do so with the greatest appreciation and respect to Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON and to Ranking Member KATKO, and I hope, again, that the spirit of bipartisanship that they engendered in bringing this legislation to the floor will only grow as we go forward with the commission and with its recommendations.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Speaker for her comments.

I want to reiterate for everyone to understand: The way that Mr. THOMPSON and I crafted this bill, we crafted it in such a manner to make sure it would be depoliticized entirely. There is an equal number of members on both sides appointed by both sides. They have equal subpoena power. They can't subpoena one person without the other person on the other side of the aisle agreeing. They have to hire staff together, all those things.

I want to make sure people understand that we did this for a reason because that is exactly what made the 9/11 Commission successful and made it effective.

As someone who was in Federal law enforcement for 20 years before I took this job, I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that our country is infinitely safer because of what the 9/11 Commission did. We are much stronger against terrorism, and we share information in much better ways than we ever did—for example, the Joint Terrorism Task Forces, which are all over this country.

I ask my colleagues to consider the fact that this commission is built to work. It will be depoliticized, and it will get the results we need because the Capitol itself and the Capitol Police officers will be better off for it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. GREENE).

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill and to the January 6 commission. I do so as a Member of Congress because I believe this institution's duty is to serve the people of this country and not itself.

In this past year, we have witnessed violent riots in American cities all over this country. We have witnessed tremendous damage. Minneapolis city officials estimate 700 buildings were damaged, burned, or destroyed, including 360 local businesses. There has not been a commission launched to study the reasons why that happened.

There has not been an investigation to stop the BLM and antifa riots that have hurt innocent people and attacked government buildings and Federal courthouses, taken over police precincts, created autonomous zones in the city of Portland, and done so much damage to people all over the country.

Studies show 570 protests in 220 different U.S. locations turned violent over the summer. The $1 billion-plus riot damage is estimated to be the most expensive in insurance history. It resulted in up to $2 billion of damages in 20 cities across the U.S., mostly concentrated in L.A., Detroit, Miami, D.C., and New York.

□ 1700

As a person who was a victim of the January 6 Capitol attack, I can tell you that I am against the violence that happened that day, but I do not believe a January 6 commission will achieve any resolution because we have already had our Department of Justice arrest 445 people, with 100 more to be arrested soon.

There are also reports of people being held for 23 hours in solitary confinement. That should not be happening. These people haven't even had a court date yet.

What is going to happen with the January 6 commission is the media is going to use this to smear Trump supporters and President Trump for the next few years and cover up the real damage that is happening to the people of this country, which is tearing down our economy, ripping our borders wide open, and hurting this country.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader of the Democratic Party.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding, and I thank the chairman for his work.

I have been here a long time. This is my 40th year in the Congress of the United States. I came at the same time Ronald Reagan was elected President of the United States. It was clearly a time of difference in the House and in the country between Republicans and Democrats, but it was also a time when, frankly, the JOHN KATKOs of the Congress were in the majority in the Republican Party. And by that I mean, Mr. Speaker, people who wanted to work together to get results that, while not perfect for either side, were good for the country.

So while I thank Mr. THOMPSON for the hard work he has done, I thank Mr. KATKO as well for doing what Americans expect us to do, to come together, looking at a challenge to our country and to our people, coming to a decision to resolve those challenges and those problems.

That is what Mr. THOMPSON and Mr. KATKO have done. Indeed, I think this is, in some ways, the best of days and, in some ways, the worst of days because we have seen today two Republican leaders turn what ought to be a nonpolitical issue, an issue with reference to a unique event, not just a demonstration that has occurred.

I grew up in the 1960s. Whether it was civil rights or Vietnam, there were a lot of demonstrations. But the Capitol of the United States was not attacked. It was not invaded. It was not breached.

The work of the Congress of the United States was not stopped because people were trying to get through the door, with some Members trying to stop them who then said: These are just tourists.

It is sad because what the minority leader in the Senate and the minority leader in the House said is exactly what Mr. KATKO pointed out. They wanted a commission that was even, as the 9/11 Commission was even, so that both sides would have an equal voice.

What was the resolution that Mr. THOMPSON and Mr. KATKO attained? Equal division, equal voice. Not only equal voice in terms of numbers but, for instance, one of the things that was controversial was about subpoenas. Mr. THOMPSON and Mr. KATKO arrived at a resolution that said both sides have to agree, or alternatively, the committee can agree. In light of the fact that the committee is evenly divided, it would obviously have to be a bipartisan request for subpoenas.

Now, what we didn't agree on was the distraction and the dissembling. Let's look at this corner; don't look here. Let's look at this corner; don't look here. Let's look at that corner; don't look there. Don't look at just the invasion, the insurrection that occurred on January 6; look at everything else because maybe we can confuse the issue enough that we will lose sight of the insurrection on January 6. We ought not to do that.

I have been here a long time, but I also know the history of the House, and I do not know of any other instance that is analogous to January 6, not one.

In 1812, of course, there was a similar invasion, but it was from a foreign enemy. It was not the enemy within. I said that on the floor that morning as we finished the business of the House, notwithstanding the insurrection.

Mr. Speaker, it is vital that Congress establish a bipartisan, independent commission to investigate January 6, not some other date. That does not absolve any wrongdoing anywhere at any time. But it says that this unique insurrection is a danger to our democracy, not to Republicans or Democrats, to our democracy, to our Congress, to the people's House and the United States Senate, which was occupied. At least this House was not occupied.

But Members were terrified, work was stopped, and democracy, for a short period of time, was overtaken by armed, violent insurrectionists.

Certainly, each one of us ought to be very concerned about getting to the bottom of why that happened. How did it happen? How can we stop it from happening again? What are the resources that we need, and, yes, who was responsible? Some, perhaps, are going to vote against this because that is what they fear.

The 9/11 Commission, as Mr. KATKO pointed out, made America safer. It made this institution safer. It made our law enforcement more acutely aware of the failures that led to 9/11. I hope this commission does the same. I have talked to numerous Republicans who tell me they think it was right that we focused on January 6. Don't be distracted. Don't cover up or make it more lacking in clarity by trying to deal with every problem that we may have. Focus on January 6.

Together, Mr. KATKO and Mr. THOMPSON negotiated a bipartisan agreement to move forward with such a commission based on input from Democrats and Republicans. There are going to be a significant number of Republicans who vote for this bill.

Unfortunately, the truth has been a victim over the last couple of weeks. It was okay for LIZ CHENEY to tell the truth once, but when the former President of the United States kept telling a lie, and she said that is a lie each time that he said it, well, that was not appropriate, so she was removed. But the truth was removed with her. See no evil, hear no evil.

The commission, as a result of Ranking Member KATKO's participation in these discussions, will be equally composed, as I said. It will have subpoena power that will be shared by both sides. I was pleased that we reached a bipartisan agreement and sad for this institution, for this country, for the American people who must think: Well, can't you agree on anything?

The minority leader got what he asked for, yet he won't take yes for an answer. Trump does not want this commission. That can be my only explanation.

Throughout my career, both in the State senate for 12 years, as president of the Senate, and here in this body for 40, I think I am known on the other side of the aisle as somebody you can work with. I hope that is the case because I think that is the way Americans want us to work.

President Trump opposes this commission. I am not sure why. It is deeply disappointing that there is a division among Republicans about whether to support the ranking member who worked hard to get to this place and got what the minority leader asked for, except for the distraction, except for the dissembling. He didn't get that. But he got everything else.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my Republican colleagues will think not about their politics, not about the former President, not about themselves. I hope they will think of the country, of this Congress, of this House. As they do so, I hope they say to themselves: We will vote for this legislation.

What if George Bush had said we shouldn't have a 9/11 Commission, perhaps out of fear that somehow the administration would have been perceived as being responsible for 9/11? They weren't. Wouldn't all of us have said: What are you talking about that we are not going to have a commission to see how we can protect the Capitol and why this Capitol was stopped from doing the work of our democracy?

This legislation is going to pass. It is going to pass on a bipartisan basis, and I want to thank Mr. KATKO for having the courage and the integrity to stand up, fighting for what the minority leader asked for.

I say to Mr. THOMPSON that that is the funny thing about this. I hope Senators will think long and hard about rejecting this bipartisan compromise to move forward, to protect our democracy, and to lift it up as the beacon that it has been and needs to be not only for our own citizens but for all the world.

How sad that day was as the world watched, as TVs showed them America's citadel of democracy and of freedom invaded by its own citizens.

Vote ''yes.'' It is the right thing to do.

□ 1715

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I had not intended to speak, but the careful mask of bipartisanship seems to have faltered here at the last, with the majority leader's attacks on the minority leader, who has not spoken, and the minority leader in the Senate for comments he has made in public but not in debate.

So what was an image of bipartisan cooperation has now become one more partisan attack. It caused me to believe that it was important to stand up and say this: How can you have a bipartisan commission with an all-Democrat staff? How do you do that?

And why is it that there is no willingness to look into all of the riots and the arson and the violence and the burning? If we are concerned about the danger that police officers were in on January 6—and certainly they were—then why don't we have that concern for the dangers, the violence, the injuries, the deaths that have been faced by police officers across this country?

Why is one form of political violence equivalent to 9/11 when a blind eye has been turned by this Congress, or at least by the majority in this Congress, to that same phenomenon across this country for a year? Where is the inquiry into that?

When the images are raised, the lurid images of insurrection—let me just say this. If it was an insurrection, it was the worst example of an insurrection in the history of mankind. It was a riot, it was a mob, it was significant, and it was troublesome.

But this is not bipartisanship, and I fear that the gentleman from New York may find that he has been played.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am not going to argue with the previous speaker. I just say: Read the bill. And if you read the bill, you will understand it is a bipartisan bill.

It is not a partisan bill; it is absolutely bipartisan. The staff will be picked just like the staff was picked for the 9/11 Commission. It is just like the earlier bill the ranking member talked about, the Rodney Davis bill.

We looked, Mr. Speaker, at this issue because the world saw what happened on January 6, and it is clear that we put together a bipartisan bill for the good of the country. It is in that spirit that we are here today.

Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Mississippi has 6 minutes remaining. The gentleman from New York has 15 minutes remaining.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY), the chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and ranking member for their extraordinary leadership, for doing the right thing, and for working to make this country safer and stronger.

Like my friend on the other side of aisle from North Carolina, I didn't intend to speak either.

As a New Yorker, I was closely involved in supporting the work of the 9/11 Commission. It, too, like January 6, was one of the darkest days in the history of our country, and we needed answers on how such a horrible thing could happen. Almost 3,000 people were murdered just because they went to work that day. Many things needed to be answered.

This body came together. We were united; we were determined; we passed the Commission. We had two outstanding leaders, Governor Kean and Lee Hamilton. They did everything together. They issued a report that sold more copies than Harry Potter. I nominated it for a National Book Award. It laid out what happened so clearly from their joint investigations. More importantly, it told us what to do about it. They had a series of recommendations to make this country safer.

This body worked together and enacted most of them, and it did make this country safer. In fact, I get periodic reports from the law enforcement in my city on attempts to hurt us and how the reforms and the programs we put in place are helping us, making us stronger and protecting us better.

We need this January 6 commission, for the sake of America. Let's stop fighting long enough to work together to help our country understand what happened.

Why did it take 4 hours for the National Guard to respond? In New York, they would have been there in 10 minutes. Why didn't they respond to all of the news reports about what was happening? We need answers. Let's come together and work together and get them.

A January 6 commission, I urge for the sake of the country, everyone should vote for it.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, look, things have changed a lot since the 9/11 Commission. Back then, we did not have a problem on either side of the aisle condemning anti-Semitic remarks. Now one side has a problem doing that.

Back then, we had never, in the history of Congress, had one party commit what arguably is felony, up to 20 years in prison, by preventing an ongoing session of Congress, the exact charge, 18 USC 1512, that is being alleged against people that came in. As a judge, I would have no problem sentencing anybody that broke into the Capitol, anybody that committed a crime here.

But let's be real. The partisanship has been dramatic. That is why it is different now than the 9/11 Commission. Let's get back to being bipartisan and not use every tool as a partisan stick to beat Republicans with.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT).

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the U.S. Capitol.

I want to thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for bringing this bill to the floor.

On January 6, we witnessed one of the darkest moments in our Nation's history when a violent mob attacked the U.S. Capitol. These individuals desecrated the Halls of Congress, attacked law enforcement, and attempted to stop the democratic process. The clearest way for us to uphold our oath to defend the Constitution and protect this institution, our democracy, from those who directly attempted to thwart its operations, is through an independent, evenly-divided, bipartisan commission. We need to understand not just what were the breakdowns in security and the failures of our intelligence, but why. What are those issues which caused fellow Americans to believe they needed to overthrow their government?

Those who believe the former President had no culpability should not be afraid of a commission that derives its power from both sides equally.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for his work on this effort. I appreciate my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and the intent of what we are trying to accomplish.

Obviously, we are all very concerned and should be concerned about what occurred on January 6, all of us who were here in the Chamber, all of us who saw what unfolded.

My concern, and the reason that I am opposing this legislation, is that I believe we have got a significant amount of power with our existing structures in place, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, the Committee on the Judiciary, and otherwise. While the investigation is going on at the Department of Justice, we ought to be looking at that and using those powers to do what we can to seek the truth wherever it may lead.

I have questions right now for the Department of Justice. We have got 450 Americans who have been arrested. I don't know for how long, I don't know how many of them are in jail, or for what period of time. We are trying to look into that. I have sent letters to the Department of Justice to get those answers.

I wish the gentlewoman who spoke, the chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, would afford us the ability to call people forward from the Department of Justice. Let's inquire as to what is going on. Let's inquire about the investigations. Let's inquire about the facts that have been found. Let's use the powers that we have and the powers of this body and the committees we have to seek the information and the truth, wherever it may lead.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman THOMPSON for his leadership.

While the events of January 6 were devastating and will stain our country's history forever, I have no doubt that democracy will prevail.

This Nation has fought back against hatred, authoritarianism, and fascism since the very founding.

Yes, I stand proudly today to ask for a January 6 commission so that we can develop a full public record that will let us know how we can avoid this in the future.

We should all vote ''yes.''

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to take a few moments to address some of the arguments that have been made here today, and some of the arguments that have been made in opposition to this bill.

One of them is talking about the scope of the commission being too narrow. I want to note that the commission is granted sufficient scope and flexibility to investigate targeted violence and domestic terrorism relevant to the January 6 attack. It will be up to the commission to decide how far they want to go with that perimeter.

Do I feel that the attack on the Capitol on April 2 that killed a Capitol Police Officer is relevant? I do. I hope the commission does, too.

Do I feel that the June 17 attack on Republican Members of Congress is relevant to the January 6 attack? I do. I hope the commission does. They have the flexibility to do so, if they want.

If there are other issues outside of this scope, we can look into them. We can have separate legislation. I encourage my colleagues, who are concerned about that, to do that.

Another charge I heard was that the commission could be controlled by partisan staff hired unilaterally by the commission chair. That is simply not true.

Here is what the bill does. It requires consultation between the chair, appointed by the Democrats, and the vice chair, appointed by the Republicans, for any hiring of staff. Further, it requires that it be in accordance with the rules agreed upon by the commission. The commission creates the rules as a team. They then hire as a team.

Lastly, there has been some concerns or arguments made about the criminal investigations. Make no mistake about it. This commission has nothing to do with the criminal investigations. This commission, by law, cannot interfere with criminal investigations. Criminal investigations alone won't get us what we need, like the 9/11 Commission concluded. It won't get us the recommendations, the insight, the expertise from the people on the commission who can come in, look at the Capitol security matrix, and say this is what needs fixing. A prosecutor can't tell you that. The commission can. That is what we want to do.

Second, the bill specifically requires the commission to respect ongoing investigations and build upon the investigations, learn from them, and avoid unnecessary duplication.

This language, in that respect, goes further than the 9/11 Commission in H.R. 275 in granting deference to other ongoing investigations.

So I just want to make sure people are clear about that going forward.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1730

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. RYAN).

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New York and the other Republicans who are supporting this for their bipartisanship.

To the other 90 percent of our friends on the other side of the aisle, holy cow. Incoherence. No idea what you are talking about.

Benghazi, you guys chased the former Secretary of State all over the country, spent millions of dollars. We have people scaling the Capitol, hitting the Capitol Police with lead pipes across the head, and we can't get bipartisanship.

What else has to happen in this country?

This is a slap in the face to every rank-and-file cop in the United States.

If we are going to take on China, if we are going to rebuild the country, if we are going to reverse climate change, we need two political parties in this country that are both living in reality, and you ain't one of them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I ask that we all take a deep breath right now. Everybody breathe for a minute and everybody stop the theatrics, and everybody stop the arguments that are not relevant to this issue.

This is a very solemn moment. We are here to talk about something that is very important to the entire of our Government and the entire of our country. I ask that we think about the officers and their families and conduct ourselves accordingly.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN).

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I just want to say that January 6 was a frightening experience. It was an assault upon the fundamentals of this Government. It was an assault upon the place I thought I was going to be the safest I could possibly be, and we politicize this.

This is an opportunity to bring this bipartisan commission into existence so that we can get out of the politics of it and look at the facts that happened, the evidence that happened, and the recommendations that will ensue from that effort.

I wholeheartedly support this effort. I am grateful for the bipartisanship of it, and I pray that all of our colleagues will support this.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time remains?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 9½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Mississippi has 1½ minutes remaining.

