



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023

No. 89

## House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

### PRAYER

Dr. Michael T. Whitson, First Baptist Church Indian Trail, Indian Trail, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God and Heavenly Father, we acknowledge Your holiness, Your goodness, Your faithfulness, and Your undying love that forgives our transgressions. We confess before You our total inability to make ourselves righteous before You, and we bless You for providing a way of forgiveness and a path to know You.

Drawing from Your unfailing Word of the prayer of King Asa, a powerful King of long ago, who cried out to You and said: "Lord, there is no one like You to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, Lord our God, for we rely on You."

You established leaders over this Nation. May we acknowledge and recognize You as our only source of strength. Your Word convinces us that we can do nothing without You. Because of that, help us to totally trust You in all things. May Your cause be our cause.

We humbly ask in Your matchless name.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MAST 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.

### WELCOMING DR. MICHAEL T. WHITSON

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to introduce America to First Baptist Church Indian Trail in the person of Pastor Mike Whitson, who opened us in prayer.

Pastor Whitson celebrated this past month his 40th anniversary in the pulpit at First Baptist.

Indian Trail? You may ask, what is Indian Trail? It is a small town, I would say, immediately east of Charlotte, North Carolina, except that is not quite right. The mayor of Stallings, North Carolina, is in the gallery. Stallings is immediately east of Charlotte, and Indian Trail is immediately east of Stallings.

It is a small town, and in its midst, the institution of First Baptist Church has over 7,000 members. In the course of the pastorate of Mike Whitson, more than 7,000 people have been baptized, and they have two satellite campuses.

In 1992, they began the Metrolina Christian Academy, which now matriculates 1,477 students in one of the largest K-12 private schools in our State. There is ministry after ministry—to the county jail, a Russian language ministry. Where God undertakes to do His will, it can be in the most unexpected of places.

It was related in the church's celebration of Mike's pastorate and his 40th anniversary that, in the early days, Mike would surprise everyone,

certainly the men of the church, when he would bid them a farewell by saying: I love you.

At first, they were taken aback, but after a time, they began saying to Pastor Whitson: I love you.

That is what Pastor Whitson has meant, and the work of the Lord through him and in him is a masterful thing for the Nation to behold.

It is my honor to have had him here in the House Chamber today.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MAST). The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### RECOGNIZING MEMORIAL DAY

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Memorial Day.

Our Nation's greatness was earned by the sacrifices of a few so that freedom and liberty would come to all.

This weekend, we remember their sacrifices and their service. Every year on the last Monday of May, people across this Nation gather in town squares, at memorials, and in cemeteries of our fallen heroes to pay tribute to those who gave it all. This Nation is united by our liberties and freedoms that our men and women in uniform take an oath to protect and defend.

We will always honor our brothers and sisters who fought in battle to uphold our way of life, and we will never stop searching for those who are missing.

May God always carry them and all our servicemembers in the palm of His hand.

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

This Memorial Day, as we raise the Stars and Stripes, as we lay wreaths at monuments, memorials, and cemeteries, let us remember that our freedom is thanks to those who served and those who died in sacrifice.

#### CELEBRATING BEN TAUB HOSPITAL

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 60th anniversary of Ben Taub Hospital.

The Harris County hospital district was created in November 1965 by a voter referendum. The hospital district remains a leader in indigent care in my home State of Texas, and the center of the system is the acute trauma center at Ben Taub Hospital.

The hospital cares for more than 80,000 emergency patients each year who are in the most critical need. At Ben Taub, world-class doctors treat everyone regardless of their income, their gender, their insurance, or their immigration status.

The doctors, nurses, support staff, and administrators are not just well known and respected locally for their training and patient care but also internationally.

I am so grateful to have them serving my district and my constituents. I thank Ben Taub Hospital for 60 years of level one care, and may they have the best and most successful 60 more years to come.

#### PROTECTING INNOCENT LIVES FROM FENTANYL

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, the communities throughout the Sixth Congressional District of Virginia and, in fact, every community across our Nation are now border communities because of the deadly fentanyl pouring through our open borders under the failed leadership of President Joe Biden and Secretary Mayorkas.

Since October, Customs and Border Patrol agents have seized over 14,000 pounds of fentanyl, enough to kill over 3.1 billion people. Even in western Virginia, drug cartels have been caught smuggling rainbow-colored fentanyl with the intent of targeting our children.

Just last year, roughly 75,000 people died of drug overdoses from synthetic opioids, largely illicit fentanyl or fentanyl-related substances.

That is why, today, the House will be voting for the HALT Fentanyl Act because enough is enough.

This legislation would raise penalties for fentanyl traffickers under the Controlled Substances Act, support research to understand the devastating

mental health effects of fentanyl-related substances, and supply law enforcement with the resources needed to keep this drug off our streets.

While our President has no plans to fix open borders or stop deadly fentanyl from being smuggled into our interior, the House will take action today to protect innocent lives by passing this important legislation.

#### DEFAULT'S EFFECTS ON VETERANS

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, meet Celly, a constituent of mine living in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago.

He is an Army veteran and a cancer survivor, and he has received 100 percent disabled veterans benefits due to his trauma as he was serving for us in the service. He is currently enrolled in a VA program to become a paralegal.

Celly called my office because he was worried. He was concerned that the veterans benefits that he relies upon could be snatched away by the Republican default. That is a real possibility.

His VA benefits cover his rent, his medication, and his treatments.

#### VETERANS' HEALTHCARE NOT UP FOR DEBATE

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I call on my Republican colleagues to stop threatening to default on America's bills if we don't agree to their absurd demands to immediately cut \$2 billion from veterans' healthcare programs.

Last week, I spoke to Piscataway American Legion Commander Ron Veliky, who told me: "The medical needs of veterans should not be up for debate."

Mr. Speaker, I couldn't agree more. This Memorial Day weekend, our veterans and our seniors shouldn't have to worry about Republican demands that will cut their healthcare benefits or jeopardize their Social Security benefits.

As we honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice on Memorial Day, I hope my Republican colleagues are inspired to join Democrats in committing to pay our Nation's bills.

#### RESOLVE THE DEBT CEILING

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

Mr. BERNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because of my concern that, in less than 1 week, the United States of

America may default on its debt and its obligations.

I know we all want to get home for Memorial Day. We want to celebrate and honor our fallen heroes, the men and women who have served our country. The best way for us to honor those heroes and the best way for us to honor the American public is to pass the debt ceiling.

That is what we do. We teach our kids to pay their debts, and we teach families to pay their debts. That is what we ought to do.

I am all for negotiating spending cuts, but that is what a budget negotiation is for, not a debt ceiling to pay our debt.

Let's honor our veterans and honor our fallen heroes at Memorial Day parades. Let's stay here, get this done, and fly home to celebrate and honor Memorial Day and honor our veterans. Let's get this done.

#### GOP IS HOLDING AMERICAN ECONOMY HOSTAGE

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, Republicans packed their expensive suits and dresses this morning, and they are leaving town.

The American economy is being held hostage by Republicans as they try to push their harmful agenda to strip millions of dollars from Americans and the benefits they rely on.

In my home State of New York, the default on America bill could strip 2.3 million people of health insurance.

The default on America bill would also strip nutrition programs from 126,000 women, infants, and children in New York State.

The GOP plan to impose work requirements for SNAP recipients would also burden those recipients with useless paperwork while doing absolutely nothing to lower reliance on safety net programs.

Republicans are trying to strip benefits from the American people. They are trying to pull the wool over our eyes.

This is the default on America act working against America.

#### HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania). Pursuant to House Resolution 429 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 467.

Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) kindly take the chair.

□ 0914

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole

House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 467) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes, with Mr. MAST (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. MILLER OF OHIO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 118-76.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment made in order by the rule.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 19, line 5, strike “1 year of” and insert “6 months after”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 429, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Chair, the HALT Fentanyl Act is one of the most important pieces of legislation this body could possibly address.

We all understand something must be done to stop this deadly drug from killing more of our loved ones. I do not believe our communities that are being ravaged by fentanyl can wait long while this important legislation is implemented.

That is why I am offering this simple amendment to speed up the process of rulemaking by the Attorney General.

My amendment will cut the timeline for interim final rulemaking by the Attorney General in half. I repeat, in half.

Law enforcement needs these tools to keep our community safe, and my amendment seeks to save lives across our country by requiring the Attorney General to expedite the rulemaking process while allowing enough time for sound policymaking.

Fentanyl is killing far too many people year after year in Ohio. In March alone, 130 people died from fentanyl overdoses just in Cuyahoga County.

We must come together here in Congress to address this with the urgency that it needs. Focusing on substance use disorder treatments and harm reduction techniques alone will not address the unique threat posed by fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances that can kill a person instantly when laced with other substances or pills. We must keep Americans safe.

I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support my amendment.

Mr. Chair, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON).

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I support Mr. MILLER's amendment, which would require the Attorney General to issue interim final rules to implement this act 6 months after the date of enactment.

Fentanyl-related substances will still be permanently placed in schedule I immediately. They should be placed there.

This amendment would accelerate the timeline for which the Attorney General would be required to issue the interim final rule and, therefore, speed up the implementation process.

I believe this amendment improves the bill and is necessary, especially at a time when fentanyl has become the leading cause of death for 18- to 45-year-olds.

I urge a “yes” vote on this amendment.

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman from Indiana for his support.

Last month, in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, law enforcement confiscated rainbow fentanyl, which is designed to resemble candy and this deadly drug is marketed to children. Simply put, this is death disguised as candy.

Just last month, local law enforcement, the DEA, and the United States District Attorney's Office busted an organized drug trafficking ring involving 18 individuals who were involved in the distribution of fentanyl across the communities I represent in Ohio's Seventh Congressional District.

Mr. Chair, once again, I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. MILLER).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. MILLS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 118-76.

Mr. MILLS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment made in order by the rule.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 6, line 5, insert after “Human Services” the following: “, the Department of Defense.”.

Page 6, line 10, insert after “Human Services” the following: “, the Department of Defense.”.

Page 8, line 7, insert after “Human Services” the following: “, the Department of Defense.”.

Page 10, line 12, insert after the first period the following:

“(7) INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall complete a study, and submit a report thereon, about research described in paragraph (2) of this subsection with fentanyl.”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 429, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. MILLS. Mr. Chair, today I stand before you to emphasize the critical need for the Department of Defense's involvement in fentanyl research.

My amendment would include the Department of Defense in the list of eligible agencies that qualify for the expedited procedures on fentanyl research.

The Department of Defense has several existing research programs involving fentanyl, and considering that today's servicemembers are tomorrow's veterans, there is no reason why the DOD should be ineligible for these expedited processes.

Not only should this bill be directed at our veterans but the brave men and women who serve on Active Duty and are also susceptible to injuries that are routinely prescribed opioids as the treatment. As we all know, this can lead to serious addictions.

My amendment would ensure that the DOD is included in the research and reporting process of fentanyl and its effects.

As someone who was blown up twice overseas and was a combat medic, I know firsthand the pain and the injuries that the brave men and women in uniform can sustain.

Common combat injuries can include second and third degree burns, spinal cord injuries, broken bones, limb loss, paralysis, and sharpened wounds.

As we face this ever-growing crisis, it is imperative that our military actively participate in fentanyl research for several compelling reasons.

By actively participating in fentanyl research, the DOD can make significant strides in addressing the opioid crisis within the ranks and improving the quality of healthcare provided through TRICARE to our brave servicemembers.

Allow me to share some of these alarming statistics concerning the use of opioids among our Active Duty personnel.

According to a study conducted by the Defense Health Agency, between the years of 2012 and 2017, the rate of opioid prescriptions within the military healthcare system has increased by a staggering 56 percent.

This trend is deeply concerning as it highlights the potential risks and challenges faced by our servicemembers when it comes to opioid misuse and addiction.

It is crucial to recognize that the DOD has a responsibility to ensure the physical and mental well-being of our military personnel.

Engaging in fundamental research will allow the DOD to gain a deeper understanding of the specific challenges faced by Active Duty servicemembers regarding opioid usage.

By providing the necessary support and resources to combat opioid addiction, the Department of Defense can empower our servicemembers to overcome this critical challenge and continue to fulfill their duties with resilience and strength.

This research can lead to the development of new and innovative therapies, improved access to treatment resources, and more comprehensive addiction prevention programs for servicemembers abroad.

It is essential to note that by prioritizing fentanyl research, the Department of Defense demonstrates its commitment to the overall well-being of our Active Duty personnel.

By addressing the fentanyl and opioid crisis proactively, they will not only protect the lives and health of our servicemembers but also foster a culture of support and understanding within our military communities.

This, in turn, contributes to the overall readiness and effectiveness of our Armed Forces, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, this amendment will provide clarity that research conducted by the Department of Defense is included in the research registration process outlined in the bill.

It also requires the Office of the Inspector General at the Department of Justice to study and report on its findings.

The research provisions in the HALT Fentanyl Act align the research registration process for schedule I drugs with those of schedule II.

This is imperative for the research community to better understand how certain schedule I drugs affect people's health.

This amendment strengthens the bill, and I urge a "yes" vote on this amendment.

Mr. MILLS. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLS).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MS. PETTERSEN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in House Report 118-76.

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following section:

**SEC. 7. CONTINGENT EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The provisions of this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not take effect until the Secretary of Health and Human Services and Attorney General of the United States each certify that such provisions will lead to a reduction in overdose deaths.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 429, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. PETTERSEN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment, which would require a certification from the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General that this legislation would reduce opioid overdose deaths.

The reason why this is so critical is because we are facing a public health crisis, and it deserves a public health response.

The current legislation is incredibly problematic for the very harmful mandatory minimum sentences that would be enacted and would be very hard to actually address and change in the future.

This is deeply personal for me. Like so many Americans, my mom has struggled with an opioid addiction. When I was just 6 years old, she hurt her back, and she came home with bottles and bottles of opioids.

Unfortunately, after her back healed, my mom found herself physically addicted to opioids. Like so many Americans, she was cut off of her prescription without access to treatment. My mom said that you fear nothing more than withdrawal, even death.

Like so many people who struggle with addiction who don't have access to treatment, she turned to using heroin to stay well.

Ultimately, fentanyl came into the supply chain. It started coming in in 2016. We saw it hit the coasts first and make its way into Colorado. Now we have seen it completely take over the drug supply chain.

I know firsthand how absolutely devastating this drug can be for families. My mom overdosed 20 times that year.

In my fight to keep her alive, I saw firsthand how broken the system was. I am one of the lucky ones because I was in a position, as a State legislator, where I could advocate for my mom to get her the help that she needed.

After being churned in and out of ERs, my mom ultimately was able to recover. She has now been in recovery for 5½ years and is an example of what is possible when we give people the help that they need.

I absolutely want the person who was my mom's dealer, who would show up to the hospital and put heroin mixed with fentanyl in her IV, I want that person to go to jail for a very long time.

If my mom had a mandatory jail sentence, that would have been a death sentence for her and for far too many people out there.

We are facing a third wave of the opioid epidemic. It has killed more people than all of the world wars combined.

It is important that we address this, that it is an all-hands-on-deck to address it at every level, including additional screening at the ports and the border; additional screening for mail, where we know it is coming in; public awareness campaigns about the dangers of taking just one pill with kids who are buying it from social media companies, unknowingly, and dying from an overdose; accountability with these social media companies on how we are going to work together to ensure that kids are not able to buy this on their platforms; increasing access to residential treatment and recovery

services like my mom had that are far too often not available for those who are struggling with a brain disease.

Mr. Chair, I absolutely care deeply about this issue. I look forward to working with all of my colleagues on it, but this is not the right answer, and that is why this amendment is so important. I ask for your support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0930

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First of all, I thank the gentlewoman for sharing her story. These are stories from across America. I empathize with her story, and I am thankful that her mother is in recovery.

Mr. Chair, this amendment would prevent the underlying bill from taking effect until the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General each certify that this bill will lead to a reduction in overdose deaths.

In 2021, nearly 108,000 people died of drug overdoses, 71,000 of which were from synthetic opioids, including fentanyl or fentanyl-related substances. That equates to nearly 200 fentanyl-related deaths per day.

This amendment is a poison pill that would allow the Biden administration to indefinitely delay the permanent scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, which means after the temporary scheduling order expires at the end of 2024, if HHS or the AG has chosen not to act, these fentanyl-related substances could become street legal.

Mr. Chair, I don't want to take that chance. Permanently placing fentanyl-related substances into schedule I is the Drug Enforcement Administration's top legislative priority.

The numbers are heartbreaking. We need to act now to pass the HALT Fentanyl Act to keep fentanyl-related substances off our streets and out of our communities.

In terms of further steps to address overdose deaths, I am glad the Energy and Commerce Committee has led the way and will continue to do so.

Last Congress, the House passed legislation with broad bipartisan support to reauthorize many key use disorder and treatment programs. This summer Energy and Commerce plans to examine the impact of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, passed with broad bipartisan support 5 years ago, to address the opioid crisis.

However, we don't need to wait. Let's pass the HALT Fentanyl Act now, which adds fentanyl-related substances to schedule I upon passage rather than ceding authority to the Biden administration on when this should be effective.

Mr. Chair, I urge a "no" vote on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Chair, this is important because if we are trying to

solve the overdose crisis in our country, let's make sure that this legislation is actually supported in doing that and go through the necessary process.

We know from our history in the United States that putting people in jail, mandatory minimum sentences, has devastating consequences. This is a public health crisis. We need to come together to address it like that. We need to go after the cartels. We need to go after the dealers. We need to make sure that we are supporting people who are struggling with addiction. I ask for your support.

Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, again, we need to implement the HALT Fentanyl Act now. Any further delay, including the Biden administration slow-walking its implementation, is unacceptable. I again urge a "no" vote on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. PETTERSEN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado will be postponed.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MILLS) having assumed the chair, Mr. MAST, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 467) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 36 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 0944

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MILLS) at 9 o'clock and 44 minutes a.m.

## HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 429 and rule

XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 467.

Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) kindly resume the chair.

□ 0945

## IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 467) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes, with Mr. MAST (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 3, printed in House Report 118-76 offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. PETTERSEN), had been postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MS. PETTERSEN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 3, printed in House Report 118-76 offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. PETTERSEN), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

## RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 190, noes 233, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 236]

AYES—190

Adams	Courtney	Himes	McClellan	Pettersen	Strickland
Aguilar	Crockett	Horsford	McCoilum	Phillips	Swalwell
Allred	Crow	Houlahan	McGarvey	Pingree	Sykes
Balint	Davis (IL)	Hoyer	McGovern	Plaskett	Takano
Barragán	Davis (NC)	Hoyle (OR)	Menendez	Pocan	Thanedar
Beatty	Dean (PA)	Huffman	Meng	Porter	Thompson (CA)
Bera	DeGette	Ivey	Mfume	Ramirez	Thompson (MS)
Bishop (GA)	DeLauro	Jackson (IL)	Moore (WI)	Raskin	Titus
Blumenauer	DeBene	Jackson (NC)	Morelle	Ross	Tlaib
Blunt Rochester	Deluzio	Jacobs	Moskowitz	Ruiz	Tokuda
Bonamici	DeSaunier	Jayapal	Moulton	Ruppertsberger	Tonko
Boyle (PA)	Dingell	Jeffries	Mrvan	Salinan	Torres (CA)
Brown	Doggett	Johnson (GA)	Nadler	Sánchez	Torres (NY)
Brownley	Escobar	Kamager-Dove	Neal	Scanlon	Trahan
Budzinski	Eshoo	Kaptur	Neguse	Schakowsky	Trone
Carbajal	Espallat	Keating	Nickel	Schneider	Underwood
Cárdenas	Evans	Kelly (IL)	Nocross	Scholten	Vasquez
Carson	Fletcher	Khanna	Norton	Scott (VA)	Veasey
Carter (LA)	Foster	Kildee	Ocasio-Cortez	Scott, David	Velázquez
Cartwright	Foushee	Kilmer	Omar	Sewell	Wasserman
Casar	Frankel, Lois	Kim (NJ)	Pallone	Sherman	Waters
Case	Frost	Krishnamoorthi	Pappas	Sherrill	Watson Coleman
Casten	Gallego	Kuster	Pascrall	Slotkin	Wexton
Castor (FL)	Garamendi	Larsen (WA)	Payne	Smith (WA)	Wild
Castro (TX)	Garcia (IL)	Larson (CT)	Pelosi	Soto	Williams (GA)
Cherifius-	Garcia (TX)	Lee (CA)	Peltola	Stansbury	Wilson (FL)
Mccormick	Garcia, Robert	Lee (NV)	Higgins (NY)	Peters	
Chu	Goldman (NY)	Leger Fernandez	McBath		
Clark (MA)	Gomez	Levin			
Clarke (NY)	Gonzalez,	Lieu			
Cleaver	Vicente	Lofgren			
Clyburn	Green, Al (TX)	Lynch			
Cohen	Grijalva	Magaziner			
Connolly	Harder (CA)	Manning			
Correa	Hayes	Matsui			
Costa	Higgins (NY)	McBath			

## NOES—233

Aderholt	Finstad	Lee (PA)
Alford	Fischbach	Lesko
Allen	Fitzgerald	Letlow
Amodei	Fitzpatrick	Loudermilk
Armstrong	Fleischmann	Lucas
Arrington	Flood	Luetkemeyer
Babin	Foxx	Luttrell
Bacon	Franklin, C.	Mace
Baird	Scott	Malliotakis
Balderson	Fry	Mann
Banks	Fulcher	Massie
Barr	Gaetz	Mast
Bean (FL)	Gallagher	McCarthy
Bentz	Garbarino	McCaul
Bergman	Garcia, Mike	McClain
Bice	Gimenez	McClintock
Biggs	Golden (ME)	McCormick
Bilirakis	Gonzales, Tony	McHenry
Bishop (NC)	González-Colón	Meuser
Boebert	Good (VA)	Miller (IL)
Bost	Gooden (TX)	Miller (OH)
Bowman	Gosar	Miller (WV)
Brecheen	Gottheimer	Miller-Meeks
Buchanan	Granger	Mills
Buck	Graves (LA)	Molinaro
Bucshon	Graves (MO)	Moolenaar
Burchett	Green (TN)	Moore (AL)
Burgess	Greene (GA)	Moore (UT)
Burlison	Griffith	Moran
Bush	Grothman	Murphy
Calvert	Guest	Nehls
Cammack	Guthrie	Newhouse
Caraveo	Hageman	Norman
Carey	Harris	Nunn (IA)
Carl	Harshbarger	Obernolte
Carter (GA)	Hern	Owens
Carter (TX)	Higgins (LA)	Palmer
Chavez-DeRemer	Hill	Panetta
Cole	Hinson	Pence
Collins	Cloud	Perez
Comer	Clyde	Perry
Craig	Crane	Pfluger
Crane	Crawford	Posey
Davidson	Crenshaw	Pressley
Johnson (LA)	De La Cruz	Reschenthaler
Johnson (OH)	DesJarlais	Rodgers (WA)
Johnson (SD)	Diaz-Balart	Rogers (AL)
Johnson (SD)	Davids (KS)	Rogers (MS)
Johnson (WV)	Donalds	Rutherford
Johnson (WV)	Davidson	Ryan
Johnson (WV)	Kean (NJ)	Rosendale
Johnson (WV)	Duncan	Rosie
Johnson (WV)	La Cruz	Rouzer
Johnson (WV)	Levins	Salazar
Johnson (WV)	Ells	Scalise
Johnson (WV)	Ells	Schrier
Johnson (WV)	La Hood	Schweikert
Johnson (WV)	La Lota	Scott, Austin
Johnson (WV)	La Malfa	Self
Johnson (WV)	Lamborn	Sessions
Johnson (WV)	Landsman	Simpson
Johnson (WV)	Langworthy	Smith (MO)
Johnson (WV)	Latta	Smith (NE)
Johnson (WV)	La Turner	Smucker
Johnson (WV)	Lawler	Sorensen
Johnson (WV)	Ferguson	Spartz



House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 901

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 901.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is accepted.

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE TOM SAWYER

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with our Ohio Buckeye colleagues, to solemnly honor a former colleague and well-regarded Ohio public servant, Congressman Tom Sawyer, from the city of Akron. Sadly, Tom passed away this week, on May 23, 2023, at 77 years of age, after prolonged illness.

Our hearts and prayers go out to his beloved wife, Joyce, cherished daughter Amanda, their family and friends, and all people with whom Tom worked and served.

Tom was a dedicated public servant, very dignified and steady, a measured and enlightened man. He attained many elected positions as a senior officeholder, serving in broad-ranging capacities at the local, State, and national levels for 40 years.

Prior to Congress, he was elected as a member of the Ohio House of Representatives. He was elected mayor of Akron in 1983 and then was elected to Congress in 1987, serving 16 years, a total of eight terms, until 2003.

Tom was very passionate about education. He dedicated his honorable service on behalf of the people of Akron, of Ohio, and of the American public at large.

Following his congressional service, he served on the Ohio State Board of Education and then for nearly a decade more in the Ohio Senate.

Together, let us celebrate the life of Tom Sawyer, honorable public servant, loyal son of Ohio, and enlightened man with a fine mind, an easy, broad smile, and a mellow voice of certitude.

Now, please let me yield to our new Ohio colleague from Akron, Ohio, Congresswoman EMILIA SYKES, to share her recollections and words about her hometown predecessor, the Honorable Tom Sawyer.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. SYKES).

Mrs. SYKES. Madam Speaker, today, we honor a former Member of this body, a lifelong servant to the people of Akron and Summit County, and my friend, Tom Sawyer.

Tom died this week following a long illness, and I first want to extend my

sincere and deepest sympathies to his wife, Joyce, his daughter Amanda, and all who knew and loved him.

In 1986, then-city of Akron Mayor Tom Sawyer launched his campaign for Congress. A constituent shared with me that my father was at that announcement, but he had to leave early to meet my mother, who was at the hospital after she had just delivered me. We were on our way home.

Tom was the last person from Akron to serve in this body of Congress, and I am honored to follow in his footsteps and his legacy as a Member of Congress from the city of Akron, the Birthplace of Champions, of course.

Tom was born and raised in our hometown of Akron, and he dedicated his life to our community through nearly 50 years of service, including as an English teacher, mayor of Akron, State representative, State school board member, and Congressperson serving in this Chamber.

A proud graduate of Buchtel High School and the University of Akron, Tom was a champion for our school system and made it his mission to ensure every student in northeast Ohio had access to high-quality education and an opportunity to succeed.

While we were members of the Ohio State legislature, I had the opportunity to work alongside Tom to represent the city of Akron and watched his commitment to the people of our community. He was a staunch advocate for Medicaid expansion, our public schools, and ending partisan gerrymandering.

In fact, Tom and I were also neighbors. We lived on the same street, and we served each other in the legislature, yet we were represented by two different Members of Congress.

I will sincerely miss my friend, my mentor, my neighbor, and a true, dedicated public servant, Tom Sawyer.

Without a doubt, former Congressman Sawyer left a mark on Akron, the State of Ohio, and this country. His impact will always be felt in these Halls and the city of Akron and across the country.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I now ask our House colleagues to join us in a moment of silence to remember our former colleague, Tom Sawyer.

#### RECOGNIZING JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

(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. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jewish American Heritage Month.

The Jewish-American community has played a critical part in shaping American culture and history since the country's inception. The Jewish community in my home district has strong roots, going back all the way to when Georgia was first founded as a colony.

In Savannah, Georgia, you can find Congregation Mickve Israel, or the

Hope of Israel, which is one of the oldest synagogues in the United States and the first synagogue built in Georgia.

Historic communities like the Hope of Israel synagogue highlight the importance of Jewish-American communities in Georgia's past, as well as how they continue to impact Georgia today.

It is a pleasure to be able to honor the Jewish-American community that has had such a big impact on both Georgia's and America's history.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I am joined by over 80 of my Democratic colleagues to say the quiet part out loud: MAGA Republicans want us to default. They want to run out the clock. They want to lead our government by chaos.

By sending us home, by refusing to do their jobs, they are making that crystal clear.

Unless we give in to devastating cuts, they will push us into a devastating default.

It is the American people who will suffer—teachers, seniors, kids, families, veterans, the hungry, and the sick.

To my Republican colleagues this Memorial Day weekend: It is time to be a patriot. Now is the time to sign our discharge petition and end this catastrophe in the making.

#### HONORING OSSINING PADRES HISPANOS

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

Mr. LAWLER. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor Ossining Padres Hispanos, a lifeline for the local Latino community, and its executive director, Ana Guzman, who immigrated to the United States from Ecuador 33 years ago.

Born from a simple Facebook group that translated school updates, Padres Hispanos has evolved into a vital community resource, serving thousands with food, clothes, language classes, workplace training, and critical classes on legal, financial, and immigration matters.

Just this past weekend, I joined Ana and community residents at Ossining Padres Hispanos to celebrate the graduation of their home health aide program, with over 30 people now joining the ranks of this critical workforce that helps our seniors age in place gracefully.

Clad in orange, symbolizing hope and energy, Ana and her team stand as a beacon of resilience, inclusivity, and solidarity in Ossining and across Westchester County.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Ossining Padres Hispanos and Ana for

their relentless commitment to our community's welfare. I thank them for making Ossining a better place for all.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. AGUILAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the veterans, public schoolteachers, and seniors in my district. These are the hostages the most extreme members of the Republican Conference have bragged about.

We are on the verge of a Republican-led default because the people calling the shots in this Chamber are the same people who want cuts to veterans' healthcare and manufacturing jobs.

These draconian cuts will have a direct impact on my community in the Inland Empire and the State of California.

In my district alone, approximately 6,900 jobs could be wiped out, Social Security payments for 58,000 families will be jeopardized, and the retirement savings for 81,500 people could disappear.

In the State of California, approximately 4 million people could lose health insurance, and housing costs will increase for 83,200 people.

This is unacceptable, and Americans deserve better.

House Republicans need to drop their ransom note and come to their senses so we can avoid a devastating default and put the American people first.

□ 1045

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF USMC MAJOR MEGAN McCLUNG

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of U.S. Marine Corps Major Megan McClung from Mission Viejo in my district. She was the first female Marine Corps officer to be killed in the Iraq war. She was also the first woman graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy to be killed in action.

Major McClung's headstone reads: "Be brief. Be bold. Be gone."

While she left us too soon, she had a life well lived and made a lasting impact.

If marines didn't know her, they knew of her. She was an avid marathon runner and triathlete. Her contagious personality, tenacity, and fiery red hair are remembered by all.

This week, I introduced a bipartisan bill to rename the Mission Viejo Post Office in her honor.

We can never fully repay our fallen heroes and their families, but I hope this will help preserve her story for future generations.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with 80 of my Democratic colleagues to demand that Republicans do their job, do the right thing, and pay America's bills.

My colleagues on this side of the aisle are here to do the people's business.

Where are Republicans? They have rushed out of town as America speeds toward economic catastrophe. Why? It is because they know they have forced a dangerous and false choice on the American people to either impose draconian and cruel cuts that will hurt American families, America's veterans, and American seniors or a devastating and catastrophic default.

Mr. Speaker, this is an unacceptable choice. It is time for House Republicans to get serious.

House Democrats are here united, just as we were at the beginning of this year and just as we will be throughout this legislative Congress to do the people's business.

It is time for Republicans to do the same.

#### COMMEMORATING 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

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

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 77th anniversary of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's Independence Day.

America and Jordan have a long history of friendship and cooperation after establishing diplomatic relations in 1949. Jordan plays a vital role in advancing peace, stability, and moderation in the Middle East.

I recently visited Jordan. In fact, I had the honor of being flown by Jordan's first-ever female helicopter pilot. On that same visit, King Abdullah graciously hosted our delegation and took us to the holy site where Jesus was baptized on the east bank of the Jordan River.

Jordan is a shining example of tolerance, with traditions of hospitality between all religions. This visit was especially moving, and it was an experience I will remember for the rest of my life.

It is especially meaningful to me personally as I married into a Jordanian-American family, the Nesheiwats, who immigrated to America from their ancestral home of Salt through Ellis Island.

We look forward to returning to Jordan soon to baptize our newborn son, Arman.

I wish King Abdullah and the Jordanian people a happy Independence Day, and I remain committed to supporting the friendship and partnership between our two countries.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. McCOLLUM asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to House Republicans' lack of good faith negotiations to avoid a devastating default on our Nation's debt.

