

call to join the United States Army at 17 years old. Over two decades of honorable service resulted in his retirement as a staff sergeant at Fort Benning, Georgia.

In his military journey, James played vital roles as a construction and combat engineer. Post retirement, he returned to his roots in Savannah, transitioning to a career at the Chatham County Courthouse, where he continued to serve until 2016.

Even in retirement, James remained actively involved in various local organizations, as he continues to exemplify dedication and leadership to his community and to his country.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate James and thank him for his service to our country and to our community.

SUPPORTING OUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

(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, Dr. Lorna Breen was a hero, a healthcare provider who put her life on the line to treat patients during the pandemic. Like countless other healthcare providers during that time, she struggled with her mental health and ultimately took her own life on April 26, 2020.

To honor her legacy and provide resources to support other physicians facing mental health crises, I was proud to introduce the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, and I was thrilled to watch President Biden sign it into law last Congress.

Now, the time has come for us to reaffirm our commitment to supporting our healthcare providers. Today, I introduced legislation to reauthorize this critical law, extending its funding through 2029. The work to bring mental health out of the shadows is far from over, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting this legislation that will keep our healthcare providers safe.

I am grateful for the support of Representatives KIGGANS and DINGELL for joining me to introduce this bill, for the partnership with my colleagues in the Senate, and for the tireless advocacy of the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes Foundation.

SUPPORTING PRODUCTION OF LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS

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

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, President Biden is sacrificing American jobs and supporting Vladimir Putin's aggression by pausing U.S. exports of liquefied natural gas abroad, all in the name of climate change.

In typical D.C. fashion, the President has refused to look at the facts before threatening our energy infrastructure.

Not only is LNG a clean energy source, it is abundantly produced in our own backyard. By cutting off American LNG, we are forcing our allies into the arms of nations with zero environmental regulations.

Over the last 2 years, the EU has been forced to import nearly 40 percent more LNG from Russia, directly funding Russian aggression in Ukraine with roughly \$21 billion in 2022 alone.

If kept intact, our LNG industry is projected to bring up to 452,000 additional jobs to hardworking Americans by 2040, adding \$50 billion to \$73 billion to our economy.

It is time to prioritize the well-being of Americans over the flawed ideologies of the Green New Deal.

GERRYMANDERED CONGRESSIONAL MAPS

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, last year, Republicans in the North Carolina General Assembly enacted egregiously gerrymandered congressional maps that effectively silenced the voices of North Carolina voters.

North Carolina is a purple State, and we finally have a congressional delegation that reflects the rich ideological and racial diversity of our great State.

However, with these new maps, Republicans have dismantled the important progress we have made toward fair representation, and they did this behind closed doors and with minimal public input.

That is why I led the entire North Carolina Democratic delegation in introducing the Redistricting Transparency and Accountability Act. This critical legislation would establish extensive opportunities for public input in redistricting and for congressional maps to be fair. It would require disclosures regarding individuals and groups that participate in the map-drawing process.

We cannot have government by and for the people as long as politicians determine election outcomes long before voters get to the polls.

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR DOWNWINDERS

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday marked the National Day of Remembrance for Downwinders.

The movie "Oppenheimer" reminded the Nation that New Mexico is where the government first detonated an atomic bomb. The story that remains untold and the justice that remains unsolved is the explosion's impact on nearby communities.

That bomb's radioactive ash showered nearby communities, commu-

nities who the government failed to warn or evacuate before the Trinity test.

Little girls danced around catching the ash on their tongues, thinking it was summer snow. Those little girls, like thousands of New Mexicans, developed cancer and deadly diseases because of the Trinity test.

Outrageously, the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act compensated others but not New Mexican downwinders.

All downwinders deserve justice. As we remember the downwinders and miners who have already passed and those who still suffer, we must pass the RECA Amendments Act to include them, too.

□ 1700

CRISIS AT THE BORDER

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, we do have a crisis at the border.

For decades, we have been waiting for a solution for comprehensive immigration reform. In fact, in my first term here in the House, I was proud to be one of the leads on a comprehensive immigration reform bill that included commonsense solutions for undocumented people here, accelerated pathways for our young people who call themselves Dreamers, and had investments in enforcement measures. However, House Republicans refused to allow it to move forward, even after the Senate voted to pass it.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my House Republican colleagues why they won't take yes for an answer. President Biden has made clear our immigration system is broken, and only Congress can fix it. Instead, my Republican colleagues want to scream that the President is not doing enough to fix our broken immigration system, but, yet, are not willing to bring actual reforms up for a vote.

In fact, they only brought a bill that would cut 2,000 Customs and Border agents from the border. That is not a solution. Let's work together. Let's pass a bipartisan bill. Take yes for an answer.

WALGREENS

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

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, Walgreens is planning to close yet another pharmacy in the Massachusetts Seventh, this time on Warren Street in Roxbury, a community that is 85 percent Black and Latino.

This closure is a part of a larger trend of abandoning low-income communities like the previous closures in Mattapan and Hyde Park, both in the Massachusetts Seventh.

When a Walgreens leaves a neighborhood, they disrupt the entire community, and they take with them baby formula, diapers, asthma inhalers, life-saving medications, and, of course, jobs. These closures are not arbitrary, and they are not innocent. They are life-threatening acts of racial and economic discrimination.

That is why I joined with Senator MARKEY and Senator WARREN to demand answers from Walgreens' CEO. Why was there no community input, no adequate notice to customers, and no transition resources to prevent gaps in healthcare?