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is not about partisan politics. It is about finding the truth and addressing the vulnerabilities of our security apparatus so that we can emerge stronger and better prepared.

The January 6 attack was a completely preventable failure of intelligence, information sharing, decision-making, and preparedness. The Capitol Police and D.C. police suffered greatly and continue to suffer as a result.

The institutions of our democracy are and will continue to be a target for extremists set on using violence to further their ideology. We, in Congress, owe it to this Nation, to our constituents, and to the dedicated men and women who risk their lives every single day to protect those institutions—and I honor them—to see that we learn from those attacks, that we get answers to the hard questions, and that we do not repeat the mistakes of the past.

Capitol Police Officers Brian Sicknick and Howard Liebengood, as well as D.C. Police Officer Jeffrey Smith, all lost their lives in the wake of the January 6 attack. Over 140 more law enforcement officers—140—were injured as a result of that attack.

Less than 4 months later, on April 2, Capitol Police Officer William ''Billy'' Evans was killed and another officer was injured when yet another extremist attacked the Capitol.

And, of course, we can't forget the 2017 terrorist attack against Republican Members of Congress during practice for the Congressional Baseball Game. Were it not for the officers involved, there would be scores of dead Congressmen. That is the plain truth. I acknowledge the heroic efforts of David Bailey and Crystal Griner.

We owe it to all of these officers and their families to ensure that nothing like this ever happens again. This legislation is modeled directly on the legislation that created the 9/11 Commission. I sincerely believe that this commission, with strong support from this body, will embark on an objective, nonpartisan search for answers and solutions, just as the 9/11 Commission did.

Again, I want to thank my friend, Chairman THOMPSON, for his partnership.

I urge everyone in the body, on both sides—not just my side and not just the other side, all of us—to set aside politics just this once—just this once. I beg Members to pass this bill.

I was a prosecutor for 20 years prior to coming here to Congress, and many times we would meet at 4:30 in the morning or 5:00 in the morning, and they would get ready to go out and do the raids and arrest very, very dangerous people. I was always the last person to see them before they went out to get these awful, dangerous people off the street: drug dealers, murderers, violent people. They did their job every day, and I was sending them into harm's way. It always made my heart sink.

Imagine being a family member of these officers who do this. So let's take a deep breath and think about what is really important here. These people, every single day, are willing to lay down their lives for us.

They deserve better, and we are going to deliver this. We are going to deliver it on behalf of Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick. We are going to deliver it on behalf of Capitol Police Officer Howard Liebengood. We are going to deliver it on behalf of Capitol Police Officer William ''Billy'' Evans. We are going to deliver it on behalf of D.C. Police Officer Jeffrey Smith. We are going to deliver it on behalf of D.C. Police Officer Michael Fanone and so many others who struggle with the events of that day. We do so on behalf of the people who risked their lives for us and continue to, like Capitol Police

Officer David Bailey and Capitol Police Officer Crystal Griner.

I want these officers and their families to know that we are doing it not for us and not for politics. We are doing it for them. We are doing it for them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

At the outset, let me salute Mr. KATKO for his agreeing to work in a bipartisan manner so that we can get this bill to the floor and adopted today.

Mr. Speaker, we are here today at a unique moment in American history. Trust in our government's ability to share information and coordinate at all levels to keep our democracy secure was severely shaken by the January 6 attack.

We need a bipartisan commission with experts who put country ahead of party to come together, just as the commission did, to lay out the facts and proposed solutions to make us more secure.

When the chairman of the 9/11 Commission issued their final report, they concluded a message to the public. It asked that each of us remember how we felt on that day of the attack. It asked that we recall the grief and sorrow.

This moment is no less historic, no less important, no less momentous, and it requires the same common action, both as Congress and as a country.

I, too, salute the brave men and women of the Capitol Police who put their lives on the line on January 6 protecting this citadel of democracy, and it is in their spirit that I ask that you vote in support of this legislation.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the chairman and ranking member of the House Homeland Security Committee have negotiated in good faith over several weeks a bipartisan bill—H.R. 3233—to establish a ten-member national commission to investigate the January 6th attack on the Capitol.

I'm voting yes.

If enacted into law both the Republican and Democrat leaders would each select five commissioners who would be tasked with investigating the ''facts and causes'' of the attack.

The Commission may issue subpoenas, but subpoenas may only be issued by agreement between the Chair and Vice Chairperson of the Commission—one Democrat and one Republican—or by the vote of a majority of the members of the Commission.

Any interim report, or the final report—which must be submitted to the President and Congress no later than December 31, 2021—must be agreed to by a majority of Commission members.

According to the text of H.R. 3233, the final report should include ''findings, conclusions, and recommendations, which may include changes in law, policy, procedures, rules, or regulations, to improve the detection, prevention, preparedness for, and response to targeted violence and domestic terrorism and improve the security posture of the United States Capitol Complex and ensure the security of Members of Congress and staff.''

The attack on January 6 resulted in a tragic loss of life and physical injury. 140 Capitol and D.C. police officers were injured on January 6th, including 15 who were hospitalized. Three police officers later died—including a brave Capitol police officer from New Jersey, Brian Sicknick, who died of a stroke on January 7th and two other officers died by suicide. Four rioters died—one was shot by police.

It is my hope that the Commission will establish the truth and provide a way forward to ensure that such an attack never happens again.

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 3233, which would create an independent, bipartisan ''National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex.''

The attack on the Capitol was one of the darkest days in our Nation's history—an assault on the foundation of our democratic system, and an attempt to stop Congress's work through violence. I am proud that we didn't let the attempt succeed: thanks to the heroism and incredible sacrifices of the U.S. Capitol Police that day to defend the heart of our democracy, both houses of Congress returned to the Capitol and worked through the night to certify and uphold the will of the American people.

Now, it is our duty to ensure that such an attack on our democracy is never able to happen again. That work begins with ensuring that we have an honest, independent investigation of what happened that day and how it was possible—a task perfectly suited for the commission the House has voted to create today, with bipartisan support. This bill creates a 1/6 Commission that follows the model set by the 9/11 Commission, whose landmark investigation wasn't just for Washington insiders or policy wonks, but the American people.

The 9/11 Commission's final report was written in easily accessible prose, and published as a bestselling paperback which was available in bookstores and newsstands across the country. It helped ordinary Americans understand how such an appalling attack had been possible, who needed to be held accountable, and what we as a nation had to do to ensure it would never happen again.

And two decades later, its impact hasn't faded: even today, a whole generation of Americans who were just children on 9/11, or were even born after the attacks, have looked to the Commission's work to help them make sense of that dark chapter in our history.

The Commission also delivered a vital wake-up call to our national security establishment. As one of the first dozen staff members at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, which grew out of the 9/11 Commission's recommendations, I saw firsthand how the Commission's independent investigation pushed our government to meet the serious challenges we faced. I keep my original, dog-eared copy of the 9/11 Commission report in my congressional office as a constant reminder, because it drove systemic change where systemic failures had occurred.

The 1/6 Commission that the House has approved today is built on the same principles that enabled the success of the 9/11 Commission: It has a bipartisan structure—five Republicans, five Democrats—and bipartisan support in Congress.

It will operate by consensus and will have the subpoena power, budget and staff needed to conduct a proper investigation.

And it has a mandate to look at the full scope of facts and causes that led to or influenced this specific, unprecedented attack on our democracy. As those of us from Michigan are well aware, this attack didn't happen in isolation. It was the result of months, if not years, of escalating rhetoric and activity—which is why it's vital that this commission has a strong, focused mandate.

But even beyond its structure, what characterized the 9/11 Commission's work was a commitment among its members to work together in good faith, to uncover the truth behind what led to the attack on our Nation, no matter how disturbing or painful.

As Governor Tom Kean and Congressman Lee Hamilton, the bipartisan leaders of the 9/11 Commission, said in a statement today, it was their commitment to ''put country over party, without bias'' that led to the ''unity of purpose [that] was key to [its] effectiveness.''

The Commission's findings and work were seen as objective and legitimate because of that combination of structure and patriotic, good faith commitment—the model only works if we have both.

That's why it's so important that this is, from its very design, a bipartisan initiative. To that end, I want to take a moment to thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for their leadership and their commitment to finding this consensus.

As a member of the Committee on Homeland Security, and as Chair of the Subcommittee on Intelligence and Counterterrorism, I have been honored to work alongside them both over the past few years. Their collaboration sets an example that we would all do well to follow.

We cannot allow this vital inquiry to turn into a political football—it's simply too important to our country. That's why I opposed an early proposal for this bill that skewed the number of commissioners towards Democratic appointees.

I'm committed to ensuring that this commission has the credibility it needs to take on this investigation, and I am pleased that the bill we passed today gives it the structural integrity it needs. That's why I urge my Republican colleagues in the Senate to take the time, and do what I did last week: actually sit down and read this bill.

Print out a copy of it, as well a copy of the bill from 2002 which created the 9/11 Commission. Put them side-by-side, take out a pen and mark up the similarities.

You'll see that in so many cases, this bill uses the exact same language on scope, participation and authorities as the 9/11 Commission authorization, which was approved by a Republican-led House, and signed into law by a Republican president.

Because, let's be clear: if you oppose this bill and the commission it creates, you would have opposed the 9/11 Commission twenty years ago. The American people deserve the truth, and we owe it to them as their elected representatives to ensure they hear it in its entirety from an independent and objective body they can trust. And if you oppose this bipartisan legislation, you are choosing political expediency over ensuring that our citizens hear the truth they deserve.

The 9/11 attacks took place during my first week of graduate school, and I joined the CIA because I wanted to help make sure nothing like it ever happened again—a motivation that was informed by a clear understanding of what had happened and of our own failures, made possible by the 9/11 Commission.

Today, I will cast my vote in support of taking the next step that will help us understand this attack on our Nation—no matter how disturbing or painful that truth may be.

Its work will be vital to meeting the new security challenges we face, and to beginning to heal the divisions across our country. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to join the House in passing this bill and starting an honest conversation with the American people.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

Just four months ago, the nation stood still as the Capitol of the United States—the very beacon of our democracy—was attacked by a violent and armed mob of insurrectionists. Seeking to interrupt, even prevent, the proceedings to certify the result of the 2020 General Election, these insurrectionists descended upon our capital city inspired by the rhetoric of former President Donald Trump and leaders in the Republican party. What then transpired on January 6 will be recorded as one of the darkest days in the history of our nation and of democracies everywhere.

The halls of the Capitol remain littered with remnants of the attack. Shattered glass panes, broken furniture, and missing statues now define the building—none of which compare to the trauma and fear still lingering in the minds of Members, aides, press, and support staff alike. Three officers of the U.S. Capitol Police Force lost their lives, and hundreds more were injured during the hours-long siege.

That is why the establishment of this bipartisan commission is necessary, Mr. Speaker. Composed of both Republicans and Democrats, it would explore the events that led to the attack, the security failures at the Capitol complex, and the corrective measures necessary to prevent it from ever happening again. Members of the commission would be experts in the fields of law, security, and intelligence. They would be thorough in their investigation, wide in their scope, and united in their mission to uncover the truth.

Those who oppose the commission as part of an effort to write off what happened, or to simply ''move on,'' clearly don't understand what is at stake. The same hatred that drove the insurrectionists that day is still alive and well—even present here in this body. If we fail to address, review, and reflect on what happened on January 6th, I fear that this hatred will go unpunished, and therefore remain prevalent in our society and in the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the swift passage of the legislation and hope for its immediate consideration in the Senate.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

On January 6, 2021, our democratic republic came under direct attack in an attempt to block the certification of Joseph R. Biden as the duly elected President of the United States of America. Donald Trump and others sought to subvert the will of voters when they incited violent rioters to invade the U.S. Capitol with the hope of overturning a legitimate election. Criminals and domestic terrorists, many espousing racist and hateful ideologies, desecrated the sacred center of the people's government. This was terrifying and infuriating for those whose lives were in danger and for the millions of Americans who watched in horror. I am grateful for the actions of the U.S. Capitol Police and DC Metropolitan Police officers who put their lives on the line to protect this institution and the people who work here. I also mourn for the lives that were lost.

Many questions remain about the actions of those involved and the security response that day, as well as in the days prior to and following the violent attack on the Capitol. The country deserves answers. This independent, bipartisan commission will investigate and report the facts surrounding the events of January 6. It will provide a full and fair accounting of the mistakes made and lessons learned. And, importantly, the commission will recommend steps that Congress and the federal government can take to prevent future violence and strengthen our democratic institutions.

Our Nation is resilient, and the Constitution will endure because of the commitment of those who have sworn to support and defend it. In keeping with my oath, I look forward to acting on the findings of the National Commission so the country emerges stronger from this dark chapter of its history.

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 409, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill 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 bill.

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

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to raise a question of the privileges of the House and send to the desk a resolution (H. Res. 414) directing the Attending Physician to take timely action to provide updated mask wearing guidance applicable to the Hall of the House of Representatives and committee meeting spaces for Members and staff who are vaccinated against Covid–19, consistent with the public guidance released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on May 13, 2021.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 414

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a guidance on May 13, 2021 stating that Americans who are fully vaccinated against Covid-19 no longer need to wear masks indoors or outdoors in almost all scenarios;

Whereas the three widely available vaccines against Covid-19 are highly effective;

Whereas Dr. Anthony Fauci stated on May 16 that, ''It is very unlikely that a vaccinated person, even if there's a breakthrough infection, would transmit it to someone else.'';

Whereas those who are fully vaccinated are shown not to carry the viral load necessary to spread the virus, and therefore do not pose a significant risk;

Whereas those who have not yet received the vaccine pose no real threat to those who have been vaccinated;

Whereas there may be Members of the House of Representatives whose personal physician, for various reasons, may recommend that they do not receive the vaccine;

Whereas those who want to continue wearing a mask or taking other forms of precaution may do so;

Whereas Members of the House of Representatives have a responsibility to send a message to the American people that we can trust the safety and efficacy of the available Covid-19 vaccines;

Whereas the continued House mask mandate sends the erroneous message that the efficacy of the vaccines cannot be trusted;

Whereas the continued House mask mandate is not based on the best available science, is contrary to the latest CDC guidance, and is not in line with the protocols in place in the United States Senate and at the White House; and

Whereas the continued House mask mandate hinders the ability of the House to properly and effectively conduct the people's business: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Attending Physician, in consultation with the Director for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, should take timely action to provide updated mask wearing guidance applicable to the Hall of the House of Representatives and committee meeting spaces for Members and staff who are vaccinated against Covid-19, consistent with the public guidance released by the CDC on May 13, 2021.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Hoyer moves to lay the resolution on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

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

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 218, nays 210, not voting 2, as follows:

[Roll No. 153]

YEAS—218

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Kahele
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—210

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jacobs (NY)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kinzinger
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Letlow
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meijer
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—2

Golden
Webster (FL)

□ 1820

Mr. COMER changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Buchanan (Dunn)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Carter (TX) (Calvert)
Crenshaw (Pfluger)
Deutch (Rice (NY))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Mullin (Lucas)
Napolitano (Correa)
Ocasio-Cortez (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Axne)
Waters (Barragán)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)
Young (Joyce (OH))

NATIONAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE JANUARY 6 ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL COMPLEX ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ESPAILLAT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 3233) to establish the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 252, nays 175, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 154]

YEAS—252

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Bacon
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown
Brownley
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cheney
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gimenez
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guest
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Mfume
Miller-Meeks
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters

Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Womack
Yarmuth

NAYS—175

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brady
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davidson
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garcia (CA)
Gibbs
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hinson
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Letlow
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Norman
Nunes
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—3

Golden
Kelly (IL)
Webster (FL)

□ 1849

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 154.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Beatty (Lawrence)
Buchanan (Dunn)
Cárdenas (Gallego)
Carter (TX) (Calvert)
Crenshaw (Pfluger)
Deutch (Rice (NY))
Grijalva (García (IL))
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick (Stanton)
Lawson (FL) (Evans)
Lieu (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
McEachin (Wexton)
McHenry (Banks)
Mullin (Lucas)
Napolitano (Correa)
Ocasio-Cortez (Bush)
Payne (Pallone)
Ruppersberger (Raskin)
Rush (Underwood)
Sewell (DelBene)
Slotkin (Axne)
Waters (Barragán)
Wilson (FL) (Hayes)
Wilson (SC) (Timmons)
Young (Joyce (OH))

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TORRES of New York). The Chair will announce that on rollcall No. 149, the following correction will be made:

The gentleman from Washington (Mr. SMITH) is recorded as voting "yea," bringing the number of "yea" votes to 245.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HONORABLE CHARLES ELSON "BUDDY" ROEMER

(Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, on this somber occasion, we rise to honor the late Buddy Roemer.

He was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1943. He was a Harvard-educated reformer with big ideas.

He represented Louisiana's Fourth Congressional District here in the House from 1981 to 1988. He served as the 52nd Governor of Louisiana, and he was a former candidate for President of the United States.

He passed away at the age of 77 on May 17, 2021.

Please join us in a moment of silence in honor of his public service and his important contributions to Louisiana and our Nation.

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A THIRD RECONSTRUCTION

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the injustice of poverty and low wealth.

Let me just say, this pandemic has exposed the toll of longstanding, interlocking inequities stemming from structural racism, poverty, economic inequality, ecological devastation, and many more systemic barriers keeping people living on the edge.

Our country now stands at a tipping point. Mr. Speaker, 140 million people are poor or one healthcare crisis, job loss, or emergency away from economic desperation. We must prioritize their needs and give them the opportunity to live in dignity and with hope.