The Congressional Budget Office shows that extending the Trump tax cuts would add \$3.5 trillion to the deficit. Yet, House Republican leaders have introduced legislation to make these tax cuts for the rich permanent and increase the Federal deficit, while at the same time they are holding our economy hostage by demanding disastrous funding cuts to air traffic and rail safety.

As we approach Memorial Day, Republicans are breaking the promise to our veterans.

President Biden already lowered the deficit by \$1.7 trillion. His budget would cut the deficit by another \$3 trillion by eliminating wasteful spending on Big Oil and Big Pharma, closing tax loopholes for corporations, and ensuring everyone pay their fair share.

House Republicans created this crisis, and they can prevent this devastating default.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD a report from the Senate Committee on the Budget.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

[From U.S. Senate Committee on the Budget, May 16, 2023]

EXTENDING TRUMP TAX CUTS WOULD ADD \$3.5 TRILLION TO THE DEFICIT, ACCORDING TO CBO  
NEW REPORT FINDS REPUBLICANS' GIVEAWAYS TO THE WEALTHY AND LARGE CORPORATIONS ARE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE COSTLY THAN PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED

WASHINGTON, D.C.—According to a report released today by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), extending the Trump tax cuts would add \$3.5 trillion to the deficit through 2033.

Written at the urging of Senator WHITEHOUSE (D-RI), Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, and Senator WYDEN (D-OR), Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the new report finds the Republicans' policy priority is a half a trillion dollars more costly than previously estimated. House Republicans' legislation to make permanent the Trump tax cuts—and blow up the federal deficit—comes at the same time they are holding the federal debt limit hostage to extract disastrous spending cuts to programs and services like veterans' support, opioid treatment, law enforcement, and affordable energy.

The new report comes the day before a Senate Budget Committee hearing on how the Bush and Trump tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations have driven recent and projected federal deficits. They have been the largest driver of deficits over the past two decades and account for 57 percent of the increase in the debt-to-GDP ratio since 2001.

MAGA Republicans don't give a d--- about the deficit, and today's estimate of the cost of kickbacks for their friends and donors is further proof," said Senator Whitehouse. "Republicans racked up the national debt by giving tax breaks to their billionaire buddies, and now they want everyone else to pay

for them. It is one of life's great enigmas that Republicans can keep a straight face while they simultaneously cite the deficit to extort massive spending cuts to critical programs and support a bill that would blow up deficits to extend trillions in tax cuts for the people who need them the least.

Three and a half trillion dollars is an eye-popping long-term price tag for the Trump tax law that Republicans swore up and down would pay for itself," Wyden said. "Republicans who say they're worried about the deficit have brought our economy on the brink of default, and yet they want to run up the debt by locking in the Trump tax law that remains horribly skewed toward corporations and the wealthy. The Republican game plan is clear. For every penny they give in tax handouts to the rich, down the road they're going to demand equivalent cuts that boot people off their health care, increase child hunger, and raise the cost of living for typical Americans.

According to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, extending the Trump tax cuts would create a windfall for the top 5 percent of income earners, who would receive nearly 40 percent of the benefits in the first year alone, making this legislation one of the most regressive and expensive tax giveaways in history. The average taxpayer in the top 1 percent would save nearly \$26,000 in just that first year.

CBO's previous cost estimate for extending the Trump tax cuts was \$3 trillion through 2032, but the 10-year budget window now includes more years post-expiration. The new estimate is part of a larger report analyzing alternative assumptions about spending and revenues. It also includes a projection that permanently extending the enhancements made to the Affordable Care Act's premium tax credits—originally enacted in 2021's American Rescue Plan Act and extended through 2025 by 2022's Inflation Reduction Act—would cost \$300 billion, a fraction of the cost of extending the Trump tax cuts.

#### HONORING OUR COMMITMENTS TO OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank this body for passing my bill, the Streamlining Aviation for Eligible Veterans Act, or SAFE Veterans Act, as part of the VET-TEC reauthorization bill that the House passed this week.

This bill will make a meaningful contribution to allowing more of our veterans to receive vocational flight training and enter our Nation's workforce as pilots following their service in our military.

Madam Speaker, in 1980, over two-thirds of our Nation's pilots were veterans. Today, that number is less than 30 percent. This bill will not only ameliorate that situation but also help us honor the commitment that we have made to those who served in our Armed Forces.

Madam Speaker, I urge its passage in the Senate and its transmittal to the President, and I thank this body for supporting it.

#### REPUBLICAN DEFAULT CRISIS: VETERANS

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

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, this weekend, our Nation will solemnly observe Memorial Day to honor our fallen heroes and their families.

Instead of this honoring of our veterans, shamefully, the Republicans across the aisle will spend the weekend working to impose suffering on our valiant veterans.

The Republicans have forced Americans down a treacherous path to accept their extreme proposal, which would eliminate 30 million health visits for our veterans and slash revenues at the VA.

It would trigger a catastrophic default, which would force our Nation to stiff veterans on the benefits they have earned. That also applies to the effect it would have on America's middle class.

All this is for the Republicans to pass another massive tax cut, which they will do in a matter of weeks. That is their plan, to do it by the birthday of the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, June 16.

Trillions of dollars will be added to the national debt to give tax breaks to the high end at the cost of the suffering of our veterans.

It is disgraceful. Republicans must stay here and not skip town, work to avoid a default, and honor the sacred duty of our veterans as we observe Memorial Day.

#### RECOGNIZING ROLAND CHRISTENSEN

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

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, in the latest edition of the U.S. News & World Report's "Best States" rankings, Utah was ranked the top in the Nation.

Utah has one of the strongest economies in America because of our State's pro-market policies, family values, and entrepreneurial spirit. At the forefront of Utah's thriving economy is the booming technology industry in my district and across our State.

Today, I recognize Roland Christensen, an entrepreneur, a business owner, and an engineer who has made an invaluable contribution to the Gunnison community and the entire State of Utah.

Raised in the rural town of Gunnison, Roland utilized his expertise in mechanical engineering to build one of the most successful aerospace companies in the Nation from the ground up in his hometown.

ACT Aerospace is a defense technology manufacturing leader supporting our troops with the latest technology to win on the battlefield because of the visionary leadership of Ro-

land Christensen and the highly skilled workforce of Utah.

Madam Speaker, I thank Roland for all he does to keep Utah the best place to live, raise a family, and start a business.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(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. Madam Speaker, extreme MAGA Republicans have manufactured a crisis and are now extorting the American people with a terrible choice. Either they inflict cruel cuts that hurt everyday families, or they are forcing or trying to force a devastating default on our debt.

They are gambling with working people's livelihoods and the global economy, driving us to the brink of economic catastrophe.

It is all because they would rather have working people bear the burden of these terrible cuts instead of making billionaires and big corporations pay their fair share in taxes.

Madam Speaker, make no mistake. Our constituents are watching, especially those in Speaker McCARTHY's district, where 75,000 people would lose Social Security payments; 285,000 people's healthcare benefits would be at risk; and the retirement savings of 89,000 people would be in jeopardy, not to mention the number of veterans who would lose their healthcare in Speaker McCARTHY's district.

Madam Speaker, from day one, Democrats have been the most responsible and the loudest voices in defending working families from Republicans' extreme behavior. We will continue to call out these games and hostage taking. We must pay our bills.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, we are 1 week away from Secretary Yellen's hard default date, the June 1 deadline.

House Republicans have been calling on our colleagues on the other side of the aisle and the President to be negotiating on this debt since January. It is now May 25. In the past 140 days, we have been hearing a lot of name-calling and little bipartisan negotiation.

While this impasse has dragged on, House Republicans passed legislation, the Limit, Save, Grow Act, that averts a default and reduces wasteful spending. Let's negotiate from that point.

We have a plan to avert default and are eager to work with the President to work out a suitable compromise, but we would rather hear a lot of stuff and name-calling, and keep on printing and spending more money. Indeed, it was pointed out that if our plan goes

through, it would mean a 20 percent cut in discretionary spending over just 5 months, so that must mean we increase spending by 20 percent in 1 fiscal year of discretionary spending.

Madam Speaker, how many years can you keep increasing spending by 20 percent? Not 1, 2, 3, or 5, but a 20 percent increase. How do we afford that going forward?

It is incredibly amazing we think that should be the route we should go and keep adding to our debt.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, it is an unfortunate reality that hypocrisy has become a guiding principle of the leadership of this body.

Three times we raised the debt limit under the previous President. Those three times the American people never once had to worry that we would not pay our bills or that their retirement was in danger.

This is a manufactured crisis by House Republicans. It is an act of calculated cruelty that would put millions out of work and force families across the country to wonder where their next meal will come from.

In my district, an estimated 95,600 households with Social Security checks are at risk.

My constituents are not alone. Madam Speaker, think of the people back home who elected you to represent their interests faithfully. It is in no one's interest to manufacture an economic crisis.

We can fix this crisis right now. All we need are five brave Republicans, five Republicans who care about veterans, five Republicans who care about Social Security, five Republicans who care about Medicare, and five Republicans who care about our future.

It is time to do our job.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. PHILLIPS. Madam Speaker, Ben Franklin said that necessity never made a good bargain.

This is necessity. For the first time since 1789, our MAGA GOP friends are putting us at risk of default.

However, we have a solution, and it is sitting right here, right next to me. It is a discharge petition, and we only need five of you.

Madam Speaker, I see about 80 of my Democratic colleagues in front of me, and I only see one Republican, you.

We only need five. So, I welcome you back to Washington. Come on. Join us. Sign the petition. We will keep the lights on, but will you?

□ 1100

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, this is why the American people get frustrated with Congress. They get frustrated when folks here play politics. They get frustrated when there are unnecessary crises created.

Rather than vote to pay our bills, as was done three times under the last President, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have us on a path to a disastrous default. That is, unless this body agrees to gut programs that working families in my State depend on.

The American people get frustrated when these issues are treated like a game and when our constituents are the ones who lose. There will be 4,800 kids who will lose access to preschool and childcare; 37,000 women, infants, and kids who will lose help with food; 89,000 college students who will see their costs go up.

I don't say this in a partisan way. These are just facts. The cuts proposed by my Republican colleagues would cut law enforcement, food safety, and vital support to families across our State.

That is not a good idea. We can do better. We should do better.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Madam Speaker, in 7 days, our country will face one of the greatest self-inflicted threats to national security in our lifetime.

In 7 days, our country faces default while House Republicans continue to play partisan political games with the debt limit.

In these Chambers, we talk a lot about keeping Americans safe, strategic competition, and national security.

We point a finger at foreign threats and international bad actors but let us be clear: The biggest threat to American lives and livelihoods is House Republicans holding everyday Americans hostage for partisan political gains.

If we as a Congress are serious about ensuring national security, then we must stand up against this House Republican manufactured crisis.

We must do the right thing, invest in our country, and recognize that:

Financial security is national security. Health security is national security. Food security is national security. Housing security is national security. People's security is national security.

I will not support lifting the debt ceiling on the backs of working families, our veterans, or our seniors. Know this: As Democrats, we will continue to do the right thing and put people over politics.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS IMPACT ON VETERANS

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

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to House Republicans holding our economy hostage and planning to slash billions of dollars from veterans' services and benefits in return for maintaining the full faith and credit of the United States.

Republicans are delivering a one-two punch to veterans. First, their default on America act would slash \$30 billion from veterans' services, eliminate housing vouchers for 50,000 homeless veterans, and cut 81,000 jobs from the Veterans Health Administration. They can say whatever they want, but this is what they voted for.

Second, Republicans just released a bill to gut the healthcare funding we promised to toxic-exposed veterans in the PACT Act.

How about instead of cuts to veterans' services and benefits, we reduce our deficit by ending tax loopholes for the ultra wealthy and by ensuring the largest corporations pay their fair share?

House Democrats are united in opposition to Republicans' veteran funding cuts, and we will not go back on the progress we have made.

As we all head into this Memorial Day weekend, we must do better. We must not default on our debts. Let's keep our promises to our veterans.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, we are the most powerful country, and we are less than a week away from defaulting on our debt. We should all be outraged, and we should all be here.

Constituents in North Carolina's First Congressional District will feel the impact immediately and long term if we default.

North Carolina's First Congressional District has over 174,000 residents who would lose Social Security payments, and nearly 50,000 veterans, our heroes who protect our communities and defend our freedoms, would see payments slashed.

As we prepare to honor those who died in military service, the best way that we can help their surviving family members and those that they served with is by Congress fulfilling its obligation to pay its bills now.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my concern with MAGA Republicans' ransom plan which threatens access to SNAP and Federal food assistance programs that prevent families from going hungry every single day.

Too often, households across the country find it difficult to put food on their tables. SNAP has been and remains a vital mechanism to alleviate this hardship.

SNAP provides relief for more than 42 million people each year. We are talking about 42 million Americans who would go hungry if this program were to be put on the chopping block.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have no problem cutting food assistance programs. For extreme Republicans, what they deem to be fiscally responsible takes precedence over addressing food insecurity. It takes precedence over addressing poverty.

I stand firmly against Republicans' heartless attempts to slash food assistance programs. Democrats are united to pay America's bills and not play partisan politics. It is time for Washington to work with American families.

#### THE DEBT CRISIS

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

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, the debt crisis that we are facing as a Nation right now is a manufactured one. Extreme Republicans are holding the livelihoods and the bank accounts of hardworking families hostage.

You don't have to take my word for it. This week, one of the most far right, TV-loving Members of this Chamber said he doesn't feel like they should negotiate with their hostage. That is a quote.

What is the ransom they are demanding?

Gutting the critical programs that those same families depend on to make ends meet.

It is disgraceful to tell parents working two jobs that their food assistance is being cut because Republicans are helping millionaires cheat on their taxes.

It is shameful to tell a veteran that his rental assistance stopped because the GOP doesn't want billion-dollar corporations paying their fair share.

We can end this manufactured crisis today, Madam Speaker. All it takes is five sensible, five responsible Republicans to turn their car around and join us in this discharge petition for a clean debt limit.

Do the right thing. Do it today.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today outraged that ex-

tremist Republicans continue to play games, political theater, with Americans' livelihoods.

Extreme Republicans, the hostage takers, are threatening to crash our economy unless Congress guts critical programs that millions of people rely on.

Defaulting on our debt could delay Social Security and Medicare benefits for 6.9 million seniors in California alone.

Alicia, a constituent from Upland, recently reached out to my office concerned about her Social Security benefits.

Alicia, along with many other seniors, are the victims of extreme Republicans. Alicia paid into Social Security her entire life with the promise that she would be able to retire with dignity. She deserves better. The Inland Empire deserves better. Americans deserve better.

If there are any reasonable Members left in this Republican majority, it is time for them to do the right thing and pay our Nation's bills.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mrs. McCLELLAN. Madam Speaker, we are 7 days from a debt default that would spell economic catastrophe for hardworking Americans and Virginians.

As you have heard, we are in a hostage-taking situation where MAGA Republicans don't want to negotiate with the hostage.

It is not House Democrats that are being held hostage. As you have heard from my Democratic colleagues, it is the American people. It is also our State governments.

Last week, Virginia State Senate budget analysts outlined what a default would mean for the Commonwealth of Virginia, which has a very large Federal footprint.

It would be catastrophic. It would have a devastating impact on the State budget and funding for schools, healthcare, roads, public safety, broadband, and affordable housing.

An extended default could cost the Commonwealth nearly 200,000 jobs, slash payrolls by 4.7 percent, and throw the State economy into a recession, as well as the American economy.

A default jeopardizes Medicaid reimbursements to rural hospitals, Federal grants awarded in the Commonwealth, over 4,000 federally funded State employees, and millions of Virginians who receive Social Security, Medicare, and veterans' benefits. It is time to raise the debt ceiling.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my outrage at the ex-

treme MAGA Republicans in this House who are fighting to take food out of the mouths of children, medicine out of the hands of seniors, and relief out of the pockets of working people, all to fund their tax cuts for the billionaires and corporations that fund their campaigns.

Make no mistake: That is what this entire Republican manufactured debt crisis is about. It is not about cutting spending.

If it was about cutting spending, they would support President Biden's plan to cut \$900 billion from the deficit by negotiating with the drug companies for Medicare and Medicaid. But, no, they don't want to upset their Big Pharma donors.

It is not about avoiding default. If it was about avoiding default, they would sign the discharge petition and end this whole thing today.

This is about one thing and one thing only: taking money out of the pockets of the working people who I represent and putting it in the pockets of the millionaires, the billionaires, and the corporations.

These reverse Robin Hoods on the Republican side who seek to steal from the working people to benefit the rich need to stop this craziness and end this thing today.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, the obvious solution to this threat to our economy is for the U.S. to join the rest of the world and simply repeal the debt limit.

For years, I have been introducing legislation to do just that. House Republicans now insist that they want to drag budget negotiations into this discussion. Fine.

Both parties agree that default is unacceptable. Both parties agree that our national debt must be dealt with.

There are two basic ways to do this: First, by cutting tax breaks that allow billionaires to pay lower taxes than middle-class Americans or by cutting programs that help ordinary Americans: retirees, veterans, students, or just families that are trying to get their kids through school.

As long as Republicans insist that the only thing that they will consider to solve this problem is 100 percent on the backs of the middle class and zero percent on the backs of the billionaires who fund their campaigns, then they are not negotiating. That refusal is putting our economy at risk.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss Speaker McCARTHY's

irresponsibility with the debt ceiling negotiations. It is very dangerous to play games with the American economy.

While Speaker McCARTHY haggles over the debt ceiling, millions of Americans are wondering if they are going to have a job after next week. The stock market is wondering if this is going to lead to a recession or a depression.

Speaker McCARTHY does not feel these concerns are important. He thinks they can wait. They cannot wait.

America's bills are coming due, and now we need to pay them and pay them now. This is not the time to relax and enjoy the weekend like Speaker McCARTHY wants to do.

This is the time to roll up our sleeves and do the work we were elected to do and increase the debt ceiling to help Americans nationwide.

Madam Speaker, I hope the American public is watching this because this will be the moment when your benefits will be cut, and veterans' benefits will be cut. Remember who was not here on this day.

□ 1115

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise to urge my Republican colleagues to come back to work now to responsibly avoid a national default, just like they did three times under President Trump.

Instead, as the U.S. is on the brink of defaulting for the first time in history, House Republicans have recessed for the weekend, holding the global economy hostage and threatening a catastrophic recession if they don't get to impose cruel cuts on American workers, families, veterans, and seniors.

The mere threat of default will cost workers close to \$20,000 out of their retirement savings. It would also send interest rates skyrocketing, cost small businesses \$2,500 more per month for capital, and force Californians to pay almost \$300 more per month on their mortgages.

Republicans already voted to spend the money. Now they are trying to walk out on the bill and leave the most vulnerable Americans out to dry. That is inexcusable.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. BUSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, St. Louis and I rise against the Speaker of this House sending Members of Congress home on a break as he is taking our economy hostage in service of his dangerous, MAGA Republican agenda designed to gut social programs that save lives.

We are on the brink of economic disaster because of a fabricated Republican ultimatum, and the Speaker has decided to send everyone home.

This is not a game. Real people and real lives hang in the balance, but the Speaker seems intent on holding our economy hostage and rewarding himself with a break, as he is bringing us to the brink of a default that would devastate communities like mine in St. Louis.

Just over 2 years ago, the Republican Party tried to hold our democracy hostage. Now they are holding our economy hostage. They are gambling with Social Security checks, with Medicare and Medicaid benefits, with food for children, and with people's rent money, and that is a bad deal.

The Dems are here. The Dems are here. The Dems are here, and we are saying: Where are the Republicans? Sign the discharge petition.

Madam Speaker, will you sign the discharge petition? Where are the Republicans? Sign the discharge petition.

The Speaker needs to do his job.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, the Speaker has sent Congress home with default looming. Only Congress can raise the debt ceiling; and if we don't, we fail.

However, the Republicans are trying to get their radical cuts, holding our economy hostage. These are cuts they can't get on the merits, like eliminating farm disaster relief, cuts to veterans' benefits, laying off firefighters and air traffic controllers, interrupting cancer research, stopping payments to nursing homes.

Instead, they threaten default, which could cause a worldwide economic recession, cuts to regular Americans, millions of jobs lost.

We would lose our preeminent spot in the world economy. China and Russia would win.

Forty percent of all U.S. accumulated debt since 1789 happened during the Trump years.

Yes, we can get our fiscal house in order, but not the way these radicals have proposed. We need to do our job and end this self-imposed threat of chaos.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, Republicans are refusing to raise the debt ceiling, manufacturing a crisis to push their extreme agenda. They are ready to allow our government to default on its debt for the first time in our history, even though Republicans raised

the debt ceiling three times during the Trump administration after passing almost \$2 trillion in tax cuts for large corporations and the ultra-wealthy.

The default should matter to average Americans because if the government runs out of cash, it won't be able to make Social Security payments to seniors who rely on them; families on food assistance will go hungry; veterans won't get the care and the benefits they have earned.

Defaulting on our debt will destabilize the U.S. financial system resulting in a recession, job loss, and spiking interest rates. This means it will be more expensive for people to get loans to buy cars, buy homes, attend college, or invest in their small businesses.

It is time for Republicans to stop holding our economy hostage and to do their job.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my Republican colleagues to step up to the plate, come back to work, and pay our Nation's bills.

Defaulting on our debt would be catastrophic. In my district alone, this will kill some 6,700 jobs, jeopardize Social Security payments for 91,000 families, put health benefits at risk for 388,000 people, and threaten the retirement savings of 99,100 people near retirement. This is in my district alone.

Look around. House Republicans went home and dodged their responsibilities, hurting everyday working people in the process. I stand firmly united with my Democratic colleagues and the American people to pay our debt without playing games with people's lives.

I urge the Republicans to put on their big boy pants and big girl pants and come back to work. Do the right thing. Do the right thing for the American people because the American people deserve better.

Let's do our jobs.

#### REMEMBERING TINA TURNER

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

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the queen of rock and roll, the incomparable Tina Turner.

She passed away yesterday at 83 years of age after a career so bold and sparkling, we are unlikely to see another star so bright.

What did love have to do with it? Everything.

Tina Turner loved and owned her own story. She unveiled the trauma of domestic violence and turned it into a strength felt by women across the

world. She was a true ambassador of the Buddhist practice, showed female artists how to take ownership of their brand, and she used music to speak and captivate us.

She was a constituent of the 37th District, having lived in View Park, the heart of my district. Her passing is a true loss to the global community.

In this moment, she would probably say to Republicans: Don't hide this weekend. Stay and do your job. The American people deserve more from you. They work hard and don't deserve to be blamed, lied to, and defaulted on by a dysfunctional Republican Party who can't get its act together. Lead, don't bleed the American people.

No, wait, I said that.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. BONAMICI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call on Congress to reject the Republicans' reckless default on America act and to protect the progress that we have made in the very important transition to clean energy.

The Inflation Reduction Act is a significant investment in our country's clean and healthy future. We are on the cusp of a major clean energy expansion, generating billions of dollars in private clean energy investments and thousands of clean energy jobs.

In northwest Oregon, the Inflation Reduction Act has brought millions of dollars in funding for climate-resilient infrastructure, low-emission public transportation, and clean schoolbuses.

Benefits are flowing to red, blue, and purple States, bringing cost savings to our constituents. Texas and Iowa, for example, are leading the U.S. in solar and wind production. It would be foolhardy and fickle to disrupt or delay this important work, just like it is foolhardy and fickle of the Republicans to try to force draconian budget cuts by threatening default.

We must put our constituents first by passing a clean debt limit increase so we can turn our attention to the real work at hand, creating jobs, cutting energy costs, growing our clean energy economy for the sake of our vulnerable communities, future generations, and our planet.

Madam Speaker, it would only take five brave Republicans to put country over party and sign the petition.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the cowardice of my Republican colleagues, who should be standing across the aisle right now but have fled D.C. and their sworn duty to their constituents to avoid forcing our Nation onto default on our debt.

A catastrophic default should not, under any circumstances, delight MAGA Republicans, but these horribly bad actors are in contempt. They can hardly contain their excitement as the Nation stands on the brink of ruin.

Make no mistake, the MAGA movement has abandoned all pretext. They are not here to govern.

Eight million American jobs will be slashed in the blink of an eye.

Retirement savings will be devastated overnight, and there will be an all-but-certain recession.

This catastrophe is not just looming, but primed to collapse on our communities, and Speaker McCarthy refuses to keep the House in session.

Are he and his party really so eager to preside over our Nation's default on her debt? The answer is a resounding, yes, they are. Remember, their cruelty is the point.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. CROCKETT. Madam Speaker, my Republican colleagues love to pray but can't stay, stay and do the job we were elected to do because, frankly, they aren't capable of governing.

Don't believe me?

Just think back to the first few days that we were here, the days in which they were so dysfunctional that they had to go through 15 rounds before we could get to a Speaker.

Now, mark my words, he is dragging this out, and, unfortunately, the entire country is going into a tailspin not because they care about being fiscally responsible but more so because he cares about his precious Speakership.

We have seen the words of the radical right Republicans and what he said last week, and this is all about holding us hostage.

Let me tell you something: My constituents deserve better. My constituents deserve to have a House that functions and stays and does the job instead of deciding that it is time to go and play.

I have a constituent that has called my office in north Texas talking about the fact that he could not get his Federal retirement for months. Well, guess what? We finally got it pushed through, but leave it up to this House, and he won't get what he deserved and what he worked for.

Working families deserve a House that will stay instead of play.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on House Republicans to stop the partisan politics and pay our bills.

It is my top priority to ensure everyone in Ohio's 13th Congressional District feels safe and secure at every stage of their lives, but the Republicans' manufactured crisis, forcing an impossible choice between devastating cuts or devastating default, directly undermines the safety and security of the people of Ohio's 13th District.

House Republicans' demands would jeopardize Social Security payments for 110,000 seniors in places like Stow, Hudson, and Twinsburg.

It would cut Medicare, Medicaid, and Veterans Affairs health coverage benefits for 322,000 families in cities like Barberton and Akron.

It would threaten the retirement savings of 109,000 northeast Ohioans who worked so hard so that they could retire securely. That is over half of my district, Mr. Speaker.

Republicans' demands significantly cut Federal support to local law enforcement agencies and slash crime prevention grants heading into the summer.

Law enforcement agencies in my district, in Stark County, are already understaffed and struggling to fill more than 80 positions across the county.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CLINE). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. SYKES. Why, Mr. Speaker, do you want my people to suffer? Ohio's 13th District cannot afford these cuts. They will make our communities less safe.

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

Mrs. SYKES. I will not yield back while the Republicans are holding our communities hostage and making our communities—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is no longer recognized.

□ 1130

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, I always say that Vermont is held together with duct tape, twine, and hundreds of hours of volunteer service.

The other thing that we know about Vermonters: They pay their bills. They also stay when you are in the midst of an emergency, which is where we are right now.

Mr. Speaker, I led my senate chamber. When you are facing a budgetary crisis, you don't leave. You stay. You engage. It doesn't matter if it is 1 o'clock in the morning, 2 o'clock in the morning, or overnight, you stay.

We are public servants.

I can't believe that not five so-called moderate Republicans—because we hear about them all the time, that there is a group of reasonable Republicans. Where are they? We need just

five to sign the discharge petition and be done with this.

Pay our bills, that is what we are talking about—pay our bills and not be held hostage and make dramatic cuts that are going to affect veterans, going to affect students, going to affect working families. That is what we are talking about.

Where are they? Where are the five moderate Republicans that we always hear about?

They are not here. They left.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, the leader they worship, Donald J. Trump, is the “king of debt,” as he described himself.

Spellbound, whenever he commands, they would crash our government and default on America.

Never concerned with the soaring Trump debt that they supported, their sudden interest now in deficit reduction is really about undermining education, health, environmental protection, and social service initiatives that they never supported in the first place.

Their plan is not about debt reduction. It is only about making room for another round of tax cuts that they have already scheduled for June to benefit the superrich, the giant multinational corporations, those who refuse to pay their fair share of our national security and other vital public services.

Don't make Americans pay for Republican hypocrisy.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, this is an outrage. Republicans want to drive us over the cliff into default and catastrophe, cut off healthcare and Social Security payments, and drive up interest rates so more people are homeless and hungry.

Five Republicans could join all 213 Democrats and lift the debt ceiling right now, but they went home.

My constituent Amy called me absolutely terrified that she is going to miss her Social Security payment. If that happens, then she can't pay her rent and won't have a place to live.

Amy heard Republicans yesterday say the quiet part out loud. They said: We don't want to negotiate with our hostage.

Well, Amy is your hostage. She and millions like her—teachers, firefighters, seniors, veterans—are demanding that Republicans stop playing games with their lives.

Donald Trump presided over the third largest deficit increase in the debt ever because they spent almost \$2

trillion on tax cuts for the wealthiest billionaires, and now they want poor and working people to pay that bill.

Stop it. Pass a clean debt ceiling right now.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the extreme MAGA Republican effort to default on our debt, crash the economy, and trigger a job-killing recession.

From the very beginning of this Congress, House Democrats have been focused on putting people over politics. Lower costs, better-paying jobs, safer communities, fighting for reproductive freedom, defending democracy, ensuring an economy that works for every-day Americans—people over politics.

We have made clear from the very beginning that we are willing to find common ground with the other side of the aisle for the good of the American people whenever and wherever possible. We have also made clear that we will fight extremism whenever necessary.

So, we are here on the floor today because this default crisis is before the American people as a result of extreme MAGA Republicans making the political calculation that they will benefit in 2024 if they crash the economy, if America defaults, if we fail to pay our bills, if millions of people are made to suffer—not our words. Those are the words of former President Donald Trump, the words of the chairman of the Republican National Committee, the words of extreme MAGA Republicans at the very far right of their Conference.

It is a political calculation that we are going to take hostages, the American people and the economy, and threaten to crash the economy, to hurt these hostages, if necessary, or extract painful cuts—painful cuts to our veterans; to disabled children on Medicaid; to people who rely on nutrition assistance, including our veterans; to children; to teachers; to public safety; and, of course, to our military families.

These are the stakes that are before the American people. That is why House Democrats are here on the floor fighting.

How we know that the other side of the aisle has made the determination that they are willing to default on our debt to crash the economy is because this default crisis is before the American people. On June 1, America may run out of the ability to pay our bills, and extreme MAGA Republicans have chosen to get out of town before sundown, to flee Washington, D.C., to risk a dangerous default in a crisis that they have created.

These Republicans are going to say that Joe Biden refused to sit down with them. That is a fake narrative that they have continued to try to put into the public domain. They said that

President Biden refused to talk for 97 days, a fake, false, fraudulent narrative.

How do we know? The timeline is pretty clear.

On February 1, President Biden sat down with the Speaker of the House. They had a conversation in the Oval Office. President Biden said that we will produce our budget on March 9 so that the American people know our values, know the types of investments that should be made for their health, their safety, and their economic well-being, and challenged the extreme MAGA Republicans to do the same thing.

On March 9, President Biden produced his budget, a budget that will strengthen and protect Social Security, a budget that will build an economy from the middle out and the ground up, a budget that will cut the deficit by an additional \$3 trillion on top of the \$1.7 trillion that has already been cut by the Biden administration over the last 2 years.

Then, we waited for Republicans to produce their budget.

Early March, no budget.

Mid-March, no budget.

Late March, no budget.

Early April, no Republican budget.

Mid-April, no Republican budget.

Then, on April 25, they didn't produce a budget, but they produced the default on America act—not a budget, a ransom note, threatening to hurt the well-being of the American people with draconian cuts.

They introduced it on April 25. On April 26, they voted on it, and they passed it simply because GEORGE SANTOS, a serial fraudster, provided the deciding vote.

This is who they are.

Then, on April 27, they got out of town. Some of them were overseas for 10 days, and then as soon as they got into town, Tuesday, May 9, President Biden, on the first opportunity he had, reconvened all of us in the Oval Office.

Mr. Speaker, that is the timeline.

From the very beginning, Democrats have been willing to do two things: one, that America must pay our bills—period, full stop—in a manner consistent with what has been done under Democratic Presidents and Republican Presidents, including by House Democrats making sure we avoided a default three times under the previous administration, notwithstanding the fact we had strong policy disagreements. What Republicans were doing at the time included passing the 2017 GOP tax scam, where 83 percent of the benefits went to the wealthiest 1 percent, sticking us with an additional \$2 trillion worth of debt. Why? To subsidize the lifestyles of the wealthy, the well off, and the well connected.

We had strong policy disagreements about what was going on in the Trump administration, but we never threatened to default on our debt. That is the patriotic thing to do.

