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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GIMENEZ).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

April 30, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CARLOS A. GIMENEZ to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

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

HONORING PHI NGUYEN AND THE AMERICAN DREAM

(Mr. WOMACK of Arkansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago today, the capital of South Vietnam, Saigon, fell to advancing North Vietnamese forces. The collapse of the anti-Communist South Vietnamese Government marked both the end of a decades-long conflict and the beginning of a painful chapter for millions of South Vietnamese people.

As the North Vietnamese Army launched its final offensive into Sai-

gon, fear and uncertainty gripped the city. For countless South Vietnamese, the Fall of Saigon was not only the loss of their capital, but it was the loss of their country, their dreams, and, for many, their safety. Having allied with and supported the United States in the fight for a free republic, they now faced the terrifying prospect of persecution or worse.

Among the individuals was a young boy named Phi Nguyen, whose story I have the privilege of sharing with you today, Mr. Speaker. Phi is the second-born child of parents Dung Nguyen and Diem Le Do. Notably, his father worked as a newspaper cartoonist whose art illustrated the complex political dynamics in Vietnam during the war, which is preserved in the Library of Congress today.

In the final days of April 1975, Phi was 8. His older sister, Mien, was 10, and his younger brother, Thuc, was just 6.

With the fate of Saigon hanging in the balance on April 28, 1975, Phi's family raced to Tan Son Nhut Air Base for a chance to escape. This would not be an easy task. The airbase had already been heavily bombed in the days before, causing severe damage to its runways and planes. As the North Vietnamese Army closed in, they were actively launching rockets and artillery, even as desperate families attempted to flee.

Yet, in the dead of night, after two planes ahead of them were shot down, the Nguyen family boarded what would become the last fixed-wing aircraft to depart Tan Son Nhut. Their escape was harrowing, but their journey toward freedom, safety, and hope had just begun.

Mr. Speaker, I can only imagine the mixed feelings of relief and heartbreak they felt as the plane left Vietnamese airspace, finally touching down at Clark Air Base in the Philippines. From there, they were transported to

Guam and eventually to Camp Pendleton in California, a place known then as Tent City, which saw more than 50,000 Vietnamese refugees who awaited new lives and new homes.

After 3 months at Camp Pendleton, the Nguyen family received a life-changing letter. A Lutheran church in Shavertown, Pennsylvania, had offered to sponsor them. So, they made another journey, this time across the U.S., to begin again in an unfamiliar place, adjusting to a new climate and embracing an entirely new culture.

After 2 years in Pennsylvania, they relocated to Virginia in 1978, where Phi and his family have lived ever since. The Nguyen family even welcomed a new family member, their youngest daughter, Mai-An.

So, Mr. Speaker, why am I standing here on the floor of this House sharing the story of this family? This story could be about any of the Vietnamese families who found freedom in the United States. Here is why, and he is sitting right in front of me.

From this family came someone many of us recognize and know professionally, but maybe not personally, a man who has spent nearly four decades serving as a photographer in the Halls of this House, and that man is Phi Nguyen.

In 1986, Phi began working for the Senate Photo Studio, where he would spend the next 15 years capturing history through his lens. Then, in 2002, he transferred to the House Photographer's Office, a role in which I have had the distinct pleasure of working with him many times.

That same year, Mr. Speaker, he married his wife, Tam Nguyen, whom he met during the Moon Festival in Arlington, Virginia, a celebration marking the end of the harvest season. It was a fitting beginning to their relationship, one rooted in tradition and thanksgiving.

Together, they became the proud parents of two wonderful children. His

□ 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.



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daughter, Quynh-Chi Nguyen, is 20 years of age and attends James Madison University, pursuing a degree in architecture. His son, Hoai-Viet Nguyen, is 19 years old and studying cybersecurity at George Mason University in Fairfax.

Phi's story is not just one of survival. It is one of resilience, adaptation, and success. It is, at its heart, a multigenerational story of the American Dream, a dream that Phi and his father before him pursued with determination and faith in the promise of a better future.

Over his nearly four decades of service to the United States Senate and House of Representatives, Phi has captured countless moments that only a photo can, and while doing so, he has also captured the hearts of those who know and work with him.

Mr. Speaker, in preparation for this speech, I asked Phi: What do you want the listeners and the viewers to take from your story? His answer was simple: "The American Dream is real, and I am evidence of that. You can do it, too."

Today, on this anniversary of a day that changed the course of history for millions, I want to take a moment to honor one remarkable individual whose life journey embodies the spirit of the American Dream.

I thank Phi Nguyen. All of us who share in a professional relationship with him thank him for his service and commitment to capturing history and doing it with excellence. It is with the utmost sincerity that I commend Phi for his 39 years of service to this institution and congratulate him on one-half century of living the American Dream.

HONORING DOMINICK RUGGERIO

(Mr. MAGAZINER of Rhode Island was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a true Rhode Island public servant, State Senate President Dominick Ruggerio.

President Ruggerio dedicated his life to making Rhode Island a better place, devoting 40 years to service in the Rhode Island State Senate, culminating in his leadership as senate president.

Through it all, he was a tireless advocate for working people, a skilled legislator, and a kind and gracious presence to everyone he met.

President Ruggerio made his career in the labor movement, working with the Laborers' International Union of North America before retiring when he assumed the Office of the President of the Rhode Island Senate.

During his tenure in the senate, he championed raising the minimum wage, protecting workers' pensions, and rebuilding infrastructure, among many other causes.

When I was State treasurer, I was proud to work alongside him on the

2018 statewide school construction initiative, where we made historic investments in repairing or replacing hundreds of Rhode Island public school buildings. I saw on that occasion and throughout my time in the statehouse that his commitment to the future of our State was unwavering.

My thoughts are with Dominick Ruggerio's family on his passing this past week, particularly with his children, Charlie and Amanda, and his four grandchildren, and with all in Rhode Island who had the privilege to know and work with him.

EDESIA NUTRITION FUNDING MUST BE RESTORED

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the second time to call for funding for global emergency food aid to be restored.

Plumpy'Nut is a nutrient-dense paste used to save the lives of millions of children around the world.

On every box manufactured at the Edesia Nutrition factory in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, are printed the words: "From the American people." It is not just a slogan. This product is made with peanuts from Georgia, milk from Wisconsin, soy from Iowa, and ingredients from a total of 27 States. It is 100 percent manufactured in the United States, and then it travels on American trucks to American ships to children around the world who are caught in the middle of humanitarian crises.

Plumpy'Nut is a lifesaving necessity for millions of children around the world struggling with malnutrition, and it is from the American people.

At Edesia Nutrition, the organization in my district that manufactures Plumpy'Nut, more than 25 million children have been treated by their product.

That is American patriotism that we can all take pride in, but this work is at risk. The Trump administration has halted all new orders, stranding shipments and slowing production. That hurts farmers, American workers, and children most of all.

This funding must be restored. To be clear, Secretary Rubio, Elon Musk, and others in the administration have said that they intend to restore this funding. We need them to do it. We are not asking the administration to change their policy. We are asking them to execute on their stated policy to save lives while also supporting American farmers and workers.

This food is from the American people. It is a promise, and we urge the administration to ensure that this promise is kept.

COMMEMORATING COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH

(Mr. CISCOMANI of Arizona was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of H. Res. 340, commemorating April as Community College Month to honor and recognize

the more than 1,000 public, Tribal, and independent community colleges across the U.S.

Specifically, I want to highlight my alma mater, Pima Community College, and others from Arizona's Sixth Congressional District, Cochise College, Eastern Arizona College, and Central Arizona College.

Together with colleges across the Nation, these institutions serve over 10 million students, equipping them with the skills they need to thrive and succeed.

My time at Pima Community College was deeply impactful and gave me the tools that I needed to pursue my own American Dream, a dream that I am so blessed to live every single day.

For decades, community colleges have empowered students of all ages and backgrounds with the knowledge, certification, and hands-on skills they need to thrive and succeed. From nurses to welders, teachers to construction workers, and so much more, community colleges are responsible for training the workforce that drives our economy forward.

As we wrap up the month, I am proud to celebrate the vital role community colleges play in supporting our students, building communities, expanding opportunities, and strengthening our Nation.

□ 1015

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL HUMPHRIES

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Michael Humphries for his distinguished service as Nogales Port of Entry director.

After taking over Arizona's busiest border crossing in 2017, Director Humphries instituted policies that kept communities safe from dangerous contraband while ensuring trade and commerce continued to flow smoothly.

He uncovered record hauls of deadly fentanyl and other dangerous drugs and made sure that essential products like food and medical equipment made it through the port of entry without interruption, even during the COVID pandemic.

His efforts were critical to strengthening the security at our border while supporting economic vitality in southern Arizona.

On behalf of Arizona's Sixth Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude to Director Humphries for his years of service and wish him the very best during his well-deserved retirement.

CELEBRATING CASA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and courage of seven outstanding members of the Casa Grande Fire Department and congratulate them on a well-deserved promotion.

Congratulations to Captain Matthew Farmer, Chief Tony Fornaro, Battalion Chief Ryan Littrell, and Engineers Iveta Murray, Garrett Walker, Jose Serrano, and Tyler Bogart.

Their courage and selflessness keep our community safe. It is deeply honorable and much appreciated. I thank them for their service.

Congratulations on a well-deserved promotion.

CONGRATULATING ORANGE GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arizona's Sixth Congressional District's own Orange Grove Middle School's eighth grade class for their big victory in the classroom, sweeping the Arizona Council on Economic Education's Economics Challenge.

This competition allows students to compete and test their knowledge on economics, monetary policy, international trade, and even the stock market.

What an incredibly bright group of young students. I know I definitely wasn't studying monetary policy in eighth grade like they are right now.

Since January, 32 students have been hard at work, voluntarily spending their Sundays preparing for this competition.

To all the students, teachers, and parents who had a role in this amazing achievement, I thank them for their dedication. They have proven themselves and made their school and community incredibly proud. They should enjoy this victory. They earned it.

REMEMBERING DOMINICK RUGGERIO

(Mr. AMO of Rhode Island was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rhode Island's late, great, senate president, Dominick Ruggerio.

Mr. Speaker, "Donny," as he was referred to by those who knew him best, was a "force" to be reckoned with, a "forza," as his Italian loved ones would say.

For over 40 years as a State legislator for North Providence, a jewel of the First Congressional District, President Ruggerio served as champion for all Rhode Islanders.

From infrastructure to the environment, labor protections and more, he fought for the places and people who make the Ocean State great, hard-working people, like my mom who worked for years as an SEIU nurse in Rhode Island nursing homes.

Every time our paths crossed, he would remind me how, with enough hard work, grit, and determination, that anything is possible, even my own story. He loved our State, and he loved our Rhode Island State House.

Throughout his tenure, he mentored so many legislators, countless legislators, regardless of the aisle they sat on.

His passing last week, after a lengthy battle with cancer, is both a profound loss for our community and for our State.

Earlier this week, we came together at St. Anthony Church in North Provi-

dence to remember this beloved icon in Rhode Island history.

Today, I join President Ruggerio's friends, family, staff, and colleagues who will carry the torch that he lit and ensure that his legacy shines a light for generations to come.

SUPPORTING EDESIA NUTRITION

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, today, I also rise in support of the lifesaving producer of humanitarian aid, Rhode Island's own nonprofit, Edesia Nutrition.

Since coming to Congress, I have been proud to advocate for Edesia in hearing after hearing as vice ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

I have joined over 200 of my Democratic colleagues in an amicus brief to push back on Trump's and Elon Musk's unlawful destruction of USAID, and I have led bipartisan appropriations letters to support funding for Edesia's work. Why? Because it reflects the best of America's values. Edesia supports domestic peanut farmers, creates jobs, and helps distribute the only proven treatment for acute malnutrition and famine.

To date, Edesia's products have saved over 26 million lives around the globe, including in sub-Saharan Africa.

Mr. Speaker, as the son of West African immigrants, it means the world that America shows up in this way, in this important way, for the vulnerable.

Now, more than ever, we should be investing in Edesia's work, not stripping them of funding. That is why I will be relentless in sounding the alarm and pushing Trump to release the remaining funds that Edesia is owed.

I will continue to fight so that Edesia's programs receive the funding they desperately need in fiscal year 2026. The stakes are literally life and death for millions of children, mothers, and vulnerable populations across the world.

PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

(Mr. MOORE of West Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MOORE of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to address a grave and urgent crisis, the rampant persecution of Christians in Africa and the Middle East.

Across these regions, our brothers and sisters in faith experience violence, displacement, and death for their belief in our Lord Jesus Christ.

No person or community should ever face such brutal conditions for acknowledging the name of Jesus.

In Nigeria, the situation is dire. More Christians face persecution there than any other nation combined. Since the outbreak of Boko Haram's insurgency in 2009, more than 18,000 churches and 2,200 Christian schools have been destroyed in northern Nigeria alone. More than 50,000 Christians have been killed, and more than 5 million have been displaced since 2009, making it the most dangerous country in the world for Christians.

Earlier this month, 54 Christians were slaughtered after celebrating Palm Sunday. On Ash Wednesday this year, a priest in north central Nigeria was kidnapped and brutally murdered.

This targeting of religious leaders is not a one-off occurrence. Thirteen priests and seminarians were kidnapped in 2024, and nearly 200 priests and seminarians were kidnapped or killed in Nigeria in the last decade.

In Syria, the Christian population has plummeted from 1.5 million in 2011 to just 300,000 in 2022, driven by the horrors of the Syrian civil war and the rise of the Islamic State. Ancient churches have been razed and Christian artifacts destroyed, erasing a Christian heritage that dates back to the Apostle Paul.

With the fall of the Assad regime, Christians are rightly afraid of continued violence against Christians as clashes continue in western Syria.

In March, Islamic forces attacked churches, desecrated cemeteries, forced Christian women to adhere to Islamic dress codes, and confiscated the homes of Christians.

Unfortunately, U.S. foreign policy blunders have exacerbated the crisis for Christians in the region, especially in Iraq. The 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, intended to bring stability, unleashed chaos that empowered extremist groups like al-Qaida, and, later, ISIS. The number of Christians living in Iraq has plummeted from 1.2 million in 2011 to around 100,000 now.

In 2014, ISIS overran Qaraqosh, forcing 100,000 Christians to flee as their homes were marked with the Arabic letter "N" for "Nazarene." Churches were burned and families were torn apart, and the Christian mayor of Qaraqosh, a devoted leader working to rebuild his community, was recently removed from his post. This decision was driven by an Iranian-backed militia leader as a deliberate attempt to erase Christian influence in the region.

The failure to stabilize Iraq post-invasion left Christians vulnerable to ethnoreligious cleansing, a tragedy that the international community has yet to fully address.

Mr. Speaker, the United States cannot stand idly by. I urge my colleagues to join me in raising our voices for the persecuted, to honor their faith and bravery with action, and to ensure the United States is a beacon of hope for those suffering for their beliefs in Jesus Christ.

I will introduce a resolution condemning the persecution of Christians, and I urge this body to take up that resolution and pass it overwhelmingly.

BLOCKING RESOLUTIONS OF INQUIRY

(Ms. BONAMICI of Oregon was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the decision of my colleagues to block the House from

considering resolutions of inquiry, a procedure that is designed to get Members of Congress factual information from the executive branch.

Education Committee Ranking Member SCOTT and I introduced a resolution of inquiry that was scheduled to be considered yesterday during the Committee on Education and Workforce's reconciliation markup.

Unfortunately, while the markup was in recess, the Republicans adopted a rule that blocks resolutions of inquiry from being considered. It was especially frustrating because we could have debated the resolution yesterday morning, but apparently the majority delayed consideration so they could pass this language in fine print that blocks us from conducting important oversight of policies and programs that are in the committee's jurisdiction.

Our resolution is simple. It asks the President and the Department of Health and Human Services to tell Congress why they plan to eliminate the Administration for Community Living, an agency that administers programs designed to support older adults and people with disabilities and helps them stay in their homes. The public deserves to know what will happen if these programs are eliminated.

The Administration for Community Living, known as ACL, was founded around the fundamental principle that older adults and people of all ages with disabilities should, whenever possible, be able to live where they choose, with the people they choose, and with the ability to participate fully in their communities. Bringing programs that serve those two populations together and sharing expertise actually made the programs work better and more efficiently.

Unfortunately, at the end of March, the Trump administration announced a dramatic restructuring of the Department of Human Services that includes the elimination of the Administration for Community Living. Now is not the time to dismantle an agency that supports older adults and people with disabilities.

More than 11,000 people turn 65 every day. In 2022, the people who are age 65 and older represented at least 17 percent of the U.S. population, and more than one in four adults experience a disability, including most adults over 75.

The Administration for Community Living's programs improved the lives of millions of older adults and people with disabilities and also benefits their families and their caregivers. It is the only government entity that advocates across the Federal Government for these populations.

Because my colleagues blocked consideration of this resolution, I want to take this opportunity to tell you more about what is at risk.

Through the Older Americans Act, the Administration for Community Living runs senior centers and distributes more than 200 million meals every

year to older adults and people with disabilities through the Meals on Wheels program.

Seniors need access to nutritious food so they can lead healthy lives. It is not just the food. The person delivering the meal is often the only social contact the client will have that day, which is especially important in addressing social isolation.

It is disheartening to see this administration advocating for policies that will put essential food assistance for older Americans at risk.

The ACL does more than food assistance. They support paid and unpaid caregivers, including family caregivers and Native American caregivers. They study better ways to support older adults living with HIV. They protect seniors from abuse through the Adult Protective Services Program. They provide programming to reduce social isolation and loneliness. They support protection and advocacy programs for people with disabilities. They conduct research into fall prevention, chronic disease management, and Alzheimer's disease. They safeguard vulnerable adults through the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, and they address elder justice issues like abuse, neglect, and exploitation. They provide legal assistance for disabled people and more.

□ 1030

These are just some of the reasons that we introduced the resolution of inquiry: to ask what will happen to these important programs with the administration's plan to eliminate ACL. We are a coequal branch of government, and we need this information to make prudent decisions on behalf of our constituents. Yet, as of yesterday, the majority blocked our ability to get those questions answered.

Unfortunately, the Republican majority is also using the same shady tactic to take away the authority of Congress to legislate tariff policy, likely because Republicans know their positions are wildly unpopular and proper oversight would highlight these failings.

This is yet another example of the erosion of separation of powers that we are seeing in this administration and this Congress.

I have heard many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk about the importance of transparency and accountability. I hope my Republican colleagues live up to that and prove that by stopping the block on resolutions of inquiry.

RECOGNIZING DEBBIE LUPER'S TENURE AS DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR THE FOURTH DISTRICT OF KANSAS

(Mr. ESTES of Kansas was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and fellow fiscal hawk on her last day of work, my district director, Debbie Luper.

How can I possibly frame up the service and political activities of Debbie Luper in one short floor speech? Her presence in Kansas politics is deep, and a great number of elected officials at the State, local, and Federal levels have consulted with Debbie or sought her advice at some point in her career.

Many Kansans know Debbie and have appreciated her dedication to serving the people of the Fourth District of Kansas. She is a pillar in Kansas politics and has been repeatedly recognized for her service, most recently receiving the Spirit of Unity Award from the Sedgwick County Black Republican Council. She has also twice received the Kansas Republican Party's Huck Boyd Volunteer of the Year Award.

She has been an integral member of winning campaigns locally and statewide. She served as the chief of staff for the Kansas Senate Ways and Means Committee before joining my staff to lead my district office.

Debbie is a battle-tested, stalwart conservative who is trusted by many throughout Kansas, and her conservatism isn't a fad or a political front, but it is who she really is. In fact, I have been known as a fiscal hawk throughout my time in public service, but she is pretty comparable, giving me a run for my money on that banner.

Debbie has also been a bridge builder and mentor. Even when factions arise, Kansans continue to trust her leadership and count on her to help bring people together. It is one of the reasons why she has made such a phenomenal district director.

The staff in my office in Wichita has learned from her guidance and decades of experience, and she has fostered a family and not just a group of employees.

Debbie was my very first hire following my special election in 2017. As district director, Debbie was always focused on what was best for Kansans, particularly in the Fourth Congressional District.

She ensured that constituents were helped, whether they had a problem with a government agency, they had an opinion on an issue, or they just wanted to express a complaint or sometimes a compliment. Business groups, schools, healthcare providers, and farmers and ranchers can all count on Debbie to help them.

Today is her last day as a full-time employee, but retirement for Debbie doesn't mean an end to a busy and engaged life. She is transitioning to more time in her favorite roles as wife, mother, grandmother, and daughter. She will be spending far more time with family while still having some time for her favorite hobby: helping with campaigns. I am confident that Kansans will still seek her advice and consultation, or at least they will if they know what is best for them.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Debbie for 8 years of serving as my district director. More than that, I thank her for her decades of friendship. She has watched

my kids grow up and been part of my family. Her presence will be missed in the office each day, but I am grateful I will still see her around. I wish a happy retirement to Debbie.

PUT HARDWORKING AMERICAN FAMILIES FIRST

(Ms. BARRAGÁN of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, after 100 days of chaos and corruption, Donald Trump and House Republicans are crashing the economy in real time.

The majority has hit the American people with the largest tax increase on the middle class in at least 50 years. We have watched markets around the world plummet, prices spike, and our trading partners hit back with tariffs on American goods that are attacks on the American people.

Hardworking Americans are paying more for food, clothes, cars and trucks, electronics, and other essential goods. Estimates are that the Trump tax will cost the average American family almost \$5,000 a year in additional costs. Our constituents' 401(k)'s, pensions, and kids' college funds have all taken a huge hit.

Trump's reckless trade war has only begun to squeeze the American people. Imports at the San Pedro Bay port complex in my district are expected to plunge in May. That means empty shelves at our stores in a few weeks and further price spikes as shortages hit.

Exports at the port complex have also plummeted as retaliatory tariffs by other countries hit agriculture and manufactured goods. This hurts consumers. It hurts businesses. It hurts our port workers and truck drivers who support their families, thanks to trade with other countries.

Trump and his billionaire donors won't feel any of it. They don't feel it when the cost of a can of soup is up a couple of dollars because of tariffs on aluminum. They don't feel it when the cost of our constituents' kids' shirts go up \$10 apiece because there is a tariff on the clothes they buy or when the cost of their next oil change goes up \$20 because the parts and filters are imported. The average American will feel it.

Trump has even admitted that they will have to feel some of the pain from his Trump tax, and what is the response from Republicans in Congress? The majority plans to follow Trump off the cliff and make it worse while we are on the way down.

This month, Republicans plan to pass the new tax cuts for their billionaire donors and big corporations, and their giveaway to the wealthy will be paid for by cuts to Medicaid, basically healthcare, and food stamps that hardworking American families rely on. This is right as the Trump tax will make it harder to make ends meet, to save for retirement, to pay for prescriptions, or care for aging parents.

House Democrats are doing everything we can to stop Trump and Republicans from destroying our economy and to keep their hands off of earned benefits. We must put hardworking Americans first.

ASSAULT ON IMMIGRATION DUE PROCESS

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, as the economy is tanking, costs are going up, not down. Today, we face a new threat and danger: The Trump government is abusing its power. The Trump government ignores court orders, ignores the Constitution, and then lies to try to justify its actions.

Let's talk about Kilmer Abrego Garcia, a Maryland father and a husband who was literally abducted in the dark of night by the Trump government.

This is not just a story about a man wrongly deported. It is a story about abuse by the government and the danger it poses to my colleagues and every American citizen in America.

Kilmer Abrego Garcia lived here in the United States for over a decade. He had a court hearing where a court ruled that Mr. Garcia had a right to be here and that he would be in danger if he was returned or deported to El Salvador.

Yet, despite the court order, ICE agents arrested Mr. Garcia anyway, and they deported him to El Salvador. Despite this court order, ICE agents, without a new hearing and without any process, basically made him vanish. He is just gone at the hands of the Trump government.

He was sent to El Salvador to one of the most notorious megaprisons in the hemisphere. It is a prison that American taxpayers are helping to support in a foreign country.

Let me be clear. Mr. Garcia had rights. The government ignored them. That is not how justice works.

It is not just Mr. Garcia. We now have learned of children who are U.S. citizens who were deported by this Trump government and administration. One of those children is just 4 years old and was receiving treatment for cancer. Yes, cancer.

How does deporting a sick child keep our community safe? It does not. This isn't immigration policy, but this is cruelty, plain and simple. The idea that the U.S. Government can deport children who are U.S. citizens or send immigrants to dangerous foreign prisons without a court hearing and then claim the government bears no responsibility should terrify every one of us.

These cases are the most glaring examples, but the assault on due process runs deeper. This is not just about how we treat immigrants. It is about whether any of us can count on being treated fairly when accused of something. It is about whether there are still rules that protect people, or whether the government can just say: Trust us. We don't have to follow the law.

It is about power unchecked and principles abandoned.

Just yesterday, we also learned of a woman from Oklahoma and her chil-

dren, all of them U.S. citizens. Federal agents broke into her house and took her money. They basically terrorized them and left. If we let them tear up due process for some, it is a danger to all.

Mr. Speaker, I will not stand silent while families are ripped apart and while the Constitution is trampled on. My colleagues shouldn't either.

RECOGNIZING GABRIEL'S CHALLENGE

(Mr. BAUMGARTNER of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, one day after National Fentanyl Awareness Day, to honor the memory of a special young man and to share a call for action.

Gabriel Fensler was a much-loved son and brother who had struggled with addiction but had fought hard for his recovery. Gabriel relapsed one day after his 24th birthday.

Fentanyl is a crisis. In Spokane, we are feeling the weight of it. Last year alone, 270 lives were lost to fentanyl overdoses in Spokane County. It is a national epidemic that we must address with urgency. We must stop fentanyl from hitting our streets, and border security is a part of that.

Last year, over 21,000 pounds of fentanyl were seized at our borders, enough to kill billions. A recent executive order ended duty-free treatment for low-cost goods from China, which have been exploited as a major pathway to smuggle illicit drugs into the U.S. It was a measure that had bipartisan support.

Alongside law enforcement efforts, we must help those in recovery, like Gabriel, with comprehensive treatment and community support.

Gabriel's remarkable mother, Kitara Johnson-Jones, has turned her immense heartbreak into a call for action, launching Gabriel's Challenge, a community response to fentanyl, starting on Mother's Day and extending to Father's Day.

She is rallying the community to identify the gaps in support for addiction recovery and urging connection and action. It is a call to pray, a call to talk, and a call to engage.

In Kitara's own words:

No matter how many differences we have, we have one thing in common, and that is the serial killer in our community named fentanyl, and we can all rally behind that.

Mr. Speaker, let us join her in this fight in honor of Gabriel and so many others and work together to combat this fentanyl crisis.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JOHN LAFALCE

(Mr. KENNEDY of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy

heart to honor the life and legacy of a great man, a political icon, and a friend and mentor to many, Congressman John LaFalce.

John Joseph LaFalce was born October 6, 1939, and passed away on April 11, 2025. He was laid to rest earlier this week.

While we mourn the loss of this extraordinary leader, we also celebrate the incredible contributions he made, not just to western New York but to New York State and our entire Nation.

The son of a union steward and bakery worker, John never forgot where he came from. His upbringing shaped his politics. He knew what it meant to struggle. His empathy and faith drove his mission in elected office.

John lived his faith by fighting for labor rights, defending the vulnerable, and standing up for the voiceless. It was his moral compass that guided every vote, every word, and every fight. He knew that serving in Congress was a sacred calling, and he fulfilled it with grace, conviction, and compassion.

Before entering public life, he served our country as a captain in the United States Army. Upon his return from the military, his continued commitment to service drove him toward government. He served in both the New York State Assembly and New York Senate. Then, in 1974, he represented western New York in this Chamber for three decades.

John came to Washington in the aftermath of Watergate, part of a new wave of lawmakers determined to restore integrity and rebuild the public's trust in our government.