We can realize the third reconstruction to fully address poverty and low wages from the bottom up, from housing to healthcare, water, education, and more. We need a third reconstruction to revive our moral and political commitments to democracy and the founding principles of this country.

That is why Congresswoman PRAMILA JAYAPAL and I have worked with great leaders, such as Bishop William Barber and Dr. Liz Theoharis, co-chairs of the Poor People's Campaign, A National Call for a Moral Revival.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor our resolution, and I want to thank the millions of people whose voices we have heard.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. DON HARP

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor Dr. Don Harp, who passed away on April 20 at the age of 82.

Dr. Harp was born in Inman, Georgia, where he had a humble upbringing as a farmer. He went on to become a baseball star and student leader at Young Harris College and Huntington College. He was also dedicated in his pursuit of ministry, going on to earn a doctorate from the McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.

Dr. Harp's accolades are impressive, but his greatest legacy was his gift of connecting with people. He could always find good in any situation and gave unselfishly to his alma mater and friends.

As a husband, father, and grandfather, many say that his greatest love was his family, and those who knew him best know his greatest love was also the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor and privilege of serving with Dr. Harp on the Young Harris College board of trustees. Don Harp loved Young Harris College, and Young Harris College loved Don Harp.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

□ 1900

FULLY ADDRESSING POVERTY AND LOW WAGES

(Ms. JAYAPAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, Mahatma Gandhi, a great leader on nonviolence, said poverty is the worst form of violence.

Let me be clear: We allow poverty when we take no action to eradicate it. 145 million Americans today live in poverty in the wealthiest country in the world.

We allow poverty to continue when we approve bloated military spending, when structural racism is everywhere, when 55 of the largest corporations did not even pay $1 in taxes last year, when 32 million people do not even get paid $15 an hour, and 87 million Americans remain uninsured or underinsured.

Poor people in this country are suffering, without the food they need to eat, without the wages they deserve,

without the dignity they have a right to.

We, in Congress, have the power to end poverty. We must act immediately with resolve, moral clarity, and with complete attention to the lives of poor people who demand to be seen and respected with our actions.

That is why I am so proud to co-introduce with Representative BARBARA LEE this bold and necessary resolution that commits Congress to eradicating poverty from the bottom up.

Mr. Speaker, today, we say to poor people everywhere, we see you, and we will eradicate poverty in our country with you.

REMEMBERING CHARLES ELSON ''BUDDY'' ROEMER, III

(Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Charles Elson ''Buddy'' Roemer, III, who was born October 4, 1943, and died on May 17 of this year, a couple of days ago, went home to his reward.

Buddy was a very nice guy, and he had a saying: ''I love Louisiana, but I hate Louisiana politics.'' Many of us can understand that remark.

He was an American patriot, an investor, and a banker. He served in this body, the House of Representatives, from 1981–1988. He was the 52nd Governor of Louisiana, 1988–1992. He will be missed, remembered, loved, and respected.

RENEWING AMERICA'S FAILING WATER SYSTEMS

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, we must act swiftly and with boldness to renew America's failing water systems.

We know the heartache of failing water systems all too well: lead, PFAS, disruptive water main breaks, and unaffordable bills.

Yesterday, I introduced bold national drinking water legislation, written with my friend, the chair of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, FRANK PALLONE, to restore America's most critical infrastructure, and one of our most basic responsibilities of government, our drinking water systems.

The AQUA Act delivers on President Joe Biden's promise to remove every lead service line in the country, including removing lead from the drinking water systems of some 400,000 schools and childcare centers.

Our bill invests heavily in the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, to put resources in the hands of folks on the ground who know what their communities need.

It delivers a financial lifeline to local water systems in return for a multi-year commitment that they will not shut off anyone's water because of financial hardship during this devastating and prolonged pandemic.

Let's rise to meet the moment. Let's do our jobs. Let's build back the right way so every American can use and trust the water coming out of our taps.

URGING PRESIDENT BIDEN TO NOMINATE AN AMBASSADOR AT LARGE FOR THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

(Mr. HILL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the rising rate of religious persecution around the world, where billions are persecuted for practicing their chosen faith.

One of the tools we have to combat global religious injustice is the Office of International Religious Freedom at the State Department. However, this office remains without leadership. Thus far, President Biden has neglected to appoint an ambassador-at-large for International Religious Freedom.

That is why I led a bipartisan and bicameral letter to President Biden to take action and appoint an ambassador-at-large for International Religious Freedom.

Religious freedom is one of the most basic human rights, Mr. Speaker, yet religious persecution continues around the world in countries like Iran, Russia, and China.

President Biden must act now and nominate this ambassador and give the U.S. Government a leading voice to combat this persecution and ensure a future where all mankind can freely practice their religion of choice without fear.

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS

(Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with my Asian American and Pacific Islander brothers and sisters.

Asian Americans continue to experience violence, harassment, and discrimination. Across our country, our AAPI communities live in fear of being targets of deadly violence and racist slurs, simply because of who they are.

As we work to invest and rebuild our communities, we must make one thing clear: Hate and racism have no home here, not in our policies, and not in our hearts.

Yesterday, we passed the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act to send to the President's desk. Today, we passed a resolution condemning the horrific shooting in Atlanta.

We are making progress, but we must never lose sight of the work that lies ahead to combat the hatred and violence against the AAPI community and root out racism against our brothers and sisters.

SMALL BUSINESS IS THE MAIN DRIVER OF NEW JOBS

(Mr. FORTENBERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, a while back, I visited a small business called Craft Axe Throwing and Beer. What an interesting combination of activities, I thought. I had driven by it a number of times, but I stopped in one day. Seeing this team make a living, enjoying themselves, I thought to myself, that is what it is all about.

Mr. Speaker, the main driver of new jobs in America is small business. The good news is that unemployment has been on a steady downward trend. But now, the hard news: the April jobs report. It was bad. At the same time, small business owners report that they can't fill the job openings that they have. Why? Earlier necessary government assistance during the pandemic is now interfering with the successful transition back to meaningful work.

A little good news: Wages are going up. Let's let America run.

ENCOURAGING APPLICATIONS FOR UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMIES

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage young people in my district to learn more about the opportunities offered by our U.S. service academies.

One of the greatest honors of being a Member of Congress is having the ability to nominate outstanding students for appointment to West Point, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy.

As high school students contemplate what they will do after graduation, I encourage them to consider the benefits of attending one of our service academies, including the unique opportunities for leadership and entry to a range of careers, at no cost to the student or their family.

The process is competitive, so it is never too early to get started.

I encourage any students in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District who might be interested in attending a service academy to attend our next virtual information session hosted by my office on May 27 at 7 p.m. They may sign up at scanlon.house.gov.

I look forward to nominating another amazing group of young leaders to the service academies this fall.

ISRAEL HAS THE RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF

(Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, for 10 days, moms, dads, and grandparents have been lying awake at night, waiting for the inevitable warning call of sirens to pick up their children and run to the nearest bomb shelter.

No one should live with this type of fear. No one should live with the fear that missiles could rain down and destroy their homes and lives at any moment. Yet, this is the reality that many Israeli families are living right now.

For 10 days, Israel has been defending itself from attacks launched by Iranian-backed terrorists. Let's be clear: Israel has the right to defend herself and its homeland from terrorist attacks.

Israel is one of the United States' greatest allies in the Middle East, and we cannot waver in our support of Israel during this challenging time.

Today, I am standing with the people of Israel, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

My hope is that peace and calm can quickly be restored in the region. Until that happens, we must continue standing in solidarity with the Nation of Israel and its people.

ATTACK ON JEWISH PEOPLE IN LOS ANGELES

(Mr. SHERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, over the last 5 years, we have seen a 40 percent increase in anti-Semitic hate crimes. Most are lone wolf property crimes, late at night.

But last night in Los Angeles, we saw something new: organized violence. A small caravan of SUVs, waving Palestinian flags, drove to a significantly Jewish neighborhood. Dozens of men, wearing all black, with faces covered, disembarked at a restaurant, chanting ''death to the Jews.'' They demanded that diners either answer the question: ''Are you Jewish?'' And if they answered ''yes'' or they objected to the question, they were beaten, some sent to the hospital.

Nearby, an Orthodox Jew, dressed distinctively, was chased down by a caravan waving Palestinian flags. He ran for his life, and thank God, he found safety.

The Los Angeles Police Department will investigate these hate crimes. I also ask that those who criticize the Israeli Government to avoid rhetoric which will infuse these anti-Semites with the view that they are somehow part of the American mainstream.

ONGOING TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL

(Mr. JACKSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JACKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express support for one of our most loyal allies, Israel.

Unlike many of my colleagues across the aisle, I will not waver in my support for democracy, and I will not turn a blind eye to the ongoing terrorist attacks against the State of Israel.

The simple fact is, Israel uses weapons to protect its citizens from terrorism, and Hamas uses its weapons with the goal of murdering civilians and annihilating the State of Israel as a whole.

There is no moral equivalence between the two, and any attempt to make Israel out as the aggressor is not rooted in fact. Israel has the right to defend itself as a sovereign country.

In 2014, Congress unanimously passed a Democrat-led resolution condemning Hamas attacks on Israel after they had launched approximately 300 rockets.

This time, Hamas has launched over 4,000 rockets into Israel in just 10 days, yet, it is not clear to me that Democrats in this House would support a similar resolution today.

That is a sad and problematic shift.

Congress must continue its support for U.S. aid to Israel, and Congress must confront terrorists and their backers, like Iran.

CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

(Mr. CAWTHORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAWTHORN. Mr. Speaker, according to recent data from my district, the number one concern of my constituents is the Biden border crisis. Let me repeat that: The number one concern of my constituents in North Carolina is the crisis at our southern border, over 1,600-miles away.

It is beyond clear that the response by the Biden administration has not simply been weak; it has also been counterproductive. Americans nationwide are sensing what the international community has known for the past 6 months: Our leaders are not strong, our border is open, and America is ripe for the taking.

Fifteen hundred illegal immigrants cross into our country daily without ever being tracked, according to border data. Two Yemeni men on a terror watchlist were just apprehended at the border, and this administration has turned a blind eye to one of our biggest national security crises in recent history.

Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed, because it seems that the political maneuvering of one select class has coopted the good of the people. What can we, as individual Americans, do in the face of such abject disregard for our well-being? We can speak out.

□ 1915

PROMISING ECONOMIC RECOVERY

(Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight Oklahoma's efforts to bolster its economy and get its citizens back to work.

There is no doubt the pandemic caused not only illness, but major interruption in our daily lives. Millions became jobless through no fault of their own and had to rely on additional Federal unemployment assistance to survive.

But today the situation has changed, Mr. Speaker. We have a rebounding economy and over 158 million Americans have received at least one vaccine dose. With more than 8 million job openings nationwide, the time has come to encourage Americans to get back to work.

The continued expansion of Federal assistance is hampering this promising economic recovery across the country and in my home State of Oklahoma.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say Oklahoma is leading the country's economic recovery by providing $1,200 signing bonuses beginning in June, for individuals who go back to work and stay employed for six continuous weeks. There are over 68,000 job postings in Oklahoma currently, with 7,500 in Oklahoma City alone. These are good-paying jobs across a variety of industries, including the energy and manufacturing sectors. Hundreds of employers are offering competitive wages and generous benefits.

ANTI-SEMITISM ON THE RISE

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, this is a very sad time in America. As was discussed earlier today in debate, we used to have bipartisan agreements on things. One of those was when anti-Semitism was raising its ugly head. One party here on the floor still speaks up against, will vote against anti-Semitic statements and call them out for what they are, and another will not.

I heard my friend across the aisle, BRAD SHERMAN, just appropriately decrying the violence, these anti-Jewish folks in California, this incident. Well, that surely could be something we could once again, come back together in a bipartisan way and condemn the 40 percent rise in violence against Semitic people. It is time to come together on that. It will show the world.

STAND UP AGAINST HATE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, in this short period of time, I offer several

thoughts. First of all, we are stronger as a country when we stand up against hate at all times.

Today, in the Judiciary Committee, we saw the results of hate now 100 years in the making, and that is the Tulsa race riots. The Tulsa race riots showed that attackers looted and intentionally burned an estimated 1,256 homes in Greenwood, America's Black Wall Street, along with nearly all of the district's churches, schools, and businesses.

The testimony of yesteryear saw hundreds of men march through the main business section of White town with their hats off and their hands up. The brutality was unmentionable. Men, women, and children, driven like cattle, huddled like horses, treated like beasts.

Today, we heard from Viola Fletcher, 107 years old; Hughes van Ellis, 100 years old; and Lessie Benningfield Randle, 106 years old. We ask for justice for them.

In addition, I want to take note that this is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and to be able to say that we stand against the horrific shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 16, 2021. We have to stand against hate. I am glad that we passed the bipartisan commission on January 6 to show that America is unified.

Finally, some good news to my constituents: We will be launching the child tax credit effort. We want you to get that child tax credit.

THREE MAJOR CRISES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, during my time tonight, my colleagues and I will address three major crises happening here at home, happening close to home at our southern border; and happening to our closest ally in the Middle East, and that is Israel.

Each of these issues that my colleagues will discuss tonight can and should be addressed in a bipartisan way. We should all want Americans to get back to work. We should all want to end the humanitarian crisis at our border, and we should all want to support one of our closest allies from terrorism.

It is time for President Biden and our Democrat colleagues to work with Republicans to solve these problems for the American people and for our allies.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee's Sixth District (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my steadfast support for the nation of Israel, our closest and greatest ally in the Middle East.

Hamas, a designated terrorist organization, has been targeting civilians by firing thousands of rockets on Israeli cities. These attacks are both tragic and unacceptable, and Israel undeniably has the right to continue to defend itself.

As Hamas continues these attacks, the United States must show its unwavering support for Israel, condemn this aggression by Hamas, and sanction those who fund terrorism, such as Iran. That is why I am a cosponsor of the Palestinian International Terrorism Support Prevention Act introduced by Representative BRIAN MAST. America does not tolerate those who fund terrorists, and this legislation would put in place sanctions on governments and individuals that do.

The nation of Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East, and the relationship we share is indispensable. With the world watching, we must send a clear message to Hamas, Islamic jihadists, and those that fund them that the United States stands with Israel.

I unequivocally support our friend, Israel, and recognize its right to self-defense in the face of these horrific assaults by Hamas. I pray for peace in Jerusalem and for the safety of all Israelis.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those remarks on Israel. We do stand strong with them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield next to the gentleman from Arkansas' Second District (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I commend my friend from Louisiana for bringing our Members to the floor tonight to talk about something that is so essential to American life, our careers, our work, our independence, our ability to pursue happiness.

This pandemic has thrown many off track for that, and it is House Republicans that want to make sure we pursue policies that get people back to work, back to opportunity, back to independence.

Our small businesses in my home State of Arkansas and local economies across our country are recovering from the devastation of the pandemic. They now face a threat that has resulted from President Biden and House Democrats' inflated and fiscally irresponsible approach to unemployment benefits.

The Wall Street Journal reports there are over 8 million job openings, Mr. Speaker, in the United States right now. That is almost more jobs open than every person currently out of work.

Instead of encouraging these positions to be filled, my friends on the other side of the aisle have disincentivized going back to work and have made these benefits so appealing that it has disrupted labor markets across the country, particularly in Arkansas, particularly lower-income labor markets.

Medical workers, small businesses, and restaurants all tell me that this is creating problems for them. It has hurt States so much that a handful of individual States are now rejecting participating in Federal unemployment benefits.

This is not the direction we need to go, and it does not take an economist to understand this is not a permanent solution. We cannot keep tying policies back to a once-in-a-century pandemic that will systematically change our country forever.

The solution is simple, and it is what House Republicans are advocating and have been advocating for months. We need policies that encourage Americans to get back to work, not policies that encourage reliance on the Federal Government.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield next to the gentlewoman from Illinois' 15th District (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman JOHNSON for hosting this Special Order on so many important issues that our country is facing.

I stand for peace, and a lasting one. Side by side, the American and Israeli people have stood for freedom and democracy in the face of authoritarian aggression. Side by side, the American and Israeli people have stood for justice with restraint in the face of reckless violence. Side by side, the American and Israeli people have stood for peace through self-defense in the face of terrorism.

President Trump was working with various Islamic nation-states in the Middle East to adopt the Abraham Accords in order to foster better diplomatic relations with the nation of Israel. Unfortunately, Joe Biden has brought this peace process to a screeching halt.

We know Hamas is a terrorist organization, and they are funded by Iran. The Biden administration continues to negotiate with Iran to get them back in the Iran deal. Iran is a funder of terrorists, and the Iran deal would make it easier for them to commit and fund terror. Iran has provided money to Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist organizations. These groups' intention is to destroy Israel and the Jewish state.

The ongoing rocket attacks against Israeli civilians show why America must act immediately to support Israel, condemn Hamas, and sanction those who fund terrorism.

My family and I will continue to pray for the peace and safety and for the people of Israel as they combat terrorism.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, we are admonished even by Scripture to pray for the peace of Israel, and we will.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota's Seventh District (Mrs. FISCHBACH).

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Louisiana for organizing the Special Order this evening.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight in solidarity with the State of Israel. As the only democracy in the Middle East, Israel is among our greatest allies and friends.

Since the beginning, Israel has had two goals: to live as a Jewish state and to do so in peace.