We helped make sure we avoided a default three times, notwithstanding

the fact that, in our country's 247-year history, 25 percent of the Nation's debt was racked up under the 4 years of the Trump administration.

How dare Republicans lecture America about fiscal responsibility with that shameful record. Notwithstanding the fact that Republicans have racked up unprecedented amounts of debt to subsidize the rich, the richest amongst us, and big corporations, we never threatened a default.

Yet, here we are, a few days from America being unable to pay our bills because you have made a political calculation that you will be successful in 2024 if you crash the economy.

That is wrong. That is cruel. That is un-American.

Republicans will be hurting veterans, hurting children, hurting seniors, hurting young people, hurting everyday Americans.

That is why Democrats are here today in Washington, fighting hard against this unreasonable, manufactured default crisis. This is a default crisis that is manufactured MAGA madness.

It is repugnant, reckless, and reprehensible.

It is unacceptable, unconscionable, and it is un-American.

That is why House Democrats have remained on the House floor fighting hard for everyday Americans. That is why we are here and will continue to fight for working families; continue to fight for middle-class folks; continue to fight for all those who aspire to be part of the middle class; continue to fight for young people; continue to fight for older Americans; continue to fight for veterans; continue to fight for military families; continue to fight for people in urban America, rural America, suburban America, small-town America, and the heartland of America; continue to fight for the people in Appalachia; continue to fight for the poor, the sick, and the afflicted; continue to fight for the least, the lost, and the left behind.

House Democrats will continue to fight for everyday Americans to avoid a default, and we will not rest until victory is won.

#### REPUBLICANS ADJOURNING

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, let me just start by saying thank you to our leader for his moral clarity and leadership for all of us.

As Memorial Day weekend approaches and we remember those who gave so much, the last full measure of devotion, Republicans are adjourning the House and scurrying out of town, leaving behind the mess of their own making, walking out on paying our bills, turning their backs on gun violence crises, walking away from a broken immigration system.

Democrats are ready to work. It is clear Republicans are not.

Empty promises and messaging bills for the purpose of getting on FOX News or Newsmax is not real work. The real work is legislating solutions for America's families.

We need leaders, not someone afraid of his own caucus, not folks who punch out in the middle of an unfinished workweek, but leaders willing to serve the American people, not a corrupted base.

That is what I signed up for when I ran for office.

I challenge the Republican majority: Be public servants.

When Republicans adjourn, I am not going home. No, I am heading to the border with many of my colleagues right here in this Chamber to see how we can best develop a more humane, secure border. Democrats are not walking away from the hard issues.

Republicans, come on back and do your job.

□ 1145

#### DEBT CEILING IMPACT

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, when I was running to serve in this place back in 2018, I distinctly remember a telephone call that I got from a sitting Member of Congress right before the July Fourth holiday. He said to me: "Are you ready to take a job where holidays may not be holidays anymore?"

I thought about it, and I said, "Yes, I am."

Well, here we are. We are on the eve of Memorial Day weekend and let me just let the American public know that when we finished votes this morning, the Republicans rushed off the floor to fly home without getting this job done.

The reasonable people are the ones who are still here, and they are all Democrats sitting on this side of the room.

Where are the rest of the grownups?

Many of my colleagues across the aisle seem unable to grasp the gravity of defaulting on our debt. Paying our bills is not something we should have to negotiate. It is a necessity of governing.

A default will cause an economic catastrophe. For Pennsylvania's Seventh Congressional District, default means 7,600 jobs killed, 105,000 families with Social Security payments in jeopardy, 282,000 people with Medicare, Medicaid, or VA health coverage at risk.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to stop playing games and protect working families from financial ruin.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, nearly 6,000 people participated in a telephone townhall of mine on Tuesday night. It allows me to understand what is most important to the people of my district today. One issue came up over and over.

Cheryl from Moline asked about access to food stamps and what will happen to Social Security payments if we default.

Stacy from West Peoria was worried about what a default would mean for middle-class families. "We are the forgotten ones," she told me.

Gayle, a veteran from Morrison, told me that she hates that politicians are about to take away her VA healthcare, something she uses every day.

Celeste in Bloomington wonders what this means for mental health care.

These are real people in my district who are scared, and rightly so. We can either choose to pay our bills or we can put the lives of working families and seniors at risk.

Real people told me what the right answer is. It is not scoring political points, and it sure as hell isn't driving our country's economy off a cliff.

Mr. Speaker, I call on the Republicans to come back to work.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(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, at 10:15 a.m. on Thursday morning, with the U.S. on the brink of a devastating default, our colleagues across the aisle decided to call it a week. Turning their backs on the American people to beat Memorial Day traffic is a new low for House Republicans.

House Republicans have left town while America speeds toward a devastating default, and they chose that route. They are willing to drive our Nation off an economic cliff and trigger a global recession, cutting veterans' benefits, taking food from hungry families, and laying off first responders.

The American people didn't send us here to play chicken with their retirement plans. House Republicans created this crisis, and they can end it. There is an off-ramp from this highway to hell. The overwhelming majority of Americans don't want the far right driving our national agenda.

Responsible Republicans need to come to the table for the American people, not skip town with the MAGA extremists.

#### REPUBLICANS' BROKEN PROMISES TO VETERANS

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

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, let's shed light on the Republicans' broken promises to our veterans.

I have the privilege of serving as the ranking member of the normally bipartisan Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee. However, this year, my Republican colleagues plan to slash medical care for toxic-exposed veterans, rolling back a promise this body made just last year when we passed the bipartisan PACT Act into law.

The PACT Act created the Toxic Exposures Fund, which is a pledge in law to provide a dedicated funding source to ensure the care related to toxic exposures will always be set aside and not have to compete with other veterans' priorities at VA and other agencies.

As you can see in this chart from the Republicans' VA budget report, President Biden honored this promise by carefully calculating the need and proposing \$20.3 billion for the TEF in his fiscal year 2024 budget. The Republicans' bill only provides \$5.5 billion, a quarter of the request. Not only do they shortchange the TEF by \$14.7 in 2024, but Republicans completely eliminate it, they zeroed it out in 2025.

Republicans can protest all they want, but their broken promise to our veterans is right here in black and white. We must keep our promise to our veterans, just like Joe Biden and the Democrats do.

#### REPUBLICAN FAILURE TO ACT ON DEBT CEILING

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because after weeks of pointing fingers on the debt ceiling negotiations, House Republicans have finally shown their true colors.

It is Republican leadership that controls this Chamber. It is Speaker MCCARTHY who controls the floor. Yet, instead of working overtime to make sure that we don't default on our Nation's debt and send the economy into a tailspin and stop the benefits of millions of Americans, Members of Congress are going home this weekend.

The interesting thing is that many of these folks, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, are the same people that clowned me on Twitter for not having the best credit after my campaign and being denied an apartment here in D.C.

Imagine the hypocrisy of poor-shaming working people for trying to pay off their debts, and then turn around and refuse to pay the country's debt to pay for tax cuts for billionaires. It is distasteful, disgraceful, and we have to do better.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, on a day like this, the last day of the week when Members get to vote by 11 o'clock, and then they start running out that door, I used to be envious.

Today, I am actually astonished; astonished at the problem before us and that people have decided to take a break for Memorial Day. When I go home, I have to go home and face 700 families, veterans and their families, and their question is going to be: What is going to happen to our benefits?

You might have to fill out extra paperwork to get it. People will lose access to their food benefits and their health benefits. Teachers, firemen, first responders, and police officers, these are the individuals who are going to lose access to the benefits that they usually get either from Social Security, from their VA checks, et cetera.

Mr. Speaker, I think we should all come back tomorrow and continue the work we have before us. It is too important to allow us to go home.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today we are in the midst of a manufactured crisis that would have very real devastating consequences for the American people.

The extreme MAGA Republicans have taken the American economy hostage and presented the country with two disastrous choices: default or draconian spending cuts.

A default would erase millions of jobs, trigger a recession, devastate retirement accounts, and increase borrowing costs.

On the other hand, the cuts being promoted by the extreme MAGA Republicans would take Medicaid away from millions, snatch food assistance away from families, and even slash veterans' healthcare.

We need five moderate Republicans to sign the petition. New York State sent five moderate Republicans to the House.

Where are they today?

New York State, please take notice. When we needed them, they were not here doing right by the American people.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my Republican colleagues—although I don't see them—to put people over politics. I invite five of my Republican colleagues to simply sign the petition to raise the debt ceiling.

This will directly impact my Queens' families if action is not taken. It would kill over 7,000 jobs in my district, jeopardize Social Security payments for

over 85,000 families, threaten retirement savings of over 100,000 people.

This Memorial Day weekend, it is not enough to march in parades and post pictures on social media. Republicans are risking benefits for over 300,000 people in my district alone that rely on Medicare, Medicaid, or veterans' health coverage.

Smiling and posing for pictures with veterans as they work to cut veterans' benefits and lay off first responders, that is unacceptable.

We just need five Republican colleagues to save our country.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I cannot believe it has come to this. It is astonishing and, frankly, angering that Republicans have chosen to take Memorial Day weekend off, when they spent the last 3 weeks working overtime to shortchange our veterans and military members.

Let's be clear about what has happened here. Republicans are walking away because they can't get their way because President Biden won't cave to their anti-servicemembers and anti-veteran demands.

Instead, we are teetering on the verge of a default; a default that would disproportionately harm our Nation's heroes.

When the government runs out of money on June 1, guess whose benefits are on the chopping block?

Veterans.

It is all because Republicans decided to play with fire without stopping to think who might get burned. Our servicemembers and their families deserve so much better. We all do.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. McGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I know I am new here, but I came here to work—to work across the aisle and to actually get things done. But here we are on the eve of our country's default, and my Republican colleagues aren't even here to work with.

This isn't difficult. The United States Government contracted for and received goods and services. Now it must pay for them. We must pay our bills.

Default would be catastrophic for the people in Louisville, Kentucky. New car loans would go up by \$800. Mortgages for new homes would increase by \$38,000. There are 317,000 families, seniors, and veterans who are at risk of losing their benefits, not to mention the long-term damage to our currency and reputation around the world.

The alternative proposed by extreme Republicans is that we slash benefits to

our veterans and to needy kids instead of closing tax loopholes for billionaires and megacorporations. This is fiscally irresponsible, and it is morally wrong.

Do better. Sign the discharge petition and get this done to save our economy.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, I am GREG CASAR. I am a brand new Member of Congress representing Texas, and I am standing over here on the Republican side of the aisle; not because I am a Republican, I am a Democrat. I want the American people to see that there aren't any Republicans in the seats here behind me on the eve of our default.

Where are the Republicans?

This is not a simple political disagreement. This is a dire crisis being imposed on the working people of America.

The American people could lose millions of jobs. You could lose your house. Your kids could lose their jobs. People could lose their savings. They aren't even here.

They want to burn the House down and blame the firefighters for the flames. They are listening to Donald Trump who is saying: Do a default. That is shameful. It is dangerous. There is no patriotism in this. There is no morality in this.

We just need five Republicans to sign the discharge petition with us to save the American people. We need the American people to speak up about why the Republicans are not in these empty chairs.

The American people can save us. The Democrats are aligned and ready to avoid a default and make sure that billionaires pay their fair share and folks aren't kicked off their healthcare or deprived of food.

□ 1200

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. TLAIB asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, where are our Republican colleagues? They are in charge in this Chamber. They manufactured this crisis. If any of my neighbors left work before noon, they would be fired.

The country is on a deadline, and the Republicans that are in charge in this Chamber just simply left. The real mind-boggling part is that these same MAGA Republicans that manufactured this crisis voted not once, not twice, but three times under the previously forever-impeached President with no issues.

Republicans love to talk about fiscal this, spending that, but not when it

comes to tax cuts to mega-billionaires or when it comes to funding bombs and wars that our country and our world doesn't need.

They are so completely disconnected with the American people and what the lives of the American people are like. A delay in Social Security checks would hurt our seniors. Creating instability of whether or not they are going to have healthcare coverage next week is just simply wrong.

A default on our debt for the first time in our history would be devastating for the American people, and they just left.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the Republicans have skipped town. They are leaving behind a ransom note on the full faith and credit of the United States. One Republican Congressman said: "My conservative colleagues don't feel like we should negotiate with our hostage," but the real hostages are American seniors, veterans, and working families.

Donald Trump said: "If they don't give you massive cuts, you are going to have to do a default," but that is not what he said back in 2019. Back then, he said the debt ceiling was, "a very sacred thing in our country that we can never play with."

He was right then.

Instead of cutting costs on the backs of working people, we should require billionaires and corporations to pay their fair share, but Republicans in Congress would rather put veterans' healthcare on the chopping block. Most Americans, most Republicans, don't support that. Let's get serious and get back to work.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the children in Georgia's Fighting 5th Congressional District at risk of going hungry in the face of this cruel Republican default.

Extreme MAGA Republicans are proposing cuts to 200,000 Head Start slots and 180,000 childcare slots nationwide. You all, that is more than 300,000 families who will be thrown into a devastating bind.

When families don't have access to care, they can't get to work, making it harder to put food on the table every day. This is a real-life dilemma facing parents like Chelsea and Dorian in Clayton County, Georgia, two mamas who are looking for jobs, but facing one major roadblock: Childcare.

Now, extreme MAGA Republicans are threatening to make their childcare

search even harder. That, or risk a disastrous default on our debt. Republicans are headed home for barbecues and hanging out with their families making their priorities clear.

A great speaker once said: "Sometimes you have to take a punch and give a punch for the children." You all, I am ready to fight for a solution on behalf of our children, and I am waiting for my Republican colleagues who are brave enough to fight alongside me for the children putting people over politics.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to fight for our Nation's servicemembers and push back against the extreme MAGA agenda wish list that will yank the rug out from under American families, small businesses, and our enlisted military members.

Pay for our soldiers, benefits for our veterans, military readiness, and more are in serious jeopardy. We risk America's health and safety, and we risk hurting America's middle class all because the MAGA wing continues to control the GOP.

This manufactured crisis jeopardizes national security and will ruin our economy. My colleagues across the aisle, who clearly aren't here right now, must choose. Will they crash the economy on purpose? Will they destroy jobs and American livelihoods, or will they stand up for our troops, veterans, families, and seniors? There is a word for people who take hostages, "terrorists."

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the Republican plan to destroy our Nation's economy. Right now hundreds of Republican Members of Congress have rushed out of town to go on vacation with their friends and family. Democrats are here ready to work.

Americans are facing the reality of losing their retirement savings, jobs, and healthcare. Here are just some of the extreme demands that House Republicans have made: They want to cut 100,000 jobs for teachers; they want to put health insurance at risk for 21 million Americans; they want to put food assistance at risk for 1 million Americans.

This is cruel and shameful.

Let's be clear: House Republicans want to tank the economy and they want to give tax cuts to billionaires and large corporations. We have a default on our debt coming because House Republicans would rather be on vacation than get to work.

## DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mrs. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, we are just days away from catastrophic economic default. House Republicans are playing politics with the lives of the American people to further an extremist agenda.

Putting the American economy at risk is reckless and dangerous. In my district, default would eliminate 7,300 jobs, jeopardize Social Security for 93,000 families, and put health benefits at risk for 281,000 people who rely on Medicare, Medicaid, or VA health coverage.

Their proposals do not solve any of our economic problems. In fact, the default on America is an egregious bill that puts vulnerable families at risk. Their plan would be disastrous in my State of Connecticut, resulting in 2,800 kids losing access to preschool and childcare, 12,000 mothers would be blocked from food assistance, and it would threaten medical care for 57,000 veterans.

It is a disgrace that leading into Memorial Day, House Republicans have ghosted the city and left.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to come back to Washington, pay our bills, and end this now.

## DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, we are days away from defaulting on our debt for the first time in our Nation's history. Extreme MAGA Republicans have needlessly manufactured an economic crisis and refuse to release their grip on the American people.

Why do I say the American people? Because the cuts that they want are going to cut 7 million jobs, deprive millions access to Medicare, and slash critical funding for education and food for children. For what? For the shameless protection of tax cuts that they put in their bill that have added \$3 trillion to the debt that they now want to cover off of the backs of the American people.

Shameless. They are shameless.

This flagrant disregard for the lives of everyday Americans and the economic stability of our country demonstrates the House GOP's corrupt and misguided priorities. Do not deprive our elders and children to meet the demands and the insatiable greed of your constituents, the rich American people.

## DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mrs. FOUSHEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call on my Republican

colleagues to stop playing ideological games and to do the job that they were sent here to do.

As our country teeters on the brink of an economic catastrophe, they rushed out of town and abandoned their responsibilities just like they want the United States to abandon our fiscal responsibilities.

House Republicans have made their message clear: Their needs come before the needs of hardworking families, seniors, children, students, and veterans. They are willing to hold our economy hostage and are willing to risk the livelihoods of millions of Americans with devastating cuts to vital programs that keep folks housed, fed, healthy, and secure.

However, Democrats are united. We stand ready to pass a clean debt ceiling and to do what is best for our country and the American people.

## DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Mr. TORRES of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, the failed wars in Afghanistan and Iraq added trillions of dollars to the debt and both began under a Republican President. The 2001, 2003, and 2017 tax cuts added trillions to the debt and each one began under a Republican President. The great recessions of 2008 and 2020 added trillions to the debt and each one began under a Republican President.

The Trump administration alone accounted for one-fourth of all the debt accumulated since 2000. The Republican Party is like an arsonist who burns down your home and then blames you for the fire while lecturing you on fire safety.

The fiscal responsibility of House Republicans is as fictional as GEORGE SANTOS. The House GOP is threatening to default on America unless it can extract draconian budget cuts against our seniors, veterans, essential workers, and families with children.

Madam Speaker, that is not a negotiation. That is an extortion of the American people. That is, in the words of MATT GAETZ, "a hostage taking." It is a hostage taking that will threaten to transform a Republican-made debt problem into a Republican-made debt crisis.

## DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. ADAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ADAMS. Madam Speaker, today, I rise for the millions of American families that will suffer due to the manufactured debt ceiling crisis. Defaulting on our sovereign debt will be a disaster from Wall Street to Main Street to streets in my district and to the kitchen table.

Our economy is being held hostage for so-called "work requirements" that

disproportionately harm women and people with disabilities and people of color. Just one example: Food insecurity is at the highest level in 4 years, but MAGA Republicans will only prevent a financial catastrophe if we cut SNAP benefits for families, for veterans, for students, and for our seniors.

This would only deepen the hardships that vulnerable Americans face. Shame on you, Republicans. There is a simple solution to averting catastrophe: Pass a clean debt ceiling bill. Quit playing games with our country's future and come on back to Washington and do your job.

## DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Madam Speaker, we are here on the last day of this session and Republicans have decided to skip town, but what this debt ceiling debate really is about is the fact that Republicans have run up a bill that they now do not want to pay. They have run up this bill with extremely excessive military spending. They have run up this bill with extraordinary tax cuts for the wealthiest people in this country and now when it comes time to pay for this bill, they do not want to pay it.

Not only that, but they are accusing Democrats of saying we spend too much. For anyone that wants to entertain that thought, I ask you to think about the last time a person has said in this country that the government does too much for them, that their Social Security check was too high, that teachers are paid too much. When was the last time anyone has heard or seen that?

□ 1215

## DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. SEWELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to demand that Speaker McCARTHY and my Republican colleagues in the House return so that we can pass a clean bill to prevent a devastating default.

Let me be very clear. We, as Members of Congress, have a solemn obligation to pay our Nation's bills and to protect the full faith and credit of the United States.

We have never defaulted on our debt, but this time, House Republicans are refusing to address the debt limit unless we cut serious programs that Alabama families that I represent need most, like veteran benefits and food assistance for our seniors and children.

Madam Speaker, this is a manufactured crisis. Republicans could pass a clean debt ceiling bill but chose not to. We passed such a bill three times under the Trump administration.

Today, Republicans have chosen to send us home instead of doing our job.

Our job is to protect the American people and to make sure that the full faith and credit of the American Government stands. It has never been in default and shouldn't be in default now. This is a dereliction of duty.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today reporting for duty to our country, to our communities, to our Constitution, and most importantly, for New Mexico.

As you can see, Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I can't say the same for my Republican colleagues right here, who hightailed it out of town because they decided that their weekend plans were more important than showing up for the American people.

It is reckless. It is disturbing. It is fundamentally irresponsible.

Here we are, on the verge of an economic crisis, and they are demanding that we cut programs for housing, food, and our veterans.

Let me say this to my friends on the other side of the aisle: If you are so concerned about people getting to work, how about you show up to do your own job?

How about you show up for the American people?

How about you show up and do the job you were elected to do?

Let's pass a clean debt ceiling and ensure that we save our economy and serve our communities.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution says that the validity of the public debt shall not be questioned.

We made a commitment to every Social Security recipient in America, to Medicare and Medicaid recipients, to the veterans, to the bondholders of the United States, that we would pay our debts, as we are fiscally, morally, politically, and constitutionally required to do.

Yet, Donald Trump has issued the order. He said it is inevitable, default on the debt of the United States for the first time in American history, crash the economy, lose 9 or 10 million jobs.

Now, in the words of Florida Representative MATT GAETZ, who appears not to be here right now: The GOP will not negotiate with their hostage.

Who is the hostage?

The American people are the hostage. Our government is hostage. The Constitution is hostage.

I introduce to the MAGA Republicans who have split today, but who increased the debt ceiling three times under Donald Trump, who gave us a

quarter of all the debt of the United States between George Washington and Joe Biden, I introduce them to the Constitution of the United States: The validity of the public debt shall not be questioned.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, do you see what I see?

No Republicans.

They are not here to do their job, so America's jobs are at risk.

Madam Speaker, 8.3 million American jobs can be lost because Republicans want to hold us hostage and force a default.

Madam Speaker, 30,000 Nevadans who are struggling right now to keep their jobs, to pay their rent, to afford their mortgage, will see the effects if Republicans are successful in causing a default on America; 60,000 veterans in my district could lose their health benefits; 73,000 families and children in Nevada could lose SNAP food benefits; 253,000 kicked off health insurance on Medicaid; and 1,300 preschool and childcare slots, which are vital.

Madam Speaker, I would have time if the Speaker of this House would call us back into session. I will continue to do my job to speak on behalf of my constituents who sent me here to work on their behalf.

Madam Speaker, call this House back to session. Let's do our job.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to condemn the extreme Republicans' action to hold our economy hostage and their refusal to pass a clean bill to raise the debt.

Today, we are 7 days from defaulting on our Nation's debt, 7 days from seniors losing their Social Security checks, 7 days from our veterans losing their healthcare benefits, 7 days from our country losing all financial credibility.

Not only are the Republicans determined to cut billions from vital programs, they are also now telling Members to go home for the weekend. Hard to believe.

We came to Congress to work on issues important to our States and our country. American families are depending on us to pay our bills on time, just like they do every single month. But as our Nation is on the brink of an economic tailspin, Republicans are headed to the airport.

Well, America is running out of runway to avoid a default. It is time we acted like it.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, we stand on the precipice of a self-inflicted crisis precipitated by Speaker McCARTHY's loyalty to the most extreme members of his caucus. These far-right members are refusing to negotiate in good faith. They have continuously moved the goalpost time and time again.

Now there is no time to spare. Seven days until we reach X-date. We need an agreement now to raise the debt limit and to take it off the table for future hostage holding.

We would all love to be with our families right now, to be home for the weekend, celebrating and marking and observing the solemn occasion of Memorial Day. Our constituents would like to see us there, but they need us here.

Democrats stand ready to do what is necessary. Republicans have all gone home.

As we mark the memories of those who served our country, who made the ultimate sacrifice, let us think of the sacrifice we are willing to make to put America's full faith and credit back in good standing.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, news flash: Extreme MAGA Republicans hold the Nation hostage, put America's full faith and credit in jeopardy, and flirt with economic disaster.

Imagine seniors not getting their Social Security checks, unemployment spiking, small businesses closing their doors, 401(k) accounts and pensions tanking.

President Biden has been negotiating in good faith, agreeing to future spending caps and other concessions, but they want more. They want to cut programs for seniors, veterans, and children, all while protecting tax cuts for the very wealthy.

So I ask: Will Republicans make a deal or cause a disaster?

I am asking for a few million hard-working central Floridians.

Mark my words, if you break it, you own it, and we will make sure the American people know about it.

#### DEBT LIMIT CRISIS

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

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Madam Speaker, we are at the brink of defaulting on the U.S. debt, bringing economic devastation to the world economy and downgrading our credit rating, which increases our debt.

My Republican colleagues have decided to leave for the weekend, dodging their responsibility to this Nation. All they have offered us is political theater, with a piece of legislation that would bring devastating cuts to 15 percent of the Federal budget and no willingness to reverse the Trump tax cuts that benefited their millionaire and billionaire donors.

Last week, my GOP colleagues used every breath to honor the brave men and women of law enforcement, yet their bill would cut up to \$10 billion from Federal law enforcement funding and result in a 22 percent cut to border security.

Their bill would cut 27,000 wildland firefighters as fire season is starting in the West, putting more lives at risk.

So I ask my colleagues: Stop the political theater and sign our discharge petition. Let's get to work passing a reasonable budget that invests in working families.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, the well-being of the American people should never be used as a political bargaining chip, but that is exactly what House MAGA Republicans are doing.

Yesterday, my friend MATT GAETZ, who appears to be the lead MAGA debt ceiling negotiator, let the cat out of the bag when he told us that most of his caucus: "Don't feel like we should negotiate with our hostage."

Who is the hostage that MAGA Republicans have tied to a chair and left in the basement while they leave to enjoy the holiday weekend?

It is none other than the American people and our economy.

Why are they doing it after voting three times for a clean debt ceiling under Donald Trump?

Because they want to ruin the economy, blame it on President Biden, and pave the way to reelect their savior, Donald Trump.

How despicable.

We need five Republicans to sign the discharge petition so the House can vote on a clean debt ceiling bill and continue moving our Nation forward.

□ 1230

#### DEFAULT IMPACT ON VETERANS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, we are on the brink of defaulting on our debt, and that would be apocalyptic. Millions of jobs would be lost. Mortgage and credit card rates would skyrocket. Retirement accounts would be devalued. A recession would

be triggered. The crazy math being offered by the Republicans isn't adding up.

The Speaker says that the defense budget and taxes are off the negotiating table. That is 75 percent of the budget. Cutting the remaining budget would have an even greater devastating impact on every American.

What is worse is that the Republicans have left town while the Speaker allows us to be pushed toward a default that hurts everybody, including our veterans.

Veterans' VA appointments would be canceled. Veterans looking to buy a home would be hit by higher interest rates. Veterans who have credit card bills will face higher interest rates. If House Republicans cause a default, then more than 7 million veterans and their families will lose essential benefits that they have earned.

Stop this madness. Come back to work. Let's address this problem.

#### PREVENT DEBT DEFAULT

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my opposition to the House Republicans adjourning for the holiday while leaving the American people in limbo.

I get tired of being lectured by Republicans about debts and deficits. Twenty-five percent of the entire national debt was accumulated under the 4 years of the Trump administration.

Every Democratic administration since Kennedy has left for their Republican successors a better deficit situation than they inherited, and every Republican administration since Nixon has left for their Democratic successors a worse deficit situation than they inherited—all without exception.

Speaker McCARTHY has presented a false choice: either we default on our debts for the first time in history, or we agree to devastating cuts in education, law enforcement, veterans benefits, food assistance, border security, and healthcare and going into a recession.

House Republicans created this crisis. It is time they ended it by at least five of them signing the discharge petition and agreeing to responsibly pay our Nation's debts.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, people at home who might be listening to this may be wondering: Why is it so important that Speaker McCARTHY pay our Nation's bills on time?

Why does Speaker McCARTHY need to do that? It is because of what can happen if he doesn't.

It isn't just that seniors won't get their Social Security checks on time.

It isn't just that veterans won't get their medical care at VA hospitals. It isn't just that Medicare and Medicaid bills won't get processed. It is that interest rates will immediately go up because interest rates reflect the risk of non-repayment.

If we don't repay our national debt, then interest rates will go up on this country. We fall into a recession, and millions of jobs will go away. It is a horrible situation.

Speaker McCARTHY needs to pay our bills on time.

This is a grotesque negotiation he has going on over at the White House even as we speak because whoever cares least about the well-being of America and America's standing in the world in that negotiation wins the negotiation.

I say to Speaker McCARTHY: Do your job.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, around the world, our adversaries are watching a manufactured crisis play out.

This is the chaos dictators like Xi and Putin have been hoping for: The leader of the free world on the brink of default is facing the very real possibility that we won't even be able to pay our own troops.

My question for the majority party is simple: Haven't the American people been through enough—over 1 million Americans are dead from a pandemic that hit us 3 years ago, rising costs due to supply chain disruptions, stresses on our education system, George Floyd murdered 3 years ago today, and January 6 that saw our Capitol under siege.

Americans do not need more pain, especially manufactured pain.

The GOP needs to come back to town, deliver for the American people, and end this debt crisis.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I call on my Republican colleagues today to stop holding our Nation's economy hostage.

It is dangerous, and it is unconscionable knowing the devastating impact it is going to have on American working families.

Kim from Van Buren Township in my district called my office yesterday scared. She is in the process of buying a house and thinks she should stop because she is worried that the Nation's economy is going to tank.

She reflects the American people and their concerns, but Republicans will be posting messages of support for veterans on social media this weekend

while advocating for a plan that will abandon all of those veterans and their families at the moment they need their country most.

I am staying. I am missing my god-daughter's wedding because I have a job to do.

Where are Republicans?

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. PRESSLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of people in the Massachusetts Seventh District: the single mom in Randolph who depends on SNAP to feed her babies, the disabled veteran in Chelsea who relies on SSDI, and families in Roxbury struggling to pay rent and their mortgages.

My colleagues across the aisle say that they care about seniors, veterans, and children and families, but in the words of James Baldwin: "I can't believe what you say because I see what you do."

The Republicans continue to govern in a way that is clueless, callous, with great contempt, and I would say godless because faith without works is dead.

Republicans want us to make an impossible choice, extreme and drastic cuts in lifesaving programs or catastrophic default on our debt, both of which would impact our most vulnerable.

This is a manufactured crisis. That is a false choice.

Republicans don't have even an ounce of compassion.

Democrats want to change and save lives. Republicans want to play with yours, and the American people are currently in limbo because of it.

Stop playing with people's lives. This is not a game. Pass a clean debt ceiling increase.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, fact: Republicans went home.

Fact: Their side of the Chamber is empty.

Fact: They do not want to negotiate, and they are holding our economy hostage to a ransom note of partisan demands.

Fact: They are taking Medicaid away from millions, firing teachers, removing children from childcare, and ripping food assistance away from our families. They are even slashing veterans' healthcare.

Fact: Their plan would cut jobs.

Republicans are playing political games. They have even said that they are holding us hostage and will not negotiate.

Do you know what, Madam Speaker? It is the American people and our chil-

dren, like those who are in the gallery today, that they are holding hostage.

It is obvious that Republicans are defaulting on our debt.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER). The gentlewoman's time has expired.

Mrs. BEATTY. Instead of honoring our sacred obligation to pay our bills—The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman's time has expired.

Mrs. BEATTY. Democrats will not let the bank of justice be destroyed by MAGA Republicans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman's time has expired.

Mrs. BEATTY. We come to this floor today, the people's House, to put people over politics.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman's time has expired. The gentlewoman is no longer recognized.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. NICKEL. Madam Speaker, today, ahead of Memorial Day, I am thinking about the 49,000 veterans in my district whose VA benefits hang in the balance due to the risk of debt default.

It is incredibly disappointing that we would leave Washington before this important holiday without resolving the default crisis.

Our veterans who have given so much deserve much better than this. They deserve our unwavering dedication and commitment not just in words but in action. They don't deserve partisan political games.

As we prepare to honor the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice, let's also honor the veterans still with us by staying true to our duty. Let's remember the debt we owe to them and the responsibility that we bear.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to get back to work and prioritize the needs of our veterans. Let's stay. Let's get to work. Let's find a solution.

#### EFFECTS OF THE GOP'S CUTS ON NEW JERSEY'S EIGHTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of New Jersey's Eighth Congressional District to highlight how the House GOP's debt limit demands will hurt our families. If the Republicans' bill is adopted into law, then over 20,000 families in our district will be affected by cuts to lifelines like SNAP.

While the House Republicans leave town for Memorial Day, they are at the same time targeting 9,000 veterans in our district whose VA health resources

will be cut, making it more difficult for them to access the care that they deserve.