Shame on you, Walgreens. Having a website with talking points about health equity and underserved communities is not enough. Walgreens is a multibillion-dollar corporation that needs to put their money where their mouth is and stop divesting from Black and Brown communities.

ONGOING HOSTAGE CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SELF). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lead my colleagues in a Special Order hour. Tonight, I am honored to be joined by my colleagues to continue to shed light and bring broader awareness to the ongoing hostage crisis that plagues the Israeli and Jewish communities around the world.

On October 7, Hamas launched a horrific attack against Israeli civilians, resulting in the deadliest day for Jews since the Holocaust. Recently, we marked 100 days since Hamas' gruesome attack. That is more than 100 days of inconceivable suffering for families who had their loved ones ripped away from them; more than 100 days consumed by nonstop panic, dread, and uncertainty. The pain, shock, and anger burning in the hearts of the Jewish people will never dull.

I know my own heart has felt like it was encased in lead ever since that fateful day, but it couldn't compare to the anguish and heartbreak of the families whose loved ones are still held captive by terrorists.

The last time my colleagues and I came together like this to highlight the hostages Hamas continues to cruelly hold hostage in Gaza, I fervently hoped the new year's arrival would make this advocacy no longer nec-

essary. Our work, advocacy, and pressure has been relentless that Hamas release the hostages and bring theirs and their families' nightmare to an end.

Tragically, however, the nightmare continues.

It is sadly fitting that, since marking 100 days since October 7, we also commemorated International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Jewish communities around the world gathered to honor the memory of the 6 million Jews who were murdered in the Holocaust and the countless millions of others who perished at the hands of the Nazis and their collaborators.

We look back because we can never forget, Mr. Speaker. We cannot avert our eyes from the horror that humanity is capable of inflicting. We look back not only to memorialize the victims, but to learn from the darkness of the past.

We also look back to not allow humanity to move forward without addressing the root causes that led to the horrific persecution of the Jewish people, which is the main reason we are here tonight—to dissuade those who forget or avert their eyes from the horrors that Hamas unleashed.

I recently returned to Israel and the region with our bipartisan, bicameral congressional delegation that was in the region on October 7, with the sole purpose of galvanizing the multinational efforts to secure the release of each and every last hostage.

In Israel, we met with families who are desperate for any shred of information which might result in their loved ones' release. We visited the kibbutz, Nir Oz, and saw the devastation Hamas wrought. We saw the remains of house after house that Hamas set on fire with the sole purpose of murdering the families inside. I saw firsthand Hamas' maniacal dedication to the destruction and eradication of Israel and the Jewish people.

My message is clear. We will not let Hamas succeed. The United States will continue to stand with Israel, and the Jewish people will live on as we have in the face of oppression and tyranny for millennia.

Tonight, my colleagues and I will speak about those who remain held captive in Gaza, show their beautiful faces, and remind all of us not to forget these victims who are still suffering under terrorist cruelty.

During our last Special Order, I had the honor to speak about the Bibas family: Parents Shiri and Yarden and their boys, Ariel and Kfir.

At 9 months old, Kfir was the youngest hostage taken. On January 18, Kfir turned 1. If Hamas never attacked Israel and never kidnapped women and children, he would have celebrated his first birthday with his family in his community. Instead, his family is left reeling, not knowing.

This cruelty is unimaginable. The Bibas family and sweet Kfir remain in my heart.

Tonight, I will be honoring Agam Berger, who was taken captive on Octo-

ber 7 shortly after calling her father telling him she heard shots fired. I had the opportunity to meet her father, Shlomi, recently.

Seeing the pain in his eyes was unbearable. I can tell in speaking with Shlomi that Agam comes from a very tight-knit family. She has three siblings, including her twin sister.

Mr. Speaker, as the mother of twins, I imagined the panic I would feel and, as a Jewish mother of three young adult children, I saw my own children when listening to his story.

Agam is a selfless young woman, volunteering with adults and children who have special needs and learning disabilities. She is the courageous young woman we all hope our children will grow up to be. Her family and friends proudly speak about her extraordinary musical talent.

You can see her here with her violin. Agam played the violin since she was in the fourth grade.

Mr. Speaker, the next time I am in Israel, I look forward to hearing Agam play her violin and listening to her immense talent, which her father played for us by video.

I want Shlomi and Agam's whole family to know that this Chamber stands with them, and we will continue to fight for Agam's release.

Mr. Speaker, I am joined by a number of Members tonight who all want to stand in solidarity with Israel and press for the release of the hostages.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LANDSMAN).

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for doing this Special Order again tonight. This is the second, maybe third time she has done this to ensure that we do everything we can to tell these stories and to convince Hamas and those who fund Hamas to release every single hostage.

I am here to speak about Tsahi Idan. He was kidnapped on the 7th. Just after his daughter was killed, he was taken from his wife and his other child. They heard the sirens. They went into their safe room. Before long, a neighbor, who had been forced by Hamas, forced their way into the bomb shelter.

Imagine being in there with him. His teenage daughter throws herself against the door to protect herself and her family—her dad, her sister, her mom. She was immediately shot and killed.

He sees this, and then is taken, and he has been held hostage for 115 days.

I go back to Israel in a couple weeks, and it is entirely possible that I will get to spend time with him if Hamas releases the hostages.

Like him, I am a father. I have a teenage daughter. I hate this war. I want this war to end. I join all of us who have called for a cease-fire. We can't end this war until all of the hostages are home.

I know that others will stand up tonight and talk about the lives, stories of others being held hostage. Over a