This was true at its founding, and it remains true today.

But just as it has been throughout history, Israel again finds itself under attack, this time by Hamas terrorists, who, with the help of Iran, are bent on destroying the only Jewish state in the world.

Does Israel not have a right to defend itself?

Make no mistake, Hamas is not interested in peace. They want to destroy Israel and its people, and are willing to use women, children, and journalists as human shields to do so.

Some, including Members of this body, have taken to propaganda to paint Israel as the aggressor, but that is nothing more than cheap gaslighting. Israel is not now, nor have they ever been, an aggressor state. Its only actions have been in its own defense.

There is simply no moral equivalence between a nation defending itself and those who would use terrorism to annihilate the Jewish people. In fact, defeating this terrorism is a prerequisite for peace.

Mr. Speaker, these ongoing attacks are exactly why the United States must stand with our Israeli allies, condemn Hamas terrorists, and sanction those who provide them support. I call on all Members of this distinguished body to continue our long history of support for our Israeli allies.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEHLS), a former sheriff.

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, it is time to get Americans back to work. The vaccine is available for all. Cases are down across the country. Businesses have openings they need to fill.

Using COVID as an excuse to stay home and collect unemployment insurance is not healthy for our economy or workers. We should be encouraging folks to take control of their lives and get back to work, but the multitrillion-dollar proposals out of the Biden administration and the continued COVID Federal unemployment insurance payments of $300 per week are encouraging folks to stay home.

We just saw the Democrats and the Biden administration deliver 266,000 new jobs in the month of May, when the Dow Jones predicted 1 million jobs would be added.

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Why this incredible underachievement? Because the policies of the Democrats and the Biden administration are failing our economy, failing our business owners, and failing the American people.

Gas prices are skyrocketing across the country. The per-pound cost of copper is more than double what it was just 12 months ago. And the price of homes is rising. The annual inflation rate is triple what it was in 2020 and the highest it has been in over a decade.

These are the consequences of spending trillions of dollars on COVID relief and continuing to pay people not to work. The swamp continues to waste taxpayer dollars on failed policies they say we can fix by continuing to spend trillions more. When is enough enough? When are we going to let the free market flourish?

That is the path back to our historic economy pre-COVID. The sooner we decide to get back to lower taxes, less regulation, and more economic freedom, the quicker we can get the American people back to work and the economy back to health.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida's 26th District (Mr. GIMENEZ).

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, one thing has been made absolutely clear in last's month abysmal jobs report: More government spending, bigger mandates and regulations, incentivizing people to stay on unemployment, and punishing States that encourage small mom and pops to reopen is not the way to Build Back Better. It is time for us to pursue policies that put Americans back to work.

All the so-called experts and economic forecasters wanted to believe so hard that the massive $1.9 trillion spending package that the Speaker and President Biden rammed through Congress was going to be the answer. But the truth always prevails. That is why, for the first time in Congress, Democrats actually joined Republicans on a major piece of legislation in voting against that sham of a bill. But it passed anyway.

When Republicans stood up on this floor to explain line item by line item what was wrong with that bill and why this was the wrong approach, we got attacked by our colleagues on the other side of the aisle for everything imaginable. But once again, we were proven right. The Speaker and President Biden were proven wrong.

Now, they are wanting to do this all over again with infrastructure. The current infrastructure proposal being put forward not only adds trillions of dollars in spending on top of the $1.9 trillion Congress has already approved to be spent in the previous spending spree, but now the solution is paying for it by raising taxes. Once again, the American people are being lied to about who is actually going to be affected by those tax hikes.

The spinmasters are trying to paint a picture that equates the big evil word ''corporation'' as big-box players and tech behemoths such as Amazon, Netflix, and Facebook. But here is the truth, the term ''corporation'' is really only a tax designation for a business entity. Corporations include your local mom-and-pop restaurant. It includes the local corner street pharmacy. It includes the farms that supply the local farmers markets. It is the local fishermen, the family-run dance studio, the store that sells football uniforms to the local high school team, the music instructor helping prepare kids for the next concert, and the guy who scraped together his earnings and started a plumbing business.

While the progressive left wants to take swipes at major billionaire companies through extreme taxation, they are bringing all of us along with them. We are all going to be paying more.

At a time when our economy has continued to rebound from the COVID–19 pandemic, we should be encouraging small businesses to reopen, rehire workers, and spur our local economies, not punishing them with more taxes and more regulations.

America's small businesses and our middle-class workers deserve much better than this. I know we can and will do better if my colleagues across the aisle choose to work with us in earnest. Let's stop this political grandstanding for the majority and get to work.

Republicans are waiting, and we are willing.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, there are three major crises we are talking about again tonight: the economic crisis here at home, the crisis happening close to home at our southern border, and what is happening to our closest ally in the Middle East, Israel.

I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania's 12th District (Mr. KELLER).

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding.

The current economic crisis facing our Nation is troubling but not surprising. Skyrocketing inflation, rising gas prices, and growing unemployment are the results of a White House that fundamentally believes more government is the solution.

To be clear, President Biden's massive tax-and-spend policies constitute a losing formula, which will drag our Nation deeper into debt and government dependency. The April jobs report is a testament to this.

A record 8 million jobs are available. However, only 266,000 were filled last month because Biden is promoting government control rather than the sustainable income of a job.

Job creators across Pennsylvania, in the hospitality, energy, manufacturing, agriculture, and many other industries, say the same thing: They are struggling to find workers.

Biden's policies are detrimental to our economic recovery and are the last thing America needs. Even more frustrating, the solution to get us back on track has been present all along: reopen the economy, stop piling debt on our children, and get Americans back to work.

It is time that President Biden recognizes that Big Government is the problem, and only the ingenuity and resilience of the American people will lead us to prosperity.

Now more than ever, our government needs to get out of the way and allow Americans to reclaim control of their lives and their government.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia's 12th District (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. JOHNSON for yielding and for holding this Special Order this evening.

Thanks to the success of Operation Warp Speed, we have been able to get millions of Americans vaccinated.

Georgia has led the Nation in COVID–19 economic recovery, and I am proud to say that Georgia's economy has reached prepandemic levels.

Now that the CDC has rolled back mask recommendations, we are finally seeing a light at the end of the tunnel.

But there is a lot of work to be done to get this great American economy, the greatest economy in the world, growing again. Unfortunately, the Biden administration is asleep at the wheel when it comes to what needs to be done to spur economic growth.

As of March, U.S. job-makers reported 8.1 million available jobs, a record high. But I am hearing from small businesses that they can't get their employees to go back to work. That is because President Biden and congressional Democrats are paying people more money to stay home than to go to work.

I am grateful that, starting next month, our Governor, Governor Kemp, is ending the extra $300 in Federal weekly jobless payments. It is time for all States to opt out of this Federal job supplement and quit wasting taxpayers' money.

Let's get Americans back to work and focus on rebuilding our economy.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN), who knows quite a bit about handling a crisis. He is the highest-ranking military officer ever elected to the United States Congress and also my friend.

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is not only my friend and colleague but also not well enough acknowledged as the largely singular author of the Commitment to Civility by the bipartisan freshman classes in 2017. That document, unfortunately, is too well hidden. I thank you again for all the work you did because you laid it out, and it is more applicable today than it was back 4½ years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for getting America back to work. That support, if I spoke as loud as the support that I gave, you would probably have to tone down the microphone system.

As we look toward the future and to getting our economy back on track, I am increasingly concerned with the Federal Government's indiscriminate, uncalculated interference.

In April, we saw the unemployment rate increase to 6.1 percent at a time when you have more ''help wanted'' signs out than you can imagine. Frankly, as I drive across my district in the beautiful part of northern Michigan where summer has just now thought about arriving, and I see all those ''help wanted'' signs hanging in the windows of countless small businesses. That number, unfortunately, comes as no surprise, given the current administration's policies.

We in Congress should be thoroughly angered that with so many businesses looking for help, we instead advance policies that encourage people to stay unemployed.

The expanded unemployment benefits served a positive and caring purpose when businesses were being forced to close in response to the pandemic a year ago. However, as more Americans get vaccinated, and we return to a more normal life, the need is not the same as it was in March 2020.

Instead, the extra $300 a week President Biden and the Democrats gave in their latest relief bill to those who stay unemployed does little but distort the job market, disrupt our supply chains, and encourage many to simply stay home instead of finding a job.

Meanwhile, the backbone of our economy, small businesses across the country, are struggling to find enough workers, despite offering competitive wages, benefits, and, in many cases, hiring bonuses.

To start addressing this problem, States like Michigan should immediately end their participation in the enhanced supplemental unemployment program.

The only way for us as a country to fully recover from this pandemic is by having the Federal Government stop sabotaging our economy and instead encourage Americans to get back to work.

The dignity of work, of a job well done, cannot be underestimated when it comes to bolstering our citizens with a sense of faith in the future and faith in our country.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee's Eighth District (Mr. KUSTOFF).

Mr. KUSTOFF. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I would like to recognize my friend and colleague from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON), a great leader. I thank him for organizing this evening.

Mr. Speaker, I want to address two different fronts of President Biden's policies, both of which are failing the American people.

The April jobs report showed that the economy added less than 270,000 new jobs. That is disappointing, and it was an underperformance from the 1 million jobs that economists expected.

It really should be no surprise to anyone because the enhanced unemployment benefits that were approved by Congress, against all of our objections, under President Biden's initiative have truly disincentivized people from going back to work.

Then, on the second front, we have seen over the past week or so Hamas continue to launch thousands of rockets at Israel, aiming to kill as many innocent lives as possible.

Let me be clear: I strongly condemn these attacks. Everybody on this side of the aisle strongly condemns those attacks. We fully support Israel's unequivocal right to defend herself and her citizens.

Yet, President Biden has taken a weak approach, demonstrating to terrorist organizations that his administration won't stand up for one of our greatest nations, greatest friends, and greatest allies, and that is Israel.

America's support of our strongest ally in the Middle East, it should never be quiet. That sends a terrible message to the rest of the world.

Ultimately, we need a government that is more efficient, more effective, and accountable.

We need to get people back to work. We must reopen our economy, lower taxes, and get our children back in school.

Lastly, we have to show the rest of the world that our support for Israel will never waver, that we stand strong in defending the Jewish state together as one.

You know, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu once said, and I will paraphrase: If Arabs put down their weapons today, there would be no more violence. If the Jews put down their weapons today, there would be no Israel. I think that pretty much sums it up.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, that does sum it up. It is a very real crisis we face.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas' First District (Mr. GOHMERT).

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Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, here is an article by Tristan Justice: ''April job numbers are so bad, CNBC thought it was a typo.''

Another article: ''New stimulus package: Unemployment benefits, $300 per week extended till September.''

''America's Vanishing Workforce,'' article by Megan Cassella and Rebecca Rainey.

And this one, The Hill: ''It is time for States to take the lead in getting Americans back to work,'' by Anthony Hughes.

Why is that? It is because we have an administration that is doing everything it can in conjunction with the Democrats in Congress to keep people from going back to work.

Now, when I was between my sophomore and junior year at Texas A&M, I was accepted on an exchange program for the summer to the Soviet Union. And at one point, being out at a collective farm many miles outside of Kiev, I couldn't tell what was cultivated and what wasn't. It looked brown. It didn't look good. But all the farmers in the middle of the morning—10, 10:30—they are sitting out under a tree in the shade, and they are visiting.

And I tried to have a smile and use my best Russian. And I asked, ''When do you work out in the field?'' Because I had stood there for a while. And they all laughed, and I thought maybe I didn't say it right in Russian.

And finally one of them said, ''I make the same number of rubles if I am out there in the sun as I do in the shade, so I stay in the shade.''

I got a message from one of my friends, a lady, that says her yard guy says he can't get people to come back to work. He has got 125 yards. And her hairdresser's kids, they are not working, all because of this big bonus if you don't work. It is time to get people back to work, having them earn their money. America will be better for it.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. STEFANIK), our newly elected conference chairwoman.

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, Americans across this country are facing crisis after crisis.

Just think, just over a year ago, in early 2020, our economy was booming, our standing in the world was strong, we had just rebuilt our Nation's military, and our communities and families were thriving.

Here we are, a little over one year later, in just over 100 days, President Biden and Speaker PELOSI have dismantled that foundation, and the American people are paying the price.

Americans are suffering under four crises from the far-left radical socialist policies of President Biden and Speaker PELOSI.

First, American families are facing an economic crisis, fueled by trillions of dollars in uncontrolled spending, rampant inflation, and unemployment benefits that incentivize workers to stay home while businesses are desperate to hire employees.

We just experienced one of the worst jobs reports in over 20 years, with unemployment rising, cost of living increasing every single day, and small businesses unable to hire. This impacts every hardworking American family, and it is a crisis with no end in sight, except the trillions and trillions of dollars in new taxes proposed by President Biden and Speaker PELOSI.

Second, American families are facing an energy crisis. This is the first time my generation is experiencing widespread gas lines and stations with no gas. If we do find gas, Americans are paying more at the pump than they have in 7 years. This is unacceptable, and it is unaffordable for every American family.

Third, President Biden and Speaker PELOSI have single-handedly created a historic border crisis leading to rampant human trafficking, an influx of criminals and dangerous drugs, like fentanyl, rushing across the border.

And make no mistake, this does not just affect our border States along the southern border, every State in this country is a border State and every city is a border city experiencing the consequences of this border crisis.

Fourth, the world is watching in horror as we are facing a national security crisis in the Middle East and a resurgent Russia and China. Israel is under attack by Iranian-backed terrorists, and our radical socialist Democrat colleagues across the aisle cannot decide whose side they are on.

Let me be clear, my colleagues, the Republicans, we stand with Israel. More importantly, the American people stand with Israel. And these four crises are impacting every American family across this Nation. In my district, in New York's 21st District, small businesses have more ''Help Wanted'' signs than they have workers. Restaurants, like Ted's Fish Fry in Upstate New York, have been forced to close one day a week, just as we are heading into summer, because they are unable to hire workers.

Families are bearing the brunt of the abrupt tax hikes caused by skyrocketing gas prices. Border patrol agents that should be securing our northern border have been sent to the southern border, leaving hundreds of miles of border in my district exposed to drug traffickers and criminals.

And people are struggling to grasp the unthinkable. How is the Biden administration negotiating with Iran, the world's largest state sponsor of terror, who has targeted our friends, neighbors, and the soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division in my home district.

Republicans and the American people are united in rallying against the destructive, radical far-left policies of Biden and Pelosi, causing crisis after crisis in our country every day.

We will continue to stand strongly with American workers, American families, small businesses, as well as our allies around the world. And we will fight back against these policies that have led to the devastation and destruction across this country.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank our conference chair from the great State of New York, and we will go across the country to the other coast to the State of California, the 25th District represented by Mr. GARCÍA.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCÍA).

Mr. GARCÍA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in direct support of our most critical ally, Israel.

Rarely in history has the strategic alliance between two nations been more meaningful and necessary to the pursuit of worldwide stability than the modern partnership between the United States and Israel.

I believe the recipe for a lasting relationship between our two nations and achieving stability in the region in pursuit of peace, is comprised of the following key tenets.

Number one, maximum foreign military funds from the U.S. to Israel with a focus on providing Israel a qualitative military edge.

Number two, an undivided Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

Number three, the Golan Heights must remain under the control of Israel.

Number four, the worldwide elimination of boycott divestment and sanctions against Israel and Jewish communities here in the U.S. Such practices are blatantly anti-Semitic.

Number five, prosecution of and defense against mutual threats to Israel in the United States. Any threats to Israel should be treated as a threat to the United States.

Number six, we cannot allow a nuclear-capable Iran, and we should not reenter the JCPOA nuclear deal.

Mr. Speaker, I have seen war firsthand. War is an ugly thing, but failing to unequivocally support an ally as critical as Israel in pursuit of worldwide stability is the ugliest of things, especially at a time like this when stability worldwide is eroding in front of us.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Congress and this administration to fully support Israel.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California, and I move to the great State of Texas next, the 36th District.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON).

Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today with one clear message for the American people: Bad policies have bad consequences.

Not that many weeks ago, we had a thriving and stable economy. We were energy-independent. We were a sovereign Nation with a secure border. Now, roughly 100 days into Joe Biden's presidency, we are living in what feels like the twilight zone with gas shortages, 2008 levels of inflation, rampant and out-of-control spending, high unemployment rates, destruction in the Middle East, political correctness and wokeness, winning the war on common sense, and worst of all, a massive border crisis.

These things didn't just happen, folks. They are the direct result of the left's conscious policy decisions—or rather delusions. Is this the America they really wanted?

Unfortunately, the mainstream media wants to distract you from the colossal failures of America's weakest President and his administration. In fact, the liberal media dedicated approximately zero minutes of airtime to

the April illegal border crossing numbers, which were the worst in our Nation's history.

But I am here to tell you the truth. Biden's foolhardy policies have created a disaster on America's southern border. He has failed us. He has failed you and your family. And most importantly, he has failed to maintain the sovereignty of our beloved Nation.

We cannot begin to comprehend the lasting impact that Biden's border crisis will have on the sanctity and security of this Nation. And as I wade through the anarchic waters of living in Joe Biden and the Democrat's America, I am reminded of the words of Alexander the Great, when he said, ''I am not afraid of an army of lions led by a sheep; I am afraid of an army of sheep led by a lion.''

My friends, leadership is everything. And sadly, right now, our country is in desperate need of a real leader.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for that great reminder.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE), my friend from Georgia's 8th District.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding his time.