The Republicans' legislation would also devastate our public schools, cutting Federal funds that help support the education of over 100,000 students in our district.

Meanwhile, the 98,000 households in New Jersey that spend more than 30 percent of their income on rent—working families—would face severe cuts to the Federal housing assistance programs that enabled them to stay in their homes.

While House Democrats support investing in our communities, the House Republicans are looking to burn them with deep cuts to these essential programs.

I stand with House Democrats in opposing the House GOP's reckless and cruel cuts, and I urge Speaker MCCARTHY to bring his Members back to have a vote on this important deal.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my friends in the majority to think about this from a different perspective: It is June, and you all have defaulted on America. Millions of people have lost their jobs. Our economy is in shambles.

Madam Speaker, you would look back and say to yourself: There were things we could have done. We should not have left. We should not have left D.C. We should not have left the Capitol.

There are solutions. There is a discharge petition behind me. Two hundred thirteen Members have signed it. We just need five more, and we have a vote.

There is a bipartisan solution from the Problem Solvers Caucus. We could vote on it early next week. You could lock leadership in a room, negotiate, and finish this thing.

It requires, however, folks to come back to work.

Gavel us back in, and protect millions and millions of people from losing their jobs. Come back.

□ 1245

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Madam Speaker, once again I am standing here today while House Republican leadership has failed to do the bare minimum.

Where are they?

The Republican side of this Chamber is vacant while House Democrats have remained at the ready to do their jobs and pay America's bills.

It is fiscally responsible to pay our bills. Doing so would protect my friends, neighbors, and constituents in west Michigan from disastrous consequences.

Defaulting would kill nearly 8,000 jobs in my district alone, jeopardize Social Security payments for nearly 90,000 families, and mean financial chaos on an unprecedented scale, hurting working families across the country.

House Republicans' solution?

Cut nearly 30,000 law enforcement jobs. The party that says that they back the blue wants to take their jobs away.

This is a false choice. There is a bill sitting right here that needs just five more Republicans. We invite them to sign it.

We can and must act now. It is Congress' job to get this done.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, we stand here today, 7 days away from the X-date, the date that our Nation will default on the full faith and credit of our Nation's financial debt for the first time since the War of 1812.

Madam Speaker, it is not too late for us to stop such a catastrophe by passing a clean debt limit bill just as Congress has done 78 times since 1960.

Interestingly, the President who signed the most debt limit extension bills was Speaker McCARTHY's hero, Ronald Reagan; 18 times in 8 years.

I ask Speaker McCARTHY to heed Reagan's words that he said in 1987 when he signed one of those bills at the height of the Cold War.

He said, "The United States has a special responsibility to itself and the world to meet its obligations. It means we have a well-earned reputation for reliability and credibility—two things that set us apart from much of the world."

In 2023, we have adversaries, China and Russia, who are watching with glee as we as a Nation are about to, for no good reason, not maintain our financial debt.

They are waiting and want to pounce in terms of de-dollarizing world currencies that rely on international trade. Pass a clean debt limit bill for the sake of our Nation and free democracies.

#### DEBT LIMIT CRISIS

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, we have heard claims from Republican leadership that they passed a bill to lift the debt ceiling.

That is laughable. What they did was pass a wish list to reassure their most

extreme Members. Make no mistake: They have no plan.

I just consulted with the distinguished ranking member of the Appropriations Committee. They haven't even agreed on the top-line numbers for this year's appropriations process, let alone move forward to implement the extreme cuts that they imagine are going to happen.

I just left a Trade Subcommittee hearing where a parade of witnesses from both parties said we need to invest more in Customs and Border Protection to protect Americans from fentanyl.

Without a plan, they will continue to target the poor and protect the privileged and get nothing done.

America deserves better. Let's pass a clean debt ceiling proposal and get back to work.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, extreme Republicans are driving our economy toward a devastating default. They are holding the economy hostage.

Holding our economy hostage hurts all Americans, especially communities of color and low-income communities.

Republicans don't want to close loopholes for billionaires. Instead, their ransom demands are that we kick families out of their homes, that we rip away food assistance from grandma and grandpa, from women, infants, and children, that we cut access to childcare and make it easier for industries to pollute our communities.

Democrats are united. We agree that America must pay its bills and continue to lower costs for working families, not default. Republicans must stop these dangerous games and come back to work.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, my Republican colleagues are presently fiddling while Rome burns, but I come to praise my Republican colleagues, not to bury them.

I come to praise my friend PATRICK MCHENRY for his wisdom just 6 months ago when he said that he opposes Speaker McCARTHY's plan to use the debt limit to cut spending; when he said that it is important that Congress raise the debt limit; when he said that Treasury markets are the lifeblood of the global economy; when he said it is an important function of the government for us to make good on the checks we cash.

I come to praise the July 2019 version of Speaker McCARTHY when he said that we should not leave here without doing something on the debt ceiling.

Where are those brave, principled souls now?

The answer, Madam Speaker, as you know, not here. Empty, inconsistent rhetoric does not pay the bills.

The American people know that, and I hope the American people will remind my Republican colleagues of the work requirements of this job during their upcoming 11-day vacation.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Madam Speaker, with Memorial Day on my mind, I rise today to call on House Republicans to stop playing dangerous political games, manufacturing a crisis that has driven the American economy to the brink of default.

To our veterans and for our veterans, a default would have severe consequences. It would mean wounded warriors losing out on physical therapy sessions that could get them back on their feet, for Purple Heart recipients missing a disability check that they use to make ends meet, for a student veteran coming up short on paying tuition.

Our servicemen and women have stood up for us, and now it is time for us to stand up for them. Defaulting on our debt would be a dereliction of our duty. The dangerous game playing must stop.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, today's Los Angeles Times column: "When KEVIN McCARTHY's spending cuts get spelled out, even Republicans balk."

My friends, the Republicans do not have the votes to pass their shameful cuts. What House Republicans have done is they have manufactured a crisis and a false choice.

Inflict pain and harm on hard-working American people, on children, families, seniors, veterans, or we will crash the economy.

Why? Because they believe it will help them politically.

In my State of Connecticut, cuts would lead to 2,800 kids losing access to preschool and childcare and 12,000 mothers blocked from food assistance.

This is my plea to the American people: Get on the phone. Call Republican Members of this Congress. Tell them to raise that debt ceiling and to stop hurting American families.

Let us make sure that they do not have the votes to pass these shameful cuts.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rushed down to the floor because I just read a headline that said that the Republicans are not headed to negotiations today. In fact, all of the Republicans have quit here on a Thursday morning and have left town.

Meanwhile, back home in Tampa, I know that one of my neighbors is expecting their Social Security check at the end of next week, and that is at risk.

I have another neighbor in St. Petersburg on a fixed income watching their retirement savings, expecting machinations in the market and worrying about the ability to pay rent.

Republicans have left Americans wondering: Why do you want to inflict job losses?

Why do you want to risk a recession?

Meanwhile, Democrats are here because we want to avoid those kinds of things. We want to avoid job losses, avoid falling into a recession, avoid harm to veterans, avoid harm to our neighbors, higher costs, harm to our small business owners.

Enough of this manufactured MAGA crisis. We have to put people over politics for a change and stop this careening from one crisis to another, with chaos inflicted by the GOP.

Put people over politics. Get back to work. Let's fix this for the people we represent.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I say to the ladies and gentlemen all over the country: Welcome to the United States Congress.

Only today, while we are facing a debt crisis, all of the Republicans have left to go out of town. They have gotten into their cars and their limos, and they are catching planes to go home while we are teetering on the brink of disaster.

What kind of leadership is that, KEVIN McCARTHY?

We have heard the list. We know what the cuts are going to affect. They are going to affect law enforcement, veterans' affairs, food assistance, education, 401(k) retirement plans, pension plans, and cuts to Social Security payments.

How can you leave town and not be here to deal with this?

All we need are five Republicans to sign this discharge petition, and it goes away. It is over with.

Everybody else has left. So what you see here today are Members of the Democratic Party making an American argument that we have a responsibility to pay our debts.

They are gone. "Beam me up, Scotty." There is no intelligent life on that side of the aisle.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, House Republicans are playing political games and threatening to default on our country's debt.

The extreme MAGA Republicans have taken over the House of Representatives, and they are creating a crisis. It is a crisis that they created, they manufactured in their minds, and now they are trying to convince the American people what they are doing is right.

It is not right for them to make cruel cuts to hurt children, seniors, veterans, and teachers, threatening a devastating default on our debt.

Ladies and gentlemen, Madam Speaker, the Republicans gave billions of dollars in tax cuts to the biggest corporations and the wealthiest people in America. That was step one.

Now, step two, they are coming after you, the hardworking American people, saying now we are going to take away from you after you have actually done so much for your country.

They are stepping into this situation. They want to take food away from children and seniors. They want to see us lay off 100,000 teachers and take away childcare from children.

They are doing this only to try to score political points.

Let's get back to work, Republicans. Let's do the right thing.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I ask, where are they? Where did they go?

Where are they?

Did they leave us for a recession, allowing revenues to fall and borrowing costs to skyrocket?

Where are they?

Capital markets alone will be out of reach, and many small businesses won't make their payroll at the end of the month.

Where are they?

The world is looking at us and questioning our leadership and where we are going to move and how we are going to save our own people and our values.

Where are they in this time of need?

I know where the Democrats are. They are right here talking about how we will stand for them and not allow this Republican-made default on America last.

Where are they?

They need to get back here and get back here now for the sake of the American people. The world is watching us. They are looking.

They are saying that we may not have to worry about our competitors.

We don't have to worry about them. We have to worry about our MAGA Re-

publicans who have decided to leave and not address the issues that are most important to America today.

Where are they?

Come on back here and get to work.

□ 1300

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise; and I rise today with a very simple message. The debt ceiling has outlived its usefulness. It is time to eliminate the debt ceiling.

We have to do so because these issues that we are dealing with currently are only the genesis. The revelations will lead us to other issues involving the social agenda. Budgetary items will not be the only items on this extortion agenda.

It is time to end the debt ceiling and let us move forward and negotiate as we appropriately should and have done so many years.

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, as a co-chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee, I am so proud to hold the floor today with the united House Democratic Caucus.

Let's be crystal clear: The only reason we are here right now is because Republicans are playing politics with people's lives.

This crisis has been engineered to rip food out of the mouths of hungry families, take back the benefits our veterans have earned, and kick children out of childcare, or—they tell us—we can default on our debt and march right into a global economic disaster.

Now they have gone home for the holiday.

Madam Speaker, 87 Democrats spoke before me over the last several hours; 87 Democrats have pleaded with you on behalf of our constituents to keep the House in session, to prevent a default on our debt. Democrats held the floor.

I ask the Chair and Speaker McCARTHY: Will you join us?

#### HOUSE REPUBLICANS DID OUR JOB

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, we just heard a lot of speeches at a very high volume on the topic of the debt ceiling, and many of them had an accompanying visual that said, "House Republicans are forcing a default on our debt."

Now, that is a very strange statement, given that the House has already passed a bill to stop us from defaulting on our debt. Weeks ago, the House passed a bill to raise the debt ceiling. I will say that again. The House has passed a bill to raise the debt ceiling that protects Social Security, protects Medicare, protects our veterans, and puts us on the more fiscally sustainable path that Americans are demanding.

Now, that bill is sitting in the Senate right now. The Senate could pass it at any time, but, of course, the Senate isn't even here this week, so they haven't done so.

As we speak, Speaker McCARTHY and President Biden are negotiating. This is precisely what the overwhelming majority of Americans—Democrats, Republicans, Independents—say that they want: A bipartisan solution that raises the debt ceiling while making responsible reforms to spending.

The speeches we just heard are advocating precisely the opposite. They want to pull the rug out from under this ongoing negotiation, bring it to a stop, impose a one-sided, partisan solution that allows us to keep spending money without limit.

Indeed, I was particularly struck by a comment from the Congresswoman from New York, who in defense of this idea that we should keep spending money without limit said this: If anyone wants to entertain the thought that we spend too much, think about the last time that someone said the government does too much.

Those are her words. She said, think about the last time anyone said the government does too much.

Well, actually, my constituents say that a lot. The government does too much when it overtaxes and overregulates Americans.

The government certainly did too much when it shut down schools, shut down businesses, shut down churches, and imposed unlawful mandates.

The government does too much when it pays people more to not work than to work.

The government did too much when it went on a multitrillion-dollar spending spree that even Barack Obama's top economic adviser warned against and gave us this historic inflation crisis.

The government does too much when it unleashes 87,000 new IRS agents on unsuspecting American taxpayers.

The government does too much when it shuts down the Keystone pipeline and inhibits our ability to produce energy domestically and make us energy independent.

At the end of the day, though, we also need to ask, as we have seen the budget just grow and grow and grow without limit, what has the result of all that additional spending been?

Do you look around and see beautiful roads and infrastructure?

Do you see world-leading schools?

Do you see a prosperous economy?

No, of course not.

Therefore, I do think that as we make reforms to spending, we also need to focus on waste, fraud, and abuse. We need to focus not just on how much money is being spent but on how that money is being spent. Not just on the number of dollars that we are spending, but on the results that we are getting.

I am hoping that that is the new paradigm that will emerge from the negotiations going on right now between President Biden and Speaker McCARTHY, a paradigm of customer service, citizen service, a performance-based government. That is what Americans deserve, and I encourage the President to negotiate in good faith with Speaker McCarthy to move us in that direction.

PRESIDENT BIDEN SHOULD WITHDRAW JULIE  
SU'S NOMINATION

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the latest disturbing revelations relating to President Biden's nominee for U.S. Labor Secretary, Julie Su. The nomination remains stalled, and for good reason.

Ms. Su's record of gross mismanagement, historic, unmatched mismanagement as California's labor secretary under Governor Gavin Newsom is now well understood. For example, under Ms. Su's tenure, \$32.6 billion in taxpayer funds were fraudulently paid to death row inmates, international criminal syndicates, and other fraudsters.

This fraud was possible because Su waived fraud prevention protections, actually removed guardrails despite repeated warnings, and she failed to follow the commonsense practices of other States, and then failed to take corrective actions as billions were lost to fraud.

At the same time that this fraud was occurring, by the way, Su improperly denied or delayed for weeks, months, sometimes indefinitely, legitimate unemployment claims for millions of Americans.

Madam Speaker, I have now spoken on this floor several times to make sure that Americans are aware of that track record and understand the risk that elevating Ms. Su poses.

It is a reasonable inference that a nominee who failed in her role as State labor secretary would likewise fail in the role as U.S. Labor Secretary, and certainly has failed to earn such a promotion.

Well, now that is no longer merely an inference. It is the reality because as her nomination has stalled, Ms. Su has all the while been serving as the Acting Secretary at the Department of Labor, and unsurprisingly, she has brought her record of mismanagement from California to the Department of Labor as Acting Secretary, with terrible consequences.

A recent report from The New York Times has uncovered evidence of a major spike in unaccompanied migrant minors, children, being funneled to work in dangerous jobs in violation of Federal labor law. The article is titled,

"As Migrant Children Were Put to Work, U.S. Ignored Warnings."

The Times reports the White House and Federal agencies were repeatedly alerted to signs of children at risk. The warnings were ignored or missed.

To take one example from The Times article: ". . . a boy working construction said he felt ashamed about not knowing how to read. He, too, was released in 2021—at age 12—and was immediately put to work by a man who had sponsored at least five children."

In another case: "At a day-labor pickup site, a 13-year-old released last year to a man he had never met, said he wished he could enroll in middle school and start learning English."

The problem is much broader than a handful of cases. Signs of migrant child labor have been uncovered inside industrial workplaces, including several auto part factories. Additionally, over 100 children were found working the overnight shift scouring meatpacking plants across the country, according to The Times.

Now, I should note, monitoring workplaces to prevent child labor is the job of the Department of Labor. Julie Su was Deputy Labor Secretary and is now Acting Labor Secretary. She held those roles as children were exploited to work in grueling conditions in violation of Federal labor law.

This pattern of conduct almost exactly mirrors Su's tenure in California: repeated warnings of a serious problem, little to no preventative action, followed by a refusal to accept responsibility or change course when her failures are brought to light.

Unfortunately, this isn't the only major concern that has emerged during Julie Su's short time as U.S. Acting Secretary of Labor. At the same time that children have been exploited in workplaces, Ms. Su has failed to properly manage the H-2A program for bringing in temporary agricultural workers on a legal basis.

Just this morning, House Education and the Workforce Committee Chairwoman VIRGINIA FOXX and I sent an oversight letter to Acting Secretary Su regarding serious delays in the processing of H-2A applications. In the letter we write: "It has come to the attention of the Committee on Education and the Workforce that employers applying for labor certifications at the Department of Labor for H-2A agricultural workers are facing substantial delays. These delays can be tremendously harmful for American agriculture. The arrival of workers can be delayed by weeks, causing inefficiencies and supply chain disruptions. . . . The planting and harvesting windows offer only a short amount of time to meet the season's needs. Our understanding is that this worsening problem is caused by unnecessary and avoidable delays at the Department of Labor."

Incredibly, a Department of Labor official, Mike Rios, who serves as regional agricultural enforcement director at the Wage and Hour Division, is

quoted as saying this: "You can see that the H-2A program literally is the purchase of humans to perform difficult work under terrible conditions, sometimes including subhuman living conditions."

This is a bipartisan program that has been created and has existed for a long time. But that is what he had to say about it. He is also quoted as saying: "You can throw a rock and hit a violation in the agricultural industry." That is a strange thing for him to say considering that it is his department and Julie Su's department, the Department of Labor, that is responsible for preventing those sorts of violations, for enforcing our labor laws.

Under Julie Su's leadership, the Department of Labor is failing to protect workers, including children, is unfairly attacking America's farmers, and is failing to support our agriculture sector's workforce needs under a program authorized by Federal law.

She has been Acting Secretary for only a matter of months and was Deputy Secretary for 2 years. In that time, she has directly transferred her record of mismanagement from California to the rest of the Nation.

I should say, in California right now, we have the Nation's largest budget deficit. We have the Nation's second highest unemployment rate. We have the Nation's lowest rate of income growth. We have the highest rate of poverty. This is the direct result of the mismanagement and the antiworker, antibusiness, antiopportunity policies from the likes of Julie Su and Gavin Newsom.

With everything we now know, to elevate Ms. Su would be to take our country down the failed path of California with eyes wide open. I urge President Biden to choose a different course. It is past time to withdraw this nomination.

#### FENTANYL TRAFFICKING MUST BE STOPPED

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act, which passed the House of Representatives earlier today. This bill fixes a critical loophole and empowers law enforcement to continue to have the tools they need to prevent fentanyl distribution in communities across America.

We are seeing staggering amounts of fentanyl pour across the southern border, flooding our communities with illicit and lethal pills, killing tens of thousands of Americans every year. This is now the leading cause of death for young people in our country; more than car accidents, more than suicides, more than anything. It is affecting every community in our country, including my own.

During the State of the Union a few months ago, I was honored to have as my guests two of our Nation's leading advocates for fentanyl awareness, the parents of a young man named Zach Didier, who tragically lost his life to fentanyl. He was a senior at Whitney High School, a standout student with

no history of drug use, and from one pill, he tragically lost his life. His parents had to go through the gut-wrenching experience of seeing him get letters in the mail accepting him to some of our Nation's leading universities after he had passed away. There is simply no doubt that addressing the fentanyl crisis will save the lives of many of my constituents and of people in every community in our country.

□ 1315

This act, the Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act, is a major step in that direction. In fact, the act itself is common sense.

Fentanyl is currently classified as a schedule I drug, which gives the Drug Enforcement Administration the power to enforce and arrest criminals involved in producing and distributing fentanyl. To avoid prosecution, criminals have begun to manufacture drugs nearly chemically identical to fentanyl.

Now, these drugs are just as deadly. They mimic fentanyl in every way, but they don't fall under the technical definition of fentanyl.

In response, the Department of Justice and DEA temporarily classified these fentanyl-related substances as schedule I drugs. This commonsense act makes this temporary classification permanent rather than letting it expire.

Giving law enforcement the tools they need to prosecute those responsible and involved in the fentanyl crisis, from producers to dealers, is a critical component of the multipronged approach needed to save lives and stop fentanyl from destroying our communities. We know this approach works.

After the DEA classified fentanyl-related substances as schedule I drugs, law enforcement encounters of these fentanyl copycat drugs fell by over 90 percent.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to support a proven measure that will save lives and to vote "aye" on the Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act, which just passed the House today with bipartisan support and has the support of President Biden, as well.

#### REPLACING SENATOR FEINSTEIN

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the situation surrounding the senior Senator from California, DIANNE FEINSTEIN.

The latest news is that our Governor, Gavin Newsom, is now talking about appointing Oprah to the U.S. Senate as a replacement.

Now, Gavin Newsom has been talking about replacing Senator FEINSTEIN for over 2 years. He started publicly speculating in 2021 about who he would replace, and at that point, Senator FEINSTEIN was barely a third of the way through her term.

California's other senator, ALEX PADILLA, himself first got his office through appointment by Governor Newsom, so if there was, in fact, an ap-

pointment for Senator FEINSTEIN, then both of our U.S. Senators would have been handpicked not by millions of voters but by a single person to initially get their jobs.

At this moment, pressure is coming from all directions when it comes to this situation and with a race for 2024 already underway. A number of sitting Members of the House have actually overtly called on Senator FEINSTEIN to resign.

RO KHANNA said: "It is time for Senator FEINSTEIN to resign. We need to put the country ahead of personal loyalty. While she has had a lifetime of public service, it is obvious she can no longer fulfill her duties. Not speaking out undermines our credibility as elected representatives of the people." That is what he said.

We also had Congresswoman TLAIB, as well as Congresswoman KAMLAGERDOVE, make similar comments, urging the Senator to vacate her office.

The individual who is being supported by Congressman KHANNA, BARBARA LEE, told KQED that she would accept an appointment to the job if Governor Gavin Newsom offered it to her.

Meanwhile, Speaker NANCY PELOSI, who, of course, herself is from California, is supporting another candidate, Congressman SCHIFF, and there have been a number of recent headlines related to this.

This comes from Politico, which says that Feinstein's primary caregiver is PELOSI's daughter. The subheading says: "A quiet caretaking arrangement has raised questions about whether Nancy Pelosi has the ailing Senator's personal interests at heart."

Another headline from Washington Examiner: "Pelosi's secret campaign to aid Feinstein and get Schiff into the Senate."

From FOX News: "Pelosi's office denies her daughter is aiding Feinstein to help Adam Schiff win a Senate seat."

This is just a mess. None of it right now is about what is in the interest of Senator FEINSTEIN, the interest of our State, or the interest of our country. It is all about politics.

I believe the solution is to do away with the possibility of a gubernatorial appointment altogether. That way, Senator FEINSTEIN can make a decision on her own terms. She will know that whether she finishes her term or whether she steps down before the end of her term, it is California voters who will decide who her successor will be. That is what will allow her to make a decision without all the distractions of politics at the moment.

To that end, I have introduced a constitutional amendment doing away with appointed Senators. Now, this would make it so the Senate is the same as the House. You don't have any appointed Members of the House who step onto this floor. Yet, you have had a lot of appointed Senators. I want to make it the same way, that if you want to represent your State as a United

States Senator, you need to be elected to do so.

Indeed, this is really an anachronism, this process of appointing Senators in the case of a vacancy, and it has been subject to rampant abuse.

We had Governor Rob Blagojevich go to prison after he essentially auctioned off Barack Obama's vacated Senate seat. We have had Governors who have appointed their family members, who have appointed their spouses. Several Governors have even appointed themselves.

I am calling on Members of the House and Senate to join me in passing that to do away with this anachronistic, antidemocratic process of appointing Senators.

In the meantime, this almost certainly will not take effect prior to the current situation with Senator FEINSTEIN being resolved, so I am calling on the California State Legislature, which has oversight over election laws and itself is responsible for creating the procedure for gubernatorial appointment, to address the situation.

There is actually a little bit of a backstory here. When Senator PADILLA was appointed to the Senate following the election of KAMALA HARRIS as Vice President, I raised an issue at the time with the legality of that appointment. Actually, the California State Legislative Analyst's Office, the legislative counsel's office in California, agreed with me that it would not be constitutional for the Governor to appoint a Senator who would then serve out the remainder of KAMALA HARRIS' term, which was set to expire in 2022.

The reason for that is that the Constitution, the 17th Amendment, only allows temporary appointments. So, if you appoint someone who serves the rest of the term, that is not temporary. That is permanent.

What the legislature did in response to the legal issue I raised, and that the legislative counsel's office agreed with me on, is they passed a bill to say that they will have a special election to determine who the new Senator is going to be and who is going to finish the term, but we are not going to have that special election until the next election. That actually happened in November 2022 at the exact same time we held the election for who would serve the new 6-year term.

It was an absurdity. We literally had the same election on the ballot twice. One was for the new 6-year term, and the other was just for the last couple of months, the lame duck portion of the existing term.

That was the way our legislature figured out to give basically as much advantage to the Governor's chosen appointed Senator as possible while still abiding by the letter, if not the spirit, of the 17th Amendment.

What I have been in conversations with some members of the legislature about is that they should change this law or, at the very least, make an exception to it for the current situation

with Senator FEINSTEIN, to say that if there is a vacancy, then there will not be an appointment, that there will be an immediate special election, and that is how the successor will be chosen for the remainder of Senator FEINSTEIN's term, which is set to expire in 2024.

I think that this is what will allow for fairness in the process of choosing our next Senator. It will give millions of Californians a say, rather than just one individual, and it will give Senator FEINSTEIN the ability to make a decision that is best for her, best for the State, and best for the country.

I urge that action on the part of the California Legislature and Governor.

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

#### RENAMING THE RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. And still I rise a proud descendant of the enslaved people who are the foundational mothers and fathers of the United States of America.

They are the foundational mothers and fathers because many of them had their entire lives sacrificed so that the country can have the economic foundation that it had in the early stages of its existence.

These foundational mothers and fathers are the persons who were kidnapped, brought to this country, placed into slavery, forced into labor, centuries of labor, not compensated, no remuneration. I am a proud descendant, and I am a proud descendant because they ought to be respected.

It is time to respect the foundational mothers and fathers who laid the economic foundation upon which this Nation stands today.

I am also proud to be here today to speak about the conscience agenda.

We want to make sure that we have a slavery remembrance day, August 20. On August 20, 1619, the *White Lion* docked in Point Comfort, Virginia, near what we now call Norfolk, Virginia. On this *White Lion* were persons who were placed into slavery in this country.

August 20, 1619, a moment in time that will impact the rest of time, we will never be able to escape the fact that it happened. It was a seminal moment in time. August 20 ought to be slavery remembrance day.

We ought to also do something to acknowledge those persons whom I call the foundational mothers and fathers. I am a proud descendant of them.

In 1956, we accorded a Congressional Gold Medal to Confederate soldiers, to those persons who would enslave persons or maintain slavery. This Con-

gress did it, a Congressional Gold Medal.

Well, why not have a Congressional Gold Medal for the enslaved, the foundational mothers and fathers?

This is part of the conscience agenda, a Congressional Gold Medal for the enslaved.

In this country that I love, I salute the flag; I say the Pledge of Allegiance; and I stand for the national anthem. It means something to me to be an American.

By the way, the greatness of the country won't be measured by whether I do these things. The greatness of the country will be measured by whether I would defend those who choose not to salute the flag, who choose not to say the Pledge of Allegiance. The greatness of America is in how we tolerate persons who have opinions that are not popular.

That is the greatness of America, in part. There are many other aspects of it.

The truth is, in this country that I am proud to be a part of, proud to say I am an American—the United States is my home; the origin of my descendants was far away—we revere the enslavers and revile the enslaved.

How can we possibly allow this to continue? These were human beings. They merit a Congressional Gold Medal.

If we can give a Congressional Gold Medal to the enslavers, the Confederate soldiers, then we can accord one to the enslaved people who were the foundational mothers and fathers who worked for hundreds of years to make this country the great Nation that it is.

That is all a part of the conscience agenda. Today, however, having spoken of these things briefly, I am going to focus on the third item on the conscience agenda.

The third item on the conscience agenda is removing the name of Richard Russell from the Russell Senate Office Building.

To properly address this, I have to lay a predicate. We have to talk first about beneficial bigotry.

□ 1330

And to properly explain beneficial bigotry, we have to address a concept. It is this notion that those who tolerate bigotry perpetuate bigotry. Those who tolerate bigotry, because that toleration of bigotry, you are perpetuating it because you're not doing what you can to stop it.

We ought not tolerate bigotry. The Russell Senate Office Building is named after Richard Russell, a self-proclaimed white supremacist. That is what he called himself. He was a person who fought antilynching legislation. That means he did not want us to pass antilynching legislation.

He was a person who fought integration. If he had his way, there is a good likelihood I would not be standing here today. He was the person who coauthored the Southern Manifesto. Richard Russell, his name is on the Russell

Senate Office Building. He identified himself as a white supremacist.

Well, dear friends, his name ought not be there. We ought not tolerate his name being there. To tolerate his name there is to perpetuate the bigotry associated with his many exploits.

Richard Russell's name should be removed from the Russell Senate Office Building, and it should be replaced with the name that it had before it became the Russell Senate Office Building. I don't have a person's name that I would call to the attention of the Congress, I don't. There will be some debate about that.

I do believe we can let it revert to the name that it had prior to becoming the Russell Senate Office Building, and that was the Old Senate Office Building. I think it should be called the Old Senate Office Building. Let it revert back to this, then take as much time as you need to acquire an honorable name to go on the building.

The Russell Senate Office Building is currently a symbol of national shame. It is. The Senators ought to be ashamed because they have the power to remove this name from the building. They have the power to do it, the Senate. The same Senate that voted on removing names from military bases can remove this name from the Russell Senate Office Building.

The toleration of bigotry is the perpetuation of it. Allowing this name to stay there is the toleration of bigotry, especially when you have the power to remove it. We ought to use that awesome power that the Senate has to do not the right thing but the righteous things. It would be a righteous thing to remove this name from the building.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to talk about beneficial bigotry, this is a part of my predicate. When you benefit from bigotry, if you believe it benefits you in some way, you tolerate it.

I, by the way, have not been afforded that luxury. If I say something that is bigoted or if I am near bigotry, I have to apologize. I have apologized, by the way, for things that I found to be unacceptable. I have. I have to. I am not allowed the luxury of having the benefits that beneficial bigotry can afford people.

There are many who fight bigotry until it benefits them. They don't have to apologize. They can let a building be called the Russell Senate Office Building, fight bigotry everywhere but in the building wherein they happen to have offices. They fight it everywhere but here, the Russell Senate Office Building, with this name.

Let me give you some examples of what beneficial bigotry allows. Beneficial bigotry will allow a country to name a town after a bigot. Beneficial bigotry. Beneficial bigotry allows some people the luxury of associating with bigots and justifying it. That is what beneficial bigotry accords some people.

We ought not allow the benefits of bigotry to allow us to tolerate bigotry, such that we perpetuate bigotry. That

is what is happening with the Russell Senate Office Building.

My friends, I live today to live to see the day that this name will come off of this building. I don't know when it will happen—it will. But I do know how the system works, and it is beneficial to know how it works.

The system functions such that when some people demand things of others who have the power to make the change, they will not make that change because of the simple fact that the demand was made, and they don't want it to appear as though they had to succumb to the demand that was made. I am demanding. I am demanding. I am not begging. I am, in a sense, pleading. I am demanding that the name come off.

You see, when you do this and when you are bold enough and you have the courage enough to demand that the righteous thing be done, there are some people who are not going to do the righteous thing simply because they can't let it be said that they have caved in, as it were—to borrow the parlance of many persons—that they caved in to a demand to do the righteous thing. They can't accept that.

What they will do is they will try to find a way to do this, to remove the name, and proclaim victory because it was done for some other reason, not because of the demand, but for some other reason. I am okay with that. Just remove the name. Find a clever way to do it.

Usually they will find some person that they find favor with to become the person that actually caused it to happen. History is replete with examples of where persons of African ancestry have not been properly credited for what they have done in history. I can think of some examples that are in my book that I will share with you at a later time.

The point is this: We cannot allow persons to simply decide that because they have the power, and they get to set the agenda that they won't do it. There is nothing preventing the Senate from changing this name, removing it, saving will. Just the will. Remove the name of the bigot from the building. There is nothing preventing it except for will.