Congressman LaFalce spent nearly 30 years shaping national economic policy, leading the House Committee on Small Business and serving as the top Democrat on the Banking Committee. He built a reputation as a thoughtful, deliberative, and independent voice. He was a leader, not beholden to politics but to the truth and, above all, to the people he served in western New York.

On the Committee on Financial Services, John emerged as an early and steadfast voice against the predatory practices of payday lenders and subprime scams that trapped working families in endless debt.

He fought to strengthen consumer protections for women by introducing and passing legislation that created opportunities and resources for female entrepreneurs, opening doors that had long been shut.

Yet, perhaps nothing exemplifies Congressman John LaFalce's leadership more than his fearless fight for our community following the Love Canal disaster.

□ 1045

At a time when so many were reluctant to confront the truth, he stood firmly with the people of Niagara Falls, ensuring they would not be ignored or left behind. He put on boots, walked into basements flooded with

toxic sludge, stood with families in their hour of need, and demanded more from our government.

John directed the eyes of the world onto western New York and forced the Nation to reckon with the dangers of industrial pollution. He pushed for Federal recognition of this crisis and secured an emergency declaration, ultimately creating the Superfund program. His efforts helped bring justice and relief to families facing an unthinkable public health catastrophe and environmental calamity.

John LaFalce was not afraid to take a lonely stand when his conscience demanded it. He voted against authorizing the war in Iraq not once but twice. He challenged legislation he felt went too far, even if it came at a political cost. He never stopped thinking independently, and he never stopped thinking about what was right for western New York.

Beneath his tough exterior in Washington was a profoundly loving and gracious soul who treated everyone like family. To him, nothing was more important than family.

At his funeral service this past Monday, John's beloved son, Martin, told the story of a devoted father with a tender heart and a love for the joys of life.

Congressman LaFalce leaves behind a legacy of service, of decency, and of standing up always for western New York.

I am personally grateful to Congressman LaFalce for the guidance and wisdom that he provided me. It has made me a better Representative for our community.

I offer my prayers and deepest condolences to his wife, Patricia; his son, Martin; and all of his loved ones.

May Congressman John LaFalce rest in peace and power.

RECOGNIZING BLACK APRIL

(Mrs. KIM of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. KIM. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Black April and 50 years since the Fall of Saigon.

Over 8.7 million Americans served during the Vietnam war, including 2.7 million who put boots on the ground.

We will always remember the 58,281 U.S. servicemembers who gave everything for freedom, and we rally with our Gold Star families and the loved ones of the 1,573 Americans who remain missing in action.

Many of my constituents fled Vietnam in the Fall of Saigon and found their new home in Orange County in southern California. I am proud to have witnessed many of them becoming very successful members of our society, thriving in all sectors that make America great, and I am so proud to call many of them friends.

Our Vietnamese-American community knows well that we cannot take freedom for granted.

To our Vietnam-era veterans: Welcome home. Know that your service protected freedom on the world stage, and we are very grateful.

ELECTION INTEGRITY

(Mr. SUBRAMANYAM of Virginia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, for years now, we have heard a lot of false accusations about rigged elections and voter fraud.

For instance, despite accusations that noncitizens were casting ballots in Virginia, studies found that there were zero instances of noncitizens illegally voting over the past 20 years.

Let's be honest, these accusations erode public trust and threaten our democracy.

Some localities are stepping up to fight those accusations. Two of those localities in my district are Prince William County and Fairfax County, which recently won the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Clearinghouse Awards, or the Clearies.

Prince William County, in particular, was the first county to publish voting result tapes online in Virginia history. They are not only saving the results, but they are publishing them.

Here is the truth: In Prince William County, Fairfax County, and counties all across the country, officials are working tirelessly to ensure our elections are safe and secure. That is accountability, transparency, and democracy in action.

I congratulate Prince William and Fairfax Counties on their awards, and I look forward to working with them and fighting false allegations about our elections.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF SAIGON

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 50th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon.

Thousands of Vietnamese families escaped during the war, coming to America, and Virginia, in search of safety, opportunity, and a new life. There are now over 2.3 million Vietnamese Americans in the U.S.

Many Vietnamese-American families call Virginia home, and Vietnamese Americans have become an integral part of our community, from public service and the arts to groundbreaking work in science, business, and education.

I am proud of the work being done to support Vietnamese refugees right here in Virginia.

One example is Boat People SOS, an organization founded to help Vietnamese refugees. They have rescued over 25,000 Vietnamese boat people. Since then, they have expanded their services to aid immigrants, refugees, victims of trafficking, disadvantaged students, and survivors of violence in the United States.

Today, I recognize the strength, courage, and spirit of the Vietnamese community in Virginia's 10th District

and across the country, and I say to our Vietnamese veterans: Welcome home.

CUTS TO CASA PROGRAMS

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, we have heard how the recent DOGE cuts are impacting Federal employees, seniors, and veterans, but these cuts are also impacting our children, particularly vulnerable children.

Recently, the Department of Justice announced the termination of Federal grants to support court-appointed special advocates, known as CASA programs.

CASA programs cultivate trained and appointed volunteers who advocate for abused and neglected children in the courtroom and beyond.

The children they serve often need to be removed from unsafe homes and placed in foster care. At a time when they need it most, the volunteers provide a voice for these children.

Fairfax County's CASA program, for instance, has served over 8,500 kids in our region, including 376 in this fiscal year. They do incredible work to help place children in permanent homes and set them on a path for a brighter future.

The funding CASA receives from the Victims of Crime Act is now on the chopping block. These cuts will put a strain on already stretched thin court-appointed special advocate teams in Virginia and around the country. The result? More vulnerable children with less support.

We must stop these cuts and fight to protect the children that these programs serve.

OPPOSING CUTS TO PUBLIC MEDIA SYSTEM

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, finally, I rise today to address the administration's efforts to dismantle a cornerstone of American speech, our public media system.

The administration is calling on Congress to rescind appropriations for PBS and NPR, two public media institutions that have served Americans for nearly 60 years.

Each month, 36 million people watch their local PBS stations. PBS KIDS averages 15.5 million monthly users, including my kids. More broadly, PBS and NPR tell the American story through arts, culture, and history programs.

Let's be clear: This is not about budget cuts or making government efficient. This is a gutting of an institution that many people, especially those living in rural areas, rely on for information and trusted programming. In regions with limited or no broadcast access, PBS and NPR are among the few sources of media that people have to stay informed.

The administration argues that this move is necessary to prevent America's culture from being reengineered. Make no mistake: Cutting public media doesn't preserve our culture. It silences local voices, weakens civic engagement and education, and strips away the resources that help children learn.

Mr. Speaker, we must oppose these cuts.

CONGRATULATING MCCUTCHEON HIGH SCHOOL'S MAVERICKS ROBOTICS TEAM

(Mr. BAIRD of Indiana was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor McCutcheon High School's Mavericks Robotics team, which won the 2025 FIRST Robotics Competition World Championship.

The Mavericks Robotics team competed against 3,700 teams from around the world just to clinch a spot in the world championship. Only 600 of those teams made the cut, and this robotics team won it all.

These talented students from McCutcheon High School dedicated 17 to 20 hours a week designing, building, and marketing their robot. Each of the students on the Mavericks Robotics team played a vital role in their global victory, from designing aspects of the robot, computer programming, crafting the physical build of the robot, or helping raise money for the project. These brilliant students should be proud of this truly outstanding accomplishment.

I congratulate the world champion McCutcheon Mavericks Robotics team.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT RODNEY JENKINS

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Sergeant Rodney Jenkins, a dedicated public servant who devoted over two decades to law enforcement in Montgomery County, Indiana.

At 19, Rodney became one of the first full-time male dispatchers at the Montgomery County Communications Center, and his career only flourished from there.

In 1998, Rodney Jenkins was hired as a jail officer and reserve deputy with Montgomery County Sheriff's office.

In 2000, he was hired as a road deputy, and 9 years later, he was promoted to sergeant.

His leadership, coupled with his dedication to both administrative and field duties, showcases his true passion for law enforcement and community service.

We are grateful for Sergeant Jenkins' exceptional service to our community, and I am proud to congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

RETIREMENT OF DR. KAREN PLAUT

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Karen Plaut, the executive vice president for research at Purdue University who recently announced she will retire on June 30 of this year.

Dr. Plaut has a truly impressive career. Dr. Plaut attended the University of Vermont, received her master's from Pennsylvania State University, and received her Ph.D. in animal science from Cornell University. She held a fellowship at the National Cancer Institute at NIH and led breast cancer research at the University of Vermont.

Dr. Plaut then joined NASA and served as the lead scientist for the International Space Station Biological Research Project, working with engineers to build life science habitats for zero gravity.

Dr. Plaut joined Purdue University in 2010 and became executive vice president in 2023.

I wish Dr. Plaut the best of luck and congratulate her on her well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING DR. JOHN SCAMAHORN

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor fellow Boilermaker Dr. John Scamahorn.

Dr. Scamahorn earned his degree in veterinary medicine from Purdue University in 1972 and has spent his career supporting veterinarians at the local, State, and national levels.

Dr. Scamahorn runs the Animal Medical Clinic in Greencastle, Indiana. He also helped found the Indiana Animal Health Foundation, which helps fund scholarships and service animals. He also has contributed significant time to 4-H members.

He received the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2001 and the American Veterinary Medical Association Meritorious Service Award in 2022, which recognizes a veterinarian who has brought honor and distinction to the veterinary profession.

Indiana is proud to be the home for Dr. Scamahorn, and I thank him for his exceptional service to veterinarians and our communities.

RECOGNIZING JINSIE BINGHAM

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jinsie Bingham, a trailblazing broadcaster and lifelong Greencastle, Indiana, resident. She even graduated from DePauw University, located in Greencastle, in 1956. Her broadcasting career started when she joined the local radio station WJNZ, formerly known as WXTA, as the sales manager in 1969.

In 1977, Jinsie Bingham became the first woman in Indiana to own and operate a commercial radio station. She ran WJNZ, which is now known as WREB and serves Greencastle to this day. In 1996, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Indiana Chapter of American Women in Radio and Television.

Jinsie Bingham retired from broadcasting in 1994 but continues to be active in the Greencastle community to this day. She is also known as the unofficial historian for the area.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to know Jinsie Bingham, and I thank her for her decades of service to Greencastle.

NIH CUTS AFFECTING CANCER PATIENTS

(Mr. CASTEN of Illinois was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, I got a call from a constituent whose 46-year-old son had just

been diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer back in December, and the whole family is now wondering whether he is going to live long enough to see his kids graduate from high school.

It is sad. We sort of shared the pain of fathers who lost kids, worried about losing kids. There is no need to tell anybody here that cancer sucks.

That wasn't why he called. He called because his son's doctors told him that as you go through the course of this treatment, typically, chemo stops working after about 6 months. You see some tumor reduction, and then it stops working. At that point, you really need to start looking for alternatives.

Typically, those alternatives mean you start getting into experimental trials. Those are no longer available because Trump and Elon Musk's cuts to NIH are forcing the local hospitals, the local universities, and the drug companies that would have done these clinical trials, to shut them down.

□ 1100

As he put it to me: As a father, I have to balance hope with reality, but it seems like all I have right now is reality.

Then he said to me: Do the Republicans you work with know that they can get cancer, too? Are any of them going to stand up? Don't they get these calls from their constituents? Why don't they care?

I see them all looking away. How would you have me answer that question?

I tried. I did my best to explain the psychology of folks I work with who fear Trump more than they fear cancer. Mostly I just got sad because this is a guy who said I want hope; all I have is reality. What I want for hope is medicine, and all I could give him was political science to give him some reality.

These stories are in all of our districts. All of our constituents want hope. It is the least we can give them, and we are failing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my Republican colleagues to just please grow a spine. Stand up. Give us some reason to hope. Give me a better answer to the next constituent who calls my office, or indeed yours, with those same questions.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THOMAS BURTON MERRITT

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Thomas Burton Merritt, a veteran, a physician, and beloved member of his community.

Born on May 11, 1934, Thomas Merritt was a proud graduate of Auburn University, where he was a strong contributor to the Naval ROTC program and track team.

After graduating, he joined the Navy, completed his medical degree and

served with distinction as both a naval aviator and a psychiatrist.

With over 20 years of military service, he was awarded the National Defense Medal, the Naval Aviator Medal, and the Expert Medal for a .45-caliber pistol.

In 2008, he met the love of his life, Robbie "Honey" Merritt. Together they traveled the world from England to France, always finding time to cheer on their beloved Tigers.

His love for animals, especially the geese and ducks at Emerald Lake, earned him the nickname "Father Goose."

Dr. Merritt's warm smile, great sense of humor, and adventuresome spirit touched everyone who was fortunate enough to know him.

Mr. Speaker, his legacy of purpose, compassion, and courage will continue to be an inspiration. My thoughts and prayers are with Dr. Merritt's loved ones during this most difficult time.

RECOGNIZING THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomasville, Georgia, which was named one of the best small towns in the South.

Thomasville is a charming town located in south Georgia, celebrated for its quaint, timeless charm, vibrant downtown, and diverse food scene.

The town boasts a rich history, characterized by Victorian architecture and brick-paved streets that line specialty shops and local restaurants.

Thomasville's culinary scene is praised as one of the best, specializing in southern classics and comfort foods. The Main Street program has been instrumental in revitalizing the downtown area, rehabilitating numerous buildings, and establishing over 350 new businesses since its inception.

Thomasville was honored with the Great American Main Street Award, highlighting its commitment to preserving its historic character while fostering economic growth.

Thomasville is the official Rose City of Georgia, hosting annual shows and festivals, attracting visitors worldwide. The warm community spirit and welcoming atmosphere make it a standout destination in the South.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the city of Thomasville on this recognition.

RECOGNIZING EFFINGHAM COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIRMAN WESLEY CORBITT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Effingham County Commission Chairman Wesley Corbitt, who was recently honored for his 8 years of service.

During his two-term tenure as chairman, Mr. Corbitt embodied Effingham County's mission to provide through integrity, accountability, and transparency.

His exceptional dedication to public service promoted safety, health, and a high-quality of life for his customers and his constituents.

Mr. Corbitt's focus on disciplined zoning and master planning for industrial growth resulted in significant

achievements for Effingham County. These achievements include setting the stage for major upgrades in recreation, contributions to transportation challenges, and commonsense solutions to resolve water and sewer debt.

Mr. Corbitt's leadership and character were integral to the Effingham County Board. He encouraged the board to disagree without being disagreeable, creating an environment that promotes honesty, selfless service, and dedication to doing things the right way.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Corbitt for his years of selfless public service to the people of Effingham County.

HONORING THE LEADERSHIP OF CEO SUE ELSE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Sue Else, an extraordinary leader who is retiring as CEO of the Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia.

Under Ms. Else's leadership, the Girl Scouts continue to thrive, expanding opportunities, deepening community impact, and building the next generation of women leaders.

The Legacy of Leadership event that will be held in Savannah is not only a celebration of Girl Scouts' values, but a tribute to Sue's lasting impact on thousands of lives.

Ms. Else's passion, integrity, and vision has steered this organization through change and growth, always placing the girls at the center of her work.

As the birthplace of Girl Scouts founder Juliette Gordon Low, Savannah is the perfect setting to honor Ms. Else's legacy, which is marked by courage, commitment, and leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia, the Savannah community, and grateful families across the State in thanking her for her service. We wish her the very best in her well-earned retirement. Her legacy will continue to inspire young girls for years to come.

DTE RATE INCREASE

(Ms. TLAI B of Michigan was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. TLAI B. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. DTE wants another rate hike, 11 percent this time. Our families can't afford more power outages in Michigan that wipe out groceries, spoil medicine, and leave our neighbors without critical medical devices, all because DTE would rather pad the pockets of their shareholders and executives than invest in reliability for our families.

We know that DTE charges some of the highest rates, Mr. Speaker, in the Nation, while they have some of the most unreliable service and they perform hundreds of thousands of utility shutoffs per year.

The company made \$1.4 billion last year alone. Their CEO made \$12.5 million last year. Investor-owned utilities like DTE will always put profits over the people they are supposed to serve.

These are companies that don't see providing us power as essential to our daily lives. We are just another account number to them.

Now DTE is seeking another massive \$574 million rate hike. It is important to note, Mr. Speaker, that it was just a few months ago that the Michigan Public Service Commission approved a \$217 million rate hike back in January. The Michigan Public Service Commission must do the right thing and reject this outrageous, unreasonable rate increase.

Access to utilities is not a privilege; it is a fundamental human right. Every single family should have access to electricity, heat, and water. We need public power to all. We need utilities that serve people, not shareholders. We need to take the profit motive out of the services we all need to live and thrive on.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, it is hard to believe that it has only been 13 weeks.

President Trump's first 100 days in office have eroded constitutional rights, illegally and lawlessly dismantled Federal agencies, and consolidated power into the hands of the billionaire class. I like to describe it not as shameful, lawless, and reckless, which it is all those things, but it is also the cruelty of how it is being done.

The President has relied on executive orders to push through illegal and divisive policies that circumvent this Congress. He has empowered an unelected billionaire like Elon Musk to fire Federal workers without cause and dismantle the programs our families depend on. That is probably why they are losing in court. We are winning in 93 percent of these courts because, again, much of what he is doing is illegal.

President Trump has attempted to override the Constitution through executive order to end birthright citizenship, deport American citizens without due process, including a 4-year-old with cancer, and he has openly defied Supreme Court orders.

This is a constitutional crisis; that is a fact. We don't need to be cutting services and critical programs for our families. We need to make them work better for our families. Instead of gutting healthcare and Medicaid and food assistance in our public school system, Congress should make the ultrarich pay more taxes and make these programs work better for the people.

Mr. Speaker, 60 percent of working families are living paycheck to paycheck. Working families are worried about paying their rent, covering the costs of groceries, and what they are going to do if they get sick. No one plans to get sick, Mr. Speaker.

Trump's proposed tax plan only benefits the richest Americans. It is a true fact; look at it. Even powerful corporations are going to see a big tax break. He plans on giving \$7 trillion, not millions or billions, in tax cuts to billionaires while making working families pay for them by cutting \$880 billion

from Medicaid and \$230 billion from food assistance.

Mr. Speaker, don't get me going about the environmental protections. They have rolled those back, too. Our children deserve clean water, and they deserve to breathe clean air. They are showing, again, a reckless disregard for our planet and our public health.

Yet in the face of this harmful and oppressive agenda, we have seen power in the resistance not only through litigation but in the streets. Americans have mobilized in unprecedented numbers from protests to townhalls across our Nation. Our communities are organizing, Mr. Speaker, not only to fight back against these harmful policies but to build a better and more inclusive future.

Now is not the time to give in to cynicism. We must stay engaged and speak truth to power and come together in solidarity to fight for a country that our communities truly deserve that is for the people and by the people, not the powerful.

I always remind my residents, Mr. Speaker, that we didn't get the Civil Rights Act or transformative change in our country or the right to organize unions because of what folks do here in this Chamber. It is because the streets demanded it. That is how we got the Civil Rights Act and the right to organize labor unions in our country. Again, continue to rise up and continue to resist this fascist government.

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

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION IS THERE TO HELP, NOT HURT, AMERICANS

(Mrs. SYKES of Ohio was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, we started this year on a high note.

On January 5, President Biden signed the Social Security Fairness Act into law, expanding Social Security for thousands of Americans whose benefits, that they earned through years of hard work, were cut because of bad policies.

The Social Security Fairness Act is estimated to result in an average increase of \$360 per month for more than 2.5 million Social Security recipients, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

These are our teachers, firefighters, and other public service employees who have dedicated their careers and their lives to serving and ultimately improving their communities. At a time when people have been struggling to make ends meet, these benefits could not have come at a better time.

This was a major victory for Ohio's 13th District and all of America, one that I was proud to support as a cosponsor, then by signing the discharge petition to bring it to the House floor before finally voting on it here on be-

half of the constituents that I represent.

I have heard from countless people in my community, they are thrilled that they were finally able to get the Social Security benefit that they deserve and earned. There wasn't anywhere that I could go in the community: church, the grocery store, the gym, restaurants, someone always stopped me to thank me for voting for the Social Security Fairness Act and to tell me a story of how it is going to change lives.

You can imagine my disappointment as the Social Security Administration has taken recent actions to hurt, not help, the American people, including those in Ohio's 13th. From cutting phone helplines, to requiring certain services be conducted in person, to slowing down processing times, and closing offices, the American people are not getting the service they earned from the Social Security Administration.

□ 1115

Now, to add insult to injury, the Trump administration is vowing to withhold the benefits of Americans as a result of mistakes made by the Social Security Administration. Instead of making the Social Security Administration work better and remain solvent, the Trump administration is accusing seniors of fraud and calling their earned benefits waste.

The fraud is an unelected billionaire, the richest man in the world, who is cutting services to low- and middle-income families. The waste is the garbage coming out of people's mouths who don't care about seniors and say things like it is just a complicated Ponzi scheme. It is abuse by the Federal Government, abuse of people who worked hard their entire lives to support themselves and paid into a system that promised to one day support them.

Our seniors rely on Social Security to pay their bills, to put food on their tables, to keep a roof over their head, and if the Social Security Administration makes a mistake, it can be addressed in time. However, our seniors can't afford to foot the bill for when they make errors. With more than 97,000 residents of my district living under the poverty line and 175,000 residents relying on Social Security, these payments are, in fact, a lifeline.

In what world is this going to improve America? In what world is taking a lifeline away from seniors improving our economy, and in what world is constantly raising and lowering the hopes of some of our most vulnerable neighbors making America great again?

I have already heard from constituents who have been contacted by the Social Security Administration who are concerned about the changes and the cuts. They have been told that 100 percent of their benefits will be withheld until overpayments were paid back in full. These overpayments were as a result of a mistake by the Social

Security Administration and not the fault of my constituents.

This means that people in my community lose their lifeline to pay for food, housing, medications, and more. This means that people in my community are suffering because of bad policy and abysmal management. Let's fix Social Security. Let's make it solvent, but let's not punish our seniors.

Changes to the Social Security Administration that prevent beneficiaries from accessing their full benefits are nothing more than backdoor benefit cuts, and I will not stand for it. I will always stand in the way of these wolf-in-sheep's-clothing policies. We already know that this is just a setup for cuts, and these changes are setups to pay for tax giveaways for the richest, the billionaires, and greedy corporations.

Mr. Speaker, I hear my colleagues say that there is a mandate, but I don't think that there is a mandate to take housing, food, and healthcare away from our seniors. I ask you and all of my colleagues who I serve with to make sure that we protect Social Security, keep it solvent, and ensure that we are protecting the benefits that they have earned for hard work over several years and decades of service.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 17 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Creator God, pour water on this thirsty land. Allow streams to break forth onto the dry ground, for Your people yearn for the refreshment of Your truth. They desire the renewal found in Your righteousness.

Loving God, bring nourishment to those who are hungry for a word of hope. Bring healing to those whose pain is overwhelming and need the salve of divine care. Bring solace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones and need the comfort of Your eternal embrace.

Let all, once again, sing joy, for You are our deliverer. Let all shout aloud with praise, for You are our redeemer. Let all put their hope in You, for You are our Savior and our God.

In Your merciful name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

Mr. DAVIDSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

SOUTH CAROLINA MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, led by CEO Andy Carr, I am grateful for the South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership, a vital public-private partnership that is essential for manufacturing in the Palmetto State. It provides strategies to improve profitability for job creation and bolstering national security.

The partnership generated more than \$7 billion for South Carolina over the last 3 years, working with over 550 companies. Over 80 percent of the manufacturers have fewer than 20 employees, and these manufacturers are the size that the South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership is uniquely serving.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators puts all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks, imminent as warned by the FBI. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin's lies, rigging the election in the Republic of Georgia against legitimate President Salome Zourabichvili. The fake Georgian regime has falsely smeared President Donald Trump as "a tool of the deep state."

REMEMBERING BLACK APRIL

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Black April, a day

to lament and reflect on the fall of Saigon.

It has been over 49 years since we fought shoulder to shoulder with our Vietnamese allies. After the fall, refugees were forced to flee their homes with whatever they could carry.

It is important to recognize the resiliency of the Vietnamese people. I grew up with Vietnamese Americans who came to this country for a better life.

Today, my home, Orange County, is home to the largest Vietnamese population outside of Vietnam.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the sacrifice of those who fought for freedom, democracy, and opportunity.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT DAVID NORMAN

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

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Master Sergeant David Norman of Troy, Ohio.

Today marks the 50th anniversary of the fall of Saigon. David Norman was one of the brave servicemen who evacuated over 7,000 Americans and allies from the United States Embassy in 1975.

During the withdrawal from Vietnam, Sergeant Norman was one of the 11 brave marines who defended the U.S. Embassy during the 19-hour evacuation.

Many Americans were successfully evacuated by helicopter, but those remaining stranded on the roof of the embassy, including David, had resolved to defend their positions as long as their ammunition lasted.

A U.S. pilot flying over the embassy at low altitude spotted these servicemen stranded and made a rescue flight under fire, and all 11 men made it home alive.

David retired from the Marine Corps after 30 years of service before returning to Ohio, and then he spent 26 years with the Miami County Sheriff's Department. He was recently elected as the Miami County Recorder.

I rise today to commend David's patriotic service to our Nation and to commemorate this solemn anniversary. Let us never forget the bravery of our troops.

ELIMINATING HEAD START

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

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise on behalf of the 800,000 children who will lose access to early childhood care, healthcare, and education because of the Trump administration's budget.

Their budget proposes to eliminate Head Start, the nationwide program that provides essential care to nearly 1

million children across our country. Meanwhile, the White House is assessing ways to “persuade women to have more children.”

I am an OB/GYN. It has been my life's work to help women have children. Let me tell you, eliminating early childhood care and education, making our Nation's childcare crisis even worse and taking away parents' ability to go to work and provide for their families, is not how you persuade women to have more children.

On top of that, gutting Medicaid, the health insurance program that covers half of all children and 40 percent of all births, is not how you persuade women to have more children.

It is hard to imagine a more antifamily agenda. The Republican plan pressures women to have more children then abandons them, gutting the healthcare, education, and support they need to be healthy and to thrive.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

RECOGNIZING GAIL ACAMPORA

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

Mr. MCGUIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Gail Acampora from Prospect, Virginia. I am lucky enough to call Gail a close friend of mine. She has always been interested in politics and is an avid supporter of President Trump.

In 2021, Gail was diagnosed with lung cancer. She has had a lobe and lymph nodes removed and went through tough chemotherapy. Unfortunately, she is still fighting after another cancer diagnosis.

Her strong faith in God and positive attitude will keep her on the road to recovery.

Tracy and I are with Gail, and I know she is going to fight hard and beat this thing. I ask that everyone include her in your prayers.

CUTS TO FEMA BRIC GRANTS

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

Ms. ELFRETH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to this administration's devastating cuts to FEMA's BRIC program, otherwise known as the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grants.

Towns like Crisfield in Maryland, Baltimore, and dozens of communities

across this Nation, rely on this funding to ward off the very real and very devastating effects of flooding.

Not only do these programs save lives, but it is also one of the best investments that this Federal Government can make in this country, matching State and local funding. These projects in the long-term save \$6 for every \$1 in upfront spending.

Yet, on this Earth Day, and just before we are about to enter hurricane season, instead of protecting our communities from sea level rise, the Trump administration ended this program.

When we talk about government cuts to environmental programs, I will caution that rising seas don't care who is in the White House. The water doesn't care how a small town that experiences 90 days of flooding or more a year voted in the last election. Flooding will continue to devastate communities, even if the President does not believe in climate change.

That is why I will continue to fight for the reinstatement of these funds for Crisfield, for Maryland, and for every community affected by flooding across this country.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1415

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia) at 2 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.