Mr. Speaker, we are all seeing gas prices soar—35 percent since January, since this administration took office. Whereas, what this administration inherited, under President Trump, was low and affordable energy costs and our Nation had actually achieved energy independence. There was record low unemployment numbers across all demographics. And prior to COVID, the average hourly wage earnings rose at the fastest rate in decades.

So what has changed? Well, what has changed is a reversal of those policies that work. Unfortunately, President Biden has proved that he is far more concerned with appeasing the fringe left-wing environmental extremists in his party than he is in helping the average American by lowering energy costs and creating good-paying jobs.

So with prices continuing to soar and massive labor shortages, it only makes sense that we should be doing the right kinds of things to get people back to work. And make no mistake, Biden's reckless energy policies have consequences.

I know I hear all the time from veterans in my district who literally are having to make the choice between driving 45-plus miles to a veteran's clinic or trying to have enough money to survive.

However, on day one, President Biden celebrated the canceling of the Keystone Pipeline and eliminated tens of thousands of jobs and millions of dollars for our economy. And yet, yesterday, the Biden administration gave the green light to finishing Russia's pipeline going down to Germany.

This is the height of hypocrisy. Are you kidding me? That we are not going to allow our own country to have a pipeline, but we are going to approve it for Russia? That pipeline with Russia is literally going to give billions of revenue to the Putin regime, and the completion thereof is going to cause our allies in Europe to have to rely more heavily on Russian oil. We are the ones who ought to be selling American oil to Europe, not enabling their reliance upon the Kremlin.

Under President Trump, we had a policy where America was first. It appears under this current administration that America is last. And I will just repeat this: This is what we have:

Under President Biden, sanctions against Russia are canceled and they build a pipeline. Under President Biden, he cripples our own economy by canceling Keystone.

It is time for us to get back to work.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 20½ minutes remaining.

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Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for his leadership tonight and for hosting this Special Order.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because it is time to get Americans back to work. At the beginning of the pandemic, industries of all types were desperately trying to keep their doors open and thousands of Americans lost their jobs. Since then, Congress has passed measures aimed to aid individuals and businesses, including five bipartisan relief bills, which I supported.

Today, we are starting to return to normal. Businesses across the country are opening their doors to pre-COVID operation levels. However, these industries are facing a new challenge: Getting qualified employees to return to work.

This is abundantly apparent in my district. The number one need of businesses, both manufacturing and service industries, is qualified and trained workers.

This past April, Clarion County held their annual career fair. Employers from numerous sectors gathered and hoped to find employees of all skill levels, great paying, family sustaining jobs available. Sadly, the career fair lacked individuals ready to rejoin the workforce.

Stories like this are, unfortunately, not unique. Right now, there are more job openings in the United States than any point in our Nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, as we continue to return to normal and more restrictions are lifted, we must continue to follow the science and encourage Americans to reenter the workforce. It is time to fully reopen America for business and put Americans back to work.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT).

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, Joe Biden says America is on the move again. But to me, folks, it looks like Americans are still at home. There are a record 8 million job openings in America right now. Eight million, folks. That is the population of the great State of Tennessee, where I come from.

We are hurting small business recovery and the economic growth. We have got to get our country back to work, Mr. Speaker. Joe Biden and the Democrat policies are not helping our recovery. The $15 minimum wage makes it harder on the very small businesses. The McDonald's restaurants in the district that I represent are now starting folks off at $15 an hour, and some are offering health benefits as well.

Bonus unemployment benefits that we are paying Americans to stay at home is just not working. The job-killing regulations that are directed at industries, like our energy sector, as well. The Green New Deal and more of this push to the left is only hurting us further.

Worst of all, we are pushing tax increases during an economic recovery. This is totally backwards, Mr. Speaker, and this is keeping Americans dependent on Big Government, which I am not so certain is not the ultimate goal.

Instead, we need to be encouraging the private sector to invest in recovery areas. My Opportunity Extension Act does just that, giving investors more time to use the highly successful Opportunity Zones program.

Opportunities Zones are in areas that are hit hardest by COVID economic fallout. These Opportunity Zones represent areas such as our rural areas and our inner cities, areas which I am proud to represent.

Our Opportunity Zones were responsible for $52 billion—$52 billion, Mr. Speaker—in new investment, and a half a million new jobs in our underserved areas before COVID hit.

This bill renews investment in these communities. It spurs economic growth. It attracts business. It is creating good-paying jobs, a much better alternative than the Federal Government handouts being pushed by many of my colleagues across the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I would be happy to discuss my bill further with anyone who is interested.

I thank the vice chairman for yielding to me. I appreciate you for organizing this event, brother.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for his important comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, just like that, America faces four simultaneous crises: loss of control of the border, energy supply disruption, a sudden spurt of stagflation, and a key ally under assault.

Why is all this happening at once on the eve of the 4-month anniversary of Inauguration Day?

Because a weak President signals a weak America. The President sets the tone, and, today, it is very different than the previous 4 years.

On the world's stage, our adversaries are newly emboldened, and our allies more vulnerable. After several years of creative Trump peace deals, Israel is already under attack.

Is that a coincidence?

No. Hamas and other terrorists knew that with Trump there would be consequences. They know with Biden there will be none.

At our southern border, we have plateaued at a 20-year high for illegal border crossings. It is not slowing down. The word is out: You can cross without consequences. In fact, Biden and his allies think progress is expanding the throughput.

Persons are also now experiencing gas shortages, last seen with Jimmy Carter. Even before, the price at the pump sky-rocketed.

Why?

Because this President doesn't value or fight for American energy independence, like the last one. Instead, he cancels our pipelines and green-lights Russia's. Now families have new worries about their fuel budgets, while being lectured to by this legislation on leftist green energy fiascos.

Perhaps, most pressing of all, our economy is not recovering as it should, while all the warning signs of inflation grow stronger. Practically every day I hear the same thing from North Carolina small businesses, that they cannot find workers. And after that last pathetic jobs report, it is clear that this isn't isolated to any home State.

Biden isn't fighting for jobs. He is paying more to not have one.

What we are seeing across the board is trickle-down weakness, and the adverse effects are clear. For the first time in 4 years, America has a President who backs down without a fight, and it is costing us. Biden is nowhere to be found on the issues that matter. In his absence, Republicans will keep fighting for the American people.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, we will keep fighting, indeed. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS).

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, Americans are bewildered about what is happening in our Nation today. Americans who actually work have deep concerns about the future of our country. It is incredible to observe, from my perspective as a humble constitutionalist servant within this august body, exactly what is going on with my colleagues across the aisle and our newly inaugurated executive branch.

We have moved from policies out of our executive that put America first to policies out of the President's administration to put America last. We are facing $31 trillion in debt.

Let me help my American brothers and sisters who work very hard to earn their living and have portions of their income seized and sent to Washington, D.C., let me help them get their head wrapped around $31 trillion in debt.

If this body, which is responsible constitutionally for all Federal spending, were to run a $1 billion surplus in a fiscal year—meaning we spent $1 billion less in Federal expenditures than we took in Federal revenue, $1 billion—it would require 31,000 years of a $1 billion surplus to address a $31 trillion debt. A trillion is a thousand billion, and a billion is a thousand million.

It is insane what is being presented as fiscal responsibility out of the Biden administration's White House in their budget request.

President Biden shut down the Keystone pipeline, killed thousands of American jobs overnight with the stroke of his pen on his first day in office, and now has approved support for a Russian pipeline under the guise of ecological concern, which is why he shut down Keystone, which is done incredibly clean in America.

The oil and gas industry, the energy industry in America is the cleanest in the world. We are going to shut down an American pipeline and approve and authorize a Russian pipeline. It is absurd the direction we are going in.

Our border crisis. My sources, which are accurate, we have added at least 700,000 to 800,000 illegal crossings this year. Our vice president, alledgedly, has been put in charge of handling the border. She can't find her way to south Texas. We should send a map to the White House.

Israel. Could you imagine what our response should be as a nation if we received 6,000 to 8,000 rockets fired at our citizens?

We should be standing unwavering beside our ally, Israel. A nation that stands against Israel stands against itself.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the Speaker for allowing me to address the House, and I thank my colleague for holding this important Special Order this evening.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD).

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, today, our prayers are with our faithful friend and ally, Israel. The country is under attack by Hamas, a terrorist organization that will stop at nothing to kill and destroy.

The world is watching and hoping that Iran-backed Hamas and the Palestinian Liberation Organization will cease their destructive and reckless attacks on Israel.

Recently, pre-COVID, I had an opportunity to visit Israel. I spoke with one mom who talked about the horrific decision they are faced with at times. When the alarm goes off, when the missiles are coming in Israel, they know they have about 13 seconds to make it to a shelter, and they are faced with the decision of: Which child on the playground do you take with you?

This has got to stop. Israel's actions are a clear example of a nation committed to duty and responsibility of protecting their citizens. We know that Israel will continue to need our support, even after this attack subsides.

While other nations fueled by anti-Semitism act to boycott, divest, and sanction Israel, the U.S. hopes for prosperity and flourishing for the Israeli people. As such, we support continued economic cooperation and bold security assistance that benefits Israelis and Americans alike.

We applaud and stand by the accomplishments of the Trump administration to improve peace in the Middle East. We recognize Jerusalem as the true capital of Israel. We affirm Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights. We celebrate the historic Abraham Accords, reestablishing diplomatic ties between Israel and their regional neighbors.

We oppose efforts within the U.N. to undermine Israel on the global stage. We also oppose Iran's nuclear ambitions and call for the United States to withdraw from the Iran deal.

While the Washington left remains weak on Israel, the American people stand strongly in support of the Israeli people. It is time for Democrats to reject the extreme left, anti-American, anti-Israel, pro-Marxist agenda. They need to work with Republicans to pass a bill to provide security aid to the Israeli Government.

□ 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the Second District of Alabama (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative JOHNSON for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, in the last few days, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic jihad have fired 4,000 rockets targeting millions of Israeli civilians across the country. Thanks to Israel's Iron Dome, many of these rockets have been intercepted, saving thousands of lives. The Iron Dome is a byproduct of bipartisan support from Congress that provides critical missile defense and cooperation.

Tragically, not all of these rockets have been intercepted, resulting in senseless deaths of many innocent civilians, women and children among them.

These terrorist attacks against our strongest ally must stop, and Palestinian leaders have a responsibility to do all they can to stop it.

I commend my colleagues and our government leaders from both sides of the aisle who have condemned this violence, telling the world and our mutual enemies that America stands strong with Israel.

To those who blame Israel and accuse them of terrorism, I will say what I have always told my children: Don't be the first ones who start a fight, but you must be willing to finish it.

Israel has a right to defend their citizens and their nation's sovereignty.

The Lord told Abraham: I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless them that bless thee, and I will curse them that curseth thee; and in thee shall all families of the Earth be blessed.

I am proud to stand firm with Israel. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; may they be secure who love you.

Psalm 122.6.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Amen to that. I appreciate my friend and those great comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield next to the gentleman from the Sixth District of the great State of Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) with more thoughts about Israel.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, a tragedy is going on in Israel. Over 4,000 rockets have been shot from Gaza and a handful from Lebanon. Twelve Israelis and about 200 Gazans have died. This is entirely unprovoked on Israel's part. It may have something to do with a future election on the West Bank. Iran is showing support for Hamas and is giving them financial aid, so they are partly responsible.

Gaza, of course, could be a liveable, modern country. It used to be a vacation destination. And prior to 2005, when Israel turned it over, there were greenhouses for an agriculture sector. It is their own fault by collectively electing a government which not only declares a unilateral war, but chooses residential and commercial facilities as military locations, guaranteeing deaths of civilians, including children.

Israel is a strong country, and, of course, they will not be defeated militarily. There is a danger, however. As explained by James Burnham in his book, ''Suicide of the West''—now over 50 years old—a decadent West may blame themselves for the corruption and lack of caring for human life in Gaza.

Some Members of this body are already doing this.

The United States and Israel must not shirk from our responsibilities as moral leaders of the world. We support Israel in defending themselves from the attacks of the morally bankrupt government in Gaza. We encourage them to continue this fight for as long as necessary to make sure their citizens are not at risk in the future.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the Ninth District of the great State of Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Louisiana, our Republican vice chair, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, since the onset of the pandemic, our small businesses have been faced with immeasurable challenges. Though our recovery from the pandemic is underway, businesses now face an unnecessary worker shortage due in part to enhanced unemployment compensation payments that disincentivize work.

Each week, I speak with small business owners from across my district who tell me they have open jobs, but can't fill them and compete with enhanced unemployment. One of the largest employers in my district, East Penn Manufacturing, is hosting weekly job fairs to fill hundreds of good-paying manufacturing jobs they have available and are going unfilled.

Enhanced unemployment compensation was never intended, Mr. Speaker, to be permanent, but it is now disrupting the labor market on the onset of what can be a strong recovery. As more Americans continue to get vaccinated and our COVID cases continue to decline, it is time for us to stop this disincentivizing work.

Unemployment assistance programs should be revised to target those unable to work, such as parents with children at home due to school closures or those not physically able. Those who can work and choose not to should not be able to receive generous unemployment compensation at a rate often more than $20 per hour.

The U.S. Department of Labor reports 8.1 million jobs were open in March, and there are plentiful well-paying jobs in every industry offering incentives for new hires across Pennsylvania. Despite this, Pennsylvania's unemployment rate is even higher than the national average.

That is why last week I sent a letter to the Governor of Pennsylvania urging him to better target supplemental unemployment compensation to those who truly need it and reinstate work search requirements that were waived last year. Despite an abundant job market, our economy added only 266,000 jobs last week.

Mr. Speaker, as I close, businesses are creating new jobs every day. We owe it to them to at least create job seekers.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank all my colleagues for participating tonight. I realize we are out of time.

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

UNFUNDED LIABILITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, before I start my presentation—and I am going to focus sort of on some of the economics, the debt and economic growth, particularly in some of the proposals that are hitting the House right now—I wanted to touch on something.

We just heard a number of folks get up and talk about their love and caring for Israel, the Middle East, and the concerns of the conflict. I want to do something that is a little bit different. I have intense concern that our relationship with a fair and functioning republic in the Middle East never become a partisan issue.

Maybe this will make sense. I have been here for a few years, and there has always been the ability for those on the left and the right to stand up and say: Look, we have a country that works. No country is perfect, but it works, and it respects human rights, and it is a functioning republic and a democracy in the Middle East.

I was really sort of heartbroken last week. Just before I did one of these presentations, there was a presentation by not many Members, but some who said some pretty awful things. So I hope as we all want the country of Israel to prosper and do well—we want everyone in the region to prosper and do well—but we have to accept there are other bad actors particularly financing things coming through Iran to some very bad actors to do horrible, horrible things in the region.

I wish we could sort of step back a few months and think of the joy that many of us felt with the Abraham Accords that good things were happening. The caring for Israel needs to be bipartisan, and my fear is we are seeing that start to slip where some on the hard left are moving away from supporting a fellow republic.

This is not a good thing for all of us, and we need to sort of rethink that discussion, stand up for our friends, and tell our enemies that they can have a home in our hearts if they stop the bad acts. And maybe the Middle East, one day, really does have a future, as we saw with the vision that came from the Abraham Accords.

Mr. Speaker, I get frustrated when I watch the floor. We all sit in committee, and so often what comes through these microphones are sort of trite talking points.

So let's go back to the big picture: What are we doing to actually deal with it?

I have a new chart. I am trying to find over and over and over how do we actually all come together and understand the reality?

This is our future. This is my 5-year-old daughter's future. It is $101 trillion in debt adjusted in today's dollars. So this isn't 30 years of inflation. This is today's dollars. This is our future in 30 years.

Many of us want to get behind the microphone and say: This is Democrat; this is Republican.

It is demographics. We are getting older as a society. We are getting older as a people. And the reality of it is 67 percent of our 30-year debt is the unfunded portion of Medicare.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, when you pay your FICA tax, you are paying the part A, the hospital portion. The part B and D, someone, a retiree contributes a little tiny sliver to. The rest comes out of the general fund. When you actually take a look at our population, Mr. Speaker, the cost of healthcare, those things, then you start to realize it is the core driver of our debt.

The blue here is the unfunded liability with Social Security. So if you believe Americans have the right to these

earned benefits—these are earned benefits—then why is it so hard to have an honest conversation about the unfunded liability?

Because, Mr. Speaker, you will get behind these microphones and the handful around here who would tell the truth about the math, then this becomes an attack television commercial because you told the truth. I am passionate that during my time here I am going to make these programs survive and prosper, but you first have to understand the scale of the problem.

Mr. Speaker, do you see the little green wedge over here?

At the end of 30 years, the $101 trillion of debt in today's dollars, only $3 trillion of it is the rest to government. So when you get a politician who will say: Oh, it is the military; it is waste and fraud; it is foreign aid, then they are lying to you or they don't own a calculator.

Once again, we have got to have this honest conversation: The unfunded liabilities in Medicare and Social Security drive U.S. sovereign debt.

So why talk about this today?

We have lots and lots and lots and lots and lots of spending that has come up this year. I want to walk through what that does. I haven't even been able to do the math on the charts if we continue just what we have done this year, just in the few months what that actually means to the future.

You would think we would be having this discussion: Hey, the economy is getting better. Our society is opening up. Let's get Americans to work, and let's get prosperity going. Because if we don't have actually amazing and robust economic growth, then dealing with that $101 trillion of unfunded liability becomes almost mathematically impossible.