My prayer to the Senate is that the Senate would do the righteous thing. Don't tolerate bigotry. You don't have to. Your offices are in the building. Your offices are in the building, in the Russell Senate Office Building, a symbol of national shame. You ought to be ashamed that it is there—your office.

What is wrong with us?

I know how the system works. I am a part of it, I ought to. There is some positive news related to Richard Russell, and the positive news is that one of my colleagues of whom I am proud to associate with, as it relates to this, the Honorable BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN is proposing legislation that would take Richard Russell's name off of a bill—off of legislation. I came to this

floor some time ago, and I brought up the fact that his name is on more than a building, his name is on legislation. There is a lunch program that his name is on.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN has legislation that would rename the National School Lunch Program Act. It is going to remove his name and substitute it with another name. I compliment you, my dear friend, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. I compliment you for doing this.

This is the honorable thing to do. I appreciate it. I am going to appreciate it. I am going to, if allowed, be her co-lead on this legislation.

I made a commitment, and I want the world to know that I try my best to honor my commitments. I made a commitment, and the RECORD of the Congress will reflect that on April 28, 2023, Volume 169, Number 72 of the Daily Edition, there is a topic styled "The Conscious Agenda." It is part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I stood right here in this very spot, and I made a commitment. About halfway through my message, you will find the commitment where I am speaking of legislation that bears the name of Richard Russell—the same person whose name is on the building.

I said: "It is the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Program." That is what I am talking about. I indicate that this legislation bears his name. Here are my exact words: "His name shouldn't be on a school lunch program." I go on to say: "I am filing legislation"—and I said—"this is the update"—because the last time when I spoke on this topic it was an update—I say, "this is the update."

"I am filing legislation—this is the update—to have Richard Russell's name removed from all legislation that happens to bear it currently—all legislation—and to never have his name listed again." And I go on to say: "He is a symbol of national shame. His name should be removed."

I still stand by that. So while I am going to support and co-lead and am proud to know that Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN is filing her legislation, I will file my legislation to keep my commitment that I have made to people who chronicle the things that I do. I want them to know that I am following through. I will be filing my legislation, notwithstanding the fact that I will support, proudly, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN's legislation.

Friends, we live in a country that accords us free speech. This is a priceless possession to have, free speech. There are so many places in the world where one cannot stand as I am standing today before the world, literally, and say the things that I have said. This is one of the reasons why I love my country because of the free speech.

Here is a question that we have to ask ourselves: If we have free speech and free speech can be the methodology by which we can bring about change, and if we are tolerant of bigotry, is that free speech really being used to

the benefit of the people who actually accorded us or afforded us the free speech, the people who are the Framers of the Constitution?

I have great respect for them. The Framers who thought this thing was so important that they put it in the Constitution.

I am standing here to take advantage of and use that free speech. That free speech allows me to stand here and tell you that beneficial bigotry is going to become the shame of many persons in this country.

I have here invitations. These are all invitations. I won't turn them toward the camera because I really don't want to today expose the names of the persons who sent me these invitations.

Here is one that is for a luncheon that took place in the month of May. I won't give the date because I am not interested in identifying the organization. They are inviting me to an event taking place in the Russell Senate Office Building.

□ 1345

Obviously, if you know me, you know that I didn't go.

I am a one-person protest. I refuse to go into the Russell Senate Office Building except to protest. I am not going into that building unless I am to protest, and I will go in for that purpose.

However, my friends, whose names I shall not reveal, sent me this request and I wrote them a letter in response. I will come back to the letter in just a moment.

I have other friends having an event in the month of May at the Russell Senate Office Building. I didn't attend. I sent them a letter. I will come back to the letter in just a moment.

I received another offer to attend the Russell Senate Office Building and be a part of an event. I did not attend. I sent them a letter.

Now, all of these are just for the month of May, and while not calling names, some of the people who sent me these invitations are people who fight bigotry vehemently, who stand against bigotry in all its forms. They do, but they have events in the Russell Senate Office Building.

How can you have events in the Russell Senate Office Building and say that you are antithetical to bigotry, that you are going to fight bigotry?

There are some places that if I went into, I would have to apologize because those places are associated with bigotry, but not my friends over in the Senate, in and out on a daily basis. I have friends inviting me to come to events there, be a part of programs. The Russell Senate Office Building is a benefit to them. You cannot allow beneficial bigotry, my friends, to cause you to tolerate bigotry.

When you do this, you perpetuate bigotry. I told you I sent a letter to my friends explaining my position. I am just going to read some excerpts from the letter, and the reference is, invitation to luncheon, leaving out the rest

of it, and it is in the Russell Senate Office Building.

I am going to say “friend” so as not to identify the persons. Dear friend: “Thank you for your invitation to the luncheon,” without getting into the details. “I am compelled to decline your invitation as I am boycotting the Russell Senate Office Building wherein the luncheon will take place.”

Yes. The “yes” is not here. That is just a part of me expressing myself because I feel good about what I did. Yes.

I write: “Richard Russell was an unapologetic bigot and a white supremacist who claimed that America was ‘a White man’s country.’” Check the records if you don’t believe me. It is all there. We are talking about the same Richard Russell that the building is named after, “a White man’s country.”

He goes on to say: “‘We are going to keep it that way.’” It is “‘a White man’s country . . . and we are going to keep it that way,’” meaning, we are going to keep it a White man’s country.

I know this is uncomfortable for many people to hear. We would rather have AL GREEN simply tolerate bigotry and perpetuate bigotry. That is what we would like to do when it is beneficial bigotry and it benefits other folk.

Let me go on, if I may. “He not only successfully filibustered antilynching bills, but also voted against the 1964 Civil Rights Act”—Richard Russell—that is my commentary—“calling it”—these are his words—“shortsighted and disastrous.”

The man whose name is on a building paid for by taxpayer dollars, many of whom are people of color, indicated that the 1964 Civil Rights Act was “shortsighted and disastrous.”

Richard Russell, a beneficial bigot, whose name is on the Russell Senate Office Building.

Permit me to read on. These are my words: “Furthermore, he coauthored the ‘Southern Manifesto’ in opposition to racial integration.”

I won’t read it in its entirety. I am going to go to the next to the last line in the letter.

I indicate: “For these and other compelling reasons, I will not enter the Russell Senate Office Building (except to protest) until the name of the bigot is removed from the building.”

I know there are people who are saying, Who let him say that? How could you let AL GREEN come to the floor of the House of Representatives and say these things? Here is how: Free speech. Here is how: Speaking truth.

This is how it happens. I am here to do what we say we will do but many times do not. I am here to speak truth to power.

Yes, there are consequences, but at some point in life you ought to decide that you are not going to tolerate beneficial bigotry, especially when you are not allowed to tolerate it and to see others tolerate it while demanding that you not tolerate it, that is also

hypocritical, I indicate, until his name is removed from the building, upon which I still stand.

Now, I would go on record saying this, just as I went on record saying that I would file the bill to remove his name from legislation, and I will. I have my bill prepared, and I am going to sign on to Congresswoman WATSON COLEMAN’s bill, but now my commitment is this: I am going to send a letter now to all of my friends in the human rights/civil rights movement, because many of the folk who wrote me these letters that I have, many of these people are in the human rights/civil rights movement.

I am going to send them all a letter, do not invite me to attend meetings in the Russell Senate Office Building. Be so kind as to not insult me. I am not a perfect victim. I am not the victim who is going to tolerate the bigotry and witness your toleration of it because it is beneficial, so don’t send me a letter, don’t invite me. I am not coming.

They can continue to tolerate the beneficial bigotry that they enjoy by being in the Russell Senate Office Building, but know this: There will come a time when this name will be removed. There will. It will come down. The universe is constructed, such as Dr. King put it, the arc, “the moral arc is long, but it bends toward justice.”

This will be the just thing to do, to remove Richard Russell from the Senate Office Building.

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

#### DEBT CEILING CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I always appreciate hearing from the gentleman from Texas. Don’t always agree, but he is a friend and he is a gentleman, and I always enjoy seeing him down on the floor.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN).

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I just want to say that people don’t know the relationships that people have. They don’t know. We can respect people that we don’t agree with. That is the greatness of America, respecting people that we have antithetical views with, but we can respect them. If we work with them long enough, we will find common ground. Thank you.

Mr. ROY. Amen. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the words from my brother, my friend from Texas. He is exactly right.

Just last night, I was on an interview on Fox with my friend BYRON DONALDS, and we have staked out two different positions in the primary fight for the Republican nomination for President, and we were talking about how we will be, you know, coming together in a

year one way or the other carrying forward in the general election, but at some point we have got to remember that we can agree to disagree, that we can actually have a vigorous debate, vigorous disagreements, and engage in—I just wish we would have more of us down here on the floor engaging in actual debate.

I would ask any of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, we want to start turning some of our Special Orders into special debates. I think that would be a better use of our time, and actually go back and forth in 2 minute intervals and actually engage in debate on the body of the people's House.

Madam Speaker, I do have to take some issue with some of the 1-minute speeches that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle were engaging in about an hour ago. I saw that the Democrat majority leader was on the floor with a chart and that chart said, "House Republicans are running out of town to cause an economic meltdown."

Sounds ominous. Sounds terrible and threatening and all sorts of calamities are going ensue. Where are Senate Democrats? Where is CHUCK SCHUMER? They have been MIA this entire week, not even in town, but, hell, they have been MIA all year not doing a thing in the Senate except for being the personnel office for the administration. That is all they do, run through nominations, and, heck, they are not even that good at that.

What do they do? They run out of town. Where was the President last week? Japan.

You see this ominous threat of a looming debt ceiling date, an X-date as it is being referred to of June 1, is all manufactured crisis and theater. We know that. Americans know that.

Secretary Yellen wants to figure out how we need to deal with whatever interest payments need to be paid in June, she can prioritize those payments. She can make decisions to figure out how to carry this country forward. She can walk on down here, brief us, meet with us long before the June 7 date she is currently planning to come down to talk to us and have a conversation about taking those COVID dollars back that are sitting in there unobligated to the tune of \$50 billion.

How about taking the IRS dollars back that are there to expand the Internal Revenue Service, an IRS which, by the way, targets the poor and minorities three to five times more than the nonpoor and nonminorities. That is the truth.

Why don't they take that \$80 billion, combine it with the COVID money, turn it into dollars right now that you can go pay loans with? No problem.

See, my Democratic colleagues won't do that because my Democratic colleagues prefer the fear created with a manufactured crisis. They prefer to use that crisis as Rahm Emanuel said: "Never let a crisis go to waste." They prefer to manufacture a crisis to jack up more debt on our children and grandchildren to the tune of \$4 trillion.

That is what they want more than anything on Earth is to spend more money, to increase the power of government, to undermine our freedoms, to destroy the American way of life, and they are doing it right now. That is what is happening.

The fact is, while some of my Democratic colleagues were on the floor, one individual said: "Make no mistake, they," meaning Republicans, "have no plan."

Well, I am sorry. We passed a bill in April. We actually passed a bill off of the floor of the House that raises the debt ceiling \$1.5 trillion, provides an actual path to fiscal responsibility, and we did that in April.

□ 1400

Oh, but see, we have no plan. We have got to have this manufactured crisis.

Another quote: President Biden already lowered the deficit by \$1.7 trillion, they say. His budget would cut the deficit by another \$3 trillion by eliminating wasteful spending on Big Oil and Pharma, we are told. It is, in fact, our Democratic colleagues who prefer to maintain their massive subsidies for the elites and the wealthy in their so-called "Inflation Reduction Act" just last year.

My friend from New York, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, said: "I ask you to think about the last time a person has said in this country that the government does too much for them. . . . When was the last time anyone has heard or seen that?"

I will say it. I will say it right here. I don't want the government doing most of the things that the government is doing to interfere with the ability of the American people to carry out their lives; Federal, State, and local. When was the last time you had a bureaucrat show up and you said: "Oh, joy. Thank you. I am really glad there is a bureaucrat here?"

When was the last time you were thankful for \$32 trillion in debt, \$100,000 almost for every man, woman, and child in America? Anybody thankful for \$32 trillion in debt? Anybody?

Anybody thankful for a border that is wide open, being exploited by cartels, while fentanyl comes in and kills our children? Anybody thankful for that? A Department of Homeland Security that doesn't actually secure the homeland?

Anybody thankful for an FBI that went after Scott Smith and labeled him a domestic terrorist for daring to defend his daughter in a school board meeting because she was assaulted in a bathroom?

Anybody thankful for the IRS knocking on your door, auditing the poor, the minorities, three to five times more? People thankful for that?

Are you thankful for the EPA, or the Department of the Interior, that sent a man to prison because he had some ponds on his ranch in Montana?

We have a government that is weaponized against the American people and is undermining our liberties,

and they want more of it. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle want more, more government. They want more taxes. They want more spending.

They want more bureaucrats knocking on your door, like Mark Houck in Philadelphia, when he woke up to his door being knocked on by local law enforcement, teamed up with Federal law enforcement, to go carry out a warrant to arrest him because he had defended his son exercising free speech, because he is a pro-life activist in Philadelphia. That is your government at work.

The fact is: We have a decision to make here. What are we going to do? Are we going to listen to the wailing and gnashing of teeth of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle projecting a manufactured crisis to exploit fear to try to raise our debt limit, a credit card limit, by \$4 trillion? I want to be very clear, and I want to be clear to my colleagues on this side of the aisle. Anybody making a deal right now? \$4 trillion? Are you out of your freaking mind?

When I came to this town as a lawyer on the Senate Judiciary Committee, the entire debt was \$6 trillion. What are we doing? We are having a conversation, blowing my mind, about raising our debt another \$4 trillion. Why? So we can continue to fund the very bureaucrats that at least my colleagues on this side of the aisle campaign against.

Guess what? You have the power of the purse for a reason. You should use it. Federalist 58, James Madison, what did he say? He said the power of the purse granted to the people's House was the most powerful tool you could give against the tyranny of the executive branch.

My colleagues on this side of the aisle all too often like to go around and campaign against all of the things that the bureaucracy is doing or that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle support, but when it comes down to game time—and it is game time right now—when it comes down to game time, are we going to use the power of the purse to defend the American people against the onslaught of the tyranny of the executive branch, or are we going to tuck tail, take the first exit ramp off, and walk away?

What I am hearing right now being debated, being negotiated, is taking the first exit ramp off to cut a deal, because that is what we do in this town, cut a deal. But that deal is not a deal for our kids and our grandkids.

We passed a responsible bill in April. My message to my Republican colleagues is: Hold the line.

My message to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: Quit lying to the American people, quit advancing this fraud of a manufactured crisis, stop telling people that you can just continue to spend money we don't have. Stop lying to them that there is more tax revenue to go get when we are at the highest level of tax revenue

ever in our history, matched only two other times, World War II and in 2000 at the end of the dot-com explosion. Almost 20 percent of our GDP is taken in by taxes.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle hide behind that, and they refuse to acknowledge that this government is too big, too burdensome, and too weaponized against the American people.

So we passed a bill that would pull back discretionary spending \$131 billion to 2022 spending levels. Now, that is what we were spending a mere 6 months ago. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle would tell you: Oh, my God, you are going to completely dismantle everybody's life and well-being. It is literally what we were spending 6 months ago.

More than that, you can maintain defense levels at 2023 levels, current levels, and you can return your bureaucratic state, your nondefense spending, to merely what we were spending right before COVID, recognizing, by the way, that our government is now 40 percent bigger since the beginning of COVID. We can return it to pre-COVID levels, which, by the way, polls at 76 percent. Most Americans say: Yeah, I think I can deal with that great efficiency of the bureaucracy, pre-COVID.

We can do that. That is what we passed. That is what Republicans stood up and passed and put into the Senate's hands.

By the way, if we did that, we could fund NDD—that is, nondefense discretionary—at the exact same level as that great MAGA extremist Barack Obama proposed for fiscal 2024 in his last budget.

Secondly, we passed measures that would repeal the grid-destroying tax credits passed in the name of—my colleagues on the other side of the aisle say “green;” I say “unreliable”—energy in this so-called Inflation Reduction Act that will enrich leftists, enrich corporations, and enrich the Chinese Communist Party.

Last year, through reconciliation, which is not the way we should do business—that is how ObamaCare was passed—with a mere majority vote in the House and the Senate, with 158 proxy votes, people in this Chamber who were not physically present. During the August recess, on a party-line vote, Democrats jammed through a giant giveaway to the wealthiest Americans. Goldman Sachs estimates it at \$1.2 trillion, over three times the original estimate.

If we do not carry through as Republicans, if we do not carry through with the measure we passed in April to reduce those subsidies, then the EIA, the Energy Information Agency, I think it is, estimates that the IRA, the Inflation Reduction Act—we use too many acronyms in this town—could make wind and solar account for nearly 60 percent of the U.S. electricity generation by 2050.

Now, everybody is jumping up and down in joy in all the schools across

America because they have been told that wind and solar is the magic unicorn energy. Don't you understand? Everything is great; it is clean; it is wonderful.

They don't ever talk about the side effects. They don't ever talk about the children, who are mining all of the minerals to be used in the solar panels, being abused around the world. They never talk about the environmental impact of the wind turbines in West Texas, or what happens to birds. They never talk about what it means to national security and empowering China. They never talk about the fact that you can't have a grid that stays up and powers your homes and your hospitals and your lives because you don't have gas-fired plants, you don't have coal-fired plants, and you don't have nuclear plants backing up the grid.

I can tell you, on a cloudy, windless day in Texas: We are in trouble. It is true.

Everybody is going to go around on the other side of the aisle—and I have seen them—they go give speeches to kids on the steps of the Capitol and they say: Oh, we are doing all of these great things for you. Don't you know? We care about the environment. We care about our planet. You now have all of this great, clean energy.

Well, enjoy being in third-world status with brownouts, like we are seeing in Europe and like we are seeing in other parts of the world, where they are retreating from the full embrace of so-called “green,” i.e., “unreliable energy resources,” because you create energy poverty. You undermine human flourishing. You undermine the well-being and the prosperity of the poorest of the poor in this world when you take away the ability for us to have energy. That is exactly what my Democrat colleagues did and in the process are enriching their fat cat friends. Ninety percent of the subsidies go to corporations of a billion dollars and up.

Oh, but I thought this was all of the good stuff, the unicorn energy stuff. No, rich people, financiers, making tons of money on the back of graft, of corporate cronyism, the worst kind of corporate cronyism you have ever seen on display happening right here.

What are Republicans doing? Running away, saying: Well, they will never give up their signature Inflation Reduction Act bill.

Bull. They will give it up if we take it to them and hold the line for the American people. Stand up and hold the line, to my Republican colleagues, against the worst form of corporate cronyism I have ever seen on the floor of this body.

How about 80 percent of the electric vehicle subsidies that go to people who make \$100,000 or \$300,000 as a couple? Yeah. So the poor guy out there who is a plumber, trying to drive his pickup around, is going to be told: You have got to go subsidize the little suburbanite family running around in their EV feeling good about themselves, pat-

ting themselves on the back, while they go plug their EV in to charge it using as much power as you use for your air-conditioning unit, which has to come from somewhere, and that somewhere ain't nuclear, ain't gas, and ain't coal anymore because they are destroying our ability to produce the reliable power that we need for the very EVs they want to subsidize.

Let's not even talk about how much that is empowering China directly. Chinese companies are eligible for these climate credits. A recent analysis found Chinese companies could end up with \$125 billion in IRA subsidies.

You are giving them all the power, the Chinese Communist Party. You are subsidizing them with direct taxpayer money. You are allowing the Chinese to then sell us back the panels made with the minerals that they mined. How in the world is this good for our national security or our energy security? It is not.

Democrats should be ashamed. Republicans should be ashamed if we walk away, which is what they are about to do, cutting a deal that undermines the American people, taking the very first off-ramp, the very first exit ramp.

How about the third issue, overturning Biden's unfair deficit-increasing and tuition-increasing student loan bailout, which will cut the deficit by \$400 to \$500 billion dollars this year? We passed that. Yay, Republicans. They were all cheering down here.

□ 1415

The Republicans were all cheering down here. We should cheer it, but guess what we are doing? We are walking away from it. Do you know why, Madam Speaker? It is because my Republican colleagues say: Don't worry. The Supreme Court will strike it down as unconstitutional.

Guess what? One, don't count on it. Don't put all your eggs in the Supreme Court basket. Number two, there is this thing called the Constitution, which we are supposed to enforce and support. You don't walk away from your own view of the constitutionality of an unconstitutional act by a President. It is our job.

I don't want to hear one member of the Republican Party in this House use the term “power of the purse” and walk away from forcing Democrats to end this unlawful and unconstitutional act by the President of the United States to unilaterally choose to make individuals in this country pay off the loans of other individuals in this country.

How is that standing up for the people? How is that holding the line?

Eighty-seven percent of the American people don't have student loans, and of the people who do have student loans, 56 percent of them have graduate degrees. Yet, you are going to ask that same plumber who has to get in his pickup—and he is now subsidizing that suburbanite who is driving their little electronic vehicle, their little EV,

going around saying look at how great they are—subsidizing that and also subsidizing that idiot's gender studies degree.

The plumber who started a business didn't take out a loan. He works hard and wants what is best for his kid, and he is now subsidizing the gender studies-degree kid sitting in a basement tweeting and sitting on their parent's healthcare plan that allows them to stay on it until they are 26. Then you wonder why we are \$32 trillion in debt.

But what we are going to do, in all of our infinite wisdom, is cut a deal. Cut a deal to get what? More about that later, whenever we figure out what that is.

I would remind everybody that Speaker PELOSI herself said: "People think that the President of the United States has the power for debt forgiveness. He does not. He can postpone. He can delay. But he does not have that power. That has to be an act of Congress."

There was no act of Congress, yet we are funding it. We defunded it as Republicans, but now we are walking away from defunding that to cut a deal. We should not do that.

Number four, rescinding the \$80 billion Democrats gave to the IRS to hire 87,000 agents that will target working- and middle-class taxpayers the most.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle say that Republicans just want to protect rich tax cheats. According to CBS, that great purveyor of rightwing conspiracy news, the IRS audits the poor at five times the rate of everyone else.

According to The New York Times, also a great purveyor of radical right-wing news, "Black taxpayers are at least three times as likely to be audited by the Internal Revenue Service as other taxpayers."

Rich people have lawyers. Rich people get subsidies from the very people who go out and campaign and say they are doing everything for the American people while they enrich their fat-cat buddies, as my Democratic colleagues did with the Inflation Reduction Act and which my Republican colleagues voted to end and now are walking away from eliminating.

Reform No. 5, implement the REINS Act to end the abuse of executive power by empowering Congress to approve major regulations that cost Americans billions of dollars.

President Biden's regulatory delusion in his first 2 years has saddled the American people with at least \$318 billion in total costs and more than 218 million hours of paperwork.

More than that, there are massive regulations being carried out by this administration through executive fiat and order that have a massive economic impact and, more importantly, a massive liberty impact on the American people, turning millions of Americans into felons for daring to have a piece of plastic that attaches to a constitutionally protected weapon.

The student loan fiasco I just described, regulation after regulation by this administration, and all we want to do is pass the REINS Act, which we just passed out of the Judiciary Committee, by the way—are we going to make that a part of our deal? I am not reading about it in all the leaked reports I am seeing.

Let's kick that one aside. Let's allow the administration to continue to run roughshod over the American people through executive fiat because we want a deal.

Reform No. 6, strengthen and establish work requirements for able-bodied Americans who are receiving government assistance, just like President Biden supported.

I have gotten to one where I think there may be at least a little fight on this side of the aisle to try to get one of the things that we passed. I don't know how much. I don't know whether it will apply to Medicaid. I don't know what it will apply to.

However, I can tell you, Madam Speaker, that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle don't want people to have to work. President Biden voted for it 11 times, and President Clinton signed it, but your modern Democratic Party in 2023 wants to pay people not to work.

There is no other explanation for it. If they say otherwise, it is not true.

We want people to work. We want to give the benefit of getting people off the welfare roll. There is, in fact, dignity to work. Our country depends on it. Our society depends on it. Our children depend on seeing their parents work. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle don't want that.

Apparently, we do, and I, at least, think it is apparently part of whatever deal is being discussed. It ought to be, and it ought to be fully a part of it because we passed it already. We passed a deal.

Finally, reclaiming billions in unobligated COVID funds, that is just the peanuts left on the floor, the mere \$40 billion or \$50 billion of unobligated COVID funds left of the \$5 trillion or whatever we blew through in the last 3 years decimating our economy and driving up inflation.

The fact of the matter is we have an obligation in this body, in the people's House, on both sides of the aisle, to do our job, to stop spending money recklessly, to stop printing money, to stop driving up inflation, and to stop denying our children their inheritance.

When everybody goes around on Memorial Day this weekend to stand up with veterans and salute the fallen, they go to Arlington National Cemetery, the cemetery at Fort Sam Houston, or any one of our other national cemeteries around this country—what did they fight for? Did they fight for us to cut a deal?

I ask because I am pretty sure the boys in Bastogne sitting in the foxhole freezing to death weren't interested in moving that line back to Normandy.

They had gone from Normandy to Bastogne.

Hold the damn line. Don't back off, Republicans. Stand up for the country that you go out and campaign for. Hold the line for the American people because the bill we passed in April, I am going to be honest with you, is a downpayment on what we have to do. It is the beginning.

If we walk away from that, if we walk away from that because the people get weak-kneed about, "My God," they are crying, "My God, we are not going to make our debt payment," yes, we are. The President of the United States knows what you know. We can't walk away from our debt payments. We have to make those payments.

Secretary Yellen and the President know it. They will make the payment. We will not default, but we are defaulting on the American Dream every single day that goes by where we continue to spend money we don't have to fund the bureaucrats at war with the American Dream. If the Republicans walk away from this, then they don't deserve to stay in the majority any more than the Democrats do.

We should hold the line for the American people, and we should hold the line for the future of this country.

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

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

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 25, 2023.

I hereby designate the period from Friday, May 26, 2023, through Sunday, June 4, 2023, as a "district work period" under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5.

KEVIN McCARTHY,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

#### END RACIAL PREFERENCE POLICIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, most of the discussion in this building over the last 2 weeks has been on the debt limit, and I guess I should lead off by addressing it a little bit.

A lot of the American public is thinking, why are people fighting on this bill? What difference does it really make? Let us get it behind us.

I want to leave the American public with two reasons why at least the Republican Party wants a little bit more fiscal restraint than otherwise would happen.

First of all, the debt is now 100 percent of GDP. It is just shy of that. That is the first time it has happened since World War II.

At the end of World War II, we knew we were going to lay off millions of people in the military. We were going to stop making ships. We were going to stop making planes. We were going to stop making tanks. So, there would be a dramatic reduction in government spending, and that is exactly what happened.

Slowly, the debt fell from 100 percent to a little over 20 percent of GDP before recently rocketing up, in part due to COVID and in part due to President Biden's reckless spending.

Now, we are at 100 percent of GDP, but all we see in the future is more people retiring, more money spent on Social Security, and more money spent on Medicare. We can never cut either one of those two programs—we should not—which means we have to exercise fiscal restraint everywhere else.

The time to do that is now. If we do not dial things back a little now, it is going to get that much worse next year and that much worse the year after.

The other thing I want to leave the American public with is, with interest rates going up, we right now are spending every year about \$2,000 per man, woman, and child on interest rates alone.

If you are a family of four—think about that—every year you have to start by paying \$8,000 just to cover your share of the Federal debt. That is a disaster.

If we don't address it now, then it is going to be worse next year.

The Republican position is very moderate. Probably the public would be outraged if they found out how moderate the Republican position is. We do not plan on balancing the budget this year.

Even if the Republicans got all they asked for, and they are not going to get all they asked for, but even if they got all they asked for, it would still result in a significant increase in debt over the next year.

The brakes should be put on a little bit. We should acknowledge the problem.

The Republicans love their children, and they love their grandchildren. They don't want to see the country that much more in debt, and we are worried we are approaching the point of no return.

In any event, I am proud my Republican leadership attitude is that we have to do something when we see debt equal to 100 percent of GDP and when every American is paying \$2,000 of interest by itself. The only responsible thing to do is put up a little bit of a fight. I wish some of the Democrat leadership would acknowledge more that something has to be done.

However, despite the fact that this is the most covered issue in America, President Biden recently addressed the graduates of Howard University here in

town, and he felt one of the major issues of the day is white supremacy.

I do not think we should let such inflammatory, divisive, and bitter rhetoric go unanswered, and it is not the first time President Biden has done this. This has been a theme whenever he speaks to the American public as a whole.

He talked about it in his inaugural speech, where he mentioned racism four times and white supremacy once. He talked about it in his State of the Union speech this year, where he attacked our police and one more time called them racist. Now, in the Howard commencement, a time for a positive speech, a time to tell the graduates they have their whole life ahead of them and they can do anything in America, President Biden got in the mud and talked about white supremacy.

First of all, we have to address that we have a problem in America in which people cannot succeed. There have been numerous speeches dealing with police and racism, and the studies show that racism is not a problem, that when you look at people being shot when adjusted for crimes committed, if anything, White people are more likely to get killed than Black people in a confrontation with police.

Nevertheless, President Biden, Mr. Negative, decided to use his annual speech to Congress to trash the police and refer to them as being racist.

□ 1430

Now, are people who are not of European descent having problems in this country?

Well, look at people from different countries around the world. First of all, again and again, we find people from all around the world coming here. I have a list of the countries that people give up their citizenship to and become American.

The top 10 countries are: (1) Mexico; (2) India; (3) Philippines; (4) Cuba; (5) Dominican Republic; (6) China; (7) Vietnam; (8) Jamaica; (9) El Salvador; (10) Colombia.

Do you notice anything about those countries?

None of them are European countries. People from all around the world are desperate to come into the United States legally.

If America were a country in which you were punished if you weren't of European descent, you would not see the 10 countries most commonly coming here being from places other than Europe.

I have heard that a significant number of Russians are coming here, but I have been at the border probably seven or eight times over the last 3 years. Again, I see people from Africa, Central America, the Middle East.

I have attended ceremonies in which people were sworn in as citizens in Milwaukee. When I have shown up at these ceremonies, I would be surprised if 5 percent of the people becoming Americans are from Europe.

This weekend, I'm going to attend a Memorial Day event for the Hmong. The Hmong, for those of you who don't know, are a group of people primarily, but not exclusively, from Laos who came to this country after the Vietnam war and were allowed in this country because they did so much to help fight communism on behalf of the Americans.

When the Hmong came here, they frequently did not know English. Many of them were not Christian. As a matter of fact, for many of the Hmong, they knew no written language of any sort at all. Nevertheless, they come here, and they thrive.

Again and again, when I talk to members of the Hmong, I ask them: How are your children doing? How are your nieces and nephews doing?

I get stories about their children, nieces and nephews, their 20, 25 kids, everyone is successful. Everyone is doing well in school. None of them are committing any crimes. They are all having children and living in a family situation.

I cannot help but think watching the tremendous success story of the Hmong, how could any President say America is a difficult country to live in if you are not European?

Then I look at income. I realize there are many definitions of success. I am not somebody at all who says economic success is the most important.

I look at the numbers so far as they are available on the internet. I look at India, which seems to be right now financially the most successful subgroup in America, making 80 percent more than the average American.

India is a country in which a relatively small number of people are considered Christian; overwhelmingly Hindu, to a lesser degree, Muslim.

I look at the Philippines, 50 percent more; Sri Lanka, 33 percent more; Japan, 30 percent more; Malaysia, 25 percent more; Pakistan, 18 percent more; people coming here from Cuba; to a certain extent, Latin America, 15 percent more than European Americans is what they make.

It is harder to find some other information. However, Thomas Sowell, who I think very highly of, wrote a book called "Ethnic America" 40 years ago. At that time, Thomas Sowell pointed out that the average second-generation person from the Caribbean was making more than the average American. That, of course, is largely people of Black descent, people from the Bahamas, people from Jamaica.

Again, the tremendous financial success of people coming from all around the world makes one realize that America does not have a huge racial problem.

Another question is: Does America discriminate in favor of people of European descent?

The answer is right now, under our affirmative action programs in this country, whether you are looking at hiring government people, whether you

are looking at businesses who contract with the government, do at least \$10,000 of business with the government, they are required to fill out an EEO-1 form in which they list the race of all their employees.

When they fill out that form, because they are afraid of being sued, the average American business is very conscious and is sometimes even told by their adviser to hire people who are not White.

Affirmative action began in 1965 in this country in earnest. It was a little bit before that, but in earnest in 1965. We are talking over 50 years ago.