PROVIDING CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO “CALIFORNIA STATE MOTOR VEHICLE AND ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE AND ENGINE EMISSION WARRANTY AND MAINTENANCE PROVISIONS; ADVANCED CLEAN TRUCKS; ZERO EMISSION AIRPORT SHUTTLE; ZERO-EMISSION POWER TRAIN CERTIFICATION; WAIVER OF PREEMPTION; NOTICE OF DECISION”

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 354, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 87) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emission Warranty and Maintenance Provi-

sions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Emission Airport Shuttle; Zero-Emission Power Train Certification; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 354, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 87

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emission Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Emission Airport Shuttle; Zero-Emission Power Train Certification; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision” (88 Fed. Reg. 20688 (April 6, 2023)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The joint resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam 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 on H.J. Res. 87.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, today, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 87, a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emission Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Emission Airport Shuttle; Zero-Emission Power Train Certification; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision,” sponsored by my friend from the great manufacturing State of Michigan.

In general, what makes these California rules have such an outsized impact on the rest of the country is that, under section 177 of the Clean Air Act, other States can opt in to the California standard.

Not only does California dominate because of its sheer size, but when a

handful of other States opt in, the California standard becomes the de facto national standard for the United States.

It is my understanding that on just this California EPA waiver for trucks, 10 States—Colorado, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington—have opted in to this regulation. This is concerning to me because it seems that California is being given super-State status vis-a-vis the other States of the Union.

States can opt in to a proposal of the privileged State or the super-State but are not able to request a preemption or a waiver from the Federal Government on their own.

This is either the national standard or the California standard. Those are the only two you can have.

It does not allow for individual States to become the laboratories of innovation and democracy as was seen fit and as it was believed to be the case for our Federal system.

I believe, Madam Speaker, that the States should be equal. I am not so sure that we need a super-State imposing its preference on the rest of the country. If that is what we want, why not cede all authority to California and disband the United States Congress?

Either way, having parallel State vehicle regulatory systems is what really causes manufacturers and big fleet operators to be concerned.

Specifically, on this California advanced clean truck rule, this rule creates a complex credit trading system where truck manufacturers must buy or generate zero-emission truck credits just to have the privilege of doing business in the State.

At the end of the day, this rule is very restrictive on traditional diesel-powered trucks. By 2035, this rule ends up requiring electric big rigs to make up 40 percent of the class sales.

I am not here to tell you that electric trucks don't have their place. We all know that they do. Yard trucks, in particular, might be an application where electric trucks have an advantage. Perhaps in certain city delivery situations, those delivery routes could be done with electric vehicles.

That should be a business decision, not the decision of a waiver granted by bureaucrats from Washington to a super-State to dictate to the rest of the country what our policies should be.

Unfortunately for independent owner-operators and small trucking companies, this mandate for electric trucks comes with a very expensive price tag. A new diesel rig costs about \$180,000. Electric big rigs can go anywhere from \$200,000 to \$400,000. That price tag is going to hit the independent driver, the small owner-operators, and the small fleets hard.

Trucking is a relatively small-margin business where time on the road equals money. I am afraid that all of these increased costs could lead to

more consolidation in the industry and less competition.

Further, these higher rig costs will present a bigger barrier to entry for the owner-operators and small trucking companies that, with the current technology, would have more charging downtime. Accordingly, not only are they not able to be on the road, but when they are off the road, they are off for a longer period of time.

Time on the road, as I said earlier, equals money. Therefore, it is going to cost more to operate. The big companies might be fine with that, but your smaller companies are going to find it very difficult.

This regulation throws a wet blanket on truckers' opportunities to share in the American Dream of starting their own business, starting out with one truck and building it to five and then maybe getting it to 10. It gives all the power to the big companies.

I believe that this electric truck mandate is going to lead to inefficiency and increased costs on all products that have to be transported over road.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in voting in favor of H.J. Res. 87 and ending this regulatory nightmare.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res. 87, 88, and 89, the three bills that we are considering this afternoon.

Like much of what Republicans do here on the House floor, these three resolutions are a waste of time and are going nowhere. That is because both the Government Accountability Office, the GAO, and the Senate Parliamentarian have determined that Congress cannot nullify these waivers using the Congressional Review Act. Yet, here we are. Republicans are ignoring these rulings and moving ahead—again, a giant waste of time.

These resolutions are nothing more than a ploy to basically distract hard-working Americans from the fact that President Trump is singlehandedly destroying our economy and driving up costs for American families, including on vehicles.

Markets are in turmoil. The first quarter report indicated that the American economy is actually contracting. It is not growing. It is actually contracting, getting smaller. American retirement savings are in free fall. Prices for everyday goods continue to rise, all as a result of President Trump's trade war with the entire world. He is at war with the entire world.

Trump's tariffs are also expected to drive up the costs of vehicles in the United States by up to \$15,000, and Republicans silently sit back and let it happen, bringing up resolutions on the floor that are going nowhere.

These illegal CRA resolutions threaten the Clean Air Act waivers of Federal preemption that allowed stronger pollution standards for cars and trucks for the State of California. My colleague from Virginia gives the impression that States have to follow California's lead. I don't know that he means that, but he gives that impression. That is not true. No one is telling any State that they have to follow California. My State of New Jersey decided to, but that is up to the Governor and the legislature. In fact, they could withdraw the California standards at any time. New Jersey could if they wanted to. No one is forcing any State to follow California's lead.

My colleague from Virginia, I love him, but he is talking about Big Government. It used to be that the Republicans believed in States' rights, meaning that the States, little or large, would have their own rights and be able to do their own thing. He is the one who is talking about Big Government now because he is suggesting that the Federal Government is going to preempt everything that California and some other States have done.

These resolutions are a direct attack on over 50 years of Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency recognizing California's, and other States that follow, longstanding authority to set stronger vehicle emission standards to protect the public health of its residents from the State's unique air quality challenges.

Why do we let States like California and New Jersey decide this on their own? Because there are different problems in those States with regard to air quality.

Right now, over 90 percent of California residents live in an area plagued by poor air quality. If California decides that we need more stringent standards because we don't want people to get sick in their State, then they should be allowed to do so.

This isn't like pie in the sky. This is based on the fact that the air quality in California is not good. I mean, I hate to say it, but it is true. That is why they need more stricter standards, and they decided to do that.

California started regulating tailpipe emissions actually in 1966 before the Federal Clean Air Act was even enacted. In drafting the Clean Air Act decades ago, Congress recognized California's air quality challenges that demonstrated compelling and extraordinary circumstances, justifying more protective standards.

This waiver mechanism also allows other States with challenging air pollution conditions to voluntarily adopt California standards if they feel that it is appropriate.

This has allowed States to be a laboratory of innovation for the auto industry and pioneer emission reduction technologies, such as check engine dashboard lights or even the development of zero-emission vehicles, and the standards under threat today would continue that legacy.

These resolutions would completely dismantle that progress at a time when the Trump administration appears to be determined to cede our global leadership in clean transportation to China. None of this has to happen. These resolutions are illegal, plain and simple.

My Republican colleagues were informed weeks ago by the independent, nonpartisan GAO that California's waivers cannot be revoked using the CRA for two reasons. First, EPA's waiver decisions are not rules. Second, even if the waivers were considered rules, they would be rules of particular applicability since they only concern one specific entity; i.e., California.

These two factors disqualify the waivers from review under the CRA, and the Senate Parliamentarian agreed. That should have been enough. In other words, the Senate says they can't do this. The GAO says they can't do this.

Again, the Republicans are taking their cues from Trump, and he doesn't care what the law says. He just says do it. That is why we are here today. None of this is going to matter.

EPA has granted dozens of waivers over five decades, and there is a long bipartisan history of recognizing these waivers as orders, which House Republicans are determined to ignore.

What I am saying, Madam Speaker, is they can't do what they are suggesting to do today because it is illegal. Even if they were able to, it sets a terrible precedent for other waivers and other abilities of States to decide on their own what they want to do.

If the theory behind these resolutions were to be successful—in other words, using the CRA to nullify orders—House Republicans would set a dangerous precedent that expands the applicability of the CRA. That would mean countless numbers of executive actions made across the Federal Government would be at the mercy of the political winds of a vocal few in Congress. States seeking approvals for energy infrastructure projects would be under threat. Leasing decisions for major oil and gas fields could be targeted. States that submit waivers for their Medicaid programs could be up for congressional review under this newly expanded applicability. This opens up a Pandora's box for Republicans to invalidate other State programs that they deem unfit for their extremist agenda.

□ 1430

They are trying to impose a very extremist Federal national standard and basically preempt the States.

It is not what Republicans historically do, but this is the age of President Trump.

I think this should ring an alarm bell for everyone in this Chamber. Today, it is waivers for California's clean vehicle standards; tomorrow, it could be a program or project in another State out of favor with Trump or the Republicans.

To be clear, the transportation sector is the largest contributor to green-

house gas emissions in the United States, making up nearly one-third of overall pollution. Passing these resolutions would allow more nitrogen oxides, fine particles, and climate-disrupting emissions to poison our air.

While it is disappointing that my Republican colleagues are attempting to tear down health-protective standards, it is not surprising. Just look at their plans to strip healthcare from millions of Americans with hundreds of billions of dollars in devastating Medicaid cuts, which I expect next week in our committee.

Instead of attacking clean vehicle programs, opposing investments in American electric vehicle manufacturing, and pushing regressive anti-electrification policies, Congress should focus on supporting market innovation, preserving U.S. competitiveness, and providing regulatory certainty for the clean vehicle industry.

My colleagues on the other side talk about China and competition from China, but everything that President Trump is doing is giving China even more of a runway to be competitive and to win, in this case, in the transition to a clean energy economy, especially across the electric vehicle supply chain.

Madam Speaker, I strongly oppose all of these misguided resolutions, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I remind my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey, that we are not here today talking about Medicaid cuts. We are talking about EPA rules that need to be set aside in a Congressional Review Act.

You heard him say that this is all illegal. I find this kind of interesting because we have heard them railing for weeks on executive action and why haven't the Republicans pushed back against executive action. That is what we are doing today. We are railing about executive actions. Now, it is the prior administration, mind you, but they are executive actions.

Madam Speaker, I ask you just to use your logic on this, to stop and think about this. The EPA passes what they call a decision in a legalistic attempt to get around the law. That decision that they claim does not fall under the CRA process gives a waiver on Federal regulations to a State, California, that then if you opt in 100 percent, you can't modify it. If you opt in 100 percent into the California rule, other States, currently a minority of the States opt in to, but because you didn't create this patchwork what happens in the industry is, everybody starts to move in that direction. Because if we have to do it in California and 9 other States or 10 other States, then we might as well do it nationally.

What happens is, this is a de facto national regulation. My colleagues on the other side are saying that because they have called it a decision instead

of calling it a regulation because they are using a waiver of a regulation that somehow Congress doesn't have any authority.

Madam Speaker, they would have you believe that this Congress can't make decisions on its own. We have to rely on independent bureaucrats to tell us how to do our jobs. I say to you, Madam Speaker, if the Senate wishes to take a back seat to the unelected bureaucrats, so be it. As long as I am in the United States Congress, I will fight to make sure that we are, at least, grabbing what power we can. They heard me say yesterday in committee that I think we give too much to the various Secretaries. I think we give too much to the executive branch. Here is a case where we have an opportunity, Madam Speaker, to grab power back from the bureaucrats and to say: No, you can't do this. My colleagues want to rely on legalistic principles from the unelected bureaucratic class in Washington, D.C. I cannot agree to that.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER), my good friend and colleague.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, quite frankly, I can't even believe that our friends across the aisle are complaining. I guess that seems to be their habit, their modus operandi these days.

Madam Speaker, House Republicans are fighting tooth and nail to undo the damage President Biden's radical agenda—maybe that is why they are complaining, come to think about it—inflated on our economy, our freedoms, and the American way of life. It is just that simple.

This week, we are moving to overturn yet another reckless regulation this time targeting the very backbone of our supply chain: American truckers.

Under Biden—I call him “O’biden” because I think he is Obama's third term—we had a shortage of truckers, Madam Speaker. This was Washington bureaucrats trying to do California's dirty work. Don't our bureaucrats here have enough work to do on their own?

This is a direct hit on our truckers. I know. I ran a small trucking business for a short time. This is a direct hit on our small businesses and anyone who relies on affordable, reliable transportation, which, quite frankly, is just about every American.

Let's be real: This isn't about cleaner air. Never was. Never gonna be. It is about control. It is about forcing a one-size-fits-all green agenda on the rest of the country—I might say the unsuspecting country—regardless of what it costs working families, what it costs farmers, job creators, and, yes, truckers. They just don't care.

This CRA sends a clear message, Madam Speaker: Republicans stand with the men and women who keep America running. We stand with Americans for common sense. I couldn't be

more proud to be here with my colleague for this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. In the words of the truckers: Let's slam the brakes on this nonsense and put America back in the driver's seat.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO), who is the ranking member of our Environment Subcommittee.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to this Congressional Review Act resolution.

The three CRA resolutions being considered today target Clean Air Act Federal preemption waivers that authorize stronger pollution standards for cars and trucks for the State of California.

Ranking Member PALLONE and others have explained how these resolutions go far beyond what is legally allowable under the Congressional Review Act and how the Clean Air Act clearly authorized California to pursue and be granted these waivers as has been the case many, many times over the past 50 years.

Now, I understand that many Republicans in Congress do not like that California is able to take steps to address its extraordinary air pollution from the transportation sector, but they are in luck. They control the House, they control the Senate, and President Trump is in the White House.

If the majority wants to directly attack States' rights and prevent California from developing more ambitious public health protections, they can propose an amendment to the Clean Air Act to change the law and end the waiver process. No one has proposed this because it would require hearings and markups and convincing people of the merits of upending more than 50 years of Clean Air Act precedent, which has been the most successful public health law in history.

Instead, we are here today debating a shortcut, a Congressional Review Act resolution, as we have done time and time again this year as a quick way to undermine environmental rules rather than doing the hard work of actually legislating. If we dug into the legislative history of the Clean Air Act, it would be clear that Congress carefully crafted the law to recognize the diverse air pollution challenges facing each State.

We would also have a chance to understand how so many innovations have occurred not only because of the law broadly but specifically because California has been able to pursue more protective standards.

The process that has resulted in us debating this resolution today is all wrong, but it is also bad on the merits.

The Advanced Clean Trucks program is going to make major contributions to reducing air pollution in California, and this rule would only apply to California.

Beyond that, every other State would be able to decide what works best for them. Despite what has been suggested, this rule never required 100 percent zero-emission vehicle sales for any class of truck.

Both new and used diesel-powered trucks, buses, and vans will be available for purchase in California and elsewhere in our United States. The rule also includes numerous flexibility measures to help auto manufacturers comply with the standards. The reality is, there are hundreds of different models of zero-emission, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicles available for sale today. Major fleets are making the conversion to pollution-free vehicles. Prices are coming down, and more charging infrastructure is being built.

Perhaps, most importantly, these vehicles have the potential to contribute to a tremendous reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and traditional air pollution. Reducing this pollution will, indeed, improve health outcomes, result in fewer hospitalizations and missed days of school and work, and avoid thousands of premature deaths. Let's stop with this CRA overreach and attack on States' rights to allow California to move forward with ushering in the next generation of heavy-duty vehicle innovation.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members to oppose this resolution.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY of California. Madam Speaker, our Governor in California, Gavin Newsom, likes to say that California leads the Nation and, unfortunately, President Biden enabled him to do just that. He has led our Nation down a path of total insanity in a way that puts us at war with common sense, with American consumers, and with our fantastic truckers.

California has come after truckers in every way you can imagine, whether it is by far the highest diesel tax in the country, the regulation after regulation after regulation that makes more and more trucks unusable, or AB5 that went after the independent owner-operator model and threatened to put thousands of truckers out of work. However, with this regulation, the State came after the whole ball of wax. They said we are going to take your truck itself.

With this regulation, the State has said that by just the year 2035, we are going to have for some classes of trucks, 55 percent have to be zero-emission vehicles; for others, 75 percent; for others, 40 percent.

What is the practical consequence of this going to be? First, trucks are going to be a lot more expensive, tens of thousands of dollars more expensive. Companies will either have to buy more trucks or they will have to carry less in their trucks because there is less capacity because of the weight of the battery.

By the way, they are going to have to use charging infrastructure that doesn't even exist at this point in time.

American consumers, as we are seeing already in California, will see the cost of just about everything, certainly the cost of groceries, go up, and this will only contribute to the fact that we have a shortage of truck drivers in our State and in this country.

California is being allowed to create policy for the whole country because 11 States are tied to California's actions here and because it puts manufacturers in a dilemma if they have to manufacture one truck for one State and another truck for another State.

Today, we are restoring common sense. We are restoring uniformity when it comes to interstate commerce. We are restoring support for our truckers and we are lowering costs for consumers.

By the way, we believe fully in innovation and we believe in a clean energy future for this country. We believe in clean air, but it is through innovation that we will get to clean air. It is not by government fiat. Indeed, it is an odd approach to innovation that says we are going to somehow magically fiat innovation by banning any and all available alternatives. That is not the way it works.

□ 1445

Finally, to the notion of the gentleman from New Jersey that this sets a dangerous precedent, I will note that no California legislator ever voted on this or the car ban, no Member of this House has voted on it, no individual citizen has voted on it. There has been no vote whatsoever on a policy of profound personal consequence to 40 million Californians and tens of millions other Americans. I think that is precisely the precedent, actually putting this to a vote of the people's Representatives.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI), the ranking member of our Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in opposition to H.J. Res. 87.

Heavy diesel trucks are some of the most polluting vehicles on the road. Even though they make up just 10 percent of all vehicles, heavy-duty vehicles produce more than half of all pollution and smog-forming NO_x. The soot and smog pollution from these vehicles kill thousands of Americans every year.

For over 50 years, California has had the authority to set its own stronger vehicle emissions rules because California has, to quote the Clean Air Act, "compelling and extraordinary circumstances" that justify stronger emissions standards than the Nation as a whole. This was true in 1970, and it is still true today.

According to the American Lung Association's 2025 State of the Air report,

5 of the top 10 most polluted cities in America are in California, and that includes my district. I-5 and I-80, which crisscross my district, are both major heavy-duty trucking corridors. The diesel emissions along these corridors create serious air quality issues that directly affect the health and well-being of my constituents.

Not only that, these emissions are also a significant contributor to severe weather events. California receives the brunt of climate change's most severe impacts, from wildfires to atmospheric rivers to droughts. In Sacramento, we have faced deadly flooding from more intense winter storms as well as longer and more extreme droughts, and the foothills above Sacramento are still scarred from the many wildfires we have seen in recent years.

California's emission standards are a matter of life and death for my constituents. To protect my constituents, I spent much of my career in Congress fighting for stronger emissions standards.

I am once again stunned by the hypocrisy of my Republican colleagues, who claim to defend States' rights while they do everything in their power to stop California from setting its own statewide emissions standards.

This is even more absurd because the Government Accountability Office, GAO, has already ruled that the EPA waiver for California's emissions standards is not eligible for repeal under the Congressional Review Act. In other words, the legislation we are debating here today is a pointless political exercise, a waste of time because perhaps my colleagues have nothing better to offer today.

The President is playing with tariffs, sending the cost of groceries soaring, and kneecapping American manufacturers. My Republican colleagues will maybe stop debating this meaningless resolution and reassert congressional authority over tariffs. They can end the tariffs this week and bring down costs for families.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on H.J. Res. 87.

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

I am not against States' rights. I am against creating a super State in California because they are the only ones that are entitled to get a waiver and then claiming, as the Government Accountability Office, that they have some kind of extrajudicial authority to tell Congress how to do its business. I don't agree with that. I believe we make those decisions, not the GAO.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), my good friend, on this resolution.

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 87, which will prohibit California from mandating electric trucks not only for Californians but for all Americans.

The Biden administration's misguided decision to grant California this

waiver has serious implications far beyond the State of California, impacting all Americans. It is an assault on our way of life in northern Minnesota.

Madam Speaker, I am not opposed to Americans having the ability to purchase and drive an electric car, truck, or bus if they so wish. In fact, I support their choice to do so. We should support and embrace consumer choice.

What I am opposed to is unelected bureaucrats in Washington or Sacramento mandating my constituents purchase and drive an electric car or truck. The people in Minnesota, many of them, not only can't afford an EV, these vehicles are not compatible with our daily lives.

How are you supposed to drive an electric vehicle when it is 20 below zero, and it loses 60 percent of its battery life in a short period of time?

We cannot forget that the critical minerals that are used to make these EVs are sourced from Chinese Communist Party-controlled mines in places like Congo, where 15 of the 19 industrial mines are owned by the Chinese Communist Party. These mines have zero environmental standards, zero labor standards, and they use child slave labor.

Thanks to the Biden administration's refusal to support responsible, domestic mining, their de facto EV mandate will only increase our reliance on the Chinese Communist Party for critical minerals.

Madam Speaker, the Biden administration "exported their environmental guilt."

In my hometown, the Duluth Transit Authority bought electric buses in 2018. It was a big event. There was a ribbon cutting and all the leaders were there. What they didn't tell you was that in short order, Madam Speaker, they had to add diesel-generated heaters to those electric buses because they wouldn't work in the cold climate. They were happy they had their electric buses, but they didn't tell everybody they had to spend more money to add diesel-generated heaters to those buses.

Madam Speaker, in this town just 2 weeks ago, I spoke at an event, and I condemned child slave labor in Congo. As I was walking out, a gentleman from one of those mines said he disagreed with me.

I said: What do you disagree with?

He said: That we use child slaves in our mines.

I said: It is confirmed. It is factual. Not only the Trump administration, but the Biden administration confirmed it.

He said to me, Madam Speaker: Well, it is only a few children.

I said: Even one is too much. We will not consume any critical minerals used by child slave labor, and the Biden administration did that.

Madam Speaker, 33 percent of our cobalt that we use came from child slave labor when we have mines in northern Minnesota that the Biden administration shut down.

I urge my colleagues to join me in standing up against these mandates and standing for consumer choice.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. DEXTER).

Ms. DEXTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to these resolutions that strip away a State's right to protect its residents from dangerous air pollution.

As a pulmonologist, a lung doctor, I have spent my career caring for people struggling to breathe—patients with asthma, COPD, and lung cancer. However, I am also a mother, deeply concerned about the world we are leaving our children.

I came to Congress after years of treating the consequences of inaction. I could no longer stand by while politicians ignored the root cause—the pollution poisoning the air we breathe. The truth is, Madam Speaker, our air is making us sick, and we have the power and responsibility to do something about it.

More than 156 million people in this country live in counties with dangerous levels of ozone and particulate matter, and yet instead of empowering States to raise the bar on clean air, Republicans are telling them to stand down. Let me say this another way. Republicans are telling States they cannot take action to protect their people, their health, and their future.

They want to prevent States that are at the forefront from using their authority to cut tailpipe pollution, a move that guts local authority in favor of polluters. We must let our communities lead. Repealing these waivers would undermine stronger vehicle emissions standards that reduce dangerous pollution and are essential to fighting the climate crisis.

Make no mistake: That would have immediate impact for our communities, for every family living near a busy highway, every child using an inhaler, and every senior who can't go outside on a high pollution day. This is a direct attack on over 50 years of precedent that recognizes that EPA has the authority and the obligation to allow States to do what is required to protect their residents.

I am, frankly, stunned that my Republican colleagues in the House want to undermine States' rights. Repealing these waivers is an illegal expansion of the use of CRAs, which the Government Accountability Office and the Senate Parliamentarian have conclusively determined cannot be used for this purpose. This is government overreach at its most reckless.

It is a distraction—a deliberate one—from the fact that President Trump's agenda is failing to meet the needs of working families. It doesn't lower prescription costs. It doesn't fix our crumbling infrastructure, and it certainly doesn't improve the air our children breathe or the water they drink. At the end of the day, every American deserves the right to breathe clean air.

Clean air shouldn't be political. Clean air shouldn't be anything but fundamental.

The people of Oregon should know that I see these attacks for what they are. I hear their concerns, and I will not stop fighting to protect them, their children, and their future. I will fight to ensure that science, not politics, guides how we safeguard our communities.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Illinois). The gentleman from Virginia will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Did the gentleman from New Jersey reserve?

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I am a California resident, and I am also a California businessman. We have a farm in northern California where we actually operate three highway trucks, and I would probably only have two except for State mandates make it to where one of my older trucks, which is a fine-running vehicle, is only allowed 1,000 miles per year to operate under an agricultural situation. Consequently, I had to buy yet another truck that was newer than 2011 in order to be able to comply with these mandates.

Soon after, when the State had said: Well, if you buy a 2011 or newer engine-powered truck, you are going to be good for a long time. That is until they change their mind and take away the mandate. What many people did was purchase, in good faith, vehicles they thought would last for maybe 20 years, 25 years, or whatever their needs are. I am especially talking about mom-and-pop operations that don't buy new trucks with massive turnover like operations with many, many trucks in their fleet that run them 500,000 miles and turn them over.

What we have with these mandates is more and more difficulty to even operate trucks. There is an old saying: If you have got it, a truck brought it. In California, you may not be getting it anymore. By the time 2035 comes around, and they ban the sale of internal combustion engine trucks and cars in California, what are we going to replace them with? That takes no account for the great strides that are made to make cleaner running diesel engines in all these vehicles and gas engines in automobiles and pickups.

With the technology, we have to add this DEF fluid to our vehicles to make sure that they are running in compliance. What credit is given as a transition to more and more of these trucks meeting this mandate helps deliver cleaner air quality? No credit is given. It is just more mandates. CARB sits down there in Sacramento thinking up

more and more mandates all the time, taking away barbecues, gas-powered stoves, and gas-powered everything, even gas-powered generators. I still don't know what you are supposed to replace a generator with if you can't power it on gas or diesel when the power goes off. It is ridiculous what is coming down the pike.

Where California goes, there are several other States that want to follow as well because they think we have got it going on with these mandates.

They want us to take away these trucks and take away the ability to have diesel-powered vehicles. Diesel, like it or not, is going to power things for many decades to come. The technology for batteries and the generation of electricity that is needed to keep all these going on the grid—if you have, say, a neighborhood where three or four cars in three or four homes are electric vehicles requiring that power supply, you would have to change the power lines and the transformer in the neighborhood by the time just a few of these vehicles are in place due to the intense load that is required to fast-charge these vehicles; let alone a truck fleet in a particular area. If there are 50 trucks or whatever in an operation all required to be on electricity and charging overnight, the grid people are going to laugh at you on that.

□ 1500

This is at the same time as they are removing hydroelectric dams in California. They may not renew the nuclear power plant in San Luis Obispo, also known as Diablo Canyon. They got a 5-year extension a couple of years ago. Is it going to go beyond that? That plant alone represents 9 percent of the power grid in California.

They keep taking away the generation of power. They don't permit the new generation of power except for wind and solar. They want to turn farms in the Central Valley into solar farms perhaps. Take a look at the Ivanpah installation down in southern California where two-thirds of that is being shut down. They have the giant tower and the mirrors all pointed at it. That one is being shut down due to economics. If the economics on renewable power don't work out, where is the power going to come from?

Who is going to drive the trucks? How will we get deliveries when these vehicles aren't purchased? The price of these is 2.5 times what a regular truck costs. If people would pass my legislation on the Federal excise tax, making the \$20,000 to \$30,000 of additional tax, a tax that was put in place to pay for World War I, on the price of new trucks, maybe people would have a little more relief.

We do not need this mandate. The Federal Government should not give California more waivers. It was okay back in the 1960s when things were bad in southern California, but air quality has improved vastly due to these vehicles and other measures that have been taken.

Agriculture has the ability to burn its refuse, clippings, tree removal, and all that. That has been banned in the San Joaquin Valley now. There have been a lot of strides or moves made. Yet, they are never satisfied at CARB in Sacramento.

Other States will monkey see, monkey do what California does to the detriment of all consumers. All prices of goods delivered, the prices of production where trucks haul raw materials, and then the finished products from field or forest or mine to be manufactured or refined will just go up across the board.