So just to try to put some things in context, we held a hearing today in the Ways and Means Committee on infrastructure. Now, most of the discussion ended up becoming about infrastructure financing. But I decided it was good to actually come up here and show what is actually roads and bridges.

So, Mr. Speaker, do you see the orange right there?

Mr. Speaker, $115 billion out of the—what is it—$2-something trillion is actually just roads and bridges. Much of the rest of the spending, if you want to be brutal about it, is other things that come shockingly close to paybacks for constituencies that help finance the left. But a lot of them are things that ultimately don't belong in the infrastructure: medical expansion and long-term care. It is something that is real we need to deal with.

Does long-term care belong in an infrastructure bill?

Republicans and Democrats can nail this. We can get this here.

I will also give you another thing, Mr. Speaker. Many of us believe infrastructure is actually much more than our traditional idea of roads and bridges.

If you start to think it through, how much of it is technology?

If I came to you tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, and said: What is the street down in your neighborhood going to look like a decade from now?

Fifteen years from now?

I am desperately hoping my 5-year-old never drives. I want her in an autonomous vehicle.

If we actually have this technology coming, then what does traffic look like?

What does a smart city look like?

I have done presentations here on the floor before of what does the future of infrastructure look like in a world of interconnectivity, where cars can be traveling at pretty impressive speeds talking to each other, your carrying capacity on the existing roads today change.

How much discussion have we had that the future of infrastructure has a huge technology base to it?

The information coming to your vehicle tells you when there is a fire truck, when school is out, when there is a water main break to keep moving and flowing traffic.

That is when my intense frustration is—much of the debate we have today is: Let's pay back our political constituencies. Let's put this much into roads and bridges. And, oh, let's completely be funding the infrastructure of past decades instead of being visionary about what the future looks like.

□ 2030

I will give you a simple example of that just as a thought experiment. I have a fixation on the future of healthcare as a type of interconnectivity. Telemedicine becomes sort of a telehealth using sensors and those things—cars talking to each other, transportation, products, drones. Okay, you need broadband.

Broadband in the future for areas like my State of Arizona that don't have it isn't running a copper line or a fiber-optic line out to the middle of nowhere. It is a satellite. This last weekend, I think we launched another 54, or whatever it is, low-Earth orbit satellites.

But we have $100 billion of spending for moving broadband particularly out to rural America. Rural America, if we would understand technology of today instead of sounding like we are a decade behind, we have for my Tribal communities in the middle of nowhere broadband. We just now need to get our laws, our financing, our subsidies to this part of this century. That is part of the thought experiment.

This is one I want to try to have a real, brutally honest conversation about because the President has gotten up multiple times and said his infrastructure package is paid for. Well, it is not. When you spend some time on it, the new taxes, a substantial number of them are fake. They are just fluff because when you look at the $265 trillion in spending that is the baseline in the bill, as best we can score it, $1.95 trillion is the revenue. It is not real. A big portion of it comes from, hey, we are going to get the entire world to do a corporate minimum tax inversion so the companies leaving the United States because we raised corporate taxes won't happen.

For the Biden tax plan, for NANCY PELOSI's, for the Democrats' tax plan to actually work, there are components in here. You need the rest of the world to adopt a minimum tax so we don't go back to pre-2016 when companies were abandoning the United States and taking much of that tax revenue with them.

Another thing, there is a substantial area there where we believe there are billions and billions—maybe a couple of hundred billion—and we are going to collect more taxes. We are going to get those tax cheats. Okay, let's say that is even real. How many years would it take to hire, train, and be able to collect? Some of the estimates you are talking about will take several years before that even becomes effective.

There are a number of things like that on the revenue side that are fanciful. Also, no one has started to score the raise of corporate taxes that are in the Democrats' tax portion of the infrastructure plan. We did a presentation last week that showed about a million people will lose their jobs in the first 24 months. There will be a million less jobs because of the corporate tax, and that is just the corporate tax. That is not talking about the change of basis, the capital gains, the tax on the wealthy, all of those other things.

We were trying to make an argument: If the hunger is for revenues for some of these, stop subsidizing the really, really ultrarich. When they buy their multimillion-dollar house on a beachfront, should we subsidize flood insurance? If someone is really wealthy, should you subsidize their electric vehicle, their solar panels, their power wall?

It turns out, we were coming up with close to $1.4 trillion in the 10-year window that looks to be subsidies for the very well-off. If you do the ultra-well-off, it cuts that number down, but it is still a stunning amount of money.

So, there is a path where you could cut spending instead of doing things that would distort economic growth because, as many of you know who may have watched some of these presentations, I have an absolute fixation on the working poor. The miracle we had in this country in 2018 and 2019, where we were starting to crush the separation of income and equality, it was working. We came up with something that I believe Democrats supported, but they just didn't support how we got there.

We made working men and women's labor valuable. We made what talents they brought to the marketplace valuable. We tried to once again say: If you care and love the working poor, and

you want them to become much less poor, you can't devalue their labor. But that is what we are doing right now.

The number one thing you can do to do economic violence to the working poor is open up your borders. What happens when you import substantial numbers of people with similar skill sets? We have great data on this. You functionally have subjected that working-poor population in your country to a decade of misery where their wages don't flatline. They actually go down.

The other thing you do is inflation. Inflation concentrates punishment on elderly who have saved and the working poor because now the ability to buy that house, now the ability to buy an asset becomes so much more difficult to get to.

I am not sure the left has processed what is going on at this moment and how much economic violence is actually being done by the economic decisions that have happened the last few months here. So, let's take a quick look here.

Do you remember a couple of years ago, you know, way, way back, maybe like 2019? We would engage in debates here on how we are spending too much money on the military, too much for this, and 4.7 percent of GDP that year was going to be in borrowing. People were really upset on the left, and many of us were upset with too much spending on the right.

This year, we are over 20½ percent. If you want to understand inflation, if you want to understand what is happening to asset prices, if you are wanting to understand why that first-time homebuyer can't buy the home, why that working-poor family can't seem to dig themselves out, this is the beginning of what we are doing.

We are pumping so much spending, and the Federal Reserve is having to finance it, to create functionally fake money, because here is what we are doing. We sell bonds. Right now, the Federal Reserve is buying our bonds like crazy—in many ways, just creating cash out of thin air. There is this old saying: What is inflation? Inflation is too many dollars chasing too few goods.

Instead of financing production and productivity in our society like the tax reform did in 2017, where we saw incredible wage growth with no inflation, what we did now is we helicopter-dropped money. Now, we have lots of cash in our society, which has all been borrowed, chasing not enough production because we didn't incentivize production. We incentivized buying things. Great politics until you start to blow up people's lives with the cost of their goods.

How dangerous is inflation? You hear a number of our friends from the Federal Reserve—I talked to one a couple of nights ago, one of the region presidents. She said: DAVID, it is transitory. How many of you have watched a lot of the leading economists, even the leading economists on the left side, in the last 3 or 4 days? They are now sounding the alarm. This inflation rate is not what they call transitory. It is not just a blip for 90 days, and then it is going away.

There are geeky things. I am the senior Republican on the House side for the Joint Economic Committee, and there are things we will look at, being able to buy a futures contract on a steel that you are doing a multiyear project on, things like that. You almost can't buy those right now.

There are so many industries that say their inflation curve is already out beyond this year and into 2022. This is really dangerous, where we are at.

Think of this. Last month, if you had annualized, we were at 4.2. But the important thing is, look at the explosion. Functionally, as soon as the administration started rolling out this functionally deficit financing, even though the President says, hey, I am paying for it—but you just saw, on giving credit for everything, there is still another $600 billion of borrowing in just the infrastructure proposal, not all the others.

This is a problem. There is a canary in a mine. Some folks should be really starting to make a point on this.

Mr. Speaker, how many minutes do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has 10½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Okay, I will talk faster.

I know this is a little bit geeky, but this is important. Open borders, inflation, these are components that just crush the very people who we were having so much success with for a couple of years.

We all talk a great game about caring about working men and women, but we are engaged in economic malfeasance right now. I understand it is complicated, but the numbers don't lie.

When you start looking at these charts right now, when you start seeing just parts of the PPI hitting a 12 percent annualized in the commodity goods last month, we really, really, really need to start taking this seriously.

Do you continue to float more debt to chase more helicopter money to go out and buy more constituents? You are going to see sort of a false economy for some of the calculations this year, where you may see a number that says: Hey, income inequality also shrunk this year because we gave out so much cash, but we also created economic violence because we created detachment from work.

Remember, losing a year of work, losing a year of skills, losing a year of progress in your career path even for the working poor has a multiplier effect that if you look over the lifetime career, it is pretty devastating.

You saw the decisions that were made to keep schools closed and the amount of economic violence to working women in our Nation. In 2019, there were more females in the labor market than men. Today, that just isn't true.

The last one I will give, for those folks who fixate on monetary policies, you are in an unusual moment. Remember, there is a difference between fiscal policy and monetary policy. Monetary is Federal Reserve: Hey, we are going to shrink the money supply. We are going to increase the money supply. We are going to do this to protect the purchasing value of the dollar for overseas, for in the country. We are going to use interest rates. We are going to use bank reserves. We are going to use those things as tools.

The fiscal side is: We spend money. We borrow money.

What happens when we are borrowing, because we are spending so much, we are borrowing so much that we distort what they call monetary supply. All of a sudden, the Federal Reserve is having to step in and finance our chaos. It turns out Congress, because of its spending now, is distorting monetary supply.

What this chart shows is—just take a look—this was the Federal Reserve balance sheet. Just before COVID, it was shrinking. The economy was doing so stunningly well. We had economic growth. The working poor were getting dramatically less poor. We had almost no inflation. Productivity was beginning to spike in the economy.

Remember, how do you pay people more money? You pay them more because of inflation and productivity. Well, when you pay someone more for inflation, they don't get anything. When you pay them for productivity because there are new plants and equipment and these types of economic investments, that is the golden child. That is where you are paying people more because we have invested in them and in plants and equipment.

That is also what is so devastating about the left's tax plan right now. When you raise capital gains the way they are talking about doing without incentivizing investments in productivity and investments in people through those organizations, they are going to be paid less money.

When you raise corporate taxes, there will be less money for those things that make jobs more productive, and we have already seen the numbers. We are going to unemploy a million people if the current corporate tax model comes in.

We are now spending so much money that we are just distorting the monetary supply for us in the world because the Federal Reserve needs to keep buying our bonds. They try to keep interest rates as level as possible for as long as possible because, God forbid, when you are floating the scale of debt we are floating today, could you imagine if the next set of refinancing, the next set of bonds, were at traditionally the interest rates we had a decade or two decades ago?

□ 2045

So I want to sort of close on this.

This over here is 2013 to 2016. This is 2016 to 2019. Most of this economic change was really 2018 and 2019.

This is mean family income. If you take a look, the blue is the poorest quartiles in our society. 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, going back, they were getting their heads kicked in. Income inequality really was growing, but it was growing under the Obama's administration's policies.

If you take a look at what happened after tax reform, income inequality shrank. The blue here is our lowest quartiles. I hate that number, but it is economics. Working men and women, particularly the working poor, saw almost a 10 percent increase in their wages in those couple years. The wealthy only saw about 2.9 percent.

If anyone ever wants to really dive into it, the discussion between supply-side economics and Keynesian economics and the distortion that politics have turned to those things, if you actually care about where we are going—you remember the very first chart that showed $101 trillion of debt that is coming at us. We are making our society and our country incredibly fragile to an interest rate spike, a military conflict, or another pandemic.

If we need infrastructure, let's build infrastructure. We can work out the financing mechanisms. But does long-term care really belong in the infrastructure bill? We need a revolution in what healthcare is, because you saw on the first chart, healthcare is the primary driver of U.S. sovereign debt. Once again, understand the ACA, Obamacare, the Republican alternative, Medicare for All, are not pieces of legislation that change the cost of healthcare. When you see them, the percent of GDP that goes to healthcare stays the same. They are financing bills. This is one of the thought processes here that has been so difficult to crack through our skulls. We keep having debates on this floor that are about who pays and who gets subsidized. We don't have conversations of what we can do to unleash creativity in technology, whether it be in environment, whether it be in infrastructure, whether it be in healthcare.

Until this place starts to see this in a holistic sort of continuous circle of healthcare actually has something to do with infrastructure, but the way you keep debt financing it, the debt becomes our fragility, and the debt is what is going to crush our future and do true economic violence to the working poor, and even to my 5-year-old daughter's future.

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

HONORING NEWLYN WING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Newlyn Wing.

Newlyn Wing is a current resident of Orlando, Florida, who over the last 5 years has become a passionate advocate for building leadership coalitions in the Asian-American and Orange County communities.

With a family history stemming from Michigan and Vietnamese refugees, he grew up experiencing the individualistic and collectivistic cultures of the United States and Vietnam. His upbringing created a belief within Newlyn that our collective well-beings are tied to each other's progress. He believes when our best individual efforts and perspectives are shared, we can all progress forward.

This principle led him to pursue leadership positions and projects with local and national nonprofits and associations. He holds roles as the president of the National Association of Asian American Professionals, Orlando chapter, and the chief strategy officer role with the NAAAP national. Newlyn is passionate about strategies and partnerships that give individuals a platform for building their leadership and having a true impact in their industries and communities.

In his work within the Orange County community, Newlyn has created leadership programs for high school and college students, helped lead voter education initiatives, and led efforts to increase the representation of Asian American Pacific Islanders in community leadership positions. He is grateful for the amazing leadership teams he has been a part of and for the opportunity to serve his community.

Outside of his community volunteer work, Newlyn currently serves as association manager for Junior Chamber International USA, a not-for-profit organization of young active citizens. The JCI USA mission, to provide development opportunities that empower young people to create positive change, aligns with Newlyn's passion and background.

For this and more, Mr. Newlyn Wing, we honor you.

HONORING ADRIAN LEE

Mr. SOTO. In honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Adrian Lee.

Adrian Lee is a senior undergraduate student at the University of Central Florida, studying political science, with a track in international affairs and a minor in human communications.

During her time at UCF, Adrian was involved in Asian-interest student organizations, including the Asian Student Association, the Sparks Magazine Chapter of UCF, and the Asian Pacific American Coalition.

As president of the Asian Pacific American Coalition, Adrian worked with multiple executive student boards, administrative offices, and community partners to amplify Asian-American issues and provide networking opportunities.

She is most proud of introducing her new scholarships during UCF's celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, recognizing the creativity, leadership, and advocacy of APIDA students.

During her free time, Adrian enjoys painting and visiting local restaurants of greater Orlando.

For this and more, Adrian Lee, we honor you.

HONORING DR. HEFANG LIN

Mr. SOTO. In honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Dr. Hefang Lin.

Dr. Hefang Lin received her Ph.D. in statistics from Virginia Tech in 1999. She has published many papers in journals, such as the Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation, the Criminal Justice Review, Corrections Today, et cetera.

She has worked as a research statistician in the Orange County Corrections Department for 14 years. Her statistical analysis and reports help decision-makers deliver better community outcomes by enhancing efficiency and productivity. As a result of her work, management has a data-based driven, decision-making process.

Prior to OCCD, she worked for a consulting company in Washington, D.C., until 2007. She worked on many projects for the Federal Government, including the U.S. Marshals, ICE, and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. She is also vice chair of the research council in the American Correctional Association and the former president of the Club Orange Toastmasters.

Dr. Hefang Lin is the founder and president of the Orange County Asian Committee, with the mission of bringing the community together while promoting inclusivity and the rich heritage of Asian Americans, since 2012. In order to advocate for Asian cultures, diversity, and inclusiveness, she leads numerous events, such as cultural performances, art contests, and awards. During the pandemic, when face masks were in short supply, she organized people to donate masks to help prevent the spread of and protect against the COVID–19 healthcare crisis in Orange County and people in need.

Dr. Lin now lives with her husband in Oviedo, Florida, and has two beautiful daughters.

For this and more, Dr. Hefang Lin, we honor you.

HONORING ONCHANTHO AM

Mr. SOTO. In honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Onchantho Am.

Onchantho Am makes no secret of her humble beginnings. She is a child of Cambodian refugees who escaped the Khmer Rouge. Due to unfortunate circumstances, she and her siblings were removed from her parents' care and placed in the foster system. One of her first recollections of the judicial system was when she advocated on behalf of her siblings to have them reunited

under one roof. Rather than being broken by such adversity, she embraced her experiences to fuel a passion for public service and child advocacy. She aged out of the foster system and went on to become the first in her family to attend college and graduate from the University of Florida. She earned her J.D. from Stetson University College of Law, where she earned the prestigious Victor O. Wehle Trial Advocacy Award and the Thomas E. Penick, Jr. Award.

Onchantho is the vice president of quality and chief legal officer of IMPOWER, Inc., where she leads the organization to new levels working diligently to improve the lives of children and families.

Outside of work, Mrs. Am is heavily involved in the legal and the Asian American Pacific Islander community. As the president of the Greater Orlando Asian American Bar Association, she put public service and community outreach to the forefront, spearheading several successful virtual programs, including the Voter Initiative, the Asian Fusion Nights, Cooking for a Cause, and Stop AAPI Hate panel. She is also an active board member of the National Association of Asian American Professionals, a member of the Orange County Asian American Committee, and the scholarship chair of the Orange County Bar Association Foundation.