Original affirmative action was designed primarily to help Black people, but in the interim, we added Asian people.

This, by the way, is typical of affirmative action around the world. It starts with one group, and then every other group says, I want the government to weigh in on my behalf.

We added Asian, Pacific Islander, and Latin American, we added women. Now, we recently have had the Biden administration weigh in and say we want to add people of Middle Eastern or North African descent. We want to add people from Syria, from Iraq, from Algeria to the list of people who should get preferences. You will notice not White.

This comes into play in forms that have to be filled out when we say, who is going to be getting government contracts. Who is going to be getting into colleges and universities. Who is going to be the owner of a business that gets government contracts.

It is very pervasive in our society. Very few Americans—I have tried—are aware that when a big business, say even a business with 100 employees, a business with 50 employees, when they hire someone and they have a government contract, they are paying attention or have to fill out a form as to the race and gender of that person.

As a practical matter, it causes people to be a little bit less reluctant to hire people who have historically been here in America.

Now, I think these programs, when they implement them, are designed to be as divisive as possible. First of all, in order to qualify as a favored group, you self-identify. If you are one-half, one-quarter or one-eighth a member of that group, you can say I am a member of the protected class. I am not sure that is right. It obviously is wrong.

People wouldn't even know if someone who is one-quarter Native American, one-quarter whatever, is a member of that class, but you get to check off that box and get the benefits.

Wealth has nothing to do with it. You can be born into a family with millions and millions of dollars, but if you are from the right ethnic group or at least one-quarter or one-eighth of the right ethnic group, you get to be checked off on that form. Again, it could be true even if a person wouldn't guess you are a member of that minority.

It affects university admissions. For quite a while we have had a string of cases, one case, which is working its way through the Supreme Court right now, is about, again, trying to give preferences to people who are one-half, one-quarter, one-eighth members of a minority.

To push it even further, lately schools or graduate schools are removing SAT scores or MCAT scores where traditionally people have to take these tests, for example, to make sure the best and the brightest are getting into medical school.

We are taking that off the table and increasing the number of medical schools, again, because they are afraid that they will be letting in too many people of traditional ethnic backgrounds in America.

We are doing the same thing lately with regard to loans given out by banks, which is kind of amazing. Now, bankers have to collect—they are going to do it soon for commercial lending; they have done it in the past for residential lending—what is the race or gender or even sexual preference. Apparently the government likes to look over the shoulder of these banks and make sure that they are not discriminating based on race or discriminating based on sexual preference.

It is kind of hard to believe that that is going on, but it is. They really keep track of these banks. I talked to a banker a little while ago, he had to put down on the form what the race is of the guy who plowed the snow in his parking lot.

Now, you might say why is that any of the government's business? Why are they doing it?

Well, we know why they are doing it, they want to put pressure on the banks to feel that that is something that should be taken into account before you fill out that contract. This becomes more and more a part of the American background.

I recently ran into a gal who told me she worked for a bank, and they had an opening for months. They couldn't fill that opening because all their applicants were White guys.

I don't know whether she is right or wrong on that, but talking to some other bankers, that is entirely possible. We should have a discussion whether that is right.

You have to say, where is this ending?

What is the goal of the Biden administration?

A study was done a little while ago on the Federal Judiciary. I wish we had these studies for all other appointments by the Biden administration. Apparently in his first 2 years, President Biden appointed 97 Federal judges. Of the 97 Federal judges, I was expecting maybe 25 or 30 were White guys because I know President Biden wasn't heavy on appointing more White guys.

Five of the 97 judges were White guys. Of those, two were gay. It is almost impossible for a White guy who is

not gay, apparently, to get appointed here.

To a certain extent, that was not just President Biden's fault. Not long after he was sworn in, two Democrat Senators, one from Illinois and one from Hawaii, said that they did not want to vote to confirm any more of President Biden's appointees if they were White men unless they were gay.

Again, the definition of diversity—and more and more, they are talking about diversity as being part of the reason here.

As far as the idea that where your ancestors come from will determine what a good doctor you are or what a good electrician you are or whatever, seems a little bit ridiculous.

For example, let's say my maternal grandfather was Peruvian, and he died before I was born. Well, the idea that giving me a special place in college or a special job in management so I can bring the Peruvian viewpoint to the table would be ridiculous.

We are talking about a grandfather who had nothing at all. I was never in Peru, never met him, but that is the way the current system works, and it is something that should be discussed.

Now, what is the Biden team doing now that is going to affect these very pernicious programs in America?

The first thing they are going to do is they are going to add another protected class: Middle Eastern and North African people.

Right now, you are considered Asian if you are from Japan. We can go around the map: Japan, China, Thailand, Pakistan, India. It stops in Pakistan.

There are no preferences if you are from Egypt, Algeria or Syria. The Biden administration wants to end that even though affirmative action began in the 1960s.

Almost all people of this descent were not even in America prior to that, but they want to be a new group that should be getting preferences.

I think that should be discussed in America's news pages. Instead, it is not even brought up that it is happening.

The next thing the Biden administration is doing is they are putting new diversity equity teams in every one of the government agencies, be it Commerce, Defense, Agriculture, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Justice, Labor, Transportation. Every agency is getting a new group to weigh in on diversity and to make sure that the right people are getting jobs in that agency. If there are grants going on in that agency, again, to make sure the right people are getting grants.

In other words, the Biden administration wants to greatly increase the power of this class of people in picking who gets anything around society. It can't just be like it used to be, let's take the best person.

These new programs, I think, cause one to say more questions ought to be raised by the American public and answered by the Biden administration.

Do we care about merit anymore? Should these programs benefit millionaires?

Right now, if you are worth \$20 million, and you apply for a government contract, you are given preferences despite the fact you are already wildly wealthy.

By the way, Thomas Sowell, when he writes about affirmative action points out that frequently around the world when we do this affirmative action stuff, it benefits primarily the wealthy.

□ 1445

What percent should you be before you get credit for preferences based on your background? Right now it is open ended. Should it be an eighth, should it be a sixteenth? Senator ELIZABETH WARREN apparently was smaller than 1/64th or 1/128th Native American. She felt that should give her preference apparently in becoming a law professor at Harvard University. So what percent should we be looking at?

Are there any jobs that we should go back to old-fashioned merit based?

How about a doctor? Should we get the best people we can to be heart surgeons? I would think so.

How about air traffic controllers?

How about engineers who are designing bridges? Or are all jobs primarily based on ethnic background and not necessarily on merit?

As mentioned, this new special interest group put in there by President Biden, the Middle Eastern North African group, largely came to this country after affirmative action began. Originally, the idea behind affirmative action was America discriminated against you in the past and you deserve a step up to get caught up. Here you have people who were not even in America.

Again, Thomas Sowell, when he talks about these race preference things and these race bureaucracies, points out that it always hurts a country when people view themselves as a member of an ethnic group first and view themselves as a citizen of that country secondly.

I look at Canada, which I think has always had problems throughout my whole lifetime in that it is divided between people who speak French and people who speak English.

I look at Nigeria, where we had a division between tribes and a division between the Muslims in the north and the Christians of the south, which resulted in a civil war and millions of people dying.

We look at Rwanda and the horrific things that happened there as the country is divided into races.

India with its not only ethnic differences but religious differences.

Sri Lanka had a horrible civil war as the government began to weigh in on this group and that group.

Historically, America has stuck with its motto, “e pluribus unum,” “out of many, one.” Okay, we come from all around the world, but we consider our-

selves Americans first, and we eventually kind of drop or rarely think about where our ancestry came from. Al Gore twice embarrassed himself by getting the meaning of “e pluribus unum” screwed up; and he said, “out of one, many.”

In other words, right now we have people who primarily consider themselves American, and the Biden administration says, well, wait a minute, you should primarily consider yourself based upon where your great-great-great-grandparents are from. That is just a big mistake.

What can we do here? I think, first of all, there should be more of an outcry over the Biden administration’s plan to give what amounts to preferences to Middle Eastern North African people. Again, immigrants who came here recently, not prejudiced, I am sure doing very well. I think the only reason you bring them into the loop is if you want to destroy America through divisiveness, which has happened in many other countries around the world.

Then we ought to get rid of these racial equity committees in which we have apparently government bureaucrats whose sole job is to divide Americans or judge Americans or weigh the worth of Americans by their ethnic background.

Increasingly, when I look at what is going on with the bankers, it is not just going to be ethnic background, it is going to be sexual background, as well. Is that right? I don’t know who could possibly think it is right that the banker has to at the end of the month go through the forms that he has accepted for loans as to say, do I have enough people of the right sexual background, but that is the way we are going in America. I hope we end it.

These programs began almost 60 years ago; I think now about 57 years ago. Like programs around the world, when they began these programs of preferences, they were supposed to be temporary. Like I said, I think when they began these programs in the 1960s, if you told people they would still be around 57 years later, you never would have believed it, and you sure wouldn’t have believed it if you thought we were going to add all these other groups, most of which were not even in the United States at the time added to the mix.

I hope we have a public discussion on that. I have listed the questions that should be answered, and hopefully it is something that, if nobody else, at least the pundit class can weigh in on, and we can educate our young people as to what is going on because I think a lot of these preferences, particularly with regard to jobs in businesses that are government contracting, the public is not even aware of.

That is a summary of what I think is an important issue and ought to be addressed.

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

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Lisa P. Grant, Deputy Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 346. An act to establish a task force on improvements for notices to air missions, and for other purposes.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o’clock and 50 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, May 26, 2023, at 2 p.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC-1039. A letter from the Associate Director, Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission’s final rule and guidance — Enhanced Weapons, Firearms Background Checks, and Security Event Notifications [NRC-2011-0014; NRC-2011-0015; NRC-2011-0017; NRC-2011-0018] (RIN: 3150-AI49) received May 22, 2023, 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-1040. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-003, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1041. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-072, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1042. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-008, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1043. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-016, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1044. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Memorandum of Justification for the drawdown of defense articles and services and military education and training under section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide immediate military assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1045. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Determination Under Section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1046. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s Inspector General Semi-annual Report to Congress for the period October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1047. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Civil Penalty Amendments to Rules of Practice and Procedure [Docket No.: FMC-2023-0008] (RIN: 3072-AC95) received May 15, 2023, 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-1048. A letter from the National Adjutant, Chief Executive Officer, Disabled American Veterans, transmitting the reports and proceedings of the 2022 National Convention of Disabled American Veterans, held in Orlando, Florida, August 6-9, 2022, pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 1332; Public Law 90-620, Oct. 22, 1968 (as amended by Public Law 105-225, Sec. 3); (112 Stat. 1498) (H. Doc. No. 118-44); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-1049. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Services IRB only rule — Domestic Content Bonus Credit Guidance under Sections 45, 45Y, 48, and 48E [Notice 2023-38] received May 22, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-1050. A letter from the Branch Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Perpetual Trust Funds [Notice 2023-39] received May 22, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-1051. A letter from the Director, Office of External Affairs, United States International Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's report on Economic Impact of Section 232 and 301 Tariffs on U.S. Industries, Investigation No. 332-591, USITC Publication 5405, March 2023; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

#### 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. BONAMICI (for herself, Ms. CHU, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, and Ms. SALINAS):

H.R. 3659. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a demonstration program to facilitate the clinical adoption of pregnancy intention screening initiatives by health care and social service providers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 3660. A bill to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive acts and practices in connection with primary and secondary ticket sales, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KUSTOFF, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 3661. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitations on expensing of depreciable business assets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Ms. MOORE of

Wisconsin, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. BACON, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 3662. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable adoption tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS):

H.R. 3663. A bill to amend the SOAR Act; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 3664. A bill to prohibit the availability of Federal funds to the World Health Organization pending the conduct of an investigation relating to the influence over such organization by Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri (for himself, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. ESTES, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. HERN, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. TENNEY, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mrs. STEEL, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. FEENSTRA, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Mr. CAREY):

H.R. 3665. A bill to provide an enforcement of remedies against the extraterritorial taxes and discriminatory taxes of foreign countries; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, 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. WENSTRUP (for himself, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. JACKSON of Texas):

H.R. 3666. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to designate illicit fentanyl as a weapon of mass destruction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Foreign Affairs, 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. WENSTRUP (for himself and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 3667. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for the reissuance of social security account numbers to young children in cases where confidentiality has been compromised; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio (for himself and Mr. PHILLIPS):

H.R. 3668. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the TRICARE program for certain members of the Retired Reserve of the reserve components; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 3669. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve mental health services for students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BEAN of Florida (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CARSON, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. DIAZ-BALART):

H.R. 3670. A bill to designate the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum in Jacksonville, Florida, as the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. BERA (for himself, Mr. TONKO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. KILMER, Ms. TITUS, Ms. WILD, and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 3671. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. BERGMAN (for himself, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Ms. SCHOLTE, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. WALBERG, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. JAMES, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 3672. A bill to designate the clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Indian River, Michigan, as the 'Pfc. Justin T. Paton Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic'; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BIGGS (for himself, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. PERRY, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. OGLES, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. BRECHEEN, and Mr. GAETZ):

H.R. 3673. A bill to rescind certain unobligated balances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, 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. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Mr. CARDENAS, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 3674. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the non-facility practice expense relative value units for specified services furnished under the Medicare program; 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 Mrs. BOEBERT (for herself, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. NEHLS):

H.R. 3675. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to extend certain contract prepayment authority; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3676. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent certain programs that assist homeless veterans and other veterans with special needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3677. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct reviews of certain budget requests of the President for the medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CAREY (for himself, Mr. HERN, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. ESTES, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia):

H.R. 3678. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the Hazardous Substance Superfund financing rate; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. BACON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 3679. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation administration to develop an interagency task force to develop and implement a strategy to identify and advance research on communicable diseases in air travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CASE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MENG, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 3680. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a national outreach and education strategy and research to improve the behavioral and mental health of the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander population, while addressing stigma within such population against behavioral and mental health treatment; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BERA, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 3681. A bill to modify the boundaries of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in the State of California to include additional National Forest System land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Mrs. MCBATHE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. CHU, Ms. ROSS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. TITUS, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. KILMER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. WILD, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. BROWN, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. McGOVERN, and Mr. CÁRDENAS):

H.R. 3682. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize certain grants (for youth suicide early intervention and prevention strategies) to be used for school personnel in elementary and secondary schools and students in secondary schools to receive student suicide awareness and prevention training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on

Education and the Workforce, 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. COHEN (for himself, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mrs. MCBATH, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia):

H.R. 3683. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Benton MacKaye National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRENSHAW (for himself, Mr. LUTTRELL, Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. MACE, Mr. GAETZ, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. ZINKE, Ms. LEE of Florida, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. VAN ORDEN):

H.R. 3684. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a grant program for using psychedelic substances to treat certain conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DAVIDSON (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, and Mr. BRECHEEN):

H.R. 3685. A bill to prohibit United States assistance to foreign countries that oppose the position of the United States in the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania (for herself, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. MACE):

H.R. 3686. A bill to provide that it is unlawful to knowingly distribute private intimate visual depictions with reckless disregard for the individual's lack of consent to the distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3687. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to require adequate supervision before a juvenile can possess a firearm, to require the safe storage of firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. DELAURO:

H.R. 3688. A bill to provide for the mandatory recall of drugs regulated by the Food and Drug Administration; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 3689. A bill to authorize appropriations for the minority serving institutions intern program of the Federal Aviation Administration; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ESTES (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 3690. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the publicly traded partnership ownership structure to energy power generation projects and transportation fuels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ESTES (for himself and Ms. DELBENE):

H.R. 3691. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise payment for air ambulance services under the Medicare program; 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. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama):

H.R. 3692. A bill to require bipartisan membership in the Federal Trade Commission in order for the Commission to act following a vacancy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GARBARINO (for himself, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Ms. TENNEY, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. MOLINARO, and Mr. WILLIAMS of New York):

H.R. 3693. A bill to require advance consultation with State and local officials and monthly reports to Congress regarding the resettlement, transportation, and relocation of aliens in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GARCIA of Illinois (for himself, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASAR, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. FROST, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. TLAIB, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 3694. A bill to prohibit public companies from repurchasing their shares on the open market, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. TRONE, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. BUDZINSKI, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia):

H.R. 3695. A bill to protect consumers from overbooking by rental car companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Mr. CLINE, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. BEYER, Mr. GRIFFITH, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 3696. A bill to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Lynchburg, Virginia, as the "Private First Class Desmond T. Doss VA Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas (for himself, Ms. CHU, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CASAR, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LIEU, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. MENG, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 3697. A bill to preempt State prohibitions on real estate purchases by foreign citizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. BROWN, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. COSTA, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BALINT, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. MENG, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. McGOVERN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr.

MCGARVEY, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CASE, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 3698. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of disabled veterans to receive supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. HUDSON (for himself and Mr. VEASEY):

H.R. 3699. A bill to promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 3700. A bill to provide for restoration, economic development, recreation, and conservation on Federal lands in Northern California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 3701. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to strengthen coverage under the Medicaid program for certain foster youth individuals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BOST, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. GUEST, Mr. CASE, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. POSEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. SARBANES):

H.R. 3702. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself and Ms. KELLY of Illinois):

H.R. 3703. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct and complete a review examining the efforts of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to ensure that the United States is prepared to rapidly produce certain medical countermeasures in the event of a public health emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. LANGWORTHY):

H.R. 3704. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit States from using ranked choice voting to carry out an election for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 3705. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations requiring a rail carrier to report certain damage if such carrier has a reasonable suspicion that an action carried out by the carrier caused such damage; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 3706. A bill to expand and enhance existing adult day programs for younger people with neurological diseases or conditions (such as multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, traumatic brain injury, or other similar diseases or conditions) to support and im-

prove access to respite services for family caregivers who are taking care of such people, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 3707. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for expenses for household and elder care services necessary for gainful employment; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 3708. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require estimated income tax installments to be paid on a quarterly basis; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ):

H.R. 3709. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into cooperative agreements to support the microchipping of dogs and cats in the care of animal shelters or similar establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. MCCLAIN (for herself, Ms. PEREZ, and Mrs. DINGELL):

H.R. 3710. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit health professionals from providing false or misleading information with respect to assisted reproduction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MOLINARO (for himself and Mr. LANGWORTHY):

H.R. 3711. A bill to prohibit the use of elementary, secondary, and post-secondary school facilities to provide shelter for unlawfully present aliens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MOONEY (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. POSEY, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. ROSE, Mr. OGLES, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mrs. SPARTZ, Ms. HAGEMAN, and Mr. GOOD of Virginia):

H.R. 3712. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to require an Act of Congress for certain activities related to the issuance of a central bank digital currency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. KILMER, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SABLON, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTEN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. TRONE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CHU, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. RYAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. PORTER, Mr. KEATING, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VASQUEZ, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. COHEN, Ms. TITUS, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. KUSTER, and Ms. WILD):

H.R. 3713. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend

projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 3714. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend honorary citizenship to otherwise qualified noncitizens who enlisted in the Philippines and died while serving on active duty with the United States Armed Forces during certain periods of hostilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3715. A bill to establish a waiver program to allow for ZIP-code localization area median income calculations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Ms. SALAZAR):

H.R. 3716. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase the governmentwide goal for the percentage of procurement contracts awarded to small business concerns, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 3717. A bill to establish a MicroCap small business investment company designation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mr. LAMBORN):

H.R. 3718. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take certain actions to improve the processing by the Department of Veterans Affairs of claims for disability compensation for post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3719. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the qualified contract exception to the extended low-income housing commitment rules for purposes of the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mr. LAMBORN):

H.R. 3720. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to award grants to eligible entities for the provision of transition assistance to members and former members of the Armed Forces who are separated, retired, or discharged from the Armed Forces, and spouses of such members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEMER, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. MACE, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, and Mr. BEYER):

H.R. 3721. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, and title 39, United States Code, to provide the United States Postal Service the authority to mail alcoholic beverages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. NUNN of Iowa (for himself, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 3722. A bill to require a pilot program on activities under the pre-separation transition process of members of the Armed Forces for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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. OBERNOLTE (for himself, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 3723. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to expand the types of devices for which required labeling may be made available solely by electronic means; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 3724. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit recognized accrediting agencies and associations from requiring, encouraging, or coercing institutions of higher education to meet any political litmus test or violate any right protected by the Constitution as a condition of accreditation; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself and Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER):

H.R. 3725. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide benefits under the Medicare program for first responders at the age of 57; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. PORTER (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 3726. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to study student mental health at institutions of higher education and to issue guidance on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 for mental health and substance use disorder policies of institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 3727. A bill to require the Director of the National Institutes of Health to carry out a study to add to the scientific knowledge on reducing teacher stress and increasing teacher retention and well-being, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. PRESSLEY (for herself, Mr. NEAL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. KEATING):

H.R. 3728. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 Dorchester Avenue, Room 1, in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "Caroline Chang Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER (for himself and Ms. MENG):

H.R. 3729. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to credit individuals serving as caregivers of dependent relatives with deemed wages for up to five years of such service; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. ARMSTRONG, and Ms. TOKUDA):

H.R. 3730. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize provisions relating to rural health clinics under Medicare; 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. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 3731. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to reduce barriers to immigrants becoming nurses or allied health professionals in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 3732. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants for career support for skilled internationally educated health professionals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 3733. A bill to address barriers immigrants and refugees face to entering the health care workforce, 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. SMUCKER (for himself and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 3734. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for an H-2C nonimmigrant classification, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Oversight and Accountability, 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. TLAIB (for herself and Mrs. RAMIREZ):

H.R. 3735. A bill to amend section 214(g)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to remove the numerical limitation on nonimmigrant aliens issued a visa or otherwise provided status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of such Act in the case of an alien who is employed at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself and Mr. ARMSTRONG):

H.R. 3736. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend the requirement for State Medicaid plans to provide coverage for medication-assisted treatment; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. VEASEY (for himself and Ms. LEE of Florida):

H.R. 3737. A bill to direct the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to submit a report to Congress on the feasibility of reporting data relating to injuries in high school sports to improve the safety of student athletes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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. WENSTRUP (for himself and Mr. LEVIN):

H.R. 3738. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other

purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. SEWELL, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 3739. A bill to provide for the liquidation or reliquidation of certain entries of products of European Union member states, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself and Mr. FERGUSON):

H.J. Res. 65. A joint resolution designating November 9th of each year as "Gold Star Father's Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H. Con. Res. 50. Concurrent resolution expressing congressional disapproval of the actions taken by Dictator President Guillermo Lasso of Ecuador for dissolving the National Assembly and silencing the voice of his opposition in an effort to evade impeachment; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CARSON (for himself, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. TITUS, Mr. BUCSHON, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. CASE, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. PENCE):

H. Res. 443. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "National Poppy Day"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GUEST:

H. Res. 444. A resolution calling upon all Americans on this Memorial Day, 2023, to honor the men and women of the Armed Forces who have died in the pursuit of freedom and peace; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. OMAR, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H. Res. 445. A resolution calling on the Senate to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 446. A resolution recognizing on Memorial Day, May 29, 2023, the denial of full participation in their Government through statehood by active duty servicemembers, National Guard members, reservists, veterans, and their families who are residents of the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa (for himself, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mrs. HINSON):

H. Res. 447. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 2023 as "Renewable Fuels Month" to recognize the important role that renewable fuels play in reducing carbon impacts, lowering fuel prices for consumers, supporting rural communities, and lessening reliance on foreign adversaries; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. OGLES (for himself, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. GOSAR):

H. Res. 448. A resolution recognizing and honoring Daniel Penny of West Islip, New York, for his heroism and courage in apprehending a threat to public safety; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Ms. CHU):

H. Res. 449. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives on the value of a tax agreement with Taiwan; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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 Mrs. STEEL (for herself, Ms. PORTER, Mr. OWENS, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CORREA, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. RYAN, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. TRONE, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. BACON, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H. Res. 450. A resolution condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 3659.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reproductive Health

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 3660.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Ticketing

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 3661.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

Taxation

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 3662.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Revenue

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 3663.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 17: The Congress shall have Power To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the

The single subject of this legislation is:

Permanent reauthorization of the Scholarships for Opportunities and Results (SOAR) Act (division C of Public Law 112-10).

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 3664.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

US Constitution, Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the availability of Federal funds to the World Health Organization pending the conduct of an investigation relating to the influence over such organization by Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri:

H.R. 3666.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this legislation is to provide an enforcement of remedies against extraterritorial taxes and discriminatory taxes imposed by foreign countries.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 3666.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution—To make all laws necessary and proper

The single subject of this legislation is:

Fentanyl

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 3667.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Social Security

By Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio:

H.R. 3668.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To improve the TRICARE program for certain members of the Retired Reserve of the reserve components.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 3669.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18, Section 8, Article 1 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Authorizes state and local educational agencies to use Student Support and Academic Enrichment grants to improve mental health services available to students.

By Mr. BEAN of Florida:

H.R. 3670.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation designates the POW/MIA Memorial and Museum in Jacksonville, Florida, as the National POW/MIA Memorial and Museum.

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 3671.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Mental Health

By Mr. BERGMAN:

H.R. 3672.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Names the Indian River VA clinic after Pfc Justin Paton.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 3673.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this legislation is to rescind certain unobligated balances.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 3674.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill provides relief for certain medical practices in nonfacility settings under the Medicare program.

By Mrs. BOEBERT:

H.R. 3675.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

The single subject of this legislation is:

Allows for agriculture and municipal water users to prepay allocable construction costs.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3676.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Veterans

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3677.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Veterans

By Mr. CAREY:

H.R. 3678.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the Hazardous Substance Superfund financing rate.

By Mrs. CHERFILUS-MC CORMICK:

H.R. 3679.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII

The single subject of this legislation is:

Research in Air Travel

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 3680.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8 “The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts, and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Mental health

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 3681.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Public lands

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 3682.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The subject of this bill is mental health  
By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 3683.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

Natural Resources

By Mr. CRENSHAW:

H.R. 3684.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Directs the Secretary of Defense to establish a grant program for using psychedelic substances to treat certain conditions.

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 3685.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18; Article I, Section 9, Clause 7

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign Affairs

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3686.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Criminalizing the distribution of private, sexually explicit images without consent.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3687.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Safe gun ownership

By Ms. DELAURU:

H.R. 3688.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

to provide the mandatory recall of drugs regulated by the Food and Drug Administration

By Mr. ESPAILLAT:

H.R. 3689.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize appropriations for the minority serving institutions intern program of the Federal Aviation Administration.

By Mr. ESTES:

H.R. 3690.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Expanding Master Limited Partnerships to energy power generation projects

By Mr. ESTES:

H.R. 3691.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation provides CMS the statutory authority to revise the Medicare fee schedule for Emergency Air Ambulance Services based on the cost data and requires additional data collection to occur every three years, on the fixed and operating costs of providing services, the revenue collected based on transports, and any other data the Secretary wishes collected.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 3692.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill requires bipartisan membership in the Federal Trade Commission in order for the Commission to act following a vacancy.

By Mr. GARBARINO:

H.R. 3693.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require advance consultation with State and local officials and monthly reports to Congress regarding the resettlement, transportation, and relocation of aliens in the United States.

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois:

H.R. 3694.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit public companies from repurchasing their shares on the open market.

By Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California:

H.R. 3695.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Commerce Clause (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3).

The single subject of this legislation is:

To protect consumers from overbooking by rental car companies.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 3696.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Naming a federal building

By Mr. GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 3697.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1 of the United States Constitution provides the Congress of the United States all legislative powers.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Preemption of state laws that prohibit the purchase of real property by citizens of other nations.

By Mrs. HAYES:

H.R. 3698.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

SNAP eligibility for disabled veterans.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 3699.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Energy

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 3700.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, clause 2

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for restoration, economic development, recreation, and conservation on Federal lands in Northern California, and for other purposes.

By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE:

H.R. 3701.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statement is submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying

bill. This bill is introduced pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under the General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1), the Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3), and the Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 18). Further, this statement of constitutional authority is made for the sole purpose of compliance with clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall have no bearing on judicial review of the accompanying bill.

The single subject of this legislation is:  
To expand dental care access for Foster Youth in the United States.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3702.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 3703.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: Congress shall have the power . . . “to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct and complete a review examining the efforts of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to ensure that the United States is prepared to rapidly produce medical countermeasures in the event of a public health emergency, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 3704.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit States from using ranked choice voting to carry out an election for Federal office, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 3705.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Rail Regulations

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 3706.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Seniors

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 3707.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Seniors

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 3708.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require estimated income tax installments to be paid on a quarterly basis.

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 3709.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Animal welfare

By Mrs. MCCLAIN:

H.R. 3710.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit health professionals from providing false or misleading information with respect to assisted reproduction.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 3711.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Education

By Mr. MOONEY:

H.R. 3712.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Central Bank Digital Currency

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 3713.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Mental Health

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 3714.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4

The single subject of this legislation is:

Posthumous citizenship

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3715.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish a waiver program to allow for ZIP-code localization area median income calculations, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3716.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Small Business Act to increase the governmentwide goal for the percentage of procurement contracts awarded to small business concerns, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3717.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish a MicroCap small business investment company designation.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3718.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to take certain actions to improve the processing by the Department of Veterans Affairs of claims for disability compensation for post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3719.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To revise the low-income housing tax credit to repeal the qualified contract option for a building that received its allocation of housing credit dollar amount.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 3720.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Labor to award grants to organizations for the provision of transition assistance to members and former members of the Armed Forces who are separated, retired, or discharged from the Armed Forces, and spouses of such members, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:

H.R. 3721.

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.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 18, United States Code, and title 39, United States Code, to provide the United States Postal Service the authority to mail alcoholic beverages, and for other purposes.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa:

H.R. 3722.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

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.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require a pilot program on activities under the pre-separation transition process of members of the Armed Forces for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE:

H.R. 3723.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Energy and Commerce

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 3724.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Education

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 3725.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this legislation is to allow first responders to enroll in Medicare starting at the age of 57, under certain conditions.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 3726.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of Education to study student mental health at institutions of higher education and to issue guidance on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 for mental health and substance use disorder policies of institutions of higher education, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PORTER:

H.R. 3727.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Director of the National Institutes of Health to carry out a study to add to the scientific knowledge on reducing teacher stress and increasing teacher retention and well-being, and for other purposes.

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 3728.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 Dorchester Avenue, Room 1, in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "Caroline Chang Post Office."

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 3729.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Social Security

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.R. 3730.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Rural Health Care

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 3731.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

immigrant health care workforce

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 3732.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

immigrant health care workforce

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 3733.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

immigrant health care workforce

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 3734.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish a H-2C non-immigrant visa program.

By Ms. TLAIB:

H.R. 3735.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To remove the numerical limitation on nonimmigrant aliens issued a visa or otherwise provided status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(i)(b) of such act in the case of an alien who is employed at the Department of Veterans Affairs

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 3736.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill extends access to addiction treatment

By Mr. VEASEY:

H.R. 3737.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 3 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to submit a report to Congress on the feasibility of reporting data relating to injuries in high school sports to improve the safety of student athletes.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 3738.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Veterans' economic opportunity

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 3739.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Trade

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.J. Res. 65.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Veterans

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 41: Mr. KILEY.

H.R. 45: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H.R. 79: Mrs. SPARTZ.

H.R. 82: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 309: Mr. MULLIN.

H.R. 343: Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 345: Mr. DELUZIO.

H.R. 396: Mr. CASTRO of Texas and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.

H.R. 419: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 530: Ms. CARAVEO.

H.R. 531: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. GUTHRIE.

H.R. 554: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 594: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 619: Ms. SHERRILL and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 645: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 694: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York and Ms. PETTERSEN.

H.R. 702: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 715: Mr. SABLAN.

H.R. 735: Mr. THANEDAR and Mr. HUIZENGA.

H.R. 743: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 766: Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. MURPHY.

H.R. 780: Mr. SANTOS.

H.R. 819: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 838: Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 887: Mr. BENTZ.

H.R. 895: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 900: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 902: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 952: Ms. SEWELL and Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 955: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 987: Mr. IVEY.

H.R. 1045: Mr. BACON and Mr. KILEY.

H.R. 1105: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1147: Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. ESTES, Mr. NEWHOUSE, and Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 1184: Mr. MANN and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 1209: Mrs. McCLEAIN.

H.R. 1235: Ms. WEXTON.

H.R. 1250: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1271: Mr. BENTZ.

H.R. 1294: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.

H.R. 1297: Mr. MOONEY and Mr. CARL.