We don't have the battery technology to have these trucks go more than really 150 miles, whereas diesel-powered trucks, depending on how many tanks they have, can go 400 miles.

Mr. Speaker, we need to reject the waivers.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LICCARDO).

Mr. LICCARDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.J. Res. 87, H.J. Res. 88, and H.J. Res. 89.

Mr. Speaker, I wish I was here to speak about different policies, policies that the American people actually want to see to help them pay their bills and to lower the cost of living that is choking millions of American families.

Instead, in this administration's first 100 days, I have seen this Republican majority capitulate to the largest sales tax in U.S. history in the form of Trump tariffs, costing the average American family perhaps \$4,900 annually at the checkout counter. I have seen this Republican Congress authorize the imposition of even more excessive overdraft fees which will cost American consumers another \$5 billion.

Where is the action to help Americans pay their bills? Mr. Speaker, you won't find it in any of these three measures. Instead, my Republican colleagues seek to undermine waivers from Federal regulations that California and 13 other States have relied upon for half a century to protect our clean air.

This waiver has done much to clear the once smoggy air of the Golden State, and eliminating these standards will result in the release of 1.6 billion metric tons of pollutants into the air. That pollution will imperil our children, our seniors, and the tens of millions who suffer with respiratory illness like asthma and COPD.

As if the harm to our health and environment isn't enough, the GOP proposals in each of these three measures will cost American citizens even more in their pocketbooks. Over the next 15 years, eliminating these fuel standards will increase Americans' spending at the gas pump by \$89 billion. Even if it is adjusted for different vehicle purchase costs, Americans will pay \$55 billion more out of pocket because of these efforts to make our cars and trucks less fuel efficient.

Indeed, it will also cost us in higher medical bills. The waiver for the Advanced Clean Cars II rule will save

Californians some \$13 billion in spending on healthcare for respiratory ailments.

The health and cost benefits are even greater under the heavy-duty truck regulations. In the heavy- and medium-duty truck sector, we are seeing zero-emission and low-emission trucks that are 2 years ahead of schedule in sales set by California requirements.

To my friends on the other side of the aisle, the global industry and the market have left them behind. House Republicans have no agenda to lower the costs for the American people. They are attacking California by putting on this political Kabuki show for political benefit.

Let's talk about California. Despite our many faults, my State has used this waiver and these clean air standards to clear skies that were once filled with smog when I grew up there in the 1970s and in building the world's fourth largest economy. It is larger than Japan, India, the U.K., and, yes, even Texas.

Madam Speaker, I am not entertained by this Kabuki, and the American people aren't either. Do you know what would entertain them? If we actually did something to lower their costs.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES), home to a large part of our manufacturing base for automobiles.

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairmen GUTHRIE, Congressman GRIFFITH, and their staff for their professionalism, especially on moving this important measure forward.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.J. Res. 87, my resolution of disapproval to overturn the Biden administration's California Advanced Clean Trucks rule.

Mr. Chairman, I am kind of disappointed but not surprised at my colleagues' lack of understanding for exactly what we are trying to do here. I would expect bad-faith negotiations here and elsewhere. Let me highlight a couple of points that we have heard over the recent few minutes.

Let's talk about lowering prescription drug costs. I wonder what my colleagues think about our truck drivers and how their lifesaving drugs get to their constituents. I wonder if they just appear out of thin air, or maybe the trucks that carry these things will actually just get there on unicorn tears, hopes, and dreams. That doesn't happen.

We actually need trucks to get our lifesaving drug medications to the pharmacies at lower costs. Mr. Speaker, if you increase the number of trucks required because you increase the payload capacity, you are going to actually do more harm than good.

Let's talk about infrastructure. Apparently, my colleagues think we are doing nothing to address infrastructure when literally their plan will contribute directly to crumbling infrastructure due to the heavy weight of

these trucks. They could also crash into barriers, which would endanger lives. This would make sure the number of around 45,000 fatalities in this country would increase. I wonder how many American lives they would sacrifice on the altar of their Green New Deal initiatives.

How do we pay for these roads, Mr. Speaker? We pay for these roads with gas taxes, and the gas taxes that these gas trucks would not be paying would take directly from the funds that we need to build our roads all across the country.

In addition to air pollution, Republicans care about clean air. We care about clean water. We also care about common sense. Maybe in California they can plug their trucks into a tree, but in the rest of the country we are relying on an energy grid that is still at least half reliant on an all-of-the-above approach where we have economic, reliable energy and we are still including things like natural gas and coal.

These are the types of things that happen in the real world, and common sense applies in other areas outside of California. In Michigan, we are not afraid of the future, but we demand to be a part of it. America called on us during two World Wars and a global pandemic, and my legislation ensures Michigan stands ready to answer the call once again.

My family is no stranger to how important the trucking industry is. My father started a trucking business with one truck, one trailer, and no excuses. Then a generation later, I started a trucking company during the COVID pandemic.

He grew up in the Jim Crow South and moved to Michigan in search of opportunity and for the American Dream. Tooth and nail, he fought harmful regulations and misguided rules that would have prevented his company from ever getting off the ground.

More than 50 years later, his son stands before the United States House of Representatives to continue the fight against harmful regulations and misguided rules that put thousands upon thousands of livelihoods at risk.

This Biden rule is not just bad policy, Mr. Speaker. It is the scam of the decade to put California's failed EV policies in charge of the entire trucking industry in Michigan and the United States. Does anyone in this Chamber actually believe that this is the United States of California? Perhaps Californians do, but in Michigan we do not want to be dictated by Sacramento. There are about 49 other States that would agree.

Gavin Newsom may be content with being the number one State for declining population, losing nearly 1.2 million Californians from 2020 to 2023. Mr. Speaker, I assure you that I am not. This Biden-era waiver allows California to ram its comply-or-die, zero-emission truck rule down the throat of the American trucking industry, essen-

tially gutting the trucking industry all across Michigan and across the country.

It is a Green New Deal mandate that will crush our trucking industry and drive costs up on everything and increase deaths on our highways. Those are facts.

This policy, if left unchecked, would mandate truck manufacturers only sell expensive, less reliable, zero-emission trucks, no exceptions, no choice. This is going to increase the number of trucks required, which is going to increase the cost of everything from gas to groceries.

The death of the American trucking industry is not just an unintended consequence of this radical California policy. Mr. Speaker, it is the goal. They intend to set unworkable emission standards that will cripple our supply chains and make it impossible for tens of thousands of trucking companies to do business because they are unwieldy and inconvenient.

This policy is unsustainable, unrealistic, and a job killer. Most importantly, it will end lives. Telling the Michigan trucking industry and all other industries that they are willing to move forward with this policy is unacceptable.

Today, the House of Representatives will send a resounding "no" to the radical left and a resounding "yes" to the middle class, to our job creators, to our employers, and to our truckers who keep America running.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to do simple math, use common sense, and put this Biden-era California waiver to bed once and for all.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCGUIRE). The gentleman from Virginia has 2½ minutes remaining.

The gentleman from New Jersey has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. RIVAS).

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to speak against H.J. Res. 87, which will illegally stop California's efforts to work toward a greener and cleaner future through zero-emission trucks.

Strong vehicle standards protect Americans from expensive and volatile fossil fuels and accelerate the adoption of cleaner vehicle technologies to help us compete globally.

According to the American Lung Association, the L.A. metro area has the most polluted ozone in the country. This is due to the high concentration of freeways and heavy trucking industry and communities such as those in the San Fernando Valley like Pacoima and Sun Valley. Stopping these efforts will worsen our air quality and the public health of our communities that are already plagued with the effects of air pollution and vehicles.

Mr. Speaker, I am against this resolution and its goal of stripping California's ability to regulate air pollution

and improve public health. Not only are Republicans taking away healthcare from over 370,000 of my constituents who rely on Medicaid, they are actively worsening the health problems many of them face. This is insult to injury. I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

□ 1515

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGAN).

Ms. BARRAGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak for the families who cannot afford to breathe dirty air for another day. I rise for the parents who have rushed their child to the emergency room because the smog outside triggered another asthma attack. I rise for the young people who have the right to a future free from polluted air, climate disasters, and preventable health crises.

House Republicans are trying to overturn EPA's approval of California's clean air waivers, a move that would strip California's ability to protect its people from dangerous air pollution.

This isn't just about California. Over one dozen States voluntarily follow California's standards. If we overturn these waivers, then families from New York to Oregon will feel it, too, in their lungs.

States are not forced to adopt California's standards, but many choose to because of the harm air pollution causes their communities.

If these measures pass, then more pollution will fill our air, more kids will miss school because they are sick, more seniors will land in the hospital, more families will lose loved ones far too soon to preventable deaths, and billions of dollars will be spent on health expenses that could be avoided.

Communities like the ones I represent, low-income neighborhoods near freeways, ports, and warehouses and working-class communities of color, are already, indeed, breathing some of the dirtiest air in our country.

Thousands of people in California and around the country wrote in support of these clean air protections that Republicans want to rip away.

Jane Flynn, from the L.A. area, wrote EPA in support of the clean truck rule. She said: "Living in southern California, I see how truck pollution impacts our families: asthma, heart disease, respiratory problems. These aren't just numbers. They are our children, our parents, and our neighbors. Please allow California to enforce stronger clean air protections."

Tia Triplett from Los Angeles wrote to EPA that heavy truck pollution threatens the health of her community, and she urges stronger protections.

House Republicans want to silence these voices.

Our constituents don't need more diesel trucks idling near our homes, pumping smog into our lungs. They need cleaner trucks, cleaner cars, and cleaner air.

Mr. Speaker, we should build a future where children can play outside without an inhaler in their backpacks or around their necks, a future with fewer hospital visits, not more. We should stand with communities fighting for their right to breathe, not keep them polluted.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand with our communities and protect their right to clean air. Vote "no."

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, what I really want to stress today is that, contrary to what the Republicans are saying, the bottom line is that no State is forced to adopt the California rules.

I heard from speakers on the other side of the aisle from States that actually don't follow the California rules at all but somehow feel that they are being forced to comply, which is simply not the case.

Mr. Speaker, what you have to understand is the reason why we allow California and the States that follow it to do what they are doing is because, in those States, we have major pollution problems.

I heard one of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk about a freedom to pollute or a freedom to choose. The bottom line is, when there is a problem with clean air, you don't really have a choice, Mr. Speaker. You are going to breathe dirty air.

Mr. Speaker, if you are in one of these States like California that feels that they have to have more strict compliance in order to deal with the clean air problem they have in their State, then it is really not fair to suggest that those States should not be able to deal with that problem and have more stringent standards so they can have cleaner air and avoid health problems for their constituents.

That is all we are talking about here. This is not a one-size-fits-all. It is just the opposite. It is a situation where each State makes a decision on whether they want to adopt California standards for their own pollution problems.

I don't think this should be a freedom to pollute. The bottom line is that every State has to look out for its own constituents, and if the situation is such that they need cleaner air and have to try to have some more limitations, then they should be allowed to do so. That is all we are really saying here. We want to protect the public and have cleaner air.

For all those reasons, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to reject this resolution and allow California and other States like mine to continue to be more protective of their constituents.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey, is a great

guy, and he is a good friend. He is mistaken in part and correct in part. He is right that it is not one-size-fits-all. It is two-sizes-fits-all, and States other than California aren't given the opportunity to determine whether they want to do something that is a little bit different than California or if they want to do something that is a little bit different than the national standard.

As Mr. KILEY pointed out in his very good comments on this subject, the problem is when California keeps ratcheting up their regulations, because they are a large economy, as has been pointed out, and because several other States decide to join them, although still in a minority, the manufacturers have to look at that and say: Are we going to manufacture two different types of vehicles for each class, or are we just going to follow what California has done?

De facto, this is a regulation on the Nation as a whole. De facto, this decision by the EPA is a regulation on the entire Nation.

That is why this Congress is paying attention to its own responsibilities and not listening to the bureaucrats and other unelected officials. We must make a decision and vote to pass H.J. Res. 87.

It is important to the Nation as a whole to protect our trucking industry and to protect jobs across this great land.

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

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 354, the previous question is ordered on the joint resolution.

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

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

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

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PROVIDING CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "CALIFORNIA STATE MOTOR VEHICLE AND ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; ADVANCED CLEAN CARS II; WAIVER OF PREEMPTION; NOTICE OF DECISION"

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 354, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 88) providing congressional disapproval under

chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision", and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 354, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 88

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision" (90 Fed. Reg. 642 (January 6, 2025)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The joint resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.J. Res. 88.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of H.J. Res. 88, a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision," sponsored by the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania's resolution would repeal the EPA's decision to grant a Federal preemption waiver for this California Air Resources Board rule, the so-called Advanced Clean Cars II rule.

California had a strict vehicle emission standard before, but this rule right here is a mandate. It is a mandate, Mr. Speaker, for electric cars.

The requirement begins with 35 percent of the vehicles sold in 2026 being zero emissions and then scales up to 100 percent of vehicles sold by 2035.

This is an EV mandate, Mr. Speaker. Make no mistake about it.

Mr. Speaker, if you are shopping for a new car in 2035, then you are going to be forced to buy a zero-emission car. At present time, you will be paying more for that EV, about \$14,000 more.

These are supposed to be tailpipe emissions standards, not emission standards that are so low or difficult to meet that electric cars are the only path to compliance.

I am not an anti-electric car person. I don't hate electric cars. If an electric car works for you and your family, Mr. Speaker, then so be it. That is fine, but what really gets me and a lot of my constituents stirred up about this is that we are mandating that these cars be the only ones sold.

Mr. Speaker, I represent a mountainous district where electric car batteries are not up to the challenge. When you factor in range problems and charging waiting times, it is not something that many in rural America can use.

I fear that we might find ourselves in situations like Cuba did after Fidel Castro took over. Because of the shortage of new cars in Cuba, people were doing everything they could to keep the pre-Castro cars on the road for decades and decades. In many districts like mine, we might have something similar with gas-burning cars if EVs are mandated.

Let me explain. My folks cannot afford to buy a new EV car. They can't really afford to buy a used car. Normally, what they do in a district like mine, which is economically stressed, is they will buy a used car. The problem is that with the batteries in the EV cars, if you buy a used car, Mr. Speaker, then you really don't have any idea how long it is going to be before that battery wears out.

As a result, Mr. Speaker, you buy the chassis and a battery hoping it works for you if you don't have any other choice. If the battery goes bad, then you are looking at \$4,000, \$5,000, maybe more, to replace the battery.

It is kind of like going to the roulette table and just throwing your money on the table and spinning the wheel, hoping that if you buy a used car, you might be able to make it work because the battery is so integral.

With gas-burning cars, a lot of them know how to fix the cars themselves, and they will make it work. They will continue using those gas cars as long as they can get any usage out of it whatsoever, no matter how bad of a shape it is in, because they can't afford to buy one of the leftwing's EV cars.

That is just not going to happen in my district by the timelines that they set up.

The technology is not available today, and when we are talking about 2035, the technology we are selling today is what my constituents are looking to buy used in the future. Many people drive cars more than 10 years old, and they are going to put our

folks either without cars or still burning gas cars for many years, many decades, in the future.

□ 1530

There are some communities in my district that are more suburban and urban, and there an electric car may make sense for those folks. But some of my folks drive an hour or more to go to work or even go to school because it is cheaper for them to live at home and drive to the school. I am talking about the colleges and the law schools and the vet school and the pharmacy school in my district. Every day they drive back and forth to save money and they don't want to have to rely on an EV car that might not get them there and back.

When it is cold and you are going up a mountain, the EV doesn't get the mileage that is stated. It is kind of like your gas mileage. When you buy a car, it says a standard driver will get this much, but that doesn't work for everybody, particularly if you are climbing mountains. If you need to run errands before or after work, that adds to the time. It makes it so they have anxiety about recharging. That is a real issue for people being forced to drive EV cars.

I can't even get around my district in an EV car. I looked at it because I like the idea, but I sometimes drive 400 miles a day around my district. Oftentimes, there is no place to charge, or if there is, I am not stopping at any one place long enough to get a full charge on an EV battery.

Some might say this is just a California regulation. That is just not so. As we heard in the previous debate, and we will hear again in this debate, California is a dominant force in the economy. They will tell you that every day of the week.

Further, while California has a waiver, other States can opt into it. They can't modify it, but they can opt into the California standard. When they do, that pushes the manufacturers further and further in the direction of the California standard.

The States should either be equal or we should have a national policy. I am not so sure that we should give California a super-State status, imposing its preferences on the rest of the country.

It gets even worse. This started in 1966, and then it made some sense. Today, it doesn't make sense. Right now, we have 11 States opting in to this California standard: Oregon, Washington, New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, Colorado, New Jersey, Delaware, Rhode Island, New Mexico, and Maryland. With those States, even though they represent a minority of the population and a minority of the market and a minority of the States, they are dictating much of what is going to happen in the rest of the market.

Now, those markets add up to about 35 percent of the total new car market,

and this has a cascading effect on manufacturers who are forced by the policy of a minority of States not to do what the market dictates but to do what the States have dictated and to make unprofitable investments that won't work for the poor, rural areas, particularly mountainous ones, in the United States.

The situation we now find ourselves in is different than the one that was contemplated by the 90th Congress. In 1967, when the body passed the Air Quality Act, which later became the Clean Air Act after extensive amendments in later years, in that act California was allowed to have a waiver for stricter tailpipe pollution regulations. One of the big reasons this carve-out was made was because of the terrible smog that enveloped Los Angeles at the time.

I remember that. I can remember that being talked about in the news. We have all seen the old pictures. You have got the ocean on one side and the mountains inland. It causes an inversion where pollution just sits over the cities there. California was granted this exemption because it already had the capabilities to formulate and enforce stricter standards. That is not true for everywhere else, nor was it anticipated that they would continue to ratchet up to the point where they made many cars in the United States illegal.

The intent of the waiver was to allow California to have more stringent vehicle standards, not a way to have a backdoor ban on gasoline- and diesel-powered cars for the rest of the country.

I urge all Members to join me in voting in favor of H.J. Res. 88, to roll back the State of California's EV-only agenda.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I was listening attentively to my colleague from Virginia and what he has been saying. I have to correct some things.

First of all, this idea that California is imposing a national mandate is not the case. Only certain States, a minority of States, have adopted the California standards, and there is a lot of flexibility in that.

His own State, Virginia, hasn't adopted the California standards. Maryland has modified the standards. My State adopted the California standards a year after California. So this idea that there is no flexibility or one size fits all is simply not the case.

You don't have to adopt the California standards at all. In fact, if you don't adopt the California standards in your State, you can continue to sell internal combustion, gas-powered vehicles.

Essentially what California is doing is, because of the fact that they have a major air pollution problem, they have adopted more stricter standards, and

the Federal Government lets them do so.

As I mentioned during debate on the last resolution, this resolution—this one now is about cars, primarily—is a waste of time, because both the GAO and the Senate Parliamentarian have concluded that this waiver is not a rule and, therefore, can't be revoked using the Congressional Review Act. This is just another attempt by the Republicans to distract from the economic chaos and uncertainty that Trump is creating with our economy as they stand by and let it happen.

Now, in the case of California, their program builds on the success of previous standards and scales down light-duty vehicle emissions to reduce smog-forming pollution and greenhouse gases starting in the model year 2026 through 2035. This program has been in the works since 2020, and it provides a clear, planned, and gradual approach to transitioning to cleaner vehicles.

No State has to adopt it. The California standard only applies to new on-road vehicles. It does not impact cars already on the road or used cars. It is not an EV mandate. A wide variety of currently available vehicles, like hybrids, for example, which allow you to use gas, obviously most of the time, continue to be allowed.

I really had to laugh when I heard my colleague talk about—I think he said EVs are like a left-wing thing. I assure you that a lot of the people, maybe a majority of the people, driving around my district with electric vehicles are not voting for me. It is not a left-wing thing. People buy these whether they are Republican or Democrat, whether they are liberal or conservative. That is simply not true.

It is estimated that in California, their program will result in \$13 billion in savings from reduced health costs, and the standards will save clean vehicle drivers \$7,500 in maintenance and fuel costs over the first 10 years of use. These are real cost savings that will make a difference in people's lives.

Again, California is doing this because they are concerned about pollution. It does save money. It saves fuel costs. These savings are needed now more than ever because Trump's tariffs are wreaking havoc on our economy and particularly on car sales.

Trump's tariffs are expected to drive up the cost of vehicles in the United States by up to \$15,000. Republicans silently sit by and let it happen and keep bringing up these resolutions on the floor that are going nowhere.

A little more about California's advanced clean car program. It is forward-looking, it slashes harmful pollution and the associated health costs, and it also drives up investments, innovation, and job creation. They have proven to be a leader in improving air quality but also enabling significant economic growth.

Again, I don't want to take away from California. I think they are doing a good job, and I think my State of

New Jersey, by following them, is doing a good job in trying to protect people from the health effects of dirty air.

There is nothing in any of this that requires other States to follow, and they haven't for the most part. They can continue to sell cars pursuant to the Federal standards that are for internal combustion, gas-powered vehicles.

I don't understand what the Republicans are talking about, but it is a waste of time.

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to be here, and I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise in strong support of the waivers before us today: H.J. Res. 87 by Representative JAMES of Michigan; H.J. Res. 88, led by the vice chairman of the full committee, Representative JOYCE of Pennsylvania; and H.J. Res. 89, led by Representative OBERNOLTE of California.

The issue is that it is essentially becoming a nationwide mandate. Article I of the Constitution clearly gives Congress the power to regulate interstate commerce. These are the reasons that I would point to that we need to not have State-by-State standards for building automobiles.

What this is, is you can't build a gas-powered car in Michigan and sell it to somebody in California. California has 40 million people, over 10 percent of our country. When you start having a patchwork of State laws banning cars that can be driven anywhere else in the country, except California says no, New Jersey says no, and Maryland, as pointed out, says no, then it completely distorts national commerce.

If you think about it, by 2035, zero-emission cars in California, the problem with that is, I don't think anybody believes they can get there with that standard, just like the EV mandates by 2032.

What happens, though, these automotive companies have to start building for that. We see the results of it. In my district, BlueOval SK, which is tied to Ford Motor Company, has two battery plants. One they are building. Only one is going to have production in it. They are looking at what to do with the other one. They have that and another one in Bowling Green because they put out these mandates, and businesses have to follow them. When they don't come to pass, it is just not an efficient way to do business.

You have California doing mandates on having to buy electric cars or non-internal combustion engine cars. It is clearly within the purview of the Commerce Clause. It is clearly the responsibility of the national government to set up what the standards are so commerce can easily move across State borders.

If somebody builds a car in California, a gas-powered car in California, I think California has the right to ban their citizens from buying it. I don't think they have the right to ban their citizens from buying cars produced everywhere else in the States.

There are contracts among the States. It is clearly what our Founding Fathers intended. This certainly fits right in it, and I urge my colleagues to reject these policies and support the underlying resolutions.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO), who is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on the Environment.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding.

I rise in opposition to this Congressional Review Act resolution.

The American Lung Association recently issued its annual "State of the Air" report, which found that nearly one-half of all Americans are breathing unhealthy air.

Despite all the progress that has been made since the enactment of the Clean Air Act, air pollution remains a public health threat. This is especially true in California where over 90 percent of residents live in an area with poor air quality.

Given this tremendous public health threat, California has taken the initiative, as it is clearly authorized to do in the law, to protect its residents, including through the Advanced Clean Cars II Program.

We have gone over all of the reasons why the CRA is not applicable to this waiver. I will focus on the specifics of the underlying rule which will rapidly reduce tailpipe pollution from light-duty vehicles by increasing the percentage of new zero-emission vehicles sold in California to 100 percent in 2035.

I will try to dispel some of the myths about this rule. First, it only applies to new vehicles. No one is requiring people to give up their existing vehicles. Second, it does not apply to used vehicles, so there will continue to be a robust secondary market for internal combustion engines.

Third, I heard several Republican Members express their support for hybrid vehicles at the Rules Committee. Under this standard, plug-in hybrid vehicles can account for a significant portion of sales requirements through 2035.

Now, Members also raised a litany of concerns about the performance of electric vehicles, that they don't have adequate range, they don't perform well in cold climates, and they are too expensive. Well, as they are sharing those concerns, we have a Trump administration response that I will talk about.

We hear a lot of talk here today in this debate about executive overreach, primarily from the previous administration of President Biden. Well, I find it ironic that these complaints are

coming up while the Trump administration is actively working to undermine Federal investments and programs to address these very issues.

□ 1545

The Trump administration is illegally freezing billions of dollars at the Department of Transportation that were intended to build out a network of charging stations, which will reduce range anxiety and improve the convenience of EV ownership.

The Trump administration has made the Department of Energy an unwelcoming place to work, resulting in 3,500 public servants leaving the agency who were responsible for supporting R&D funding to improve battery technology.

Mr. Speaker, talk about overreach by the executive branch. There it is. Improvements to batteries will allow for greater range, improved performance, and lower costs.

It has been very publicly reported that the majority is considering repeal of consumer incentives that reduce the upfront costs of EVs, all while giving people a clear choice of what vehicle to purchase.

Of course, after the upfront costs, EVs are proven to save consumers considerably through reduced fuel and maintenance costs. Even that upfront cost is quickly approaching parity with internal-combustion vehicles as more and more activity is existing out there with the manufacturers globally.

If Members were truly concerned about the cost of vehicles, they would speak out about President Trump's reckless tariffs, which are expected to raise the cost of all vehicles, EVs and internal-combustion engines alike.

Finally, Republicans have suggested that the EV transition plays right into China's hands. The reality is that the market, both in the United States and globally, is heading down a clean-vehicle path. At this moment, China has emerged as the global leader.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding additional time.

Mr. Speaker, at the moment, China has emerged as the global leader, but its long-term dominance of the global EV market is not guaranteed.

Here is what I know for certain. If we do not compete, China benefits and will control those global supply chains. Yet, if we embrace this transition, we will give America's automakers and innovators a great opportunity to win the competition in clean vehicles.

The bottom line is that, at every turn, the Trump administration is sabotaging all efforts to build a domestic EV and battery manufacturing industry, and the attack on California's right to put forward more protective standards is part of that effort.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to reject this resolution, to allow California to make the decisions it needs to protect the health of its residents, and allow our entire country to have a better chance to create jobs and compete to dominate for the future of the automotive industry.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the time.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MCCLAIN) to address the resolution.

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 88, but I will clarify one thing for my colleague on the other side of the aisle and add a little bit more color or correct the truth with the other half of the truth. That is, yes, Trump is trying to claw back some money for the infrastructure of building these charging stations. Why is that?

It is because the Biden administration gave them approximately \$1 billion to build charging stations. Let's see, I think they built less than 10. I don't know about other Members, but I don't think that is a real good use of taxpayer money, so I am in support of clawing some of that money back. I thank President Trump.

Mr. Speaker, moving on to the resolution, this resolution offered by my good friend from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) would reverse a waiver granted by the Biden EPA that allows States to ban the sale of gas-powered vehicles. This EPA rule has legitimate constitutional questions and would increase costs for Americans and manufacturers.

Americans deserve to choose the car of their choice. In fact, Biden used liberal California to force a one-size-fits-all solution nationwide. One State should never dictate national policy because I can assure my colleagues that what works in California sure doesn't work for the people of my great State of Michigan.

In fact, this policy only hurts Michigan auto manufacturing jobs, threatening to kill 37,000 jobs in my State of Michigan. I am not for that.

This is yet another example of House Republicans righting the wrongs and failings of the previous administration. We are keeping our promises to the American people to restore common sense, roll back burdensome regulations, and lower prices.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI), who is the ranking member of our Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in opposition to H.J. Res. 88.

It shouldn't be controversial to say that air pollution is dangerous. Every year, particulate-matter pollution kills more than 50,000 Americans. Study after study has linked air pollution to higher rates of cancer, heart disease,

diabetes, cognitive decline, and, of course, respiratory conditions. The evidence is overwhelming that clean air saves lives.