But for all her accomplishments and accolades, her greatest pride and joy is to share with her husband the adventure of raising three multiracial daughters to become strong, empowered women.

For this and more, Mrs. Onchantho Am, we honor you.

HONORING SHALLY WONG

Mr. SOTO. In honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Shally Wong.

Shally Wong is the special assistant of Mayor Jerry Demings of the Orange County government.

A Hong Kong immigrant, Ms. Wong has proudly served the central Florida Asian American community since 2005. Her programs include cultural outreach, unity, and inclusion for all peoples of the Asian American community and beyond. Ms. Wong invests in all of her responsibilities a vision of diversity, understanding, acceptance, and respect that nurtures present and future generations. She takes great pride in representing her culture and being a voice for those underrepresented within her community.

With an MIS bachelor's degree in business administration, Ms. Wong brings dedication, meticulousness, and selflessness to many professional and local projects from idea through completion. Examples of such projects include the Asia Trend Magazine publication; the Asia Trend, Inc., nonprofit organization; and the Dragon Parade Lunar New Year.

Ms. Wong's prior recognized positions include vice president of the Chinese American Association of Central Florida, president of CAACF, and board director of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce, for which she served as treasurer in 2007. Her various awards and merits include the AACC's Ellison S. Onizuka Humanitarian Award, the Asian American Heritage Council Community Service Award, and the Outstanding Community Service Award and recognition of County Mayor Teresa Jacobs. Ms. Wong now serves as board director of FusionFest, Inc.

For this and more, Ms. Shally Wong, we honor you.

HONORING SADIQULLAH BABURI

Mr. SOTO. In honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Sadiqullah Baburi.

Sadiqullah Baburi, born on June 10, 1977, to father Baqi Baburi and mother Sadeeqa Baburi in Kandahar, Afghanistan, is the oldest of eight siblings. The Soviet occupation of the eighties took many of his family members' lives and forced him and his family to flee their home and brought them to the United States in the year 1990.

Supporting his family financially, Sadiq worked as a dishwasher with his brother-in-law Mohamed Amin in a diner in Schenectady, New York, until they gathered enough money to build their own restaurant in Newark, New Jersey. After several years, he moved with his entire family to Florida and eventually opened his newest restaurant with his brother-in-law, Kennedy Chicken and Grill, named after the airport he and his wife first arrived in as immigrants. The restaurant employs many immigrants who came to the U.S. seeking new opportunities as he and his family did years ago.

□ 2100

At the present moment, Sadiq has four children. He and his wife have been married since 1996. Mr. Baburi contributes to many local charities through his small business work in the central Florida community.

For this and more, Mr. Sadiqullah Baburi, we honor you.

HONORING FRANCISCO RUEDA HALILI, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I would like to recognize Dr. Francisco Rueda Halili, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Dr. Francisco ''Frank'' Halili, M.D., is a man who appears to have more than 24 hours in a day. And for every single second of those extra hours, there is a man living life to the fullest, a man of God and country. He uses his time, talents, and treasures to help others.

A board-certified general surgeon in the central Florida area for more than 27 years, Dr. Halili's sharp mind and skillful hands have sought to provide the best care for everyone he meets. It is hard to even imagine the number of lives he has changed either directly or indirectly as a doctor.

Born in Manila, Philippines, to Filipino-U.S. immigrants who made sacrifices, like many other immigrants do when starting over in the U.S., he was instead raised by his grandmother in the Philippines.

A graduate of Ateneo de Manila High School, he would eventually attend Florida Southern College, majoring in biochemistry, and later attend medical school at the University of Miami School of Medicine, class of 1988.

Dr. Halili did his surgical residency at Brookdale Hospital Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York, and started his private practice in 1993 as a general surgeon in Kissimmee, Florida.

Anyone who has ever seen Dr. Halili in the operating room knows of his love for his alma mater and UM Hurricane sports. His medical students and nurses can easily spot him proudly wearing anything and everything University of Miami, orange and green, all the way down to his famous orange-colored operating room shoes. Go Canes.

Over his 27-year career, it is hard to say exactly how many hours Dr. Halili has spent in surgery, with delicate hands caring for his patients. But for every one of those hours, getting to the four hospitals no matter what time or emergency, he has somehow defied the laws of physics and created even more time in the day to be a full-time loving husband to Joanna and devoted father to Francis and Francene.

For this and more, Dr. Francisco Halili, we honor you.

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

NEWS FROM OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, since our last couple of floor periods, I had a chance to visit our southern border one more time, and I would like to point out what is going on there because I think it is the most important issue in America today.

So that our listeners understand, there are two classes of people who come to our border. There are people who are caught or deal with the Border Patrol—and a lot of people want to be found by the Border Patrol because they think they can come into this country through an asylum process—and there are other people who sneak across the border.

In April, our Border Patrol touched—or dealt with about 178,000 individuals. A year ago, that number was 17,000. So we have voluntarily gone up from having the Border Patrol deal with about 17,000 to 178,000.

As we deal with more people who are touched by the Border Patrol, the Border Patrol has to spend more time doing paperwork, particularly with the children.

We have another group of people coming across the border called get-

aways. Because they are get-aways, nobody knows exactly how many there are. We do have drones. We do have our new wall together with sensors. And we are guessing right now that the number of get-aways has gone from about 10,000 a month a year ago to 30,000 a month.

We feel when you combine the two totals, we are going from about 10,000 a month people coming across our border to—just guessing—70- to 80,000 people a month crossing our border.

One thing I found at the border is that it is a misnomer to say most or all of these people are necessarily coming from Mexico or Central America. The last time I was down there, we looked at the three western sectors of the Mexican border. There are nine sectors. We looked at the San Diego, El Centro, and Yuma sectors.

In the San Diego sector, the second most common nationality coming across at the time we were down there was Russian. In the other two sectors, the most common nationality for quite a while had been Brazilian.

While I was there, we watched Border Patrol process a group of about 40 people coming across. They weren't even from one country. It was a group, and some of the people were from Russia, some were from Romania, some were from Cuba.

When we looked at the facilities the Border Patrol had down there, they had names of countries in—what else to call them—pens, where they were holding people. Sometimes a lot of people were kind of squished together.

Another country that people are commonly coming from was Ecuador. I said a lot of people are coming here from Cuba. We saw a large pen for people from India, though, to be honest, nobody was in it. But in any event, people are coming here from all around the world.

We also noticed at the border that the huge slats used to build the wall, which they had to cut short on, are apparently being stolen. Somebody paid for all these things that were supposed to be used to build a wall that was 30 feet high above the ground and 8 feet below the ground.

We cut short the building of that wall right when President Biden was sworn in. We already paid for the equipment. There was a lot of equipment used to put together the wall that had been rented. Apparently that money was wasted. Right now, the slats used for the wall are apparently being stolen at night by people who are selling them on the market.

One other observation about the wall: There has been an increase of traffic coming by boat in the San Diego area. And the reason the Border Patrol thinks that is true or the reason it is true is because of the effectiveness of the wall. Because the wall is doing a good job, people are more likely to get in a boat, go 20 miles out to sea and 20 miles back to come in.

The people who are let in this country pending an asylum hearing are put all over the country. They are frequently left with a nonprofit organization, perhaps the Catholic Social Services, and they find somewhere for them everywhere you look.

Another thing that you have to realize as things get worse with the wall is the number of drugs coming across the southern border. I had always wondered what would happen to the drug cartels as marijuana was legalized in the United States. One of the arguments for legalization of marijuana is it would weaken the drug cartels. Because they would no longer have to sneak the drugs across the border, that what would happen is that they would grow the marijuana in greenhouses here—Colorado, Washington, where have you—and the drug gangs would dry up. Not so.

I recently heard an anecdote in which a lot of marijuana was shipped across the border, and they couldn't find anybody to sell it to because the quality of marijuana grown in America is superior to the marijuana grown in Mexico. Because it is no longer that profitable to ship marijuana across the border, what happens is there has been a dramatic increase in more severe drugs: heroin; cocaine; meth; and the worst of all, fentanyl.

We recently hit a new record in which we have had 90,000 deaths in a 12-month period in the United States. In Milwaukee County, of which I represent a part, there were 540 deaths last year. Milwaukee County is not big like Cook County or some of these other counties around here. It is about a million people. 540 deaths in Milwaukee County is a huge deal. For whatever reason, I think the press has underpublicized it.

□ 2110

I think one of the reasons for the big increases is because you are seeing more and more dangerous drugs coming across the southern border.

I would like to give a tip of the cap to the dogs that the Border Patrol uses at the border. When we were down there, we saw dogs who had detected fentanyl located in a gas tank. Of course, a gas tank smells so much, you figure there is no way that a dog could detect that because the smell of the gasoline is so strong. But even there, the dogs had detected it.

The thing is, the dogs could only sniff so many cars coming across. It would be a good idea if the Border Patrol would get more dogs.

In any event, if you want to talk about an underpublicized problem: 90,000 deaths in America last year from drug overdoses. At least at the drug administration in Milwaukee County, they speculated that the drugs that killed every one of the 540 people down there, either the drugs themselves or the ingredients for the drugs came across the southern border.

Now, you might say: Can we do anything to prevent this? Can we do anything to prevent there being 17,000 up to 178,000 contacts coming across the border? Yes.

Why did we not have a problem a little while ago, and what changed it?

First of all, President Trump had negotiated something called the migrant protection protocol in which people were held on the Mexican side of the border pending a hearing for asylum. Because of that, less people showed up in the first place. President Biden got rid of President Trump's agreement with Mexico to hold people at the southern border. First of all, more people are let in right away, and secondly, it advertises to prospective illegal immigrants around the world that now is the time to come.

Secondly, we had an asylum cooperative agreement with the Central American countries to hold people south of the Mexican border. In other words, if somebody wanted to come up from Venezuela and said, ''I need protection. I need asylum,'' they were held in Central American countries. Obviously, if they were concerned that they were being persecuted by the government, why would you have to come to the United States? It would be perfectly fine to stay in Guatemala, stay in El Salvador, wherever. That agreement was torn apart.

Finally, we changed the way we are dealing with COVID. Given the big deal we make about COVID, it is kind of surprising the Biden administration is letting people in without being tested for COVID, but they are.

Between these three things, we have managed to go to probably about 10,000 people who we don't want coming here a month to an unknown number, but probably 70,000 to 80,000.

I am afraid what will happen is that number will continue to grow. One of the reasons it is so much greater than it was in the past is because the gangs that help people get here charge people to come here. They charge $3,000 for a Mexican to cross the border, about $5,000 for a Central American. I am told $9,000 to $10,000 for a Brazilian.

Obviously, as it is easier to come here, the drug gangs will educate people in other countries and market in other countries to see if they can get here.

Other comments that I learned at the border: We already, in this fiscal year, have 6,000 arrests. That is over twice the amount we had in the entire last fiscal year. And these are for very serious crimes.

I also want to point out that usually you frequently only know if somebody has committed a crime or if somebody is a criminal if they committed a crime in this country. You don't know if they are coming here to escape from another country. So, we are letting an increased number of a criminal class in this country.

It is estimated that 33 percent of the women who come to this country, on their way up, as they walk through Mexico, are abused. Some of these women may find they have to pay the

money they are supposed to give to the gangs by being trafficked, and that is a horrible thing. I don't know where these people are in this building who purport to be concerned about human trafficking, but one way women can pay their way, for their $5,000 or $8,000 or whatever, is obvious. The current system encourages that.

Another problem with it is when people cross the border, and it is a very mountainous border, whether you are in Arizona, whether you are in California, whether you are in New Mexico, you can wind up dehydrating to death. The drug gangs that show people how to get here do not take people necessarily all the way to civilization. They take them across the Mexican border, and they may say there is a town 10 miles that way or 15 miles that way. There may or may not be a town that close.

The Americans do put jugs of water out for people and hope they survive. But last year, in the Tucson sector alone, they found 100 people dehydrated to death, which is another problem that you have with this hodgepodge at the border.

Another problem that you find out is the children who come across the border, sometimes the children are people who are borrowed or rented or whatever from other people and are not related to the people who claim to be their parents or relatives in some fashion. Sometimes, we are able to identify that with DNA testing. Sometimes, we don't.

Children come up, maybe young children, even 7- or 8-year-old children, have fastened to their clothing who they are supposed to contact when they come here. The United States, under a bad court decision—in my opinion, a bad court decision—those children, rather than, say, being sent back to their parents in Honduras, may be sent to their supposed aunt or uncle in New York.

In the United States, when the children come to the border, they provide transportation to get those little kids to somewhere in the United States. The idea being that once one child comes here, eventually, the rest of the family is going to follow.

All the way across the board, we have a very dangerous situation. I implore the Biden administration to do something about this, and I implore the American public to get upset about this and demand that their Congressman does something.

I think the first thing we have to do is, of course, beg the Mexican Government to reinstate the migrant protection protocol, beg the Central American governments to reinstate the asylum cooperative agreements, and do what we can to immediately test for COVID the people coming across the border.

The next thing we have to do, Mr. President, is address the Vice President. The Vice President was appointed over 8 weeks ago now to be the czar for the southern border. I have been at the border three times this year. You do not know what is going on at the border unless you literally sit down, talk to the Border Patrol agents, talk to law enforcement of the counties that are on the border, talk to the ranchers who have to live with people crossing their land.

Clearly, Vice President Harris is not interested in finding these things out. I have made bad hires in my life. I have assigned people to jobs that maybe they couldn't do that well. I beg President Biden, who says he is a moderate, to find somebody else to be the border czar.

The current situation in which we have the number of people let in this country rocketing up is just unacceptable. If Ms. HARRIS, or Vice President Harris, can go 8 weeks without visiting the border, it clearly shows that she is insubordinate, is not interested in doing a good job. There must be somebody else in the Biden administration who can pick up the slack and express some interest in closing our border.

I should digress and point out that this does not mean we are anti-immigration. In 2019, almost 850,000 new citizens were sworn in, in this country. There are work visas, as well. There are plenty of ways to come into this country legally, but we do not need this massive sea of people coming here illegally.

Again, I implore the American public. When we see the Border Patrol touch 178,000 people a month, that is unacceptable. When we talk about 30,000 getaways, that is not acceptable. The numbers are going to continue to spiral up as we have had public comments from both the President and Vice President that indicate they are not interested in enforcing our laws.

□ 2120

Now I would like to touch briefly on another crisis that I hope the American public expresses their concern about during our 3-week recess.

There have always been people trying to destroy America. And America is such a hope for people all around the world, both our example and the fact that we do have many immigrants coming here. There have been various ideologies which have been used to overthrow our government, or change our government so it is no longer in accordance with our Constitution.

John Adams said our Constitution is fit for a moral and religious people and not fit for anyone else.

There was a time when Marxists traditionally felt they could destabilize the American population and that way have a rebellion in the United States. Eventually, they gave up hope on traditional Marxism, or at least gave up hope for a while.

The reason they gave up hope is, quite frankly, the American middle class was so prosperous. And in America you could find just by going to work, working hard, saving some money, you could buy a house bigger than what you would find in any other country. And as a result, the lure of Marxism, which took over in China—albeit with some mistakes made by the American Government—which took over in Russia, which took over in Cambodia, resulting in maybe over 100 million deaths of Marxists caused in other countries, not to mention the destruction of the churches, the destruction of the family. That failed.

More recently, the left-wingers in our university system has taken it upon themselves to talk about critical race theory. Now under classic Marxism, they try to take over by educating the American public that they should be bitter and angry, and they should want to revolt so that they could own the factories or own the big houses, and have a revolution that way.

The new effort is to try to create anger based on race, and they call it critical race theory. And they want to tell people that if you don't have all you have, it must be because of racism. If you don't have the nice house you want, if you don't have a big amount in your savings account, or whatever, that is the problem.

Recently, I ran into a little bit of what I will call critical race theory in one of my local high schools. In the high school, a teacher educated a class, which was devoted to racism, mentioned that in the past year, 4 percent of the kids in this high school were Black, and 20 percent of the kids who were arrested were Black. The teacher told the kids, of course, or implied to the kids that this was the result of racism.

There is a problem twice. First of all, you are educating people in the United States of America, which we have just covered, the whole rest of the world wants to get in here. You are educating kids that America is not worth preserving, America is not worth fighting for, America is a bad country.

Secondly, you educate people that if they are arrested for drugs, for fighting, what have you, or if the police interact with you, it is not a matter of you did something wrong, it is a matter of racism.

I can't think of any clearer way to make sure that people do not progress in our system than telling them that if they do something wrong, the punishment was not because they deserve the punishment, it was because of racism. But this is the mindset that is out there right now in our schools. It is the mindset that is out there in our large businesses and in our military.

I think people have to educate themselves as to what critical race theory is, because clearly, the goal of critical race theory is to make people not proud or not respect the United States and, furthermore, make people bitter and angry, and tell people rather than work hard—you work 45–50 hours a week, try to afford a house, try to have children, buy a car—it tells people if you don't have all you want, it is because of racism.

And there is no way teaching our young people that is going to lead to anything other than resentment and a great deal of unhappiness. I think it is obvious that America does not have the racist problems that other countries have. And I beg people to read about countries like India, countries like Somalia, where minor ethnic differences result in deaths, huge amounts of discrimination.

Here in the United States, in recent years, Asians, and before that, many other different so-called minority groups outdid financially—finances aren't everything—but financially exceeded the native-born.