H.R. 1324: Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 1325: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. GARCIA of Illinois.

H.R. 1331: Mr. BEAN of Florida.

H.R. 1388: Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California,

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr.

AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. BERA, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr.

GARAMENDI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. IVEY, Mr.

JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MCGOVERN,

Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, and Ms. BROWNLEY.

H.R. 1393: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. JOHN-  
SON of Ohio.

H.R. 1425: Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 1433: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 1437: Mr. WOMACK and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.

H.R. 1454: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.

H.R. 1455: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.

H.R. 1488: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 1570: Mr. TRONE, Mr. LIEU, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 1572: Mr. TRONE, Ms. SEWELL, and Mrs. FOUSHEE.

H.R. 1581: Mrs. McCLEAIN.

H.R. 1586: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 1610: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. YAKYM, and Ms. PLASKETT.

H.R. 1614: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.

H.R. 1668: Mr. VAN ORDEN.

H.R. 1674: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1679: Mr. DELUZIO.

H.R. 1721: Mr. VASQUEZ.

H.R. 1763: Mr. MCGARVEY and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 1770: Mr. FINSTAD and Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 1777: Mr. SOTO, Mr. ROSE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 1780: Mr. BACON, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 1801: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 1806: Mr. BARR and Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 1826: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 1839: Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H.R. 2365: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. EDWARDS.

H.R. 2367: Mr. STEIL.

H.R. 2389: Mr. COSTA, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mrs. McCLELLAN, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. LIEU, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. BERA, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. SWALWELL.

H.R. 2400: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KILMER, Mr. MCGARVEY, and Ms. PETTERSEN.

H.R. 2422: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 2433: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 2441: Mrs. CHERILLUS-MC CORMICK.

H.R. 2510: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DE REMER.

H.R. 2555: Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California.

H.R. 2559: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 2619: Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COLE, Ms. CHU, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2663: Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 2665: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2672: Mr. MILLS.

H.R. 2723: Ms. BONAMICI and Ms. PEREZ.

H.R. 2725: Mr. BERA, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 2732: Ms. DE LA CRUZ and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 2743: Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. HILL, and Mrs. SPARTZ.

H.R. 2745: Ms. GREENE of Georgia.

H.R. 2751: Mrs. HAYES, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 2757: Mr. NADLER, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. MCCOL- LUM, Mr. TRONE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LIEU, and Mrs. PELTOLA.

H.R. 2766: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DE REMER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Ms. SALAZAR.

H.R. 2775: Ms. JAYAPAL and Mr. CASAR.

H.R. 2800: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 2801: Ms. SCHRIER.

H.R. 2803: Ms. PELOSI and Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 2830: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.

H.R. 2871: Ms. SHERRILL and Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H.R. 2885: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 2892: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.

H.R. 2922: Mr. LAWLER and Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 2928: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 2976: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 2998: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 3005: Mr. D'ESPOSTO.

H.R. 3014: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 3015: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 3036: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 3058: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H.R. 3063: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 3074: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 3092: Mr. GALLEGOS.

H.R. 3098: Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California.

H.R. 3121: Ms. WILD.

H.R. 3159: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida and Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 3161: Mr. STEIL.

H.R. 3169: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. DONALDS, Mrs. LUNA, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

H.R. 3175: Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 3183: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 3184: Ms. SCHRIER and Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.

H.R. 3185: Mr. NEHLS, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. BARR.

H.R. 3194: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE and Mrs. RAMIREZ.

H.R. 3202: Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 3203: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 3229: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.

H.R. 3238: Mr. YAKYM, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. CARL, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. COLE, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. TIMMONS, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 3246: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.

H.R. 3247: Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 3266: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. BACON.

H.R. 3305: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 3318: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 3328: Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 3329: Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 3357: Ms. MACE and Mr. SANTOS.

H.R. 3375: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 3376: Ms. TITUS and Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 3382: Mr. CARSON, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. HAYES, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 3392: Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. BANKS.

H.R. 3393: Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 3413: Mr. FEENSTRA and Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 3414: Mr. SMUCKER.

H.R. 3420: Mr. IVEY, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. GARCIA of Illinois.

H.R. 3440: Mr. MANN.

H.R. 3444: Mr. GALLEGOS and Mr. FROST.

H.R. 3448: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 3451: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania and Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 3458: Ms. HAGEMAN.

H.R. 3475: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 3495: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 3500: Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BALDERSO N, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 3504: Mr. PAPPAS.  
H.R. 3507: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. TRONE, Mr. LANDSMAN, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 3519: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. CASTEN.  
H.R. 3529: Mr. GOSAR.  
H.R. 3547: Mr. SOTO.  
H.R. 3557: Mr. PENCE and Mr. WEBER of Texas.  
H.R. 3563: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. BUSH, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. TRONE.  
H.R. 3564: Mrs. KIM of California.  
H.R. 3596: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. BROWN, and Mr. SCHIFF.  
H.R. 3612: Mr. STEUBE.

H. Con. Res. 28: Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. BACON, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. BARR, Mr. LATTA, Mr. MEUSER, and Ms. SLOTKIN.  
H. Con. Res. 46: Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. STEUBE.  
H. Res. 77: Mr. HUFFMAN and Ms. PRESSLEY.  
H. Res. 86: Mr. CROW.  
H. Res. 149: Mr. MAGAZINER and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.  
H. Res. 195: Mr. KILMER, Ms. SALINAS, and Mrs. FLETCHER.  
H. Res. 308: Mr. MAGAZINER.  
H. Res. 351: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.  
H. Res. 352: Mr. FINSTAD.  
H. Res. 372: Mrs. MCCLELLAN.  
H. Res. 382: Mr. TRONE.  
H. Res. 389: Mr. McGOVERN and Mr. MORELLE.

H. Res. 400: Mr. GUTHRIE.  
H. Res. 409: Mrs. HINSON.  
H. Res. 432: Ms. BALINT.  
H. Res. 434: Mr. BACON and Mr. CORREA.  
H. Res. 437: Mr. GAETZ, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. HERN, and Mr. BURLISON.

---

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS  
Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:  
H.R. 901: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

---

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023

No. 89

---

## Senate

The Senate met at 12:30 and 5 seconds p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, a Senator from the State of Delaware.

---

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The assistant Parliamentarian read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, May 25, 2023.

*To the Senate:*

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, a Senator from the State of Delaware, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,  
*President pro tempore.*

Mr. COONS thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

---

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FRIDAY,  
MAY 26, 2023, AT 9 A.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until Friday, May 26, 2023, at 9 a.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:30 and 36 seconds p.m., adjourned until Friday, May 26, 2023, at 9 a.m.

---

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

---

S1773

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF WAWONA FROZEN FOODS

**HON. KEVIN McCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Wawona Frozen Foods in the Central Valley. Since its founding in 1963, Wawona Frozen Foods and the Smittcamp family have produced some of America's favorite fruits, including plums, strawberries, pears, and more. However, Wawona is best known for its delicious peaches.

In 1945, Earl Smittcamp returned home after fighting in the South Pacific as a United States Marine during World War II. Like many Americans seeking out the American Dream after the war, Earl and his wife, Muriel, embarked on their own journey and purchased a 200-acre farm at Minnewawa and Nees Avenues in Clovis, California from Muriel's father in 1946. Wawona Ranch was born, and it would soon become a fully-integrated agricultural operation led by Earl and his sons, Bill and the late Bob Smittcamp. Today, Wawona is a third generation, family-owned business located in the congressional district I proudly represent.

Headquartered in Clovis and with additional processing plants in Fresno and Watsonville, Wawona Frozen Foods is a major employer and economic contributor to our community. Wawona ships more than 100 million pounds of food annually to schools, retail stores, and the food service industry. Its delicious products can be found in the nation's largest supermarkets, restaurants, and resorts and are used by pastry manufacturers and in baby food. Most notably, Wawona processes over 65 million pounds of peaches annually.

Aside from the nutritious foods found in stores all throughout North America, the Smittcamp family has made lasting contributions in the community. They are dedicated to improving the quality of life through civic and philanthropic involvement with numerous community organizations, including Fresno State (and its Smittcamp Family Honors College), the Smittcamp Family Foundation, and Valley Children's Hospital. Bill and his wife, Linda, have lived in Clovis for nearly 50 years and have three children: Blake and his wife Cherie, Brad and his wife Courtney, and Blair and her husband Nathan, all of whom work in the family business. Bill and Linda also have six grandchildren: Aubrey Rose, Austin, Beckett, Harvey, Savanna, and Teddy. The Smittcamp family can always be counted on to wish you a "peachy day!"

On behalf of the 20th Congressional District of California, I would like to congratulate Wawona Frozen Foods and the Smittcamp family on 60 successful years in business and for their contributions to our community, California, and the Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THOSE WHO GAVE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE: CLARENCE MEMORIAL DAY DEDICATION

**HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and sacrifice of those who laid down their life in service to our great Nation. Memorial Day is a holiday of reverence: a time for us all to come together as a Nation and remember those brave soldiers who died defending our freedoms.

On May 29, 2023, this Memorial Day, 21 names will be added to the Clarence Veteran's Memorial Honor Walls. I am honored to include in the RECORD their names to be remembered forever.

James D. Cottrell—Army  
 Bernard J. Fisher—Army  
 David C. Hartzell III—Navy  
 John W. Hastings—Air Force  
 Edwin J. Hens Jr.—Army  
 Thomas R. Hens—Marine Corps  
 John M. Hens—Marine Corps  
 Peter J. Hens—Army  
 John L. Leamer—Army  
 Cletus F. Leising—Army  
 George V. Mesaros—Army  
 Ronald J. Michnik—Army  
 John S. Nowak—Army  
 Arthur O'Leary—Coast Guard  
 John E. Pajak—Navy  
 Michael A. Pasquarella—Army  
 Lee A. Rowlands—Army  
 John (Jack) W. Smeltz—Navy  
 Michael P. Stockmeyer—Navy  
 Robert G. Trowbridge—Air Force  
 R. Scott Wilson—Army

Though gone, these men and women will not be forgotten. It is now our duty to remember their sacrifice, courage, and valor as we go forward and continue to grow and build the greatest Nation the world has ever seen.

RECOGNIZING ELLEN BELL'S SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MILAN

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Ellen Bell, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department of Milan, Michigan, on the occasion of her retirement. Her dedication to her local community is worthy of commendation.

Ellen is a lifelong resident of Milan and graduated from Milan High School in 1976. Working as a beautician and delivering newspapers until 1985, Ellen embarked upon a career in public service first as a secretary for the Parks and Rec Department. She quickly

rose through the ranks, becoming an integral member of city government and, through the years, earning the title of Program Director, Interim Director, and finally the Director of Parks and Rec. Ellen has dedicated herself to improving the quality of life for Milan residents. Her legacy will live on through the many projects she pioneered; Ellen's final project as Director of Parks and Rec—a splash pad in Wilson Park—will provide area youth with countless hours of summer fun for years to come.

Ellen is an active and well-known participant in Milan's civic life. Along with her husband, Mike, and her children and grandchildren, her entire family regularly participates in community events, demonstrating the value of volunteerism to the next generations. She regularly donates her time at Milan Seniors for Healthy Living, where she teaches quilting and other crafting projects. She is an active member of the Peoples Presbyterian Church in Milan where she is an elected Elder, spending countless hours teaching Bible stories to children, as well as organizing the Christmas Pageant and countless Chicken Broils and Steak Fry's over the years. Ellen was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award by the Milan Chamber of Commerce in 2015.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Ellen Bell's service to the city of Milan. Over the last 38 years, she has dedicated herself to making her city more attractive and welcoming, both in public and in private. She is a tremendous example for all those who serve as a public official and those who wish to serve their community on their own time. I thank Ellen.

### STOP PLAYING POLITICS

**HON. PAUL TONKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call upon my Republican colleagues to stop playing politics with the full faith and credit of our Nation.

Through the threat of a default on our debt in pursuit of draconian cuts, they are prompting a crisis of their own making—one that will have lasting, devastating impacts to our global economy and to the livelihoods of millions of Americans.

We are on the brink of catastrophe, yet Republicans sent Congress home for the Memorial Day weekend. At a time when we should be united in honoring our brave service members, extreme Republicans are willing to trigger a recession so they can cut veterans benefits.

Democrats are ready to pay America's bills without gambling with working people's livelihoods by imposing cruel cuts.

The clock is ticking. Moderate Republicans must join us now to sign the discharge petition, end this crisis, and save our economy.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, on May 24, 2023, I was unable to be present for the recorded votes on Roll Call No. 233. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on H.J. Res. 39, Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to “Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord with Presidential Proclamation 10414.”

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for personal reasons from votes on May 23rd and 24th. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 232, YEA on Roll Call No. 233, and YEA on Roll Call No. 234.

## HONORING THE SERVICE OF MAJOR GENERAL TREVOR J. BREDENKAMP

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as the proud Co-Chair of the Army Caucus, I extend my deepest gratitude for the service of Major General Trevor J. Bredenkamp to the United States Congress as the Army’s Chief Legislative Liaison.

Under his stewardship, the Army maintained strong relationships with members of Congress, committees, and staff. His many accomplishments within the Office of the Chief Legislative Liaison are a testament to his leadership, particularly in how his team persevered during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Congratulations to Major General Bredenkamp on his selection as the Commanding General of the Military District of Washington and Commander of the Joint Forces Headquarters-National Capital Region. His dedication and experience will undoubtedly result in a disciplined and prepared force, entrusted with securing our Nation’s Capital.

I extend my best wishes as he transitions to a new assignment and express profound thankfulness to him and his family’s service to our Nation.

## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND FEARS OF DEFAULT

**HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I demand that Republicans get back to Wash-

ington and finish the job the American people sent all of us to Washington to do.

House Republicans have fled the Capitol leaving their worries behind, ready to enjoy the holiday weekend. The everyday American doesn’t have that luxury.

My constituents have been calling and writing expressing their anxiety and feelings of uncertainty. Americans are worried about paying their rent, buying their groceries, and caring for their children in the event of a default.

Everyday Americans will spend the weekend worried about whether or not they will receive their next social security check. Everyday Americans will spend the weekend hoping their retirement savings will still be intact by next week. Everyday Americans will use their weekend to figure out how to pay their rent and mortgages in the event of a default.

In the event of a default, at least 7 million jobs will be lost, unemployment will rise, our GDP will decline, and roughly \$10 trillion in household wealth will be wiped out.

The House Republicans don’t have these problems to worry about. The House Republicans don’t have to feel the consequences of their own actions like their constituents will.

The Democrats are here and ready to pass a clean debt ceiling. We are working for the people. It is deplorable that my Republican colleagues won’t do the same.

## INTRODUCTION OF A HOUSE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL POPPY DAY

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to re-introduce a bipartisan resolution recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of National Poppy Day on the Friday before Memorial Day, with Congresswoman Spartz.

The importance of this day cannot be overstated. This bipartisan National Poppy Day Resolution recognizes the sacrifices of America’s veterans and fallen service members.

In the last several decades, Memorial Day has become synonymous with the start of summer, and not as it was intended as a time to mourn and remember the U.S. military personnel who have fought and died while serving in the United States armed forces. While the United States has great respect for those who serve in the Armed Forces, we often focus on the living veterans. There are many parents, spouses, siblings, and children who still mourn their fallen service member.

Yes, there are ceremonies to remember those we have lost, such as the ones at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, at the Pentagon, and small ones at National Cemeteries. However, as a Nation we no longer take the time to remember those we have shed blood in the name of freedom.

The poppy flower has long been a marker of respect and a way to raise awareness and support for members of our nation’s veteran communities, servicemembers and their families, and the families of those who died in service to their country. Poppy Day is widely recognized by America’s allies, especially in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Great Brit-

ain, and Ukraine, but is less recognized here at home.

The red-flowered corn poppy became forever linked to soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice on the battlefields of World War I, as result of the poem “In Flanders Fields.” The poem, written by a Canadian soldier actively serving on the front-lines of WWI to honor his fellow soldiers killed in battle, reads:

“In Flanders Fields the poppies blow, between the crosses, row on row”

Around the world, the red-flowered corn poppy continues to serve as the living symbol of the blood shed by those who served and is worn as a gesture of gratitude and recognition of the sacrifices people have made in service to their country. Many nations incorporate the poppy into their Veterans or Remembrance Day ceremonies.

In the United States, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars first called attention in the 1920s to the importance of the poppy flower in honoring the fallen. They continue to distribute poppies and promote the importance of a National Poppy Day on the Friday before Memorial Day and Veterans’ Day; raising money for disabled veterans.

With wider recognition of National Poppy Day and wearing a red poppy, we honor every servicemember who has died in the name of liberty, freedom, and democracy. Additionally this provides us the opportunity to thank their families, veterans, and current service members for our freedom now and for generations to come. In the words of American Moina Michael,

“And now the Torch and Poppy Red, We wear in honor of our dead.

Fear not that ye have died for naught; We’ll teach the lesson that ye wrought”

Our Resolution, would begin on May 24, 2024. We should honor past and current members of the Armed Forces of the United States and their families. We should encourage all citizens, residents, and visitors of the United States to join in observing “National Poppy Day.” Wearing a red poppy the Friday before Memorial Day—and through the weekend—is an simple declaration of our admiration for and thanks to those individuals who shed blood to preserve freedom.

In this body we have people who have served and those who have lost. At the very least we should honor them.

We invite all Members of Congress to wear their poppy red, support the goals and ideals of National Poppy Day on May 26, 2023 and every year after, to pay tribute to those who have sacrificed for our country—both living and dead. I also invite all of my colleagues to join me in sponsoring this resolution.

## HONORING DR. TELENA WRIGHT UPON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Telena Wright upon her retirement as Superintendent of the Argyle Independent School District in Argyle, Texas. Raised by two educators in Ballinger, Texas, Dr. Wright initially chose a pre-pharmacy major before switching to an education major and her ultimate attainment of a teacher’s certification.

She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin, followed by a master's degree in education from Hardin-Simmons University and a doctorate in education from the University of North Texas.

Prior to coming to Argyle ISD, Dr. Wright worked at San Angelo and Lewisville ISD's. She previously served as a math teacher, elementary and high school counselor, and as an assistant principal, before joining Argyle High School in 2000 as principal. After three years at the helm of AHS, she moved into district administration as an assistant superintendent, then interim superintendent before being named Argyle ISD Superintendent in 2009.

Under Dr. Wright's capable leadership, Argyle ISD added a pre-kindergarten program and implemented special education programming on all campuses. In addition, the Argyle ISD Police Department was created in 2013 to heighten security and now includes the addition of armed staff and the positioning of an officer on each campus.

Argyle ISD has seen tremendous growth, and Dr. Wright oversaw the transition from K-8 grades to Pre-K-12 and three successful bond packages to provide updates and renovations to the district's existing facilities, addition of new campuses, new school buses, and new technology and security systems. The district covers over 35 square miles and enrollment has increased from 1700 to 5000 students and 200 to more than 700 employees.

Dr. Wright has been a hands-on leader and has forged a strong partnership between students, parents, teachers and administrators to ensure the best possible educational experience and outcomes for AISD students. A consummate professional, she is known as a tremendous recruiter and developer-of-educators, serving as a mentor to many whom have benefited from her wisdom and inspirational guidance. She has also served as an adjunct instructor at her alma mater UNT, preparing the next generation of teachers.

During her tenure, Argyle ISD has won twelve UIL Lone Star Cup awards, including a record setting 10 consecutive times. The Lone Star cup is awarded annually to only six high schools in the state based upon the accumulation of the largest number of UIL points with students competing in academics, fine arts and athletics. She has traveled across the region and state to support AISD students and teams as they've competed and won multiple state championships including UIL Academics, Girl's Basketball and Volleyball, Boy's Baseball, Football, and Golf, as well as Marching Band.

After 15 years as superintendent, Dr. Wright is retiring. It is my privilege to recognize the long and dedicated service that Dr. Telena Wright has tirelessly devoted to the children of Argyle ISD. I join the students, families, and staff in wishing her all the best in her retirement.

#### HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PIEDMONT AREA SOAP BOX DERBY

#### HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Piedmont Area Soap Box

Derby on its 20th anniversary. Since June 27, 2003, Virginians have participated in this fun and family-friendly event that started as a 75th anniversary celebration of Rosson & Troilo, a family-owned and operated business. The inaugural race in Culpeper, Virginia began with a total of 35 drivers and was awarded "Outstanding New Race City" by the All-American World Championship Race.

In 2005, the Piedmont Area Soap Box Derby piloted the first-ever Junior Committee for a soap box derby. Members of the Junior Committee are between 13 and 21 years of age, and they take on the same responsibilities and goals as the adult committee. The Junior Committee operates as a mentorship program, providing members with leadership opportunities and allowing young derby drivers to learn from seasoned drivers in the community.

By 2007, the Piedmont Area Soap Box Derby was ranked "2nd largest derby in the world." In 2008, they claimed the title of "largest derby in the world." In 2009, with the help of the community through donations and volunteers, they began building a permanent track facility, the Paul Bates Raceway. Since 2003, Rosson & Troilo has made it possible for derby champions and their families to travel to Akron, Ohio for the All-American World Championship Race. Throughout the last 20 years, Piedmont Area Soap Box Derby drivers have brought home many awards, including five world championships—Brandon Feagan (2008), Sean Brown (2010), Gabrielle Beville (2011), Joey Kratochvil (2014), and Mason Breedon (2016).

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Piedmont Area Soap Box Derby for 20 years of providing Virginia with a wonderful event that promotes community, leadership, and encourages young and seasoned drivers towards success. I look forward to all that they accomplish in the years to come.

#### HONORING THE REMARKABLE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF GEORGE BONFE

#### HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. STAUBER Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and accomplishments of George Bonfe. George's unwavering can-do spirit was indeed an inspiration to us all. Despite suffering a spinal injury during an Army leave at the age of 21, which left him paralyzed from the waist down, George refused to let this obstacle define his life. Instead, he adopted three children, two of whom served in the military, one of whom even graduated from West Point. George's resilience was further demonstrated by his building of an airplane and becoming a pilot from his wheelchair, along with driving an automobile, boat, jet skis, snowmobile, and flying an ultralight. He also tirelessly sent care packages to deployed troops, including his adopted daughter. George was an active member of his community, participating in various military events and the Forest Lake Veterans Memorial. Additionally, he built a daycare, owned a liquor store, and engaged in numerous community service

activities. George made a lasting impact on those he met, often visiting the Forest Lake American Legion Post No. 225 with his daughter. He also attended many funerals of Minnesota fallen soldiers.

George Bonfe serves as a remarkable role model for everyone. Despite facing physical limitations, he never allowed them to hinder his success; his only obstacle was stairs, but somehow he always made it to the top. He dedicated himself to his loved ones, community, and fellow veterans, leaving a lasting impact on all those he touched. We are grateful for his service to our Nation and his incredible story that will continue inspiring future generations. May he rest in peace, knowing that his legacy will continue to positively impact the world.

#### THE WAR IN UKRAINE

#### HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD remarks submitted at the request of a Virginia Beach constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman of Temple Lev Tikvah, and are a reflection of his views:

The war in Ukraine hits close to home. I was a refugee the first four years of my life following my birth in Kazakhstan (USSR) in 1945, and my late father was a Russian soldier defending Leningrad and Moscow. My 102-year-old Israeli mom who died recently in Israel was a Ukrainian Holocaust survivor. My wife and I travelled in Ukraine with its vast Jewish past in 1991, where we lost so many family members during the Holocaust, including at Babi Yar. It is hard to fathom that the historic and beautiful landscape with a population yearning to be Western is being obliterated before our eyes.

These searing events—an invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces who obey the absolute authority of Russian President Vladimir Putin—are beyond shocking. Who would have imagined that once more, following WWII and the Holocaust, we would witness an eruption of such magnitude in the heart of Europe, with the evil design to seize a newly democratic nation of 40 million people in an ill-begotten scheme to restore the collapsed Soviet Union and/or revive the preceding Russian Imperial Empire? What is the impetus behind Putin's plot to charge forward with uncontrolled rage and reckless impunity despite a dire outcome for all?

Perhaps it is a case of over-confidence that he could literally get away with mass murder with little opposition from a world community, acceding to his past mischief in Chechnya, Georgia, Syria (Remember Aleppo!), Crimea and Donbas. He's gambled that his saber rattling with a nuclear arsenal would result in finger pointing while avoiding detrimental consequences to his megalomaniacal dream of reordering the world order through disorder with total disregard for human life and immense suffering for millions of young and old, who are now homeless refugees. He, whose family was personally impacted by the inhumane siege of Leningrad (St. Petersburg) in WWII, shows no mercy for a vast civilian population with close cultural and fraternal bonds that already had experienced Adolf Hitler's similar approach. Putin shows uncontrolled impulses of divine grandeur and sick grandiosity. The global community hopefully apprehensively watches, with the notable exception of the

Russians who are deprived of the truth, fed by their government's fake news.

Let us contemplate that Hitler could have been stopped early on if democratic nations had the common sense and necessary guts to confront him early. Jewish leaders appealed to Franklin D. Roosevelt, their sainted New Deal president, only to be turned away dismissively and misleadingly with false promises that all would be well, but first Nazi Germany had to be defeated. By the time the United States got involved it was too late for 6 million Jews—two-thirds of European Jewry and one-third of the total Jewish people, including a million and a half children, along with millions of others. Delayed response to fateful danger by democracies that tend to be slow and uncertain in decision-making and extra cautious about bloodletting of their own and others, turns ever costly with a commensurate rising price. It is humanity's tragic pitfall that dictators possess the nerve and verve to launch unprovoked attacks even as democracies become impotent at critical crossroads rather than calling for determined and quick action to avert monumental destruction.

Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who ironically and instructively happens to be Jewish and lost relatives in the Holocaust, is pleading for his country's independent existence and survival through more aid and we should fully assist him. To claim that the United States and NATO members have limitations in doing so because the victim does not belong to NATO is immoral and short-sighted. I suggest that Ukraine's defeat would serve to hasten another colossal disaster for Europe and the democratic world, with Putin further emboldened to continue violating others more vulnerable than Ukraine, whose resistance to the onslaught is an exemplary response we can all be inspired by. Zelenskyy has emerged, despite being laughed at given his comedian's background, as a world statesman with Winston Churchill's heroic aura. The Jewish War Veterans of the United States designated Zelenskyy as Honorary Patron. The International Criminal Court (ICC) issued an arrest warrant for Putin. Let justice prevail with our indispensable help!

Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman is founder of Temple Lev Tikkvah in Virginia Beach.

#### HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. VAL T. HOYLE**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 467) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes:

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Chair, today I will vote in support of H.R. 467, the Halt All Lethal Trafficking of (HALT) Fentanyl Act. This legislation permanently classifies all fentanyl-related substances as Schedule I drugs under the Controlled Substances Act, and it allows for expedited research into these substances.

While H.R. 467 is not perfect, it takes needed steps to help save lives and reduce the supply and availability of illicitly manufactured fentanyl-related substances.

As President Biden has stated, placing fentanyl-related substances into Schedule I

will provide law enforcement with the resources they need to tackle the manufacturing and trafficking of fentanyl-related substances. It will also close loopholes that allow drug traffickers to evade the law by altering the chemical makeup of fentanyl.

In addition, H.R. 467's provisions to expand research into fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances will improve our understanding of these substances, including increasing the potential of finding more effective treatments for overdose victims.

But let me be clear: H.R. 467 is a blunt instrument—it does not do enough to comprehensively address the fentanyl crisis. Instead of working with congressional Democrats to put together a bipartisan bill to comprehensively tackle this crisis, the House Republican majority chose to write this bill in a partisan fashion.

As a result, H.R. 467 leaves out important solutions for addressing the fentanyl crisis, including expanding access to treatment, testing, and education. That's why I'm a cosponsor of H.R. 3375, the STOP Fentanyl Overdoses Act, a bipartisan bill to expand access to overdose reversal medications, like Narcan, and offer medication treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD) to incarcerated individuals to prevent relapses.

Most people who die from a fentanyl overdose don't know that what they're consuming could be life-threatening. That's why I'm a co-sponsor of the bipartisan H.R. 3563, the Secure Testing Resources Instead of Prosecuting (STRIP) Act, which would allow for wider access to fentanyl test strips to help avoid preventable overdoses and deaths.

Tragically, fentanyl-related overdose deaths have impacted far too many families in my congressional district and across the country. Youth drug overdose deaths have more than doubled nationwide since 2019, and they have more than tripled in Oregon during that same time period. This is mainly due to the rapid spread of illicitly manufactured fentanyl.

One death by overdose is one too many.

We must be proactive in educating youth in our communities about the dangers of fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances. That's why I was proud to join Oregon's Congressional delegation in sending a letter urging the Department of Education to increase fentanyl awareness and drug-prevention education in schools.

If the Senate takes up H.R. 467, I encourage Senators to work in a bipartisan fashion to improve this bill and add more comprehensive solutions to address the fentanyl crisis.

Fentanyl overdoses do not fall on party lines. Neither should legislation to stop it. We must pass a bill into law as soon as possible in order to prevent more deaths from fentanyl overdose.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THOSE WHO GAVE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE MEMORIAL DAY 2023

**HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize those who paid

the ultimate sacrifice in defense of the United States of America. On behalf of the United States Congress, and the constituents of the 23rd Congressional District, I am proud to recognize our brave soldiers' courage, sacrifice, and valor as we come together this Memorial Day.

All gave some, and some gave all. Memorial Day is not a 3-day weekend. Instead, it is the duty of a grateful Nation to pause and remember those who laid down their life so that we may live free. This is the greatest country on earth, and we are the only Nation that guarantees the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as the cornerstone of our foundation.

The Flag of the United States of America shows red, white, and blue. Blue symbolizes vigilance, perseverance, and justice—a reminder that we must remain watchful and strong. White reminds us to stay true to our values and ideals. Red represents valor in honor of the blood shed by those who have fought to protect our freedoms.

On Memorial Day we remember those we lost and honor the veterans who are with us today. America is the land of the free because it is the home of the brave. I am so humbled by the bravery and honor displayed by our men and women in uniform. Whether it be Memorial Day or any other day, please know that we as a Nation are grateful.

#### WELCOMING THE LSU LADY TIGERS

**HON. TROY A. CARTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to welcome the LSU Lady Tigers to our Nation's Capital.

They had an all-star season, which included bringing LSU's first basketball national title home to Louisiana and achieving the highest scoring championship game in women's NCAA history. This LSU women's basketball team exemplifies the true Louisiana spirit of resilience. They never counted themselves out or listened to naysayers, they worked hard, and they triumphed. Their teamwork, unity, and drive are remarkable.

I thank LaDazhia Williams, Jasmine Carson, Flau'jae Johnson, Sa'Myah Smith, Angel Reese, Emily Ward, Last-Tear Poa, Izzy Besselman, Alisa Williams, Amani Bartlett, Alexis Morris, Kateri Poole, Coach Mulkey, Coach Starkey, Coach Mitchell, Coach Redus, and the entire LSU Women's Basketball staff for bringing their team spirit, Louisiana's spirit, to the whole country.

I'm glad they are being exclusively honored in Washington, D.C. this week and receiving the recognition they deserve.

#### CONGRATULATING CARMEN ANA AND FELIX VEGA ON THEIR 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JENNIFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN**

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate my constituents, Mrs.

Carmen Ana Fournier Figueroa and Dr. Felix Rafael Vega Sala on their 60th wedding anniversary.

Carmen Ana and Felix Vega met in 1959 when they were 15 and 17 years old. She was born in Bayamón and he was born in Hatillo, Puerto Rico. Within a few years of meeting one another, they married in 1963 and moved to Seville, Spain, where Felix continued his medical education with the help and support of his devoted wife Carmen Ana. After four years in Spain, they returned to Puerto Rico where Felix completed his medical degree and obtained his license as a psychiatrist.

In 1982, the family traveled again to Fort Smith, Arkansas, where Dr. Vega served as a lead psychiatrist for the Cuban refugees who had fled oppression in the Mariel boatlift. In 1984, the family moved back to Puerto Rico, and Dr. Vega continued his long-standing professional career with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in the San Juan Regional Office. After 28 years, Dr. Vega retired as a distinguished medical professional for the VA in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Their devotion and love for one another has been witnessed by many and, has embodied one of the most important vows in marriage; “in sickness and in health.” When Carmen Ana was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2010, it was not only her faith, bravery, and courageous attitude that got her through this life-threatening disease, but it was the loving care of her husband, and support of her doctors, friends, and family, that helped her defeat this devastating disease.