If my colleagues are like me and grew up in California, then Members know the impacts of air pollution. I remember what it felt like to breathe smog and particulate pollution before we had the strong pollution standards that we have today.

In California, we have been dealing with the impacts of air pollution for a long time. California's unique geography, with its valleys, coastal basins, and surrounding mountain ranges, creates natural barriers that trap pollutants and contribute to unique air pollution challenges. As a State, we have long recognized the dangers of air pollution, and we have been a pioneer in addressing the root causes.

In fact, California's efforts to control air pollution predate Federal efforts in 1967. In 1967, California was the first State to establish a State air pollution control agency. The country soon followed with the Clean Air Act of 1970, which created the EPA and established the First national air pollution standards.

In light of California's unique air pollution challenges and our State's early leadership in tackling air pollution, the Clean Air Act grants California the authority to set its own stronger vehicle emission standards. Over the last 50 years, California has used this authority more than 100 times to update and strengthen our pollution standards, and these actions have actually saved countless lives across California.

Yet, this resolution would strip California's rights to manage deadly air pollutants within our own State, stripping away our right to protect ourselves. Why? Why are Republicans trying to degrade California's air quality? It is my constituents, my neighbors, and my fellow Sacramentans who will suffer if Republicans succeed in killing California's emission standards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask again: Why are Republicans willing to put the health and safety of our communities at risk? I think the real answer is that California's leadership helps to support automotive innovation. The catalytic converter and electric car are thanks to California's visionary leadership and re-imagining a future without air pollution.

Mr. Speaker, the oil industry is afraid of electric vehicles. Once again, Republicans are doing the bidding of oil lobbyists. Once again, the majority is on the wrong side of history, fighting to hold back the future for as long as they can. It is shameful and indefensible.

Mr. Speaker, for this reason, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on H.J. Res. 88.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE), who is the chief sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in strong

support of H.J. Res. 88, my legislation to reverse California's radical electric vehicle mandate.

With one foot out the door, President Biden and his administration provided a waiver approving of California's policy to require all vehicle sales in the State to be electric vehicles by 2035. What makes this policy even more dangerous is that 17 other States, making up 40 percent of the American auto market, are set to adopt these regulations, including my home State of Pennsylvania.

If consumers want to purchase an EV, they should be able to, but Californian politicians have no right to remove the choice to buy a gas-powered vehicle from my constituents.

The Biden EPA wrongly allowed California to enact an electric vehicle mandate that will ultimately affect the entire United States.

What works in Glendale does not work in Gettysburg. Allowing the California waiver to stand impedes on the rights of all other States, even those who do not follow California standards.

Not only do EVs not fit the needs of so many American families, but they are incredibly costly, as well. In my district, the average household income is \$65,000 a year, while the average price of an electric vehicle is more than \$55,000 a year.

Prices in the used car market will also surge, as dealers will not have the gas-powered vehicles to sell because of the inventory of unsellable EVs. My constituents simply cannot afford this ridiculous regulation and should not be forced to purchase entirely unaffordable vehicles that do not meet their needs.

Our economy was built on an open market and the freedom of consumer choice. Congress cannot allow California to continue its abuse of its standing in the Clean Air Act to limit consumer freedom. It is time that we overturn this dangerous rule.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation to protect our auto industry, to protect our auto-workers, and, most importantly, to protect the freedoms of all of America.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, as a staunch defender of Michigan's auto industry, which is still the backbone of the American economy, and someone who cares deeply about the environment, I do not take this vote lightly.

I have spoken multiple times to all of the stakeholders involved. I believe in preserving consumer choice, maintaining American leadership in innovation, defending the future of domestic manufacturing, and protecting the environment. These are not mutually exclusive.

Michigan and the United States put the world on wheels, and we are now leading in the transition to the next generation of vehicles. We cannot afford to cede that leadership to our adversaries.

I will remind my colleagues that, in my lifetime, it wasn't that long ago when gasoline prices went up and American consumers wanted smaller cars. Japanese automakers flooded our markets with smaller vehicles, caught our domestic auto industry flatfooted, and U.S. manufacturers paid the price for that for a decade.

We must innovate, adapt, and build vehicles competitively here at home. The global marketplace wants EVs, hybrids, and internal-combustion engines.

To lead globally, we must accelerate the manufacturing of cleaner vehicles in a practical, affordable, and inclusive way. That means building out EV charging infrastructure, keeping hybrids and plug-in hybrids available, and assuring affordability, which is becoming one of the biggest issues in this country, especially when we are competing with at least one other country where the government subsidizes the manufacturing, uses forced labor, and manipulates its currency.

We cannot cede our leadership to China or any other country. This also means investing in advanced manufacturing, securing domestic battery supply chains, and protecting the Inflation Reduction Act's historic EV investments.

□ 1600

California's Advanced Clean Cars II program would impose EV sales mandates across nearly 30 percent of the U.S. market. While that may work for California, it isn't working in some other States.

Let me be clear. This is not the time to ban gas-powered vehicles. CARB and Governors must be able to adjust these programs if market conditions change. Maryland Governor Wes Moore recently did just that, easing compliance enforcement. Consumers in these other 13 ZEV mandate States need to be talking to their Governors, and CARB needs to pay attention.

I also share concerns about consumer choice, but this Congressional Review Act resolution has serious legal flaws. The Government Accountability Office and the Senate Parliamentarian both ruled that these waivers are not subject to the CRA. Proceeding sets a dangerous precedent.

Misusing the CRA today could open the door to striking down a wide range of Federal programs tomorrow, including Medicaid waivers, which worries me greatly. I don't sleep at night on that one.

We are here today because some States have adopted stricter rules that could ban new gas-powered vehicles by this summer. I support the EV transition, but we are simply not there yet.

For model year 2026, ACC II States would require 35 percent of new car sales to be a mix of electric or plug-in hybrid, yet the national average is at about 10 percent. That requirement jumps to 68 percent by 2030 and 100 percent by 2035 for the ZEV mandate States. For most States, this is simply not realistic today.

We need all the stakeholders at the table—labor, manufacturers, suppliers, dealers, consumers, the environmental groups—to work together for the American people and figure it out and figure it out right so that we stay competitive in a global marketplace, meet consumer demands, take care of the environment, sell affordable cars, and keep manufacturing in this country.

This resolution would be unprecedented Federal overreach. While I disagree with California's timeline, I also disagree with misusing the CRA to address it.

If we are serious about America's leadership, EVs must be in our portfolio. I remain committed to protecting American jobs, expanding consumer choice, and ensuring U.S. leadership in global automotive innovation.

The American people sent us here to solve problems.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, let's stop wasting time on illegitimate messaging CRAs and work together to support innovation, build out the infrastructure, ensure access to affordable American-made vehicles, whether gas-powered, hybrid, or electric. Let's work together for our country.

Mr. Speaker, I will be voting "no."

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, referencing my previous comments related to the GAO, et cetera, I will not yield to the GAO on what the responsibilities of the United States Congress are.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Virginia for leading this.

For my dear colleague from Michigan who just spoke on that, I greatly appreciate she got most of the way there. Indeed, why we have the Congressional Review Act is to reel in out-of-control bureaucracies and bad mandates that come down the pike. That is why we have H.J. Res. 88, led by my good colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE).

We are supposed to take back when government gets out of control. In this case here, people are not going to have control of their automobile choices. We see, with the mandate coming down the pike here, that by 2026—that is next year. This current model year is almost over with, 2025 vehicles. By 2026, it will be a requirement of 35 percent of vehicles sold—in one more model year in these States, 35 percent.

At the current rate in California and New York, about 10 percent of these vehicles are being sold. How the heck are you going to jump to 35 percent in a year?

Nobody wants to buy these cars. Mr. Speaker, as you see when you go talk to the dealers, they have to have a certain number of vehicles that meet

these mandates on the lot that aren't selling in order to get a Jeep or something you want that has a gas-powered engine in it or a pickup with a bigger engine in it. They have to sell a certain number of these other ones to meet the quota. They can't sell the other stuff because they are not what people want to buy.

When talking about vehicles to be replaced anyway, these cars cost half again as much as a similar size, similar used car. Who is supposed to afford that?

Go down the supply chain here. People with a lower income probably primarily buy used vehicles. There is going to be a bigger premium on used cars on the market that are going to be less available to people with more moderate incomes.

As it is, we are going to see the \$7,500 incentive done under the IRA disappear soon. When we are talking \$14,000 more per vehicle anyway, and that \$7,500 incentive is gone to people who can file a tax return with all of those complications on it, because there is a large standard deduction, thanks to the JOBS Act legislation a few years ago—most people can't even take advantage of that if it is there.

What are we talking about? By 2035, 100 percent of these cars are going to be battery-powered. What were we just saying a while ago about the power grid? What were we talking about with all of these data centers coming online using mass amounts of new electricity? When are we going to talk about that we can't produce power plants in this country? We can hardly get out of our tracks to build nuclear plants. They are tearing down hydroelectric plants in my district that make CO₂-free power. We love to stop CO₂, right? That is what this whole electric deal is about.

Let's go back to 1990 in California, when CARB, the California Air Resources Board, decided we are going to require that by the year 2000, 10 percent of all vehicles have to be zero emission.

What happened? Mr. Speaker, go to your dealers there and you see these little golf carts with license plates slapped on them that are pretending to be automobiles. They are trying to get those into the market. Nobody is going to buy that. Nobody is going to drive that. They are not even safe.

CARB had to relent on that year 2000 goal, and they are going to have to relent again on this and on the trucks because it isn't realistic for real consumers, for real people. They don't want these cars unless they can get a sticker and drive in the fast lane in California on that, but that is a narrow group.

One of the automobile reps I talked to drives from Sacramento up to Oroville and then has to go on up to Susanville. He is unsure if the pickup he has, which is a new electric pickup, is going to be able to make the whole trip. They are uncertain whether he

can cover that trip, about a little over an hour here and about an hour and a half up the mountain to get the job done.

People have uncertainty about even being able to rely on these vehicles. We have all heard the story about someone who bought a new pickup. I think he is from Michigan. He bought a camper, the whole works. It was to take his family on vacation. He made it about two States away. He had to stop and recharge so often that he finally took the truck to a different dealership, a different brand, and traded it in and bought another one with a diesel and finished the family vacation on that.

This is the stuff they are going to put normal consumers through with these mandates, and it is going to happen in many States. A lot of times people in an industry, auto manufacturers, they want to just have one standard. They will take the worst standard that affects everybody, like food labeling and stuff, and foist it upon everybody else.

We need to pass H.J. Res. 88 and give people a choice.

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

Mr. Speaker, it really bothers me that I never hear during this debate anybody on the Republican side of the aisle talk about clean air and the fact that we need to continue to make progress toward clean air because of the negative impacts of air pollution on people's health, particularly people who have health problems, asthma and other health problems.

I want to talk a little bit about the Clean Air Act and why it is important, and then I will talk a little bit about the California standards.

Thanks to the Clean Air Act, America has made massive strides in cleaning up our air, but we still have a long way to go. Nearly half of all Americans are breathing unhealthy air, and I think that that is unacceptable.

Air pollution is a serious public health crisis. It can lead to health problems like lung cancer, asthma attacks, heart disease, and even premature death. Air pollution is associated with over 100,000 premature deaths in the United States every year. I have reiterated this statistic before, and I am not going to stop until I make my Republicans on the other side of the aisle understand that we are still trying to clean up the air and save people's lives.

Tailpipe emissions from cars, trucks, and other vehicles are significant sources of air pollution. Burning gasoline and diesel fuel contributes particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, and greenhouse gases into the air.

The transportation sector is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, making up nearly one-third of overall pollution. Therefore, strong vehicle emissions standards are necessary to combat these deadly trends.

The three waivers under threat today in these three bills would yield \$45 billion in health benefits and prevent 4,700

deaths in California alone. Why shouldn't it be the case that because California has unique air pollution problems that they can't have stronger regulations with regard to tailpipe emissions or decide to move toward electric vehicles over a period of years? They are doing this because of the unique circumstances of California.

Eliminating these waivers would allow more than 1.5 billion metric tons of nitrogen oxides, 17,700 metric tons of fine particulates, and 1.6 billion metric tons of climate-harming emissions to poison our air.

I know that President Trump says that climate change is not real, not human-induced, but the fact of the matter is that the pollution problem continues. Climate change continues.

Nullifying the California waivers is going to wreak havoc on Americans' well-being and public health, leading to more premature deaths. There is no doubt about it.

I find it deeply disappointing that in the first 100 days of the Trump administration, Republicans are continuing the trend of putting polluters over people by attempting to nullify health-protective vehicle emissions standards.

What is worse is that, at the same time, Republicans are also plotting to cut hundreds of billions of dollars from Medicaid, take healthcare away from millions of people, all so they can secure tax breaks for their billionaire friends and big corporation cronies.

I have heard the Republicans on the other side act as if the California standards are a mandate and that they are going to mandate electric vehicles. Members on the Republican side from Michigan, Texas, Virginia, Minnesota, and Ohio have all spoken. None of those States have adopted the California standards. I have no reason to believe that any of them ever intend to adopt the California standards.

This is not a mandate. They can continue to sell internal combustion gas-powered cars in those States. Nobody is saying they can't, but they still have to meet the national standards, which are not really at issue today. They still have to meet the national standards for tailpipe emissions with those vehicles, as it should be because we want to have clean air.

There is nothing in the law that says that other States can't continue to sell gas-powered cars. Even under the California standards, they can still sell hybrid vehicles. There are other options. For a hybrid, most of it is still being powered by gas.

I just think that the Republicans are giving the impression that somehow California is dictating what we do in other States, and that is simply not true.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY of California. Madam Speaker, today, I am presenting a reso-

lution I have sponsored under the Congressional Review Act to reverse California's ban on gas-powered vehicles, to stop a single individual, Gavin Newsom, from dictating what tens of millions of Californians and other Americans are allowed to drive.

Madam Speaker, let me tell you where this ban came from. It was September 23, 2020. California was in the throes of the worst wildfire recorded in our State's history. There was untold suffering. Our heroic firefighters were doing everything they possibly could to get the blaze under control. Governor Newsom came out and announced: Here is what we are going to do. We are going to ban gas-powered cars. Our cars make wildfires worse.

It was an absurd, pathetic attempt to deflect responsibility from his own failures, for an NPR investigation would soon find that Newsom exaggerated the fire prevention work he had done by a staggering 690 percent and had also slashed the fire prevention budget by \$150 million.

□ 1615

Newsom's edict eventually took the form of the regulation that is in front of us today, and on his way out the door, President Biden gave him special authority to effectively impose it on the rest of the country.

Three things about this mandate are undoubtedly true: Number one, it was never voted on, not in Sacramento, not in Washington. Number two, it does have a nationwide impact. Number three, it is not just a problem for the future. The 35 percent mandate goes into effect next year.

Therefore, we must act with urgency to democratically reverse that which was unilaterally imposed. It will be one of the most important things we do in this Congress. It will lower costs and restore common sense. It will restore the paradigm of consumer choice.

Madam Speaker, I like EVs. I happen to drive an EV myself. It works well for where I live and for my lifestyle, but I would never think to use the coercive powers of government to impose my personal preferences as a consumer on everyone else. Americans should be able to drive a car of their choice, not one that is chosen for them by the government.

Finally, with this resolution, we can restore a paradigm of dynamic innovation rather than command and control mandates. It is an odd approach to innovation that says we are going to force innovation by banning any and all available alternatives. I believe in the future of clean energy. I believe that it is upon us now, but that future is being driven by entrepreneurs and innovators, not by vainglorious politicians.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to this resolution passing. I hope it does with bipartisan support, so we can prevent the insanity of California's politics from infecting the rest of the Nation.

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON), my swimming partner.

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.J. Res. 88.

In the final weeks of 2024, the Biden-led EPA approved a waiver allowing California to ban the sale of gas-powered diesel and even hybrid vehicles by 2035, effectively paving the way for the State to set emission standards for the entire Nation.

This resolution overturns this waiver, protecting the right of every American to choose the vehicle that works best for them. For many consumers and entrepreneurs, they see conventional gas-powered cars as reliable, affordable, and able to meet the needs of their families and small businesses. Yet, the Biden administration chose to team up with radical climate activists to support the one-size-fits-all electric vehicle mandate that the market and the American people have clearly rejected.

This legislation is about defending consumer choice. Let's make sure California does not dictate what the rest of America drives.

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FOXX). The gentleman from Virginia has 5½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from New Jersey has 6 minutes remaining.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I will just stress that my Republican colleagues like to wrongfully assert that California standards set the vehicle emission policy for the whole of the United States, and it just demonstrates an inaccurate understanding of the Clean Air Act.

So let me just close by explaining this.

Through section 209 of the Clean Air Act, Congress provided the EPA the ability to grant California Federal preemption waivers to set more protective vehicle emissions standards to address the compelling need to reduce air pollution in that State.

The resolutions at issue today are about one State's Clean Air Act waivers, California, not the entirety of the United States. Other States do have the flexibility to voluntarily adopt California standards in whole or in part, modify the standards to their specific needs, or just not adopt the standards entirely.

As I have mentioned, most of the speakers on the Republican side, their States haven't adopted the standards at all. If your State doesn't want to

follow California, you don't have to. Each State is allowed to decide what works best for them, but today's resolution threatens that choice and is basically an affront to States' rights.

Now, just last week, the American Lung Association issued its annual "State of the Air" report, which shows that nearly half of all Americans breathe unhealthy levels of air pollution. Unhealthy air leads to hospitalization, increased infant and fetal mortality, impaired development in children, and the higher likelihood of illness and cancer, among other detrimental health impacts.

We know that air pollution has serious impacts on the most vulnerable among us, especially pregnant women and children, populations my Republican colleagues claim to care a lot about. If you want women to have more children but can't muster the courage to ensure pregnant women and children have safe air to breathe, what are you talking about?

The bottom line is, we have to do something about the air pollution in this country. If some States like California and mine want to have more strict standards, they should be allowed to do so because they have more air pollution problems. It is that simple. That is why I oppose this resolution and will oppose all three resolutions today.

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I was saying to the team over here that I was getting a little tired of hearing myself speak, and I suspect that my colleague and good friend, the gentleman from New Jersey, is probably getting to that same point, too, because our job is to reiterate the same points over and over because we have three bills of a similar nature.

Notwithstanding the fact that I am tired of hearing myself speak, I will proceed nonetheless.

I will say that States can opt in and out, but they only have the choice of the national standard or the California standard. Why is that?

Madam Speaker, that is because back in 1966, California started moving in this direction. In 1967, Congress passed its first national rules. It recognized that California was already moving in a slightly different direction, and it gave them the ability to have a waiver. Other States could opt in to that, but in 1966, the world was greatly different than it is today.

In fairness, a big part of the air pollution in the Western part of the United States comes because of previous bad rules by the EPA that force so much of American manufacturing to Asia, particularly to China.

China was not a major economic power in 1966. They were going through all kinds of problems, and I don't remember now if they were in the Cultural Revolution or about to start it, but it was about that time.

Today, they are a major manufacturer but they don't have the regulations that we have and they produce a lot of air pollution. According to a NASA study, it takes 10 days for the air to get from the middle of the Gobi Desert to the eastern shore of Virginia, and a lot of that pollution is falling on California.

If we really want to solve California's air pollution problems, we need to bring manufacturing back to the United States where we can do it more efficiently and cleaner than what they are doing currently in China. Further, regulations like this only play into the hands of manufacturing being done in China instead of being done in California or in Michigan or in Virginia or in Kentucky.

Now, the gentleman raised the issue about nobody is talking about clean air. There is your clean air talk, Mr. Ranking Member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, my good friend from New Jersey, because if we really want to clean things up, we will stop regulations like this that make it harder on American businesses.

The gentleman correctly points out that this is only for California and other States can opt in. What happens is, manufacturers respond to California and they respond to a few other States, even though it is not a majority, Madam Speaker; even though it is not a majority of the States or a majority of the population that has opted in to any of these three regulations that we are doing today or intends to. Some States have opted in to the California rule on this one and then opted out, including my State of Virginia.

It becomes a mishmash and very difficult for manufacturers to know what they are supposed to be doing. The regulations that were anticipated—was it a tailpipe emission regulation—were never intended that the regulation by California and other States, perhaps, would be so low as to outlaw gas and diesel vehicles. That is why we need to pass this CRA.

We have the authority in Congress to do so notwithstanding bureaucrats that work for us, not the other way around, and notwithstanding whatever the Senate might say.

If I have additional time, Madam Speaker, you know how I feel about this. We were directed in Jefferson's Manual of Parliamentary Practice and Procedure not to discuss and debate what the Senate was going to do or not going to do. If we wanted a unicameral body, we should have had a unicameral body. We have a bicameral body, and this House must make its own decisions and not worry about what the Senate does or whatever the heck the Senate Parliamentarian may think.

It is the United States House of Representatives, and we should not take a back seat to any institution, particularly the unelected ones here in Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, I ask everyone to vote for this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 354, the previous question is ordered on the joint resolution.

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

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

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

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PROVIDING CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "CALIFORNIA STATE MOTOR VEHICLE AND ENGINE AND NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; THE 'OMNIBUS' LOW NOX REGULATION; WAIVER OF PRE-EMPTION; NOTICE OF DECISION"

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 354, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 89) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The 'Omnibus' Low NO_x Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision", and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 354, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 89

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The 'Omnibus' Low NO_x Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision" (90 Fed. Reg. 643 (January 6, 2025)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The joint resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) and the gentleman from New

Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to include extraneous material on H.J. Res. 89.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of H.J. Res. 89, a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The 'Omnibus' Low NO_x Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision," sponsored by the gentleman from California.

The gentleman from California's resolution would repeal the EPA decision to grant a waiver to the California Air Resources Board rule on heavy-duty engine emissions of nitrogen oxides, or NO_x.

□ 1630

I think it is interesting to point out here because the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) pointed out in the debate on the previous two bills that these rules were approved by a non-elected body in Washington, D.C., for a waiver to a nonelected body in the State of California, so it is interesting that this is a waiver granted not to the legislature even of California but to the California Air Resources Board.

This standard, believe it or not, of the three California regulations we are discussing today, has probably the toughest timeline of compliance.

Now, Madam Speaker, you had to pay close attention because at first I thought my team had made an error. This rule would require a 75 percent NO_x reduction beginning with model year 2024.

Now, you say: Wait, how can that be? This is 2025.

Well, that is a good question, and a lot of people are asking that question, and manufacturers are having to think maybe we have got to do something to be ready for retroactive action.

Now, if we were passing something, I am not sure we could do it retroactive in this nature. Maybe we could. Now we are going to have unelected bureaucrats on top of unelected bureaucrats affecting a regulation passed originally by Congress and authorized by Congress and now a regulation waiving a regulation on another regulation. It doesn't seem right.

Due to the fact that the EPA had not yet granted the waiver when the rule

was made, there was already some uncertainty in the marketplace because of concerns with that retroactive enforcement that I just mentioned.

This rule would require—but, wait. Like the old Ronco commercials: But wait, Madam Speaker, there is more. This rule would require a 90 percent reduction in NO_x from diesel engines beginning with model 2027 engines.

Do you think they are already getting those in production? I think they probably are, Madam Speaker. I think they are already working on it. Now, before it has even become the law of the land through a waiver of a regulation on a regulation, we have a 90 percent reduction in NO_x being required. It would be a 90 percent reduction from current Federal emissions standards in 2027. Did I say that yet? I believe I did.

This California regulation is coming over top of Federal regulators in an effort to truly vilify diesel engines. Some diesel engine manufacturers will have compliance concerns, and already do, and they may end up having to purchase NO_x credits from electric vehicle manufacturers and may have to purchase credits.

Now, that credit is a Federal credit. The emissions credit trading system adds another layer of complexity to the compliance and shows how difficult it can be to marry up the Federal standards with these new California standards. It is essentially allowing some Federal credits to be transferred to the California pool depending on vehicle sales in California. Confusing, convoluted, and hard to follow. You bet it is.

Another burden that manufacturers will have to account for are extended engine warranties and new testing procedures that will inevitably have some costs that will have to be borne by fleet operators who purchased the trucks and by consumers who will have to pay more in freight costs for everyday goods. We have already seen lower truck sales in California and, as expected and previously predicted by one of our earlier speakers, increased purchase prices.

Briefly, I will address the congressional resolution of disapproval process. We have heard a lot today about all this, and I would submit to you that Congress under Article I should deal with repealing regulations, particularly when that regulation has significant impact and is as controversial as this one is.

In the end, it is the House that is covered; the EPA transmitted the California waiver notices of decision on the regulations in February. The notice was published in the Federal Register. The public was allowed to request a hearing and submit materials for the record. It is a rulemaking process on a rule and regulation, no matter what others may choose to call it. Madam Speaker, they can call it whatever they want to. I know what it is, and it is the waiver of a regulation by the Federal Government in order to give power to a

regulation in California. They can call it a notice of decision. They can call it the epizooty if they want to, call it anything they want. We all know what it is. It is a regulation. To paraphrase Shakespeare: A rose by any other name still smells the same.

Accordingly, I would submit to you that we have jurisdiction. I would submit, further, Madam Speaker, that while CRAs can't be reviewed by the courts, when this passes—and I think it will, notwithstanding outside objectors—CRAs technically can't be reviewed by the courts.

It will be interesting to see when it gets to the Supreme Court because I believe the Supreme Court will agree with me: Regulators can call it whatever they want to, but when you are waiving regulations and allowing other regulations to take their place, that is subject to the Congressional Review Act and this process we are doing today.

I urge all Members to join me in voting in favor of the resolution of disapproval sponsored by the gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE), H.J. Res. 89. Even if you are not 100 percent in agreement, you ought to do it so that we can preserve the power of Congress because if not, we should dissolve and let California run everything, or perhaps my colleagues would like us to dissolve and make all decisions the subject of the Government Accountability Office instead of the elected Members of the United States Congress. I ask everyone to vote "yes" on H.J. Res. 89.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res. 89, yet another extremist, and I believe illegal, Congressional Review Act resolution attacking a commonsense regulation to protect Americans' health and the environment.

Now, H.J. Res. 89 would block the California waiver for the heavy-duty omnibus rule that sets stronger standards to lower nitrogen oxide and particulate matter emissions from heavy-duty engines. The trucking industry makes up just 10 percent of vehicles on the road, but 45 percent of nitrogen oxide and 56 percent of particulate matter pollution.

Nitrogen oxide is a precursor for smog that can exacerbate numerous health conditions and is associated with premature death. People who live near ports, highways, and warehouses are disproportionately exposed to high concentrations of this pollution.

Now, the California standard aims to address this pollution and reverse course on these deadly trends. This is based on California's unique circumstances. They have an air pollution problem that is a lot worse than many of the other States.

Despite Republicans' false claims, the California program does not ban internal combustion engine trucks. Maintaining the California program is critical to improve public health outcomes and secure the right to clean air for everyone. Repealing California's Federal preemption waiver for its heavy-duty omnibus plan will rob Americans of over \$23 billion of health benefits through 2050 and increase premature mortality, hospitalizations, and emergency room visits.

This resolution is a waste of our time because, as I have said on the other two, both the GAO and the Senate Parliamentarian have concluded that this waiver is not a rule and, therefore, cannot be revoked using the Congressional Review Act. It is just another attempt by the Republicans to distract from the economic chaos and uncertainty that Trump is creating with our economy.

This resolution is going nowhere, but for all these reasons, Madam Speaker, I oppose the resolution. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

We keep hearing that it is not a rule and it is not a regulation and that kind of stuff. I just ask if it is not a rule, does that mean it is not enforceable, and does that mean it can be repealed by the next administration with a click of the fingers? I don't know the answer to those questions. I just raise them. If it is not official, is it even enforceable? That is the argument that my colleagues would have you believe.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE), my colleague from the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman and my friend for yielding. I rise as the proud sponsor of this bill, H.J. Res. 89, but also as a proud Californian.