We can see that America is not a racist country because I talked about, a second ago, people from all around the world are trying to get in here, and almost nobody ever wants to leave. So when it really comes to saying it is bad, no one wants to leave, but the whole rest of the world tries to come here, be it from Africa, be it from Latin America, be it from the Indian subcontinent, be it from Southeast Asia.

So many wonderful people come here. My district has a lot of Hmong who are tremendously successful, despite coming from a very different background, loving America, taking full advantage of the opportunities that are there.

However, if we let this pernicious ideology get in our schools and get in our businesses, it will be a success for the left-wing groups that have always wanted to destroy the special country that is America.

And I encourage parents and grandparents and employees to report or publicize when they are forced to put up with this stuff in the schools or in the businesses.

There is something for our wonderful American listeners to deal with over the next 3 weeks.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities towards the vice president.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker.

H.R, 941. An act to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 937—An Act to facilitate the expedited review of COVID–19 hate crimes, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 20, 2021, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–1220. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's proposed rule — Collateral Evaluation Requirements (RIN: 3052-AC94) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC–1221. A letter from the Senior Policy Analyst, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Concrete Masonry Products Research, Education and Promotion Order; Referendum Procedures [Docket No.: 210422-0086] (RIN: 0605-AA56) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1222. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Utah; R307-204 Emission Standards: Smoke Management [EPA-R08-OAR-2020-0541; FRL-10022-97-Region 8] received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1223. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Air Quality Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Louisiana; Control of Emissions From Existing Other Solid Waste Incineration Units [EPA-R06-OAR-2021-0059; FRL-10022-53-Region 6] received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1224. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Listing of Substitutes under the Significant New Alternatives Policy Program [EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0698; FRL-10020-41-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU81) received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1225. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (19-1.F) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2018-0777; FRL-10023-11] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1226. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Cape Girardeau, Missouri) [MB Docket No.: 21-50] (RM-11875) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1227. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Savannah, Georgia) [MB Docket No.: 21-57] (RM-11882) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1228. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.6622(i), Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Kearney, Nebraska) [MB Docket No.: 21-55] (RM-11880) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1229. A letter from the Program Analyst, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Department's final rule — Elimination of Termination Dates in Sections 76.64(l) and 76.65(f) of the Commission's Rules received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1230. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Audio Division, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — FCC Adopts 10-Application Limit for NCE FM New Stations in Upcoming 2021 Filing Window [MB Docket No.: 20-343] received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–1231. A letter from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Somalia Sanctions Regulations received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–1232. A letter from the Yeoman Petty Officer Second Class, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zone; San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2021-0133] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1233. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0982; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01037-T; Amendment 39-21478; AD 2021-07-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1234. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0182; Product Identifier 2020-NM-072-AD; Amendment 39-21474; AD 2021-06-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1235. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1112; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01127-T;

Amendment 39-21481; AD 2021-07-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1236. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0186; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01489-T; Amendment 39-21476; AD 2021-06-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1237. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0913; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00971-T; Amendment 39-21480; AD 2021-07-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1238. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0190; Project Identifier AD-2020-01348-T; Amendment 39-21479; AD 2021-07-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1239. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Yaborã Indústria Aeronáutica S.A. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Embraer S.A.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0253; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00220-T; Amendment 39-21491; AD 2021-07-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1240. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1114; Project Identifier 2019-SW-058-AD; Amendment 39-21443; AD 2021-04-21] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1241. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0912; Product Identifier 2015-SW-071-AD; Amendment 39-21492; AD 2021-07-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1242. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0909; Project Identifier 2019-SW-118-AD; Amendment 39-21458; AD 2021-05-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1243. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0801; Product Identifier 2019-SW-101-AD; Amendment 39-21472; AD 2021-06-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1244. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. (Type Certificate Previously Held by Agusta S.p.A.) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0797; Product Identifier 2018-SW-081-AD; Amendment 39-21464; AD 2021-05-21] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1245. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pratt & Whitney Division Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0901; Project Identifier AD-2020-00705-E; Amendment 39-21459; AD 2021-05-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1246. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft and Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0920; Project Identifier AD-2020-00662-R; Amendment 39-21462; AD 2021-05-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1247. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31361; Amdt. No.: 3949] received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1248. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31362 Amdt. No.: 3950] received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1249. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0917; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00606-A; Amendment 39-21467; AD 2021-06-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1250. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0831; Project Identifier 2019-CE-031-AD; Amendment 39-21471; AD 2021-06-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1251. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Robinson Helicopter Company Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0682; Product Identifier 2017-SW-028-AD; Amendment 39-21433; AD 2021-04-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1252. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1119; Project Identifier 2019-SW-089-AD; Amendment 39-21484; AD 2021-07-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1253. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Defense and Space S.A. (Formerly Known as Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1134; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01053-T; Amendment 39-21475; AD 2021-06-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1254. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate Previously Held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1138; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01258-E; Amendment 39-21488; AD 2021-07-11] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1255. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Pacific Scientific Company Seat Restraint System Rotary Buckle Assemblies [Docket No.: FAA- 2013-0752; Product Identifier 2009-SW-44-AD; Amendment 39-21490; AD 2021-07-13] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1256. A letter from the Management and Project Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1034; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00951-T; Amendment 39-21483; AD 2021-07-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1257. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0854; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01067-T; Amendment 39-21432; AD 2021-04-11]

(RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1258. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1173; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00299-R; Amendment 39-21489; AD 2021-07-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1259. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-0848; Product Identifier 2020-NM-088-AD; Amendment 39-21486; AD 2021-07-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1260. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.622(i), Post-Transition Table of DTV Allotments, Television Broadcast Stations (Lubbock, Texas) [MB Docket No.: 21-61] (RM-11885) received May 12, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–1261. A letter from the Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations and Security Standards, Office of the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Security Training for Surface Transportation Employees; Extension of Compliance Dates; Correcting Amendments [Docket No.: TSA-2015-0001] (RIN: 1652-AA55) received May 7, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. PELOSI:

H.R. 3325. A bill to award four congressional gold medals to the United States Capitol Police and those who protected the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEVIN of California:

H.R. 3326. A bill to promote the development of renewable energy on public lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NORMAN (for himself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. COMER, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. RICE of South Carolina):

H.R. 3327. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the temporary halt in pension payments for Members of Congress sentenced for certain offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HILL (for himself and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 3328. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to codify certain qualifications of individuals as accredited investors for purposes of the securities laws; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 3329. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to allow certain urbanized areas with a population of over 200,000 to be eligible under the small transit intensive cities formula, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GOSAR (for himself, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. LAMBORN):

H.R. 3330. A bill to promote the development of renewable energy on public lands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 3331. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to provide taxpayers with information regarding the Federal budget; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. AXNE (for herself, Mr. KHANNA, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 3332. A bill to provide assistance for the acquisition and preservation of manufactured housing communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. AXNE (for herself and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 3333. A bill to ensure that federally backed financing for the construction, rehabilitation, or purchase of manufactured home communities is available only for communities whose owner has implemented minimum consumer protections in the lease agreements with residents of all manufactured home communities owned by such owner, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. BOURDEAUX (for herself, Mrs. MCBATH, and Mr. GIMENEZ):

H.R. 3334. A bill to increase the project cap for certain small starts projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SALAZAR, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3335. A bill to amend the Wire Act to clarify that gambling on commercial greyhound racing and field coursing using wire communication technology is prohibited; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASE (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TRONE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. CHU, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 3336. A bill to exempt children of certain Filipino World War II veterans from the numerical limitations on immigrant visas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts (for herself, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mrs. HINSON):

H.R. 3337. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a Medicaid demonstration program to develop and advance innovative payment models for freestanding birth center services for women with a low-risk pregnancy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KHANNA, and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 3338. A bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to modify requirements with respect to whistleblower complaints made by employees of an Office of Inspector General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 3339. A bill to facilitate efficient investments and financing of infrastructure projects and new job creation through the establishment of a National Infrastructure Bank, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, Financial Services, Education and Labor, Natural Resources, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. LAMB, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 3340. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to allow airport projects to be eligible to participate in the TIFIA program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri (for himself, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BOST, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. GUEST, Mr. NEHLS, Ms. MACE, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Mrs. HARTZLER):

H.R. 3341. A bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HARDER of California (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. POCAN, and Mrs. MCCLAIN):

H.R. 3342. A bill to establish a competitive grant program to support out-of-school-time youth workforce readiness programs, providing employability skills development, career exploration, employment readiness training, mentoring, work-based learning, and workforce opportunities for eligible youth; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. HARTZLER (for herself, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BABIN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 3343. A bill to amend section 212 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to ensure that efforts to engage in espionage or technology transfer are considered in visa issuance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. COSTA, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. TURNER, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. COLE, Mr. CASE, Mr. MEIJER, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. TRONE, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 3344. A bill to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to improve the security of their telecommunications networks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio):

H.R. 3345. A bill to amend the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and title XIX of the Social Security Act to promote extended coverage of pregnant and postpartum women under the Medicaid program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KINZINGER:

H.R. 3346. A bill to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from regulating the rates charged for broadband internet access service; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. GALLEGO):

H.R. 3347. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a program relating to the acquisition or leasing of zero emission buses or bus facility improvements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H.R. 3348. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to allow payments under the Medicare program for certain items and services furnished by off-campus outpatient departments of a provider to be determined under the prospective payment system for hospital outpatient department services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 3349. A bill to increase for calendar years 2020 and 2021 the amount of the Federal share for disaster relief and emergency assistance for a local government with a population of less than 50,000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. MFUME, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Mr. PHILLIPS):

H.R. 3350. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase the Government-wide goal for the percentage of procurement contracts awarded to small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 3351. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to correct a legislative drafting error in such title, to eliminate the reduction in pay of a Federal employee or D.C. employee as a result of such employee serving as a member of the National Guard of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, and Mrs. HINSON):

H.R. 3352. A bill to address maternity care shortages and promote optimal maternity outcomes by expanding educational opportunities for midwives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RUSH (for himself, Mr. BURGESS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H.R. 3353. A bill to amend the Fairness to Contact Lens Consumers Act to modernize verification of contact lens prescriptions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ (for herself, Mr. LAHOOD, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. UPTON, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. POSEY, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KINZINGER, Ms. WATERS, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. COLE, Mr. SUOZZI, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KEATING, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 3354. A bill to provide better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their caregivers while accelerating progress toward prevention strategies, disease modifying treatments, and, ultimately, a cure; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 3355. A bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. NUNES, and Mr. MEEKS):

H.R. 3356. A bill to amend the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 to authorize the provision of payment to personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency who incur qualifying injuries to the brain, to authorize the provision of payment to personnel of the Department of State who incur similar injuries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SEWELL (for herself and Mr. SMITH of Missouri):

H.R. 3357. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for new markets tax credit investments in the Rural Jobs Zone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STAUBER:

H.R. 3358. A bill to clarify that employees may seek recourse from the National Labor Relations Board if discriminated against by an employer for participating in an unfair labor practice strike; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 3359. A bill to provide for a system for reviewing the case files of cold case murders at the instance of certain persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WEBSTER of Florida (for himself, Mr. LIEU, Mr. POSEY, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MAST, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. CROW):

H.R. 3360. A bill to amend and enhance the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act to improve the conservation of sharks; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. MAST, and Mr. MULLIN):

H.R. 3361. A bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to establish a United States Ambassador at Large for Arctic Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that all trade agreements the United States enters into, should provide reasonable access and collaboration of each nation involved in such an agreement, for the purpose of search and recovery activities relating to members of the United States Armed Forces missing in action from prior wars or military conflicts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCCARTHY (for himself, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. BABIN, Mr. DUNN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. SIMPSON):

H. Res. 414. A resolution directing the Attending Physician to take timely action to provide updated mask wearing guidance applicable to the Hall of the House of Representatives and committee meeting spaces for Members and staff who are vaccinated against Covid-19, consistent with the public guidance released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on May 13, 2021; to the Committee on House Administration; considered and laid on the table.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi (for himself and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas):

H. Res. 415. A resolution reaffirming United States-Uzbekistan relations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. BERA, and Mr. CHABOT):

H. Res. 416. A resolution recognizing the importance of the United States-Republic of Korea relationship to safeguarding peace, security, and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula, in the Indo-Pacific region, and beyond, and welcoming the visit of President Moon Jae-in to the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. PELOSI:

H.R. 3325.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. LEVIN of California:

H.R. 3326.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mr. NORMAN:

H.R. 3327.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. HILL:

H.R. 3328.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 3329.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GOSAR:

H.R. 3330.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

the Property Clause of the U.S. Constitution, Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2, which gives Congress authority over the lands, territories, or other property of the United States.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 3331.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

''The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.''

By Mrs. AXNE:

H.R. 3332.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. AXNE:

H.R. 3333.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. BOURDEAUX:

H.R. 3334.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States, which reads as follows: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 3335.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 3336.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts:

H.R. 3337.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 3338.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 3339.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution and its subsequent amendments and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 3340.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri:

H.R. 3341.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 3342.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const. art. I, Sec 8

By Mrs. HARTZLER:

H.R. 3343.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clause 4 and clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 3344.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

To regulate commerce with foreign nations

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 3345.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. KINZINGER:

H.R. 3346.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (Necessary and Proper Clause).

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington:

H.R. 3347.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. MCGOVERN:

H.R. 3348.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 3349.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3350.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 3351.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:

H.R. 3352.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. RUSH:

H.R. 3353.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ:

H.R. 3354.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 3355.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 3356.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Ms. SEWELL:

H.R. 3357.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. STAUBER:

H.R. 3358.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

To make all Laws which are necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. SWALWELL:

H.R. 3359.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. WEBSTER of Florida:

H.R. 3360.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. YOUNG:

H.R. 3361.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 19: Mr. KELLER, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 40: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.

H.R. 82: Mrs. TORRES of California.

H.R. 228: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. ISSA, Mr. CORREA, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. SPEIER.

H.R. 234: Ms. CHU.

H.R. 256: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 481: Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 501: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 671: Mr. COOPER.

H.R. 761: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 763: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 808: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 821: Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H.R. 862: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 869: Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Ms. WILD.

H.R. 890: Ms. JACOBS of California.

H.R. 959: Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 962: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 997: Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 1012: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 1025: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 1057: Mr. OWENS.
H.R. 1059: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 1096: Mr. SHERMAN and Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 1133: Mr. JACKSON, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 1155: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 1182: Ms. JAYAPAL and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 1183: Ms. JAYAPAL and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 1219: Mr. GUEST and Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 1282: Mr. LONG and Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 1321: Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 1331: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. KEATING, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 1332: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. LAMB, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. MEUSER, Ms. WILD, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. DELGADO, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. BUCK, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mrs. HARTZLER, and Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 1342: Mr. GAETZ.
H.R. 1344: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1348: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 1352: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 1361: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 1456: Mr. TRONE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SHERRILL, and Mr. JEFFRIES.
H.R. 1474: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. RUSH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 1485: Mr. WELCH, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 1512: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 1530: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 1577: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. HUDSON, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BUDD, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1650: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.
H.R. 1677: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 1684: Mr. VAN DREW, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 1748: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 1842: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 1854: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 1861: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 1913: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 1914: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 1916: Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. VAN DUYNE, and Mr. MEIJER.
H.R. 1918: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1977: Mr. BARR, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. COMER, and Mr. CARL.
H.R. 1986: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 2120: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 2141: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 2168: Mr. BANKS, Mrs. AXNE, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 2187: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 2198: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 2199: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 2210: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 2214: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 2222: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SARBANES, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 2234: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 2237: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 2238: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 2244: Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. POSEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. JACKSON, and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 2249: Mr. LEVIN of California.
H.R. 2288: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 2294: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 2318: Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 2363: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 2368: Ms. NORTON and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 2409: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 2447: Mr. LIEU, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. MACE, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 2469: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.R. 2486: Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 2596: Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 2682: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 2705: Mr. JACKSON and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 2734: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 2773: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. DELBENE, and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 2803: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 2833: Mr. SARBANES and Mr. MCEACHIN.
H.R. 2885: Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. NEHLS, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 2940: Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 2974: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 2991: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 3000: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 3011: Mr. GALLAGHER.
H.R. 3042: Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 3064: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 3093: Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 3104: Mr. BIGGS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. JACKSON.
H.R. 3109: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KILMER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 3110: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 3147: Mr. BANKS, Mr. JACKSON, and Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 3148: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. DONALDS, Mrs. CAMMACK, and Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 3150: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 3163: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 3166: Ms. PINGREE and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 3191: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WENSTRUP, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 3196: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 3235: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 3256: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.R. 3261: Ms. BASS and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 3263: Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 3264: Mrs. HARSHBARGER and Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 3267: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 3281: Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3283: Mr. KEATING, Ms. BASS, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H.R. 3285: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 3288: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 3295: Mr. TIFFANY, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 3307: Mr. NORMAN and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3321: Mr. REED.
H.J. Res. 11: Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH.
H. Con. Res. 7: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H. Con. Res. 34: Mr. BRADY and Mr. MOONEY.
H. Res. 114: Mr. KIND and Mrs. CAMMACK.
H. Res. 151: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H. Res. 153: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H. Res. 235: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H. Res. 240: Mr. WELCH.
H. Res. 283: Mr. MEUSER, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. CAWTHORN.
H. Res. 363: Ms. CRAIG.
H. Res. 396: Mr. GUEST, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. PALMER, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. WAGNER, Ms. STEFANIK, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, and Mr. MULLIN.
H. Res. 397: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H. Res. 402: Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. KEATING, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. ISSA, and Ms. BASS.
H. Res. 404: Mr. NEGUSE.