Dr. Felix Vega and Carmen Ana have two children, Felix, and Carmen, as well as four young grandchildren, Fabiana, Carlos Enrique, Felix Sebastian and Carmen Sofia. The entire family lives happily in Puerto Rico.

Please join me in giving Carmen Ana and Felix warmhearted congratulations on their 60th wedding anniversary. I commend them and wish them many more happy years together.

CONGRATULATING AUGUSTIN TELLEZ ON RECEIVING SONS OF ITALY FOUNDATION HUMANITARIAN AWARD

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my friend Augustin ‘Augie’ Tellez, who is this year’s recipient of the Sons of Italy Foundation’s Humanitarian Award. From his leadership in organized labor to his pride in his Italian heritage, Augie truly deserves this honor—as well as the gratitude of many people across Maryland and America.

Serving as the Executive Vice President of the Seafarers International Union (SIU) since 2005, Augie has been an important voice for mariners, boatmen, and fishermen across North America. He has a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities that people face in his industry. Augie’s tenure with SIU began when he graduated from the Paul Hall Center’s Lundeberg School of Seafarership down in Piney Point, Maryland, in 1975. After five years of serving the union in several posts across the country, he rose through the

ranks to become port agent of SIU’s headquarters port and later special assistant to the union’s president. Trusting Augie’s good judgement and inspiring leadership, the SIU executive board appointed him to serve as the union’s vice president of contracts and contracts enforcement in 1991—a position that union membership reelected him to the following year. He served in that role until 2005, overseeing all the union’s collective bargaining efforts. From helping develop the SIU’s training record book to overseeing contract implementation for the union, he has made invaluable contributions to the SIU and continues to do so as Executive Vice President. His work isn’t limited to the SIU, however.

Many government and industry leaders have sought out Augie’s expertise and insight. He has served on the U.S. Transportation Command’s Voluntary Intermodal Sealift Agreement Executive Working Group (EWG) for over two decades, fostering closer cooperation between the federal government and his industry to ensure that the U.S. military has access to vital commercial shipping resources in the event of an emergency deployment. Similarly, between 2011 and 2022, Augie served on the U.S. Transportation Department’s Marine Transportation National Advisory Council. As chair of the council’s U.S. Maritime Workforce Working Group Subcommittee, he helped assess how the nation’s mariner workforce could support the American merchant fleet during national emergencies. Indeed, the recent COVID-19 pandemic reminded us of the vital importance of maintaining strong supply chains, and Augie has played an important role in that effort.

I’ve also been grateful for all that Augie has done for our community in Southern Maryland. He has served as a trustee for the Paul Hall Center and as chair of its advisory board for years. He was instrumental in securing key expansions to the school. That includes the Joseph Sacco Fire Fighting and Safety School, which provides maritime firefighting training, and a cutting-edge facility with a variety of simulators that help seafarers develop important shiphandling skills and learn industry procedures. Thanks in part to Augie’s efforts, Paul Hall Center now offers more U.S. Coast Guard-approved training courses than any other school in America, providing a first-rate education to its students and graduating some of the world’s best merchant mariners year after year. We are so lucky to have this esteemed institution in Southern Maryland and to have leaders like Augie who help run it.

It’s been a pleasure to know Augie all these years. From preserving America’s maritime traditions to protecting workers’ rights, he continues to do crucial work on behalf of our state and Nation. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Augie on this award and in thanking him for all that he has done for our country and its mariners.

RECOGNIZING GENE OVERHOLT’S SERVICE TO THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH AND TO THE NATION

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Gene Overholt, a veteran of the

Second World War and a longtime resident of Plymouth, Michigan, on the occasion of his passing. His service to the nation and dedication to his community over 99 years of life is worthy of commendation.

Gene was born in the small town of Bippus, Indiana in 1924, before moving to Huntington, Indiana. He and his wife, Jane, were childhood sweethearts and began dating at the age of 13. He joined the armed forces as soon as he was of age, where he was trained as a “telephone man”. On the battlefield, Gene served by running communication channels, culminating in his participation in the Battle of the Bulge in the winter of 1944/45.

He came home and began work at Michigan Bell, where he would spend the rest of his career. He and his wife Jane raised their three daughters in Plymouth, Michigan, and though he was done with his military service, his service to his community was just beginning. Gene was one of the founding members of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth, and eventually was elected as the President of Kiwanis International in 1988–89. In 1962, Gene assisted in the creation of the Plymouth Salvation Army, where he served on the Board until his passing earlier this year. He also spent a decade on the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees and was eventually inducted into the Plymouth Hall of Fame. In honor of his three daughters, all of whom taught in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Gene founded the Gene and Jane Overholt Educational Scholarship Foundation. This foundation, which gives scholarships to students going into the field of education or other service professions, will carry on Gene’s legacy for decades to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Gene Overholt’s life of service to our country and to his community. Though he is no longer with us, his legacy of service will live on through his daughters, his foundation, and the indelible impression he has left upon his city. I thank Gene.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT-ELECT SANTIAGO PEÑA PALACIOS

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the American people extend congratulations to the Honorable Santiago Peña Palacios on being elected to the Presidency of Paraguay on May 2nd. His success as a former member of the Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Paraguay and former Minister of Finance of Paraguay demonstrates his ability to be a great leader. I am grateful for his dedicated work on anti-corruption, equal application of law, and advancing security, and economic growth for the benefit of both our countries creating jobs.

The United States established diplomatic relations with Paraguay in 1861, 50 years after Paraguay declared independence from Spain. The longstanding relationship of our nations is characterized by cooperation, shared interests, and a strong bilateral trade relationship. The history of Paraguay as an independent nation has been marked by political upheavals, but in 1989, it underwent a transition to civilian leadership and democratic elections, which the United States supported.

Paraguay has been a valued ally in addressing regional challenges, such as the crisis in Venezuela, counternarcotics efforts, intellectual property rights protection, and combating illicit activities such as money laundering and human trafficking. Paraguayan commitment to combating illegal activity in the tri-border area and participating in anti-terrorism training demonstrates its dedication to regional security. I am confident President-elect Palacios, upon assuming office on August 15th, will effectively lead Paraguay and carry forward the positive momentum achieved thus far.

I am grateful for the commitment of the President-elect to continue to strengthen the historic ties between Paraguay and Taiwan, as diplomatic relations date back more than six decades.

Amidst pressure from the Chinese Communist Party, Taiwan continues to face adversaries to keep their allies who acknowledge them as a sovereign nation. It is important that the United States and Paraguay remain devoted to our unwavering support of Taiwan. Paraguay stands with democracies promoting rule of law being opposed by authoritarians imposing rule of gun.

Paraguay is well represented in the United States by dynamic Ambassador José Antonio Dos Santos.

#### DEBT LIMIT

#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, one of the cardinal rules of negotiation is never to negotiate when you have a gun pointed at your head. The rationale is self-evident. One of the parties—namely, the party which is staring down the barrel of the gun—is more than likely going to either get the short end of the deal or, worse, end up dead.

In the case of the debt limit negotiations currently underway between President Biden and Speaker MCCARTHY, the risk isn't just that one of the parties will be unhappy with an agreement. If the United States defaults on the federal debt for the first time in the nation's history, it will risk a devastating wound to financial markets at home and around the world, push our country into a recession, erase 7.8 million jobs, and wipe out as much as \$10 trillion in household wealth.

The crisis, of course, is a manufactured one. The national debt has increased under every presidential administration since Herbert Hoover. According to the U.S. Department of Treasury, Congress has acted 78 separate times to permanently raise, temporarily extend, or revise the definition of the debt limit—49 times under Republican presidents and 29 times under Democratic presidents.

Republicans aren't interested in getting our fiscal house in order. They don't want to address entitlement programs, which are the big drivers of projected spending growth. They don't want to touch raising revenues or cuts to military spending.

Instead, Republicans are aiming their weapon at nondefense discretionary spending. They want to slash funding for our nation's schools, our national parks, our farmers, and

our police officers. Nondefense discretionary spending only accounts for 15 percent of the \$6.3 trillion the government is expected to spend this year.

Republicans even want to take money away from health care for our nation's veterans. Their Default on America Act would underfund programs that help our veterans exposed to burn pits by \$20 billion.

America must pay its bills as it has always done. At a time when America is facing many challenges at home and abroad—from inflation to competition with China to the ongoing war in Ukraine—we must ensure that our word is trusted. In the end, we must do what is right and raise the debt ceiling without any conditions and especially without a gun pointed at our heads.

#### MAGA REPUBLICANS DEFAULT ON AMERICA

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to demand that Republicans fulfill their job and pay America's bills.

House Republicans have rushed out of town knowing that they are essentially forcing a default that will be extremely expensive for families.

We know what comes next: unemployment will double, retirement savings will be lost, and costs for everything from mortgages to vehicle payments will increase.

Extreme MAGA Republicans, though, are still to blame for America's current economic disaster. They have departed town, leaving behind working families.

Democrats have come together to resolve the debt without playing political games. Republicans who identify as "moderate" cannot hide. Either they side with Team Extreme, or they join us to end this crisis.

#### HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT

#### SPEECH OF HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act.

Mr. Chair, this bill is not a solution to the proliferation of Fentanyl Related Substances (FRS) in America. We need legislation that will actually save lives while stopping illicit drug sales.

There are lifesaving, bipartisan bills like the SAFE Act, introduced by my colleague, Representative PAPPAS, that work with the medical community to protect medically beneficial FRSs. The SAFE Act also prevents harmful mandatory minimum sentences for people who may not even know they have a Fentanyl Related Substance in their possession. These are necessary guardrails that Republicans' HALT Fentanyl Act fails to include.

Congress should not be playing doctor, but instead pass a comprehensive bill that reflects

the input of medical professionals, addiction specialists, researchers, and law enforcement. Republicans are trying to present a "quick and easy" solution to a complex problem.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL CLAIRE

#### HON. KEVIN MULLIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mike Claire, Chancellor of the San Mateo County Community College District, upon his retirement after 34 years of dedicated service to our community.

Mike Claire joined the faculty at College of San Mateo in 1988 after working for a major public accounting firm, and just eight years after enrolling as a student at Canada College in Redwood City, and earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and a Master in Business Administration degrees from California State University, East Bay. During his time as a faculty member, Mike Claire represented the Academic Senate on many college committees and served as chair of College of San Mateo's Curriculum Committee.

In 1997, Mike Claire was appointed as Dean of the Technology Division at College of San Mateo and he worked with faculty and staff to support the development of several new career and technical education programs including Digital Media, Network Cabling, Instrumentation and Process Control Systems, new curriculum for the College's apprenticeship programs, a Paramedic Apprenticeship Program, and a full POST-certified police academy.

Mike Claire served as the Vice President of Instruction at College of San Mateo from 2005 to 2006, and during that time, he worked with instructional deans to support new curriculum development, with faculty to develop the college's initial policies concerning the use of faculty computers and other technologies, and with high school and college stakeholders to expand the Middle College High School program.

In January 2007, Mike Claire was appointed as President of College of San Mateo and worked with stakeholders to guide the college through two successful accreditation visits. He currently serves as a Commissioner on the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). In addition, Mike Claire worked with college constituencies to develop several programs designed for underserved students, including learning communities and other programs that provide direct support to students. Mike Claire oversaw approximately \$350 million of new construction and renovation for the College of San Mateo campus. During his tenure, College of San Mateo was recognized as an Aspen Top 150 College, making the College eligible to compete for the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.

In August 2019, Mike Claire was appointed as the Acting Chancellor of the San Mateo County Community College District, and as Interim Chancellor of the District in September 2019, serving in that capacity until his appointment as Chancellor in July 2020. Mike Claire skillfully guided the District and its three colleges through both internal and external challenges, most notably ensuring the District's

mission was fulfilled during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mike Claire is a life-long San Mateo County resident, and he has engaged with and supported our community through his service on numerous boards including the San Mateo Area Chamber of Commerce, Notre Dame High School, the South Bay Regional Public Safety Training Consortium and the San Mateo Credit Union.

A great leader leaves an organization stronger than when they arrive. By that measure, Mike Claire has not only been a great leader, he has been a thoughtful steward in protecting, preserving, and enhancing the San Mateo County Community College District and its three colleges, most notably his beloved College of San Mateo. Mike Claire has dedicated his career to serving students and he leaves a legacy of countless lives touched and improved through his efforts. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mike Claire on his retirement, commanding him for his tireless dedication of time and talent, and wishing him all the best in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING MR. EARL D.  
McMILLAN, SR.

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine and Vietnam Veteran, Earl D. McMillan, Sr.

Today, Mr. McMillan will be rightfully celebrated when he receives an honorary diploma at Citrus County High School. Earl had previously earned his diploma at seventeen, before continuing his education and ultimately earning a master's degree in business administration and serving as a college professor for 28 years. However, Earl deployed for Vietnam before his high school graduation ceremony, beginning a military career spanning over 20 years, resulting in his inability to walk across the high school stage to pick up his physical diploma. Today, Earl will be able to walk across the stage and receive his diploma, and we will all be able to celebrate his life of service and accomplishment.

I thank Mr. McMillan for his many years of service to our country and am humbled to be able to help honor him for his accomplishments.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO “CONTROL OF AIR POLLUTION FROM NEW MOTOR VEHICLES: HEAVY-DUTY ENGINE AND VEHICLE STANDARDS”

SPEECH OF

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, S.J. Res. 11 makes clear House Republicans are

only interested in fighting for baseless, dan-

gerous pollution control rollbacks that benefit polluters, not the American people. The Biden Administration's Heavy-Duty NO<sub>x</sub> standard is common sense, realistic, and the way forward to protect the American people's health. 1 in 3 Americans are living in counties with unhealthy air pollution. This includes more than 100 million people—including 23.6 million children and 15.4 million people 65 or older—living in areas with high levels of ozone pollution—which the trucking sector is a large contributor to. According to the American Lung Association, a widespread transition to zero-emission transportation by 2050 will generate over \$72 billion in avoided health costs, save approximately 6,300 lives, and prevent more than 93,000 asthma attacks and 416,000 lost workdays each year. Heavy Duty Vehicle pollution is dangerous and has been linked to numerous health concerns including asthma, heart disease, and cancer. Children, whose little lungs are still developing, are particularly at risk, as are the more than 72 million Americans—often communities of color and low-income communities—who live within 200 meters of Heavy-Duty Vehicle freight routes.

Back home in my backyard, the Progress Village and Palm River communities have been facing the cumulative burdens of air pollution from heavy-duty trucks for decades. Dating all the way back to the historic systematic racist redlining that cut a thriving African American community in half with a highway. The standard would reduce exposure to traffic pollution that is linked to heart disease and lung cancer mortality, asthma onset in both children and adults, and acute lower respiratory infections in children. All of which, my constituents back home in Progress Village and Palm River have been battling for decades. In addition, NO<sub>x</sub> emissions can cause lifelong lung damage, and interact with sunlight to form ground-level ozone and particulate matter pollution. The standard will significantly reduce nitrogen oxide emissions (by cutting it nearly in half) and prevent 2,900 premature deaths annually. This higher exposure burdens underserved residents with adverse health outcomes and higher healthcare costs. This Republican resolution will harm health of the American people and environment, and the health of American pocketbooks.

It is obvious, yet again, Republicans are too focused on protecting the profits of polluters instead of protecting the American people. The science behind this standard is clear—and the response by industry was even clearer. EPA engaged robustly with trucking, engine manufacturing, and other industry stakeholders throughout the rulemaking process. The period for filing a petition for judicial review closed on March 27, and no lawsuits were filed against this standard. Let me repeat that, no lawsuits were filed. The standard requires incremental improvement based on the same types of technology already deployed in heavy-duty diesel trucks. The biggest difference truck operators will see on new trucks is an increase in the required manufacturing warranty period from 100,000 miles to 450,000 miles, which should reduce their maintenance costs. The standard includes one of the most important transportation vehicles that every American is familiar with, especially our own children, the school bus. The Biden Harris Administration have been committed to protecting our environment, our children, and our future.

The Clean School Bus Program, created with funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, provides \$5 billion over the next five years to replace existing school buses with zero-emission and low-emission models. This will provide cleaner air—through electric and alternatively-fueled buses eliminate or reduce school bus exhaust, which is linked to asthma. This will provide reduced health risks—especially for children whose lungs are still developing. This will provide—reduced greenhouse gas emissions, which contribute to climate change. This will even provide grid resilience. Through the usage of bidirectional chargers, school buses can store energy for distribution to the grid when needed. It is essential that we protect our children, our future. And if this resolution passes, we will be doing exactly the opposite—shouldn't we all want a future for our children? It is clear my colleagues across the aisle don't want to protect the American people, or our children, but only the profits of polluters. I urge my colleagues to not support this resolution.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND NELL FIELDS

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend Nell Fields and her commitment to both the Waquoit Congregational Church and the people of Cape Cod.

The youngest of five daughters, Nell was raised in Kentucky, where her father was stationed at Fort Knox as an Army officer. Nell attended the University of Kentucky and graduated with her Bachelor of Arts in journalism in 1981. Nell then went on to receive her Master of Fine Arts in English as a graduate fellow at Mills College in Oakland, California.

Nell worked in a variety of positions over the years in the publishing, financial services, and technology sectors, but after her bus was evacuated in Manhattan on September 11, 2001, Nell felt a strong calling to ministry. The CEO of Clickshare at the time, Nell started taking courses at the Andover Newton Theological School in 2002. After four years of attending part time, Nell enrolled in school full time and later graduated with her Master of Divinity in 2008.

During her time at the Andover Newton Theological School, Nell was required to serve as a pastoral resident in a hospital. Believing that it was important to increase the number of chaplains within the mental health field, Nell worked at the Westborough State Psychiatric Hospital and served as the chaplain for three years. Nell then worked at Lemuel Shattuck Hospital, where she also helped to create an animal therapy program. Nell has continued her service in the mental health field at the Waquoit Congregational Church by collaborating with the Gosnold Center to set up a series of workshops addressing addiction.

Now the Rector of the Waquoit Congregational Church, Nell first joined the congregation in 2010 as the church's first female pastor. Throughout Nell's time at Waquoit, she has established herself as a pillar of the Falmouth community and has continuously worked to ensure that all who come to the

congregation feel welcome, no matter who they are or where they are from.

Nell's commitment to supporting and bettering the lives of those around her has not gone unnoticed. On May 25, 2023, Nell is being honored by the Falmouth Chamber of Commerce as their 2023 Citizen of the Year. Nell is being recognized not only for her contributions as a pastor, but also for her work across Falmouth and Cape Cod. Nell has served on several boards within the community including the No Place for Hate Falmouth Steering Committee, Belonging to Each Other, and the Barnstable County Human Rights Commission. Additionally, Nell is the Director of Neighborhood Falmouth and the Falmouth Service Center.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud honor Reverend Nell Fields and ask that my colleagues join me in thanking her for her dedication to her congregation and community.

**HONORING THE PHOEBUS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Phoebus High School Football Team from Hampton, Virginia on becoming the Virginia High School League's Class 3 State Champions.

On Saturday, December 10, 2022, the Phoebus Phantoms won the Class 3 State Championship Game against the Heritage High School Pioneers with a score of 48–7. This is the second year in a row Phoebus High School has claimed the title. Led by Coach Jeremy Blunt, the Phantoms won this title on the tail end of an equally astounding season. Phoebus High School closed their season undefeated, with a record of 15 wins and 0 losses, and maintained a 20-game winning streak going back to their previous season.

Not only did the Phantoms win the state championship, but they also exemplified the ability to overcome the unexpected. In the semifinal game against Brentsville District High School a week prior to the championship match, Phoebus' starting quarterback, Nolan James, was injured, preventing him from competing in the tournament further. Back-up quarterback, Jayden Earley, stepped up, and in the championship game, passed for 236 yards and three touchdowns leading to their victory. For the final play of the game, the Phantoms carried James onto the field to take the final snap as an instrumental part of the championship run.

These young athletes exemplify hard work and sportsmanship. Overcoming adversity requires that we take challenges head-on no matter what obstacles present themselves in our path. The Phoebus High School Football team is a model of this enduring quality and an inspiration for all of us.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again congratulate the Phoebus High School Football Team on accomplishing this amazing feat and thank Coach Blunt, the parents, and the entire Phoebus High School community for supporting these students throughout this remarkable

season. They have all made their community proud. I wish them the best in their future endeavors, and I wish the program continued success.

**HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT**

SPEECH OF

**HON. SCOTT FITZGERALD**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 24, 2023*

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act.

This critical legislation accomplishes a top legislative priority I have been advocating since coming to Congress, which would permanently classify fentanyl-related substances as Schedule I drugs.

I'd like to share two moving stories of constituents from my district taken from their families too soon. Archie Badura, of Oconomowoc, tragically passed away at the age of 19, due to an accidental overdose in 2014. Since then, his mother, Lauri Badura has dedicated herself to advocate on behalf of those struggling with mental health and substance abuse and started a grassroots organization called, "Saving Others For Archie" to help fight the opioid epidemic. Logan Rachwal (Rockwall), of Pewaukee, who was also 19 and a freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, passed away in 2021 from an overdose of three different forms of fentanyl. His parents, Erin and Rick Rachwal, also started an organization, the Love, Logan Foundation, to work to end the stigma surrounding mental health and substance abuse disorder and raise awareness of the dangers of fentanyl and other illicit substances.

As a father and grandfather, this issue hits close to home. No parent should have to experience the pain the Badura and Rachwal families have had to endure. We need strong congressional action on fentanyl, and we need the permanent designation of fentanyl-related substances to Schedule I. I want to thank Congressman GRIFFITH for leading this effort alongside Congressman LATTA.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to participate in voting on passage, the objections of the president to the contrary notwithstanding on H.J. Res. 39 and final passage of H.J. Res. 45. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 233, and YEA on Roll Call No. 234.

**HONORING THE SERVICE OF DR. FREDERICK D. TAPPAN**

**HON. MARK E. GREEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the ministry of Dr. Frederick D. Tappan to Eureka Truevine Baptist Church and the Memphis community.

Dr. Tappan has served as the senior pastor of Eureka Truevine Baptist Church for 27 years, working toward their 50-year commitment to perform the work of God in service to His message. Tasked with the care of precious souls, each of them God's children, Dr. Tappan's ministry has been a blessing to all that he has served. Feeding both the souls and stomachs of the Memphis community through "The Vine Loves Memphis" Initiative, Dr. Tappan and his faithful wife, Regina, show each of us what it means to truly be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Dr. Tappan has made the church's mission to be about Real Ministry, with a Real Message, for Real people. On the ground in Memphis, Eureka Truevine Baptist Church has planted two additional churches to meet the community's spiritual needs, to spread the Gospel, and to shine light into darkness. "Call unto me," Jeremiah 33:3 says, "and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Through Dr. Tappan's partnership with my free healthcare clinic in Memphis, God has certainly worked great and mighty things in the community.

On behalf of the United States Congress, and joining Congressman STEVE COHEN, I thank Dr. Tappan for his many years of faithful and dedicated service. May he continue to honor God, serve others, and bless our community.

**RECOGNIZING GRACE PAUL FOR HER SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF WISCONSIN**

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize one of my Legislative Assistants, Grace Paul, for her service to Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District.

Following her graduation from UW-Madison with a degree in International and Global Studies in 2020, Grace began her career in my Washington, D.C. office. She has served in more positions than anyone else on my staff. She has been a Staff Assistant, Press Assistant, Legislative Correspondent, and Legislative Assistant. Through her long tenure, Grace has become an expert on Northeast Wisconsin. She has visited every county in my district, captured photos of Luxemburg farm fields, Big Smokey Falls, and Door County Forgeworks, and most importantly, despite her Chicago ties, Grace has cheered on the Packers at Lambeau Field.

Through her many roles, she exemplified the true meaning of hard work while overseeing interns, corresponding with constituents, supporting my communications team,

and drafting legislation. As a Press Assistant, she was integral in producing my podcast, the NEW Look, and helped grow my audience far beyond the tens of listeners we had when the podcast first started. And she helped create the NEWSflash, our monthly newsletter that's become a staple of my constituent correspondence. As a Legislative Assistant, Grace handled my committee work on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, as well as Postal, Trade, Immigration, Small Business, and Law Enforcement issues. In this role, Grace built relationships with hundreds of constituents across the district and served them all incredibly well. Using her experience, Grace has helped move along legislation that will make a lasting impact on Northeast Wisconsin. For example, just this week the Motor Carrier Safety Selection Standard Act moved through committee markup for the first time with her help. Grace has been a valuable member of my team and an asset to Northeast Wisconsin.

I wish Grace the best of luck as she pursues her law degree. I am sure she will continue to excel in her future endeavors, and I thank her for her years of hard work and dedication.

---

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
THOSE WHO GAVE THE ULTI-  
MATE SACRIFICE MEMORIAL  
DAY 2023: WEST SENECA WALK-  
WAY OF FREEDOM

---

**HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of the United States of America. On behalf of the United States Congress, and the constituents of the 23rd Congressional District, I am proud to rec-

ognize our brave soldiers' courage, sacrifice, and valor as we come together this Memorial Day.

On Memorial Day, May 29, 2023, the West Seneca Joint Veterans Committee will dedicate three new monuments in honor of those who served and sacrificed during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, the Second Persian Gulf War, and Operation Enduring Freedom. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of two fallen soldiers to be remembered forever.

Sergeant David Roustum—Army.

Sergeant Daniel Schaw—Army.

All gave some, and some gave all. Memorial Day is not a three-day weekend. It is the duty of a grateful Nation to pause and remember those who laid down their lives so that we may live free. The Flag of the United States of America shows red, white, and blue. Blue symbolizes vigilance, perseverance, and justice—a reminder that we must remain watchful and strong. White reminds us to stay true to our values and ideals. Red represents valor in honor of the blood shed by those who have fought to protect our freedoms.

On Memorial Day, we remember those we lost and honor the veterans who are with us today. America is the land of the free because it is the home of the brave. I am so humbled by the bravery and honor displayed by our men and women in uniform. Whether it be Memorial Day or any other day, please know that we as a Nation are grateful.

---

RECOGNIZING VIRGINIA BASLER'S  
SERVICE TO THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA

---

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Virginia Basler, a resident of Ypsi-

lanti, Michigan on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her dedication to her country and local community is worthy of commendation.

Virginia was born in Alpena, Michigan on a family farm as the middle of three children. During WWII, while her older brother enlisted in the Air Force, Virginia and a friend moved down to Ypsilanti to work at the Willow Run Bomber Plant. For almost two years, she worked on the production line, drilling rivet holes for B-24 Liberator bombers.

As soon as she met the age requirement, Virginia enlisted in the Coast Guard Women's Reserves (SPARS) in order to serve her country in another way. She attended Boot Camp at Sheepshead Bay, New York where she was trained as a baker, and she was assigned to the Coast Guard Station in Washington, D.C. where she would remain for the duration of the war. After her service was finished, Virginia came back to Ypsilanti where she again worked at the Willow Run Plant, now a Kaiser-Frazer car factory.

In the decades since, Virginia has lived a full life. She married Leonard, a WWII veteran himself, and raised a family of three children. She continued her life of service, cooking for Ypsilanti Public Schools and Eastern Michigan University. Since her retirement in 1990, Virginia has been active in the community, volunteering for Meals on Wheels and the local charity Thrift Shop. She has been very active with the American Rosie the Riveter Association, attending events with other Rosies and WWII vets. We were overjoyed to host Virginia and other Rosies in the Capitol during the Honor Flight event last month.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating Virginia Basler's tremendous life of service to her community and her nation. No request for help has ever been too big or too small for her to consider. We thank her for her service and wish her the happiest of birthdays.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### *Chamber Action*

The Senate met at 12:30:05 p.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 12:30:36 p.m. until 9 a.m. on Friday, May 26, 2023.

### *Committee Meetings*

No committee meetings were held.

# House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 81 public bills, H.R. 3659–3739; and 10 resolutions, H.J. Res. 65; H. Con. Res. 50; and H. Res. 443–450 were introduced.

**Pages H2635–39**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H2642–43**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Dr. Michael T. Whitson, First Baptist Church Indian Trail, Indian Trail, North Carolina.

**Page H2601**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 9:36 a.m. and reconvened at 9:45 a.m.

**Page H2605**

***Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act:*** The House passed H.R. 467, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, by a yea-and-nay vote of 289 yeas to 133 nays, Roll No. 237. Consideration began yesterday, May 24th.

**Pages H2602–06**

Agreed to:

Miller (OH) amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 118–76) that requires the Attorney General to issue interim rules to implement this act 6 months after the date of enactment; and

**Page H2603**

Mills amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 118–76) that adds the Department of Defense as one of the agencies to be included in the research on fentanyl as a schedule 1 drug and requires the OIG of the DOJ to complete and submit a study on its findings.

**Pages H2603–04**

Rejected:

Pettersen amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 118–76) that sought to prevent this bill from taking effect until the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General each certify that this bill will lead to a reduction in overdose deaths (by a recorded vote of 190 ayes to 233 noes, Roll No. 236).

**Pages H2604–06**

H. Res. 429, the rule providing for consideration of bill (H.R. 467) and the joint resolutions (S.J. Res. 11) and (H.J. Res. 45) was agreed to Tuesday, May 23rd.

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. tomorrow, May 26th.

**Pages H2606–07**

**Work Period Designation:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated the period from Friday, May 26, 2023, through Sunday, June 4, 2023, as a “district work period” under section 3(z) of House Resolution 5.

**Page H2631**

**Quorum Calls Votes:** One yea-and-nay vote and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2605–06 and H2606.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN AN ERA OF GREAT POWER COMPETITION

*Committee on Financial Services:* Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions held a hearing entitled “International Financial Institutions in an Era of Great Power Competition”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### EXAMINING THE PRESIDENT’S FY 2024 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a hearing entitled “Examining the President’s FY 2024 Budget Request for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Office of Insular Affairs”. Testimony was heard from Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; and Carmen Cantor, Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior.

### MODERNIZING CUSTOMS POLICIES TO PROTECT AMERICAN WORKERS AND SECURE SUPPLY CHAINS

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing entitled “Modernizing Customs Policies to Protect American Workers and Secure Supply Chains”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### FOREIGN MATERIEL ACQUISITION/EXPLOITATION

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Subcommittee on Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture held a hearing entitled “Foreign Materiel Acquisition/Exploitation”. This hearing was closed.

## Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

---

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

#### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

#### House

No hearings are scheduled.

## Next Meeting of the SENATE

9 a.m., Friday, May 26

## Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Friday, May 26

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

## House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** House will meet in Pro Forma session at 2 p.m.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Bilirakis, Gus M., Fla., E497  
 Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E496  
 Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E492  
 Carson, André, Ind., E492  
 Carter, John R., Tex., E492  
 Carter, Troy A., La., E494  
 Castor, Kathy, Fla., E497  
 Dingell, Debbie, Mich., E491, E495, E499  
 Fitzgerald, Scott, Wisc., E498

Gallagher, Mike, Wisc., E498  
 González-Colón, Jennifer, Puerto Rico, E494  
 Green, Mark E., Tenn., E498  
 Higgins, Brian, N.Y., E492  
 Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E495  
 Hoyle, Val T., Ore., E494  
 Keating, William R., Mass., E497  
 Kiggans, Jennifer A., Va., E493  
 Langworthy, Nicholas A., N.Y., E491, E494, E499  
 McCarthy, Kevin, Calif., E491  
 McCollum, Betty, Minn., E496

McHenry, Patrick T., N.C., E498  
 Mullin, Kevin, Calif., E496  
 Scott, Robert “Bobby”, Va., E498  
 Simpson, Michael K., Idaho, E492  
 Spanberger, Abigail Davis, Va., E493  
 Stauber, Pete, Minn., E493  
 Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E496  
 Tonko, Paul, N.Y., E491  
 Watson Coleman, Bonnie, N.J., E492  
 Wilson, Joe, S.C., E495



# Congressional Record

printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶ Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through the U.S. Government Publishing Office, at [www.govinfo.gov](http://www.govinfo.gov), free of charge to the user. The information is updated online each day the *Congressional Record* is published. For more information, contact the GPO Customer Contact Center, U.S. Government Publishing Office. Phone 202-512-1800, or 866-512-1800 (toll-free). E-Mail, [contactcenter@gpo.gov](mailto:contactcenter@gpo.gov). ¶ To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: [bookstore.gpo.gov](http://bookstore.gpo.gov). Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000, or phone orders to 866-512-1800 (toll-free), 202-512-1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202-512-2104. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶ Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶ With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record*, U.S. Government Publishing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.