This bill would overturn the EPA's waiver granting California the ability to decide for all Californians what cars they drive and what trucks they use to deliver their goods.

This waiver was granted in the waning moments of the Biden administration, and I believe it was shortsighted and misguided.

To be clear, I am not an opponent of electric vehicles, and I consider myself an environmentalist, but I feel strongly that my constituents ought to have the ability to buy for themselves the vehicle that will best meet their needs. For some of them, that is an electric vehicle. For some of my delivery companies, that is an electric truck; but for some, it is not. I believe our country was founded on the principles of freedom and liberty, and that means we are empowered to choose for ourselves about those decisions and not have our government make those decisions for us.

Make no mistake, it is entirely appropriate that we are taking this ac-

tion here today. Article I of the U.S. Constitution gives this body, the United States Congress, the ability to regulate interstate commerce. As everyone knows, these vehicles, cars and trucks, are not just manufactured for one State, the State of California, they are manufactured for a worldwide audience. It is very much interstate commerce that is at stake here.

Also, let's be clear about this: If it were more efficient or less expensive to deliver using zero-emissions trucks, these companies would already be doing it, but the truth is it absolutely is not. It is more expensive. By forcing this choice on California consumers, we will also be forcing on them all of the concomitant increases in the prices of the goods that they buy every day.

Let me remind you, California already has the worst poverty of any State in the country. Madam Speaker, this waiver would have made it even worse. That is why I think it is entirely appropriate for us to be considering this action today.

Also consider how nonsensical it is for us to run a system of interstate commerce where trucks deliver goods from State to State to State. If we were to allow every single State in the country to establish its own emission standards for those trucks, every one of these goods would have to stop at every single State line and be transshipped from one truck to another truck. Madam Speaker, that is ridiculous, costly, inefficient, and unnecessary.

I believe this body is entirely appropriate in taking this action today, and I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this resolution, H.J. Res. 89, and the other Congressional Review Act actions we are taking today.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO), the ranking member of our Environment Subcommittee.

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding. I rise in opposition to this Congressional Review Act resolution. We have already heard so much debate about why the Congressional Review Act is not applicable to these waivers and why this is such an egregious attack on States' rights, so I won't belabor those points.

I will say that California developed this rule, the heavy-duty omnibus rule, to reduce pollution from some of the worst sources of traditional air pollution from the transportation sector.

This rule does not include a sales requirement for zero-emission trucks, but it would result in diesel vehicles reducing their output of harmful NO_x and particulate matter.

Despite these trucks and buses being only a small fraction of vehicles on the road, they account for some 45 percent of NO_x and 56 percent of fine particulate matter pollution from the transportation sector.

We know that heavy-duty vehicles have a long lifespan. Vehicles sold

today will still be on the roads for many, many years. Ensuring that new trucks and buses are as low-polluting as possible not only reduces pollution today, but will continue to contribute to cleaning up our air for decades to follow.

I know this decision to regulate was not made lightly. The California Air Resources Board spent significant time working with truck and engine manufacturers to allow for compliance flexibilities and alignment with EPA's NO_x standards, but, ultimately, California's decision to pursue this rule was done for the sake of their residents, residents that live along highways and ports and who experience a disproportionate amount of pollution from truck traffic.

□ 1645

Madam Speaker, anyone who has spent time in neighborhoods that border these industrial sites, as I have in the south end of Albany that I represent, knows that these additional public health protections are not only warranted but they are indeed necessary.

I am glad that California is leading the way in reducing diesel truck pollution, and we should not stop them from wanting to better protect these fenceline communities.

Of course, no other State is required to adopt the California rule. Like so many other vehicle innovations, I suspect that many of our constituents, whether our States adopt the rule or not, will thank California for supporting the development of new pollution control technologies that will result in all of us benefiting from cleaner and healthier air.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members to reject this resolution.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MATSUI), the ranking member of our Communications and Technology Subcommittee.

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in opposition to H.J. Res. 89, which would nullify California's Low NO_x rule. My Republican colleagues will talk about the supposed EV mandate and how California is forcing the rest of the country to drive EVs. This is obviously ridiculous. California's regulations are for California. We aren't forcing anyone else to do anything.

It is especially ridiculous to call California's Low NO_x rule an EV mandate. The Low NO_x rule for heavy-duty trucks does not mandate zero-emission vehicles. It is specifically and narrowly targeted to reduce NO_x production which is a primary ingredient in forming smog.

Anyone who grew up in California knows the health impacts of smog. Thick clouds used to hang over our city, burning our eyes and lungs. We have come a long way since then,

thanks to our State's strong pollution regulations.

California cities still take 5 of the top 10 spots for the worst smog pollution. Smog increases the incidence of asthma and other respiratory conditions, especially among children and the elderly. It is linked to a host of other metabolic, cardiovascular, and developmental impacts.

These impacts add up. Reducing smog-forming NO_x is expected to have health benefits for California, saving approximately \$36.8 billion in avoided health costs. That is not just dollars and cents. That is thousands of lives that will be saved if this regulation goes into effect.

California has long been a global leader in the fight against air pollution, recognizing early on the serious health risks posed by dirty air. For 50 years, we have worked hard to protect our communities through strong, forward-thinking air pollution regulations.

After establishing the first tailpipe emission standards in 1966, California established the first NO_x standards in 1971, followed by the first particulate matter standards in 1982. California was also the first State to outfit vehicles with catalytic converters, a decision that transformed efforts to reduce harmful smog-forming emissions from vehicles.

The country has benefited greatly from California's leadership, not because California forced the rest of the country to follow suit but rather because the country saw the health benefits that California has enjoyed.

None of this would have been possible without California's leadership and California's authority under the Clean Air Act to set our own air pollution standards.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for clean air and vote "no" on H.J. Res. 89.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. MULLIN), also a member of our committee.

Mr. MULLIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Republicans' dangerous attempt to revoke California's ability to protect public health and reduce toxic vehicle emissions.

The Clean Air Act is clear. California has the fundamental right to adopt vehicle emission standards that support our communities' unique needs better than Federal standards.

This isn't new. It has been the law for more than 50 years, and the Clean Air Act has been upheld by every administration, Republican and Democrat. Republicans are making an extremist attack on this precedent, and it is utterly hypocritical for them to call for States' rights when it suits them.

I spent 10 years in the California Legislature, and I know firsthand how critical it is for our States to meet the needs of our local communities whose

health and safety are at risk due to pollution.

The consequences of this are real. Toxic air pollution causes asthma, heart disease, and contributes to over 100,000 deaths in America every year. We have a moral duty to protect our residents from unnecessary toxic air pollution and environmental harm.

Let's be clear. This attack comes as Republicans are trying to gut Medicaid. While they are stripping healthcare from millions of Americans, at the same time they are attacking our ability to protect public health. It makes no sense.

It also makes no sense to create chaos for automakers that already agreed to meet these standards with investments in domestic EV production and manufacturing that created over 200,000 new jobs and nearly \$200 billion in private investment.

If they really cared about reducing costs for American families, Republicans would focus on reversing Trump's reckless tariffs that are increasing car prices by up to \$15,000.

This is a hyperpartisan, political stunt that wastes everyone's time. The Government Accountability Office has explicitly said that Congress cannot use this process to overturn California's waivers with the EPA, and we should not pretend otherwise.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this effort. Let's stand up for clean air, State rights, and for the health of the American people.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, my Republican colleagues are really misleading the American people with their claims about the Heavy-Duty Low NO_x Omnibus rule. This rule actually gives California and other States the ability to clean up pollution from dirty diesel trucks, protecting the health of Americans and saving lives.

Heavy-duty engines emit harmful NO_x and other toxic pollutants that are significant contributors to ozone and particulate matter. The health effects of this air pollution are well-documented and include respiratory illness, cardiovascular problems, and even death.

Madam Speaker, the Clean Air Task Force recently issued a report showing the impacts of dirty diesel on communities. The figures are staggering, and here are just a few highlights.

In 2026, dirty diesel is projected to cause nearly 500,000 lost workdays, impacting our Nation's productivity; over 3,500 heart attacks; thousands of cases of respiratory illness; and, yes, over 8,000 deaths. Dirty diesel will cost Americans over \$90 billion in health damages. Republicans are fighting for resolutions that are hurting people's health and putting lives at risk.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, this is the third of three regulations in the same vein. We have heard today about the process. We have heard today about the fact that California and those who opt in are still a minority of the States and a minority of the U.S. population. Yet, they are dictating in many ways to the rest of the country because of the oversized import of the California economy, et cetera.

The bottom line is that my colleagues have said in the last few minutes that this is somehow a States' rights issues. This is not a States' rights issue. This is the creation of a superstate: California. We have the right to override the waiver granted to them that gives them outsized weight in relationship to vehicles. In this case, it is the diesel vehicles. It is the trucks.

That being said, no one State should have this much power. The waiver should not have been granted in the first place. It is a waiver of a regulation, which makes it a regulation in effect, no matter what it is called. It is a waiver of a regulation.

Therefore, it is something that the Federal Government should be dictating, as you heard my colleague from California say. It should not be granting so many waivers. We heard one of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle say that—I forget the number of years it had been, and I am paraphrasing—California had ratcheted up these regulations on various things over 100 times using various waivers.

This was created in 1967. California started down this path in '66. Congress recognized that in '67. The world is greatly different than it was in 1967. We shouldn't be allowing California to constantly ratchet up and then dictate to the rest of the States.

I was just a kid back in 1967, but I was alive. The world was vastly different even inside the United States. At that time one State doing something didn't have the impact or the ripple effect that it has today across the country.

I think we ought to vote "yes" on this resolution. I strongly encourage all my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.J. Res. 89. I think it is the right policy for all the reasons stated throughout this entire day.

Madam Speaker, I would say to you that if we don't want to see an increase in the price of trucks, the price of maintenance on trucks, the price of those trucks then carrying goods to market all over these United States, if we do not want to see that happen, we need to pass H.J. Res. 89 and stop this inappropriate waiver by the Biden administration's EPA.

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

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 354, the previous question is ordered on the joint resolution.

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

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

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

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1715

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MORAN) at 5 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Passage of H.J. Res. 87 and

Passage of H.J. Res. 89.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

PROVIDING CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "CALIFORNIA STATE MOTOR VEHICLE AND ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE AND ENGINE EMISSION WARRANTY AND MAINTENANCE PROVISIONS; ADVANCED CLEAN TRUCKS; ZERO EMISSION AIRPORT SHUTTLE; ZERO-EMISSION POWER TRAIN CERTIFICATION; WAIVER OF PREEMPTION; NOTICE OF DECISION"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 87) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code,

of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emission Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Emission Airport Shuttle; Zero-Emission Power Train Certification; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision", on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 231, nays 191, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 111]

YEAS—231

Aderholt	Fulcher	McCaull
Alford	Garbarino	McClain
Allen	Gill (TX)	McClain Delaney
Amodei (NV)	Gillen	McClintock
Arrington	Gimenez	McCormick
Babin	Golden (ME)	McDonald Rivet
Bacon	Goldman (TX)	McDowell
Baird	Gonzales, Tony	McGuire
Balderson	Gonzalez, V.	Messmer
Barr	Gooden	Meuser
Barrett	Gosar	Miller (IL)
Baumgartner	Graves	Miller (OH)
Bean (FL)	Green (TN)	Miller (WV)
Begich	Greene (GA)	Miller-Meeks
Bentz	Griffith	Mills
Bergman	Grothman	Moolenaar
Bice	Guest	Moore (AL)
Biggs (AZ)	Guthrie	Moore (NC)
Biggs (SC)	Hageman	Moore (UT)
Bilirakis	Hamadeh (AZ)	Moore (WV)
Bishop	Haridopolos	Moran
Boebert	Harrigan	Murphy
Bost	Harris (MD)	Nehls
Brecheen	Harris (NC)	Newhouse
Bresnahan	Harshbarger	Norman
Buchanan	Hern (OK)	Nunn (IA)
Burchett	Higgins (LA)	Obornolte
Burlison	Hill (AR)	Ogles
Calvert	Hinson	Onder
Cammack	Houchin	Owens
Carey	Hudson	Palmer
Carter (GA)	Huizenga	Patronis
Carter (TX)	Hunt	Perez
Ciscomani	Hurd (CO)	Perry
Cline	Issa	Pfluger
Cloud	Jack	Reschenthaler
Clyde	Jackson (TX)	Rogers (AL)
Cole	James	Rogers (KY)
Collins	Johnson (LA)	Rose
Comer	Johnson (SD)	Rouzer
Crane	Jordan	Roy
Crank	Joyce (OH)	Rulli
Crawford	Joyce (PA)	Rutherford
Crenshaw	Kean	Salazar
Cuellar	Kelly (MS)	Scalise
Davidson	Kelly (PA)	Schmidt
Davis (NC)	Kennedy (UT)	Scholten
De La Cruz	Kiggans (VA)	Schweikert
DesJarlais	Kiley (CA)	Scott, Austin
Diaz-Balart	Kim	Self
Donalds	Knott	Sessions
Downing	Kustoff	Shreve
Dunn (FL)	LaHood	Simpson
Edwards	LaLota	Smith (MO)
Ellzey	LaMalfa	Smith (NE)
Emmer	Langworthy	Smith (NJ)
Estes	Latta	Smucker
Evans (CO)	Lawler	Spartz
Ezell	Lee (FL)	Stauber
Fallon	Lee (NV)	Stefanik
Fedorchak	Letlow	Steil
Feenstra	Loudermilk	Steube
Fine	Lucas	Strong
Finstad	Luna	Stutzman
Fischbach	Luttrell	Suozzi
Fitzgerald	Mace	Taylor
Fleischmann	Mackenzie	Tenney
Flood	Malliotakis	Thompson (PA)
Fong	Maloy	Tiffany
Fox	Mann	Timmons
Franklin, Scott	Massie	Turner (OH)
Fry	Mast	Valadao

Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Vasquez
Wagner

Walberg
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)

Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—191

Adams	Garcia (IL)	Omar
Aguilar	Garcia (TX)	Pallone
Amo	Goldman (NY)	Panetta
Ansari	Gomez	Pappas
Auchincloss	Goodlander	Pelosi
Balint	Gray	Peters
Barragan	Green, Al (TX)	Pettersen
Beatty	Harder (CA)	Pingree
Bell	Hayes	Pocan
Bera	Himes	Pou
Beyer	Horsford	Pressley
Bonamici	Houlihan	Quigley
Boyle (PA)	Hoyer	Ramirez
Brown	Hoyle (OR)	Randall
Brownley	Huffman	Raskin
Budzinski	Ivey	Riley (NY)
Bynum	Jackson (IL)	Rivas
Carbajal	Jacobs	Ross
Carson	Jayapal	Ruiz
Carter (LA)	Jeffries	Ryan
Casas	Johnson (GA)	Salinas
Case	Johnson (TX)	Sanchez
Castor (FL)	Kamlager-Dove	Scanlon
Castro (TX)	Kaptur	Schakowsky
Cherfilus-	Keating	Schneider
McCormick	Kelly (IL)	Schrier
Chu	Kennedy (NY)	Scott (VA)
Cisneros	Khanna	Scott, David
Clark (MA)	Krishnamoorthi	Sewell
Clarke (NY)	Landman	Sherman
Cleaver	Larsen (WA)	Sherrill
Clyburn	Larson (CT)	Simon
Conaway	Latimer	Smith (WA)
Correa	Lee (PA)	Sorensen
Costa	Leger Fernandez	Soto
Courtney	Levin	Stansbury
Craig	Liccardo	Stanton
Crockett	Lieu	Stevens
Crow	Lofgren	Strickland
Davids (KS)	Lynch	Subramanyam
Davis (IL)	Magaziner	Swalwell
Dean (PA)	Mannion	Sykes
DeGette	Matsui	Takano
DeLauro	McBath	Thanedar
DelBene	McBride	Thompson (CA)
Deluzio	McClellan	Thompson (MS)
DeSaulnier	McCollum	Titus
Dexter	McGarvey	Tlaib
Dingell	McIver	Tokuda
Doggett	Menendez	Tonko
Elfreh	Meng	Torres (CA)
Escobar	Mfume	Torres (NY)
Espallat	Min	Trahan
Evans (PA)	Moore (WI)	Tran
Fields	Morrison	Underwood
Fitzpatrick	Moskowitz	Vargas
Fletcher	Moulton	Veasey
Foster	Mrvan	Velazquez
Foushee	Mullin	Vindman
Frankel, Lois	Nadler	Waters
Friedman	Neal	Watson Coleman
Frost	Neguse	Whitesides
Garamendi	Ocasio-Cortez	Williams (GA)
Garcia (CA)	Olshewski	Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—11

Casten	Gottheimer	Norcross
Cohen	McGovern	Wasserman
Connolly	Meeks	Schultz
Figures	Morelle	Weber (TX)

□ 1740

Messrs. AUCHINCLOSS, FIELDS, TORRES of New York, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Messrs. HORSFORD and VEASEY changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY changed her vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "CALIFORNIA STATE MOTOR VEHICLE AND ENGINE AND NONROAD ENGINE POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; THE 'OMNIBUS' LOW NO_x REGULATION; WAIVER OF PRE-EMPTION; NOTICE OF DECISION"

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. YAKYM). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 89) providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The 'Omnibus' Low NO_x Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision", on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 225, nays 196, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 112]

YEAS—225

Aderholt	Dunn (FL)	Hunt
Alford	Edwards	Hurd (CO)
Allen	Ellzey	Issa
Amodei (NV)	Emmer	Jack
Arrington	Estes	Jackson (TX)
Babin	Evans (CO)	James
Bacon	Ezell	Johnson (LA)
Baird	Fallon	Johnson (SD)
Balderson	Fedorchak	Jordan
Barr	Feenstra	Joyce (OH)
Barrett	Fine	Joyce (PA)
Baumgartner	Finstad	Kean
Bean (FL)	Fischbach	Kelly (MS)
Begich	Fitzgerald	Kelly (PA)
Bentz	Fleischmann	Kennedy (UT)
Bergman	Flood	Kiggans (VA)
Bice	Fong	Kiley (CA)
Biggs (AZ)	Fox	Kim
Biggs (SC)	Franklin, Scott	Knott
Bilirakis	Fry	Kustoff
Bishop	Fulcher	LaHood
Boebert	Garbarino	LaLota
Bost	Gill (TX)	LaMalfa
Brecheen	Jimenez	Langworthy
Bresnahan	Golden (ME)	Latta
Buchanan	Goldman (TX)	Lawler
Burchett	Gonzales, Tony	Lee (FL)
Burlison	Gonzalez, V.	Lee (NV)
Calvert	Gooden	Letlow
Cammack	Gosar	Loudermilk
Carey	Graves	Lucas
Carter (GA)	Green (TN)	Luna
Carter (TX)	Greene (GA)	Luttrell
Ciscomani	Griffith	Mace
Cline	Grothman	Mackenzie
Cloud	Guest	Maloy
Clyde	Guthrie	Mann
Cole	Hageman	Massie
Comer	Hamadeh (AZ)	Mast
Crane	Haridopolos	McCauley
Crank	Harrigan	McClain
Crawford	Harris (MD)	McClintock
Crenshaw	Harris (NC)	McCormick
Cuellar	Harshbarger	McDonald Rivet
Davidson	Hern (OK)	McDowell
Davis (NC)	Higgins (LA)	McGuire
De La Cruz	Hill (AR)	Messmer
DesJarlais	Hinson	Meuser
Diaz-Balart	Houchin	Miller (IL)
Donalds	Hudson	Miller (OH)
Downing	Huizenga	Miller (WV)

Miller-Meeks
Mills
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (NC)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WV)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Onder
Owens
Palmer
Patronis
Perez
Perry
Pfluger
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)

Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Roy
Rulli
Rutherford
Salazar
Scalise
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Shreve
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube

Strong
Stutzman
Taylor
Tenney
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner (OH)
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dwyne
Van Orden
Vasquez
Veasey
Wagner
Walberg
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Wied
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—196

Adams
Aguilar
Amo
Ansari
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bell
Bera
Beyer
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bynum
Carbajal
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Conaway
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dexter
Dingell
Doggett
Elfreh
Escobar
Españat
Evans (PA)
Fields
Figures
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Friedman
Frost
Garamendi
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)

NOT VOTING—12

Casten
Cohen
Collins
Connolly
Gottheimer

Malliotakis
McGovern
Norcross
Peters
Thompson (PA)

Olszewski
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Pettersen
Pingree
Pocan
Pou
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Randall
Raskin
Riley (NY)
Rivas
Ross
Ruiz
Ryan
Salinas
Sánchez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simon
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Subramanyam
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Tran
Underwood
Vargas
Velazquez
Vindman
Waters
Watson Coleman
Whitesides
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

□ 1749

So the joint resolution was passed.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call vote nos. 111 and 112 because I attended my daughter's senior awards night ceremony. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 111, H.J. Res. 87, and Nay on Roll Call No. 112, H.J. Res. 89.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be physically present for votes today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 111 and NAY on Roll Call No. 112.

HOURLY MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 353

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I hereby remove my name as a cosponsor of H. Res. 353.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FINE). The gentlewoman's request is granted.

RETIREMENT OF CHIEF BRYAN GILLIARD

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

Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, whether they wear scrubs, a firefighter's helmet, or a badge, every town in America has real-life heroes, familiar faces who serve their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true hometown hero, Chief Bryan Gilliard of North Carolina's Monroe Police Department.

For 32 years, Chief Gilliard has dedicated his life to public safety, including the last 11 years leading Monroe's police force.

Born and raised in Union County, Chief Gilliard has given his entire career back to the community, and Monroe is a better place for it. He has truly exemplified the best of what it means to wear the badge.

Today, on his final day, as he enters into retirement, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief Gilliard for his three decades of service.

CELEBRATING RESILIENCE OF VIETNAMESE PEOPLE

(Mr. TRAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

Wasserman
Schultz
Weber (TX)

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to mark the most solemn day of the year for the people of the Vietnamese diaspora.

Black April, Thang Tu Den, is not just a solemn day in history. It is a reminder of the day we lost everything—our homes, our livelihood, and our beloved country.

I am honored and humbled by the trust the Little Saigon community has placed in me as the first Vietnamese-American Congressman to represent the largest Vietnamese diaspora in the world. It is a privilege to share the story of my family and community with my colleagues in Congress and ensure that our history is never forgotten.

This is a painful day, a day for reflection, remembrance, and mourning.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in not only remembering the hardships we faced but also in celebrating the incredible resilience of the Vietnamese people.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF RICHARD GERMOND

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of longtime Lenawee County Sheriff Richard Germond, who sadly passed away Wednesday morning at 90 years of age.

Sheriff Germond joined the department when he was 21 years old and ultimately served as Lenawee County Sheriff for 36 years, making him Michigan's longest serving sheriff. He also was a member of the Lenawee Intermediate School District Board of Education for 25 years, supporting students in our community.

Sheriff Germond is a hero in every sense of the word and will be remembered as a model sheriff and a leader to many.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Germond was a prominent member of the Lenawee community, and we honor him for his service and commitment to keeping us all safe. He will be sorely missed, and his impact on our community will be felt for generations to come.

TRUMP'S 100 DAYS

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

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, 100 days: irresponsible tariff imposition, confusing businesses, and tanking the stock market; illegal seizure of citizens without judicial process; dramatic cuts to the delivery of Social Security benefits and veteran benefits; abandoning environmental protections for clean air and clean water; destabilizing families, hospitals, and nursing homes with pending Medicaid cuts; and siding with

a ruthless aggressor, Russia, rather than the victim, Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, 100 days: exonerated violent criminal behavior from the January 6 insurrection; unethical efforts to end investigations on allies and donors; firing talented, career-committed professionals and replacing them with blind loyalists; insulting Canada, Mexico, Denmark, and the European Union; disruption of programs; threats to universities, law firms, State and local governments, the Federal workforce, and the media; and threats to elected officials.

The American people gave the MAGA movement a narrow majority 6 months ago, but now they are having second thoughts. There is no golden age ahead, just a recession. Contrast this with Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who, in 100 days, saved America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF OFFICER SAM LIVELY

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, on April 26, after a tragic off-duty accident, the east Texas law enforcement community lost one of its young, rising stars, Tyler Police Officer Sam Lively.

I rise today to honor Officer Lively, to mourn alongside his family, and to pray for peace and comfort for all who knew him during his 25 years of life.

Officer Lively embodied the very best of east Texas, dedicating his life to serving others and protecting the community he loved as a member of the Tyler Police Department since 2023. His service was underscored by courage, compassion, and commitment.

Those who knew him speak of his infectious smile, his natural leadership, and his dogged determination.

They also note that despite the departure of his physical presence from this Earth, they know he now resides in his eternal heavenly home because of his faith in Jesus Christ. Sam understood that our hope is not in this world. Instead, he knew with certainty that our hope is only in Jesus.

Today, although we mourn his untimely loss, we celebrate his impactful life.

Sam Lively will be missed but not forgotten. May he rest in peace, and may God be with his family and the law enforcement community.

□ 1800

MEET RESIDENTS WHERE THEY ARE TOUR

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reflect on the Meet Residents Where They Are Tour my team and I conducted during the past district work period, a meaningful

journey, crisscrossing North Carolina's First Congressional District.

We connected with people who make eastern North Carolina special from classrooms to farms. At the 60th annual Haliwa-Saponi Blooming of the Dogwood Powwow, I was proud to present my bill in support of Federal recognition.

We visited schools, read to children, engaged with food bank volunteers and farmers. We spent time at the Tar River Boys and Girls Club in Rocky Mount, celebrated Barton College and Wilson Community College, and met with quilters in Warren County, as well as disaster survivors in Perquimans County. We also visited key businesses driving our economy, the United States Coast Guard in Elizabeth City, and ECSU.

Mr. Speaker, it was a remarkable experience and a powerful reminder of why we are able to serve.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ROBERT STEWART CUTLER

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Lieutenant Commander Robert Stewart Cutler, who passed away peacefully on April 16, 2025, at the age of 97, in Savannah, Georgia.

Born in Braintree, Massachusetts, on April 14, 1928, Lieutenant Commander Cutler answered the call to serve his country by enlisting in the United States Coast Guard at 17 years old.

During his distinguished 27-year military career, he rose from an enlisted man to an officer, culminating in his roles as Commander of the Coast Guard Group in Savannah and Captain of the Port.

Even after retirement, his commitment to public service continued.

He dedicated an additional 29 years to the Coast Guard Auxiliary, promoting maritime safety and community outreach.

Outside of his formal duties, Lieutenant Commander Cutler was actively engaged in various veterans organizations, tirelessly advocating for the welfare of those who served.

He shared 54 cherished years of marriage with his late wife, Dorothy, building a loving family that continues their legacy of kindness. His life was marked by steadfast service to his country, community, and family.

Mr. Speaker, may Lieutenant Commander Cutler's memory bring comfort to those who knew him.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF SAIGON AND BLACK APRIL

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

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I join my colleagues in commemorating a somber moment, the 50th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon and Black April.

Today is a moment to recognize and reflect on the courage of the Vietnamese people and their fight against a Communist dictatorship.

As a refugee whose family fled Soviet Ukraine with under 800 bucks, I connect deeply with that experience.

My family came to America in search of an opportunity to succeed, to achieve the American Dream. We worked hard, we served our country in the military, and now I serve my constituents in Congress. I will fight to keep the American Dream alive for anyone who wants to work for it.

Mr. Speaker, today, my thoughts are with my Vietnamese neighbors commemorating Black April.

As a 25-year Army veteran, I reaffirm my commitment to upholding the ideals that the Vietnamese refugee community risked everything to find: liberty, freedom, and opportunity.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF DEPUTY BRANDON SIKES AND PRAYING FOR SWIFT RECOVERY FOR DEPUTY GAVIN WHITE

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart this evening. On Saturday, April 26, Columbia County in my district experienced an unimaginable tragedy as one of our beloved law enforcement officers, Deputy Brandon Sikes, lost his life and Deputy Gavin White was severely injured while serving a temporary protective order.

This heartbreaking event serves as a profound reminder of their commitment to selfless service. As they often do, these officers choose to prioritize the safety of others above themselves, even in a life-threatening situation.

While our community grieves this tragic loss, I am reminded of John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in praying for Deputy Sikes' wife, Amber, their daughter, Lyndsey, and all of Brandon's loved ones as they continue to mourn this fallen hero.

Please also join me in praying for a swift recovery for Deputy White, as well as Sheriff Whittle and the entire Columbia County Sheriff's Department.

May God's grace be with our entire community as we continue to heal from this tragedy.

IMMIGRANTS ARE BEING TREATED WITHOUT BASIC DIGNITY AND BEING DENIED MEDICAL CARE

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

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, this administration's deportation process has been sloppy and reckless since day one. No due process and no transparency, just families being illegally ripped apart and left to fend for themselves.

In severe instances, innocent people have actually died, like Marie Blaise. She was a 44-year-old Haitian woman who was in ICE custody in Pompano Beach. Marie had been complaining about chest pain for hours. They gave her some pills and told her to go lie down. Unfortunately, Marie never woke up.

Her loved ones deserve answers. They deserve accountability, like so many immigrant families who have their loved ones missing and who are hurt. These conditions at the ICE facilities are inhumane and unsanitary.

Immigrants are being treated without basic dignity and being denied medical care. I am calling for a full and transparent investigation into Marie's death, and I will be visiting the Broward Transitional Center very shortly. It is this neglect and cruelty that is really hurting our American families who are being deported even at this moment.

Mr. Speaker, we must have transparency. We must have justice.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JACK EDWARD ERICKSON

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Jack Edward Erickson, a beloved leader of our Newtown, Pennsylvania, community, and someone whose absence will be deeply felt.

For 96 extraordinary years, Jack Erickson lived a life of purpose and principle, defined by devotion to his family, service to country, and a deep commitment to his community.

A veteran of the United States Army, nationally recognized photographer, successful businessman, and a champion golfer, Jack excelled in literally every single role because he gave each one of them his full heart and his full measure of devotion, but it is how he gave back that truly defined Jack.

He dedicated decades of his life to his local Rotary club in Bucks County, proudly serving twice as president. He led the Pennsbury Scholarship Foundation with purpose and spent 31 years on the Upper Makefield HARB Board, helping shape and preserve our community's rich history.

Mr. Speaker, Jack had a way of lifting others up just by being himself. Whether supporting our students, mentoring our young leaders, or simply showing up for his friends and neighbors, he led with quiet strength and genuine care.

Mr. Speaker, we extend our deepest condolences to his children, his grand-

children, his great-grandchildren, and his loving partner, Mary Ann, and all who loved him.

Jack was a constant, someone who made our community stronger just by being a part of it. His legacy will live on in the lives he touched and the example he set.

Mr. Speaker, may his memory be a blessing and may he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY BRAVERY OF TEFAYE DEYASSO

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

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize the extraordinary bravery of Tesfaye Deyasso, who was named the 2025 National Hero of the Year by the National Association of Letter Carriers.

On April 18, 2024, Mr. Deyasso witnessed a car drive off the highway and crash into a barrier, erupting into flames. Without hesitation, he rushed to the scene. Joined by a group of Good Samaritans, Mr. Deyasso worked tirelessly to pry the car door open, fighting against intense heat and smoke from the burning car to save the driver trapped inside.

Mr. Deyasso has been a proud member of the Minneapolis Branch 9 of the National Association of Letter Carriers for over 4 years. His heroism is a testament to the strength and compassion found in our community. I am proud to have Mr. Deyasso as a constituent, and I am honored to commend his bravery.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Tesfaye Deyasso on his remarkable and well-earned honor.

REPUBLICANS ARE PROTECTING AND PRESERVING MEDICAID FOR THE TRULY NEEDY

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

Mr. HARRIS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, you just heard right here on the floor that those mean Republicans are cutting Medicaid.

Let's set the record straight. As this graph shows, the Republican instructions don't cut Medicaid, they increase Medicaid by 25 percent over the next 10 years.

Even with common core math—I know it is popular on that side of the aisle—you can see that Medicaid expenditures of the Federal Government go up over the next 10 years with the Republican plan, even after eliminating fraud, waste, and abuse, which a clear majority of Americans agree we should eliminate across the Federal Government. We spend \$656 billion in fiscal year 2025 and, again, it goes up by 25 percent over the next 10 years. It is not only that, but Medicaid payments in some States' providers could

be two to three times the payment for Medicare to healthy, able-bodied young adults. That should scare each and every senior that we are spending more for medical care for healthy, able-bodied young adults than for our seniors. If you repeat a lie long enough, it becomes a truth, but this is a fact.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans are protecting and preserving Medicaid for the truly needy.

REOPENING OF SCOTLAND AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

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

Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a powerful moment of resilience and healing, the opening of Scotland African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church.

Scotland AME Church has been a beacon of faith, hope, and history for the predominantly African-American Scotland community in Montgomery County for over 100 years. Sadly in 2019, the community was devastated as floods literally wiped the church off the map.

Scotland refused to abandon their work and their legacy. After more than 5 years of hard work, and thanks to an extraordinary showing of support from the local community, I was honored this morning to join this Scotland congregation as they reopened the newly rebuilt church.

Mr. Speaker, local leaders and officials from across Maryland came to participate in the celebration because AME truly represents a story of struggle and triumph that defines the community, a perfect antidote of faith, love, hope, and community for our country during these turbulent times.

□ 1815

ISLE OF EIGHT FLAGS SHRIMP FESTIVAL

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

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, according to Bubba from "Forrest Gump," there are 21 ways to prepare shrimp, but there is only one place you can experience all that and more: Fernandina Beach, Florida's Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival. Can you believe, Mr. Speaker, this is the 60th year.

As Fernandina Beach's congressman and former mayor, I love to attend this event, which started out as shrimp boat races, but has grown into a massive festival celebrating delectable crustaceans.

From the thrill of the pirate invasion—arrgh—to the crowning of Miss Shrimp Festival to the irresistible aroma of wild-caught shrimp sizzling

across the waterfront, every corner of this festival reminds us of why we come together to celebrate our heritage as the birthplace of the modern shrimping industry.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to festival, this one is shrimply the best. I invite my colleagues and you, Mr. Speaker, to come shell-e-brate with us. It is always the first weekend in May.

LIVING UP TO THE PROMISE OF AMERICA

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

Mr. LICCARDO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Black April.

As Pulitzer Prize-winning author and one of San Jose's favorite sons, Viet Nguyen, has written: "All wars are fought twice; once on the battlefield and a second time in memory."

On this day, 50 years ago, fathers, mothers, sisters, and brothers looked out across a vast ocean as Saigon was falling behind them. Among them was Helen, my constituent, who watched as her aunt boarded a boat, and days later she would also follow the path of Vietnamese refugees on to San Jose in my district, which proudly boasts the largest population of ethnically Vietnamese people of any city in the world outside of Vietnam.

Helen's journey was filled with horror and hardship, but rooted in hope, hope for a life with freedom and opportunity. We must honor her hope by living up to the promise of America, by fulfilling our democratic values, and by embracing those who come to America from around the world earnestly seeking freedom, as she did.

CONGRATULATING BILL MCINNISH

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill McInnish for his outstanding contributions to education and workforce development at Eau Gallie High School in Melbourne, Florida, where he teaches aviation fabrication and assembly technology.

His 27 years of technology and CTE teaching experience are best defined by his passion and dedication to helping students succeed in the aerospace industry. As a veteran of the Coast Guard, where he performed search and rescue missions, he established the first-ever aviation fabrication and assembly program in an economically disadvantaged high school.

Under his leadership, this program became the first in the Nation to award high school students with the National Aerospace/Aircraft Assembly certification.

It is with great pride that I recognize his exceptional achievements in build-

ing the local talent pipeline, with graduates securing positions at companies like SpaceX, Blue Origin, United Launch Alliance, and others.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Bill for his incredible contribution to our district.

EMPTY SHELVES AT FOOD BANKS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening on behalf of the people I am privileged to represent in northwest Ohio: workers, family, farmers, and urban and rural communities where neighbors try to look out for one another.

However, too many families are struggling to put food on the table. They are being priced out of their own grocery store. Food prices have shot up—meat, milk, bread, eggs—basics that every family depends on. Households are getting buried under the weight of their grocery bill.

Now, to make matters worse, the Trump administration has unilaterally paused Federal food assistance and canceled shipments to food banks. We are feeling it. By withholding food and funds, the new administration has turned its back on the American people.

They feel the rising prices, and they feel the harm. Food banks in Ohio and across our Nation are seeing shelves go bare, school meal programs, senior nutrition, and food pantry lifelines short. The boxes going out to seniors don't have protein.

When Federal food dollars are cut off, it doesn't just hurt the hungry, it hurts the producers. Congress must restore these funds to feed our people, support the farmers, producers, and growers who make and grow what makes and grows America.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP 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 National Apprenticeship Day and highlight the vital role apprenticeships play in shaping our workforce and expanding opportunity.

For thousands of years, apprenticeships have helped people learn valuable skills and secure meaningful careers, from blacksmiths of the past to today's electricians, software developers, and healthcare technicians.

Today, too many good-paying jobs go unfilled because workers lack the proper training. Apprenticeships help close that gap by combining classroom instruction with hands-on experience while participants earn a paycheck. They offer a debt-free, practical alternative to college that leads directly to stable, in-demand careers.

As co-chair of the Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus, I have long championed career-focused pathways that connect Americans to opportunity. Apprenticeships are among the best tools to prepare people of all ages and backgrounds for success.

With greater Federal support and public-private partnerships, we can expand access and modernize our apprenticeship system. I commend President Trump's commitment to this goal, including his executive order aiming for 1 million new apprenticeships.

Mr. Speaker, let us celebrate National Apprenticeship Day and ensure that the future is brighter for all those who are climbing the ladder of opportunity and that every American knows that there is more than one path to success in the future.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF AGENT ORANGE

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

Ms. TLAIIB. Mr. Speaker, Agent Orange exposure continues to negatively impact the lives of our veterans, Vietnamese people, Vietnamese Americans, and their children.

As we mark 50 years after the United States' withdrawal from Vietnam, it is time to meet our moral and legal obligations to heal the wounds inflicted by these atrocities. That is why I am proud to introduce the Victims of Agent Orange Act and the Agent Orange Relief Act, because we know that the devastating harms that our country committed in Vietnam did not end in 1975.

The U.S. exposed millions of people in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos to deadly toxins like Agent Orange which to this day causes birth defects and deadly disease, as well as premature death, Mr. Speaker.

For there to be any justice for the war crimes committed in Vietnam, the United States, our country, must devote itself to repair by cleaning these ongoing Agent Orange contamination sites, investing in medical care for those impacted, and removing unexploded ordnance. Our country must never again commit these acts of violence anywhere.

I ask my colleagues to please support this legislative package to bring justice for those victims of Agent Orange.

STOP THESE BUREAUCRATS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to speak about the resolution I have to overturn the listing of the San Francisco Bay Delta population of longfin smelt, which is being done under the Endangered Species Act.

This listing was not based on sound science. It was forced through by a law-

suit and a court order at kind of the last minute in the Biden administration. Of course, that is not the way environmental decisions should be made.

This was done on the heels of the regular delta smelt, which for over 30 years has had tens of millions of acre-feet of water shoved out through the delta to supposedly sustain that delta smelt to no effect because they have been trawling the area, looking for the fish, trying to find the fish, and haven't found any since I believe 2017.

The Endangered Species Act has been weaponized for decades to shut down water deliveries, halt forestry, and cripple farming, ranching, and mining across the West. The Biden administration and activist judges have turned the law into really a political tool.

The Fish and Wildlife Service overlapped this new listing on top of delta smelt regulations that already sends valuable water out to the Pacific Ocean in droves. It hurts farmers, families, and every Californian who depends on a stable water supply. We must stop these bureaucrats.

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. MOORE of Utah was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOORE of Utah. 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 on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, again, yesterday marked 100 days since President Trump took office for the second time. It has been a whirlwind 100 days, to say the least, as his administration has taken swift action to reverse many of the Biden-era policies that I believe brought major challenges to American businesses and families.

From bringing the southwest border crossings to their lowest in history to ushering in critical private investments to our communities and boosting job growth, the Trump administration has wasted no time in reversing many of the wrongs of the last 4 years.

We have much to celebrate and highlight this evening. I appreciate my colleagues for taking time to reflect on these past 100 days and how House Republicans are joining the administration to implement a pro-growth, profamily, conservative agenda that will deliver for Americans across the country.

I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Vice Chairman MOORE for yielding and for claiming this time to highlight the many accomplishments of the Trump administration during the first 100 days.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of tens of thousands of Tennesseans I represent to express appreciation to President Trump and his administration on their bold action over the last 100 days.

After 4 years of unprecedented illegal immigration under President Biden, our borders are finally under control. After 4 years of deficit spending, we are grateful to have a Chief Executive who is willing to cut waste, fraud, and abuse on behalf of the American taxpayer. Indeed, what we have witnessed over the last 100 days is a real master class in the art of following through.

If elected again, President Trump said he would put a stop to men competing in women's sports. He did.

He said he would end divisive and anti-American DEI policies in schools across the country. He did that, too.

The President told us that this country would once again be respected on the world stage. Mr. Speaker, it is clear he has delivered on that promise, as well.

There are many, many wins I could point to. Just last month, 228,000 new jobs were added to the U.S. economy. Prices fell for the first time since May 2020. The Border Patrol reported a 94 percent drop in illegal immigrant encounters at our southern border compared to the same month last year under Joe Biden.

It is noteworthy, Mr. Speaker, that the only thing the President needed to accomplish this was leadership. We heard the last administration claim time and time again that Congress would need to pass legislation to secure the border. We heard a blank check would end the unprecedented illegal immigration happening at our southern border. Yet, last month, President Trump's Border Patrol reported only 7,181 illegal crossings compared to 137,473 similar crossings during the same month in 2024. All of that without Congress lifting a finger. It is clear that the accomplishment was because of the clear leadership of President Donald J. Trump.

In Tennessee specifically, President Trump's tariffs and economic policies have brought about millions of dollars in new investment and countless new jobs. Cra-Z-Art is moving manufacturing equipment from Asia back to the United States to expand operations in Lewisburg, Tennessee. Charms, the maker of Blow Pops and other candy, has planned a nearly \$100 million expansion of its Covington, Tennessee, plant. Schneider Electric has announced plans to expand their footprint in middle Tennessee in the coming months.

Thanks to President Trump, gas prices are down and optimism is up. Candidly, this White House has been able to accomplish more positive results in 14 weeks than the last administration did in 4 years, and President Trump has just gotten started.

I look forward to working with my fellow House Republicans to codify many of the President's executive actions into law. I am confident we will

pass a reconciliation bill that gets large parts of the President's vision for restoring the greatness of America across the finish line.

□ 1830

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee. I always appreciate his consistent voice and willingness to support Special Order hour.

Again, there are many wins to focus on, and I can't emphasize this enough. President Trump was overwhelmingly elected in November to fix the border. I don't understand why Democrats couldn't see the horrific approach that they had to it.

It doesn't make any sense to me why they let that get as bad as it was, when it was fixable. We have seen the lowest numbers in history. It is common sense. I appreciate the focus on that one fundamental issue. Again, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE) for leading us here tonight.

Picking up on what he said, we are in the first 100 days of a new administration. I have to harken back just 101 or more days ago to what had been going on the last 4 years.

The first thing that comes to mind is the border situation. As my colleague was saying, how does that make a lick of sense with what was going on there? We are allowed and supposed to have a sovereign border if we are going to confine ourselves to the country. In the days previous and in the formation of this country, for people to immigrate here, they had to bring a skill. They had to bring sponsorship. They needed to bring something that added to the growth of America.

That wasn't seen at the time as racist or hateful or anything else. People from all backgrounds and from pretty much any continent were coming over here and being part of that. We had immigration laws that made sense. We really have never lost our immigration laws. They weren't being enforced a lot in the last 20-plus years or so.

When we talk about common sense, it just went out the window on that issue for a long time. We are gaining it back. We have seen that the illegal border crossings, by and large, across the country have dropped by 95 percent under President Trump. We knew that is what we were going to get, and that is what voters asked for.

It didn't take a bunch of new, comprehensive immigration laws to do that. It took enforcing the laws we had on the books. It took enforcing and having the will to say: No, we are not going to do this anymore.

Guess what? We are still pro-immigrant. It just means legal immigration. It means following our rules. It means coming through the ports of entry and applying under the various ways one

would apply for particular visas—student visas, tourist visas, work visas. Apply and ask for permission.

We lock our cars when we park in this town. We lock the front door on our houses when we leave. We are allowed to have gates on the entry to this country. I say gates with well-oiled hinges. Somebody staffing them will then say if an immigrant has his papers, come on in. If he doesn't have his papers, he has to go back and apply. There is a process for that.

Why is that so tough? When I see interviews on TV, talking with President Trump or Tom Homan or anybody, the interviewers just don't seem to grasp that—well, so you are against immigration, you are against people coming across. No, it is legal immigration. Follow the legal process. What is so tough to grasp about that? It just amazes me how that isn't mentioned. It is the duplicitous of the media and sometimes the interviewers on that, they are just not able to quite connect those dots.

When we talk about the 95 percent, we also note that the number of got-aways, the individuals who intentionally avoid detection, pose some of the greatest dangers. The number of got-aways is also down by 99 percent.

We have seen lately the reporters down on the border can't find a single illegal immigrant coming across these times. Indeed, we have seen some dramatically good results. The catch and release is over.

Since taking office, President Trump has deported more than 139,000 illegal immigrants. We hear a lot of caterwauling about that. Oh, the humanity. It is horrific. Well, he hasn't done the most yet. Under President Obama, the numbers are probably triple of that only because different Presidents and different parties actually—look at the floor speech or the State of the Union speech, you can go back and listen to President Clinton talk about that years ago. Hillary Clinton has talked about it back before something changed politically and they completely switched on that.

We have had bipartisan support for border control. Go back to 1986, when a deal was struck with Ronald Reagan, the Democrats, and Tip O'Neill and the gang. He allowed for amnesty. It is the "A" word now. There is a distrust around striking additional deals like that.

Reagan said, okay, we will give amnesty to the ones that are here—back in 1986, it was a much smaller number than we now have here illegally—in order to have strong Border Patrol and Border Patrol infrastructure put in place. A stronger fence and all that.

Well, that wasn't fulfilled. We never really got the whole border barrier we needed in order to make it much simpler and easier for our personnel down there to be able to do their job. President Trump is backing that up by having a barrier. Is it perfect? No, Mr. Speaker, no thing is going to be perfect

because you build a better mousetrap and somebody finds a way around it. At least it deters the massive tide.

Is it symbolic? Is it actually a good barrier? It is probably both. It also shows that the U.S. is determined to enforce its border and that that alone is going to deter people. They are not going to try it now because President Biden isn't waving everyone in and giving them a free T-shirt.

When we see that 150,000 illegals have been arrested, many of them gang members, we have success. Violent gangs, like MS-13, have been designated as foreign terrorist organizations. Hallelujah, it is time.

What do we see in the news lately? Some of our Democrat colleagues are bending over backwards to go to El Salvador to bring a guy home. How about half of that effort being expended over the Israeli hostages over there after the horrific Hamas attacks back on October 7 of the previous year?

President Trump has taken these measures. Gang leaders operating in Virginia, Florida, and New York are now in custody and off the streets.

President Trump shut down the Biden-Harris migrant app which had served as a fast pass into the country. Why would we develop an app to make it easier to come into the country illegally?

President Trump invoked the Alien Enemies Act to speed up deportation and dismantle criminal networks operating on U.S. soil. That is a useful tool that the left is trying to throw out. Hopefully, it will succeed in tests in the court.

Construction of the border wall resumed. More than 85 new miles of barrier are already in place. There is still a lot to do, but at least we can keep it funded and get the job done and aid our border personnel.

Taxpayer-funded goodies for illegal immigrants—luxury hotel stays, food stamps, special college funds—at least at the Federal level—have been eliminated. California is still giving that away as fast as they can. We have a Medi-Cal handout of \$9.5 billion to illegal immigrants in the State of California. We are going to hear caterwauling there on some of the other things for cost-cutting measures being done here federally. California could take a long leap towards that just by not funding illegal immigrant activity.

Sanctuary cities are finally being held accountable, as they should. President Trump has taken legal action and moved to cut off Federal support for jurisdictions who refuse to cooperate with immigration enforcement. Why would they not cooperate with Federal law? It is a violation of Federal law. I see more and more local municipalities pushing back against State mandates on this. I commend them for doing so.

Some of my northern California counties have done it. The city of Oroville did it. Siskiyou County has done it. Others have and others will continue to do so.

What it has done is helped to deliver justice. We passed the Laken Riley Act. It is now law. It even got bipartisan support at the end. It is a powerful reminder that this administration will never forget those whose lives were taken by illegal immigrant crime.

This is real leadership. These are promises made. These are promises kept. President Trump is helping to get that done for all of us. For those of us who have been here a lot longer and have battled on this issue, we are seeing common sense applied to our border and so many other things as a result of President Trump's leadership and partnership with the House and the Senate.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for his voice and participation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the great State of Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT).

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to congratulate President Trump on a successful first 100 days in office.

Under President Trump's leadership, he has successfully closed the southern border. For the past 4 years, our country has been invaded by illegal aliens, many of whom are on the terrorist watch list, members of the Taliban, members of the Chinese Communist Party, not to mention MS-13, gangbangers, human traffickers, and fentanyl distributors. They have also trafficked over 300,000 children, and who knows what hell those young people are in right now because of our callousness.

That has not happened under this President, though. Under President Trump's leadership, the border is now completely shut down. That means safer streets, safer schools, and safer communities, Mr. Speaker.

In my own community, some dear friends of mine, the Corcoran family, lost their dear son at the hands of an illegal. I see them and talk to them on a regular basis, I don't know anything that could ease their hurt except prayer.

However, as we now pass the 100 days since President Trump has taken office, it is time for us to do our jobs and codify these executive actions that he has taken to make America great again. If Republicans are serious about backing the President's agenda, let's do something about it, dadgummit.

That means making sweeping reforms that may actually involve some sacrifice, like passing a bill that I have—a shameless plug—End Congressional Stock Trading Act, which would level the playing field and help restore America's faith in Congress once again.

There is no reason in the world, Mr. Speaker, that we are individually trading stocks. Everybody ought to do like I do and have my buddy, Tommy Seiler, manage my portfolio of \$11,000. I do not trade any individual stocks. It is all a mutual fund.

President Trump said if Congress passed a bill banning stock trading for

Members of this body, he would sign it. I say let's give him that opportunity. Let's first see if Congress has the guts to stand up and do what is right. I sure as heck know that is what I will do.

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN), our final, last but not least, speaker. With his energy level that he always brings to this place, you will understand why he is clearly not the least.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, is it true President Trump has done more in 100 days than the previous President has done in 4 years?

Mr. Speaker, I have only got 60 seconds, but let's break it all down: border closed; mass deportation of illegal immigrants; fentanyl smuggling dropping; Laken Riley Act signed into law; inflation cooling; egg prices down; gas prices falling; astronauts back home; 11 American hostages freed; reducing the Federal bureaucracy, saving taxpayers billions of dollars and rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse; reversing the anti-crypto crusade; unleashing American energy; the green new scam terminated; EV mandates eliminated; revoked DEI policies in the military and government; affirming there are only two genders; no more men playing in women's sports; restoring America's leadership on the world stage; rebuilding our military; military recruitment up; defending religious liberty; sending gang members back to their own home countries; standing up for American workers; adding 345,000 new jobs; securing billions of dollars in new investments in the United States.

The golden age of American prosperity is indeed here. As exciting as the first 100 days of President Trump have been, it is clear President Trump is just getting started.

□ 1845

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Florida never disappoints, and I thank him for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I will briefly close with some of the comments I have made before.

President Trump in November, along with congressional majorities—the House majority stayed in Republican control. The Senate majority flipped to Republican. It was a clear show that we wanted to move past some of the policies that have been implemented, or not implemented, from the previous administration. I am proud as we look out at his first 100 days.

Again, to reiterate what has taken place with our southern border, enforcing very commonsense laws such as making sure that our parole authority is properly done, ending catch and release, and re-implementing the remain in Mexico policy. I think this gets missed from the conversation quite a bit. It is actually some of the most humane things we can do.

I still remember the 30-plus immigrants who were basically killed in the back of that truck in the San Antonio area. The only reason that that type of thing happens is because the cartels don't care for human life. The cartels that were running the border over the last 4 years do not care about the plight of an immigrant searching for a better life and a unique work opportunity.

They sell them a bill of goods. They literally sell them that bill of goods by making them pay thousands of dollars in the hope that once they get them across the border, then everything will be great for them. Then, they get stuck in a legal system that doesn't benefit them.

The most humane way to do it is to re-implement things like the remain in Mexico policy. The point I had always tried to continue to make was that a simple policy change would actually reduce border crossings significantly. When we do that, we take away the power that the cartels have. When the cartels are in power, human beings suffer. There is no other way to look at it.

Customs and Border Protection data from earlier this month show that Southwest border crossings are the lowest they have been in recorded history.

Think about that, Mr. Speaker. By the numbers, there were over 7,000 Southwest border crossings in March. That is still a high number, but over the last 4 years, the monthly average was over 150,000. It is astonishing.

This is something that has been delivered. I would appreciate any opportunity to codify this into law. I do not like ruling by executive order all the time. This is stuff we need to codify.

I hope that we can learn from the good experience with the Laken Riley Act and how our functioning Republic is supposed to work to get a piece of legislation done. This one had good, strong bipartisan support. The President signed it.

I know there is more that we could be doing on that so we don't have this constant back and forth in the future of our country. We have to get some predictability with this type of policy. Predictability is incredibly important, as well.

As I look ahead past the 101st days, I look ahead to one of the most important things to accomplish going forward, and that is a reconciliation piece of legislation. This discussion that has been very prominent here in the beltway is the talk of reconciliation. To put it in plain terms, this is just making sure that, at the end of this year, American families don't pay a significant increase in taxes.

In 2017, there was major tax reform done, and I think if you were to take a look at the specific elements of that bill, Mr. Speaker, you would find excitement and broad support for almost all of it.

The Republicans in 2017 doubled the standard deduction. Who does the

standard deduction support, and who does it help? It helps lower- and middle-income Americans, plain and simple. It increased the number of people who took the standard deduction and gave them the best tax benefit. It is the wealthy folks who itemize, for the most part. Right there, we are already targeting middle- and lower-income Americans.

The second piece is doubling the child tax credit. In 2017, Republicans doubled the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000. That is something that has been incredibly bipartisan. Democrats, in their own version of reconciliation, have enhanced that, as well.

I lead the Family First Act, which is another enhancement of the child tax credit, and I am looking forward to, hopefully, getting that passed through. That is another key win.

There are numerous business provisions that help. Real wage growth, economic activity, and strong GDP growth are helping.

Mr. Speaker, any time you have the White House, the House, and the Senate under one party, then people get a little bit chippy. They get a little bit partisan as we try to get significant pieces of legislation through. It is not going to be any different this time.

That was the case in 2017. I wasn't here then, but as I was sort of watching from the sidelines on these types of things, I get it.

Then, in 2021, the Democrats had the White House, the House, and the Senate. They did the American Rescue Plan and the Inflation Reduction Act, and they tried to do Build Back Better. Those were incredibly partisan approaches, which I firmly disagreed with, but that was the piece that took place at the time.

We have an opportunity going forward for these next few months to be able to deliver on something that is very important to every American family, and that is making sure that they have consistency in the tax code so there is not going to be a massive tax increase on American families next year. It is something I am proud to be working on, and I hope that we can celebrate it as a key piece of success as we look past this first 100 days of the administration. We are 4 months into our 119th Congress, and this is going to be a key piece.

Democrats will say over and over again that this is just a tax break for the billionaires. Mr. Speaker, when you cap SALT like the Republicans did, that only hurts wealthier folks. I hate to bring them that news. I believe it was BERNIE SANDERS who was criticized by The Washington Post—again, The Washington Post—by giving three or four Pinocchios when they say that these tax breaks that Republicans do just go to benefit the wealthy. That is The Washington Post saying to call it as it is. These are Pinocchios. These are complete lies that the tax policies that Republicans put forth actually strengthen and target the middle- and lower-income Americans.

We will say that over and over again. Unfortunately, my Democratic colleagues will say this is just going to benefit the billionaires.

I hope that, deep down, they would come to some realization that that is just a lie. Their own media is saying that it is just a lie. It is just one of those things that exist back here, and we are probably going to be dealing with that a lot for the next few months. The reality is this is good, strong tax policy that is going to benefit American families and workers.

In addition to some of the successes we have had over the last few months, this is something we have to be able to lock in and accomplish. I look forward to being a key part of that as we move forward.

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

TRUMP IMMIGRATION POLICIES

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. TAKANO of California was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. 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 gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the House for a Special Order hour with my Congressional Progressive Caucus colleagues. I do so on the 100th day of the Trump administration, and I note that this is a day when we received the news that our economy has contracted and that we are witnessing confusion, chaos in our markets, and uncertainty about our economic future.

We can also mark this day by stating that our country is in the midst of a constitutional crisis.

The administration is disappearing individuals without due process in defiance of court orders. They are ripping people from their homes and communities, putting them on secretive flights, and sending them overseas, including more than 280 individuals sent to the brutal CECOT prison in El Salvador without so much as a hearing.

The Supreme Court unanimously ruled that the administration must facilitate the return of one such man, Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a Maryland father, but the executive branch has ignored the highest Court in the land, saying that their own views matter more.

Just last night, the President of the United States admitted in a public interview that he could return Mr. Abrego Garcia if he wanted to, but he is choosing not to. He has openly mused about sending American citizens

to El Salvador next because it always starts with those without power, the most vulnerable, but it never ends there, and that should terrify every American.

I want to take the opportunity to draw attention to another case that has captured the public conscience, that of Andry Jose Hernandez Romero, a 31-year-old gay Venezuelan makeup artist and asylum seeker who was forcibly disappeared without due process.

Andry entered the United States legally, fleeing persecution for his sexual orientation and political beliefs. He passed an initial asylum screening and had no criminal record. Yet, without warning or due process, he was forcibly removed to El Salvador and imprisoned in the notorious CECOT facility.

What is the evidence against him? A couple of crown tattoos above the names "Mom" and "Dad," symbols of his love for his hometown's Three Kings Day celebrations.

Andry's case exemplifies the dangers of unchecked executive power and what happens when the rule of law is pushed aside.

I call on President Trump to free Andry.

There are so many others to talk about: students who have been snatched off the streets, young American citizens kicked out without so much as a hearing, and the list goes on and on.

I want to be clear that this is not just about immigrants. This is bigger than that. If the government can violate the Constitution with impunity in these cases, then it can do so anywhere to anyone.

To the Americans listening at home, I ask you: How would you feel if masked men grabbed you in broad daylight and refused to show their ID? I know I would be terrified, and I bet you would be, too.

Today, we will hear from a number of my Congressional Progressive Caucus colleagues as we bring a spotlight to these injustices.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. ESCOBAR).

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. TAKANO for yielding. I am so grateful for his leadership and for bringing us together on the House floor to talk about what is happening here in our country every day.

Americans are sounding the alarm about the crisis that our country is in. It is not just an economic crisis, as we see our country sinking very quickly into an economic crisis, which is being reflected in Donald Trump's poll numbers. In fact, his sinking poll numbers are even being reflected in the issue that many consider to be his strong suit with the American people, which is immigration.

Americans are now realizing that Donald Trump's anti-immigrant policies are targeting everyone in our country, including U.S. citizens.

When Donald Trump eliminates due process for immigrants, whether it is

for legal immigrants or students who are here with legitimate visas, he is impacting due process for all of us.

When Donald Trump ignores an order from the Supreme Court to bring back a wrongfully deported immigrant, he is violating the rule of law, which impacts all of us.

Mr. Speaker, when Donald Trump sends immigrants to a gulag in a foreign country, believe him when he tells you that he will be doing this to U.S. citizens next. In fact, he has already begun deporting U.S. citizen children.

Just today, in the House Judiciary Committee, as the Judiciary Committee was marking up the reconciliation package, which, unfortunately, many Republicans will just blindly approve, Judiciary Committee Republicans refused to protect U.S. citizens from deportation.

It is shocking, I know.

Here is the thing: We can have strong border security and a fair and humane immigration system that works for our Nation. That is not what Donald Trump is doing. He is acting like a tyrant, and he will keep undermining our democracy, our country, and the rule of law as long as compliant Republicans allow him to.

Will there be just four Republicans who will stand with us and their constituents to protect the Constitution, the rule of law, and law and order in this country? I hope so.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative ESCOBAR for her comments.

I am outraged to hear that Republicans on the Judiciary Committee would not protect citizens from deportation. We are talking about citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ).

□ 1900

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, fascism always demands a public enemy. Through lies and scapegoating, the Trump administration has tried to make immigrants the enemy. They have tried to convince us that the problem isn't their abuses of power or the unchecked greed of multinational corporations but it is immigrants.

In their 100 days in office, the Trump administration and Noem, the Secretary of Homeland Security, have abused the power of the Department of Homeland Security to pursue a campaign of persecution, of mass incarceration, and of deportation.

Day after day, they have disregarded the authority of Congress, the laws of the land, and the constitutional rights of residents, the courts, due process, and every check and balance that protects us from fascist authoritarians.

No one has been spared from their abusive authoritarian assault, not United States citizens, children with cancer, not pregnant women, not fathers with legal residency, not organ donors, not student activists, not professors, not green card holders, not asylees, not DACA recipients.

Trump and Noem have wasted millions of taxpayer dollars in their criminal acts from a \$200 million anti-immigrant ad campaign to \$46 million paid to illegally detain people in offshore prisons to more than \$300 million to militarize and end parole and due process at our borders. There is no end to how they will abuse their power, and we have to say: Enough.

As I demanded yesterday in the Homeland Security Committee, Noem must step down. We can't give one more dollar to this administration to continue its unconstitutional, anti-immigrant, authoritarian agenda.

I will close with this: Today, Trump, Noem, and the administration have made the immigrants the enemy. Tomorrow, it will be whoever they deem undesirable.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative RAMIREZ for standing up for the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER.)

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great concern regarding our First and Fifth Amendment rights. Our constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech and right to due process are under attack by the Musk-Trump administration.

You don't have to like what someone says philosophically, politically, or otherwise, but free speech is not based on what you like or dislike or choose to hear or not hear; it is based on one's ability to express themselves. It is not conditioned on what you like to hear. Free speech is free speech.

We will not stand by while they violate the principles that form the bedrock of our democracy. Right now, this administration is defying a Supreme Court decision that ordered them to facilitate the return of an individual who was deported without due process. Alongside others, he was sent to an inhumane prison in a different country without a hearing. This happened in the United States, violating his right to due process. There are many individuals whose stories deserve to be told, so today I am going to highlight just a few.

Last week, I led a bicameral codel to two ICE detention facilities in Louisiana where Mahmoud Khalil, Rumeysa Ozturk, and Wendy Brito are being held.

Mahmoud Khalil is a lawful permanent resident and Columbia graduate student who was detained because of his participation in a peaceful protest. I had an opportunity to sit and visit with him. He said, without fear of contradiction: I am not anti-Semitic. I am not pro-Hamas. I am simply concerned about my homeland and the treatment of the people that are there.

Rumeysa Ozturk is a Ph.D. student detained because she wrote an op-ed in her school newspaper.

Wendy Brito, a mother of three U.S. citizens, who may one day be U.S. Senators. A U.S. citizen right here on our

homeland, was deported without giving her due process. Her lawyer was in the waiting room. They would not let her have access to the lawyer. Then they added insult to injury by saying she signed a waiver.

Who and what mother would not say, when asked: Do you want your children to go with you versus being with some strangers would not opt for that first option?

Ms. Brito simply said: What are you going to do with my children? They said: Well, they can go with you. As a father, I would have made the same decision, but her lawyer was in the other room begging for an opportunity to stand in, and they would not give him or her an opportunity to do so.

Arresting people who are in this country legally—people whose only crimes have been to exercise their right to free speech—is an assault on our civil liberties and our Constitution.

An attack on these individuals is an attack on all of us. Who is to say what this ruthless administration will do next or who they will do it to? Will it be your family member, your friend, or a coworker who is taken without cause?

I am reminded of a quote from Angela Davis: "If they come for me in the morning, they will come for you in the night."

We must all stick together and fight for the rights of our great country, this great Constitution, the First Amendment right of free speech, and the Fifth Amendment right of due process. We must continue speaking up and fighting back against these tyrants and preserve our Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, I am not sure if you found this funny or if you are laughing at a joke that is on your phone, but this is serious business, sir.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for his principled remarks about the importance of the rule of law in our country and his enunciating that political dissent in our country is not a crime.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Ms. ANSARI).

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, last week, I traveled to El Salvador, along with three of my colleagues, to see firsthand the chaos unleashed by the Trump administration through its unconstitutional and illegal deportations of U.S. residents to third-party countries.

I represent a beautifully diverse district in which 64 languages are spoken and where families of immigrants like mine thrive. I have heard more about this issue from my constituents than any other during my time in Congress.

In El Salvador, we met with the U.S. Ambassador and demanded that the Trump administration facilitate the release of Kilmar Abrego Garcia in compliance with the 9-0, unanimous Supreme Court decision of the United States and the lower Federal court judges.

Mr. Abrego Garcia and many other wrongfully deported individuals were

sent to El Salvador with no due process and no legal recourse just for being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

It is outrageous and indefensible that the Trump administration continues to defy a Supreme Court ruling to return this man to his family. In fact, it is a full-blown constitutional crisis.

There are other people—including Andry Jose Hernandez Romero, a makeup artist and legal asylum seeker, and Merwil Gutierrez, a teenager who was mistakenly picked up by immigration enforcement—languishing in El Salvador.

Now, the Trump administration is admitting to deporting a 2-year-old U.S. citizen with cancer. It is cruel, it is despicable, and it is totally illegal, no matter what Stephen Miller or Tom Homan may say.

These cases are not just about these specific people or children sent on planes to foreign prisons by the U.S. Government. Our entire system of justice hinges on the rights afforded to us by the Constitution, the rights of due process, access to legal representation, and the ability to be heard in a court of law.

It is a dark day for our democracy when the Federal Government snatches people off of the streets, flies them out of the country secretly in the dead of night, and sends them to a foreign prison to be detained indefinitely with no legal recourse or chance to prove their case.

Who is to say that it couldn't be you or me next? I will continue to speak out for due process and our constitutional rights.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative ANSARI. I want to thank her for traveling with three other of our colleagues to El Salvador last week. I know that she traveled at her own expense. I am very proud that we have members of this caucus who care so deeply about people who have been treated so unjustly. Nobody should be disappeared out of our country without habeas corpus hearings.

I also thank Representative CARTER for his efforts, along with, I believe, other Members of Congress to visit the graduate students held in a New Orleans jail.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. OMAR).

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I am here today as a Representative of a community that is deeply alarmed by the actions of this administration.

Just weeks ago, the Trump administration defied a unanimous—we didn't think this was possible—but a unanimous Supreme Court order by refusing to facilitate the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a Maryland father wrongfully deported to a notorious prison in El Salvador. Despite the Court's clear directive, the administration continues to ignore the rule of law, undermining the very foundation of our democracy.

In my own district, the situation is equally troubling. A graduate student

at the University of Minnesota was detained by ICE agents without warning. Despite having no involvement in political activism, he was taken from his home, held without immediate explanation, and had his visa retroactively revoked. This action not only disturbed his education but also instilled fear in our academic community.

These are not isolated incidents. Across the country, people are being detained and deported without due process, often based on tenuous and/or unverified allegations.

The administration's use of obscure laws, like the Alien Enemies Act of 1798, to justify these actions is a blatant abuse of power. We must ask ourselves: If the rights of noncitizens can be so easily disregarded, whose rights will be next?

Our Constitution guarantees due process and equal protection under the law to everyone in this country, not just citizens. If the government can silence you, detain you, or deport you while defying court orders, then none of our rights are safe. If we let this slide, we are saying the Constitution is optional. It is not.

What we are seeing is authoritarianism creeping in through the backdoor, one ignored ruling at a time.

My colleagues and I are ready to fight back with everything we have got.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, the sign behind me says "9-0." "9-0" is the order of the Supreme Court. They ruled 9-0 that Kilmar Abrego Garcia must be brought back or must be facilitated back into the country. This 9-0 Supreme Court order is being defied by the President. No one in our country, no person, no man, is above the law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. RANDALL).

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Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for leading us in this Special Order hour today.

Mr. Speaker, fear, anger, terror, sadness, these are the emotions that just scratch the surface of what my community and our immigrant neighbors are feeling. Why should we expect anything less? This is exactly what this administration wants: to force immigrants into the shadows, to break their spirit, and to disrupt our communities.

When you come for immigrants, you come for small businesses. When you come for immigrants, you come for our farmworkers and for our fish processors. When you come for immigrants, you come for nurses, doctors, and caregivers. When you come for immigrants, you come for the very identity of what makes this country America.

Last week, I met with immigrants' rights advocates and toured the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma. The detainee population has doubled in the last few months. The average time detained has extended. Discretionary re-

leases are now uncommon, even for detainees without violent criminal records. Folks are being detained and disappeared for nothing more than political speech.

Mr. Speaker, what this visit reaffirmed for me is that any immigration policy rooted in hate and fueled by chaos doesn't make our immigration system more efficient or safe; it overwhelms the system. We don't fix a broken system by breaking people.

Most of our origin stories, even as Members of the House in this body, begin as immigration stories. It is past time that all of us remember that.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. RIVAS).

Ms. RIVAS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman TAKANO for recognizing me and for hosting this important discussion in front of the American people.

Our country was founded on the values of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, but who are we as a country if we backtrack on those founding values? We would not be the country that inspired our parents, our neighbors, and our grandparents to make a dangerous and brave journey in the hopes that their children will have a better life than they did.

Everyone has a story that they can relate. Mine is about my mother, who emigrated from Mexico in the 1960s. She raised me and my sister on her own, taking multiple jobs to make ends meet. It was not until the late 1980s when she finally got her green card. She was so happy, and I remember feeling relieved because she was safe and could live in this country without fear.

Today, that fear has returned. Donald Trump is blatantly pushing aside the Constitution and the rule of law to deport anybody at will. I am here because I am fighting for my mother and many like her who came to this country in search of a better life. I am fighting so our immigrant communities can, once and for all, live without fear that their livelihoods would be taken away at a moment's notice.

I am fighting with my Congressional Progressive Caucus and Congressional Hispanic Caucus colleagues against this administration's attempts to strip away a person's right to due process.

Donald Trump is criminalizing people like Abrego Garcia and denying him his due process. Yet, it is not just Abrego Garcia. This administration is also deporting children.

Last week, this administration deported a 2-year-old child and a 4-year-old child who are battling stage IV cancer, both of whom are U.S. citizens. What is happening to Garcia and these children is a travesty, and they need to come home.

Sending them without due process to countries like El Salvador and Honduras is a shameful assault on our human rights and a betrayal of the ideals that our country was founded on.

His policies are also unpopular across the country, and the polling proves it. After 100 days, Donald Trump has the lowest approval rating of any President in at least the past 80 years. The American people see through his cruelty, and they are with us.

We need to confront the cruelty from this administration head on and seek justice for all of those who have been unfairly targeted.

I stand united with my colleagues in stopping this administration and holding this President accountable for his actions.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative RIVAS for her comments and bringing to light the tragic stories of children who are citizens with cancer being deported from our country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman TAKANO for bringing us together this evening for a very important discussion.

Kilmar, Andry, Jefferson, Kevin: a devoted father married to an American citizen, a makeup artist who faced persecution in his home country because he is gay, a man with a valid work authorization and pending asylum hearing, and a son of a government worker attacked for his opposition to a corrupt regime.

These are just a few of the hundreds of men who have been sent to a foreign prison with conditions so inhumane that El Salvador's Justice Minister has said that the only way out is in a coffin.

These men came to our country, in many cases through approved legal pathways, seeking a better life for themselves and their families. In response, we sent them to another country without any due process to be abused and tortured, and we are paying that government \$6 million to do so.

These are not deportations, but they are government-enforced disappearances. They are illegal. They are horrific. They are the tactics of a dictatorship, not a democracy.

We cannot let them get away with this. This is the red line that they cannot be allowed to cross.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative TONKO for his comments. I agree with the gentleman. This is a red line that cannot be crossed. We cannot permit a President to defy a 9-0 order of the Supreme Court. No person and no man is above the law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN), my tremendous colleague.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative TAKANO for holding this Special Order. This is very important.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the Trump administration is carrying out a campaign of reckless cruelty with zero accountability.

Last week, the home of a woman from Oklahoma was mistakenly tar-

geted by ICE agents. They broke into her home, forced her and her children outside at gunpoint in their underwear, and proceeded to ransack their home.

The people who ICE were looking for didn't even live there, but that didn't stop them from traumatizing the current residents, confiscating their life savings, and fleeing the scene without leaving any contact information or instructions for how this innocent family could get their belongings back, including their money.

More recently, over the past weekend, we learned that Trump administration's police deported a 4-year-old American citizen who has stage IV cancer, and then they lied about it. On Monday, Trump's deportation czar claimed that the child's mother chose to bring her son with her when she was deported without any kind of due process.

Let me be clear. That is another boldface lie. The truth is that this woman did what any mom would do when faced with such a terrifying situation. She tried desperately to protect her child. She pled with the Trump's deportation police to let her contact her family to arrange care for her son and make sure that he keeps receiving the medical treatment that he desperately needs.

Yet, Trump's police said: No. They denied this basic right. They would not let her call her family, nor her lawyer. As a result, her son no longer has access to his lifesaving cancer treatment.

It is a confounding degree of evil that we are dealing with in the Trump administration and this Republican-controlled Congress that fails to find its spine and do the right thing for the people of this country.

I truly cannot comprehend the heartlessness that is required to do these things like this, and I am praying for all of the victims of this administration's campaign of terror in my country.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative WATSON COLEMAN for informing the Nation about what happened earlier today with that family in Oklahoma.

It strikes me that we are witnessing this evolution of this administration's policies that began with: We are just going to deport criminals.

It then evolved into disappearing people without hearings and claiming that the people they were disappearing were criminals, dangerous criminals, members of the Tren de Aragua gang.

They admitted that there were mistakes made, but now we are seeing actual children who are citizens being spirited out of the country. This ought to be concerning to all Americans. It is not about them anymore. It is about us. It is about every single person who is in danger of being treated in such a way that you have no way to say to a judge: I am a citizen.

How can you say to a judge that you are a citizen or not a criminal when you are not even allowed to have that hearing?

Mr. Speaker, I will now move on and yield to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOYLE).

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, when we took office, we swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution. It was a promise to the American people that we would uphold the law, protect their rights, and defend our democracy.

Kilmar Abrego Garcia, who was living legally in the United States, was wrongfully disappeared to a horrific prison in El Salvador because of an administrative error.

This week, U.S. citizens in Oklahoma were dragged out of their home while ICE agents, with no warrant for them, took their phones, laptops, and life savings, even though they weren't the suspects in question.

One of the most basic rights guaranteed in our Constitution is the right to due process. The Due Process Clause in the Fifth Amendment and 14th Amendment demands that you cannot be deprived of life, liberty, or property without the due process of law. That means a fair hearing, a chance to be heard, and a chance to defend yourself in court. That is the standard.

Mr. Speaker, our immigration system is broken, and I will work with anyone in a bipartisan way to fix it. Yet, that is not what is happening here.

Weaponizing fears and frustrations as a justification for interning innocent people in a foreign prison is unacceptable and unconstitutional. Everyone deserves due process in court with evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. If we don't defend these rights now, who is next: our neighbor, our family, or us?

Affording due process is not being soft on crime. It is the very foundation of American justice to ensure that the rights enshrined in our Constitution are guaranteed, as the Founders intended. Standing up for the Constitution is not partisan. It is patriotic. It is our duty, and we need to do it.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for standing up for the rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that, in this country, under our Constitution, no one is above the law, not even the President. Our President, at this very moment, is defying a 9-0 Supreme Court decision.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Ms. TOKUDA), my colleague from the Aloha State.

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to President Trump's unlawful and unjust deportations to El Salvador.

Earlier this year, the administration invoked the Alien Enemies Act, an 18th century wartime statute, to deport 137 Venezuelan men to a notorious prison abroad. This archaic law is being exploited to bypass our immigration system and deny individuals their most basic legal protections.

□ 1930

These deportations were not based on convictions or due process. They are based on ancestry and suspicions—tattoos misidentified, affiliations assumed, rights ignored.

The Supreme Court affirmed, by a 7–2 majority, these people deserve due process under our Constitution.

For me and for Representative TAKANO, this strikes painfully close to home.

During World War II, the same law was used to imprison over 120,000 Japanese Americans, including our families. My great-grandfather was taken from his home, incarcerated without cause, solely because of his ethnicity.

Now, we are seeing the same injustice unfold again. In communities like Kona, Hawaii, a child was taken from his elementary school classroom. Families are taken from their homes, and people live in fear. Children miss school. Parents avoid lifesaving care and their doctors. Faith communities grow quiet, not because of guilt but because of government overreach.

Let us be clear. These individuals are our neighbors, workers, students, and friends. They deserve dignity and due process, not detention and deportation.

Sending people to foreign prisons without a trial, without rights, and without hope is not only unconstitutional. It is un-American, and it must stop.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to honor the oath we all took in this very Chamber to uphold the Constitution, protect due process, and defend the values that define our Nation.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative TOKUDA for her comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU), my fellow colleague from southern California and good friend.

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, this administration has thrown out the Constitution and asserted that the President has king-like power to arrest anybody in this country and deport them, even to a foreign prison for life, with no due process.

Days ago, we learned they deported a 4-year-old child with stage IV cancer and a 2-year-old American citizen.

We know that they are now going after Southeast Asian refugees from Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. They came here due to the U.S. depending on them as allies during the Vietnam war.

This was the case with Chanthon Bun, who fled to the U.S. with his family to escape the Cambodian genocide. Like many refugees, Bun found himself in an impoverished community and struggled to acclimate. He later fell in with the wrong crowd and made a mistake as a teenager. Bun has since served his time, and once granted parole, he has become a leader in his community.

In Trump's eyes, Bun's rehabilitation doesn't matter. Trump is now detaining and deporting Southeast Asian ref-

ugees who have had pauses on their deportation orders for decades and are deeply tied to their communities. Mr. Speaker, 15,000 of these refugees have deportation orders and are now being deported as they do the right thing and report for their ICE check-ins.

We will not stand for it. I will soon be reintroducing the Southeast Asian Deportation Relief Act, which would prevent the administration from deporting these refugees to countries where they have often never lived and ensure that those who have already been deported can return home to the U.S.

If the Trump administration can disappear immigrants to other countries without due process or deport refugees to places they have no memories of, we are all in danger.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative CHU for bringing to light the story of an individual who has contributed much to his community. I am very disappointed, alarmed, and, frankly, terrified by the actions of this administration.

Mr. Speaker, I yield time to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA), also a fellow Californian, a longtime friend of mine, and somebody who I admire for his courage and initiative in leading a recent delegation of four Members of Congress to the country of El Salvador.

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. TAKANO for giving me this opportunity to speak about a topic that is really important right now in our country.

Mr. Speaker, there is no issue right now that should concern Americans more than the elimination and destruction of due process, not just now for U.S. citizens but for people who are here whether it is a legal status or because they have been invited to this country to apply for asylum.

I want to go ahead and speak a little bit more about Andry Romero, this young gentleman right here. He is a gay hairstylist and makeup artist who came to the United States with an asylum appointment. The United States Government gave Andry an appointment to show up to the border so that he could claim asylum using our process that we created.

He shows up with his appointment. What happens? He gets interrogated through the process. His initial screening is positive, and then he essentially gets taken at the border from that screening directly to a prison in El Salvador, a country he knows nothing about, in a process that eliminated his right through the court and due process asylum system that we have created in this country.

What kind of America is this where we are doing this to people who are seeking asylum? We are sending them to a foreign prison.

I note that Andry's family describes him as someone who is sweet, kind, and gentle, yet we are sending him to a notorious prison in a very vulnerable position.

I also want to note that an agent said that he has some tattoos. Yes, he has a crown tattoo reflective of a festival back in his home city and state in Venezuela. It has nothing to do with gangs. He has never been convicted of anything to do with gangs.

Because an ICE agent, who was, by the way, a disgraced former police officer, made these claims, Andry is now in a foreign prison, and his family and his lawyers have not heard anything about him in weeks.

I did go to El Salvador to advocate for the release of not just Kilmar, who has been mandated by the Supreme Court to come back, but also for Andry. We told Andry's story to the Ambassador in El Salvador. It was the first time he had heard his story. After the meeting, he made a request to the government in El Salvador to do a welfare check for the first time on Andry.

We have yet to hear anything about how he is doing, his condition, if he is alive, or where he is.

This is a disgrace by President Trump, Secretary Rubio, Secretary Noem, and everyone involved in this process. We demand to know if he is healthy, if he is okay, and where he is, and that he be given the right to come back to the United States so that he can go through the process that we asked him to go through before we kidnapped him and sent him to a prison in El Salvador. We must do better in this country.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA) for the purpose of a colloquy.

Representative GARCIA, I had not heard the story about your request to the Ambassador to do a welfare check.

This is one picture of Andry Hernandez. I have seen other pictures of him, other photographs. It is hard for, I think, anyone who looks at these photographs to believe that Andry is a dangerous member of the Tren de Aragua criminal gang.

Here is the other fact that was just mentioned. He has never once been at large in the U.S. territory, any part of the U.S. Government, or the Continental United States. From the very beginning, when he crossed the border, he was in custody. He has never been out of custody. He has never once posed any danger. He arrived with papers that show, from his native Venezuela, that he has no criminal record.

My understanding not only was that he was seeking asylum from Venezuela because of his sexual orientation but also because he would not comply with the authoritarian regime there.

Is that your understanding, as well?

Mr. GARCIA of California. Absolutely. I think that it is a shame that someone fleeing persecution for who they are and then given an appointment by us, the United States, is then sent to a foreign prison.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GARCIA for traveling to El Salvador on his own resources and to our colleagues who spent their own resources

because this House of Representatives will not do oversight over the overreach of this administration, will not do oversight over the dereliction of constitutional responsibility of this administration, an administration that was defying a 9-0 Supreme Court order to facilitate the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia.

There is another compelling case we have before us. The 280 other individuals who are in CECOT prison, the government has kept those names secret. The press and others have had to do a lot of sleuthing to identify individuals who have been sent down there. For all we know, there could be citizens among those folks. We don't know because they have never been able to talk to a judge.

Mr. GARCIA of California. That is right.

Mr. TAKANO. They have never been able to defend themselves against charges that they are Tren de Aragua criminals or otherwise dangerous criminals.

This is a travesty. I think all Americans should be outraged. All Americans should be afraid for themselves. We have now seen, in just recent days, that we have moved from noncitizens to citizens being sent out of this country.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say that, over the last hour, the American public has heard directly as Members of Congress came to this hallowed floor to talk plainly about the grave constitutional crisis unfolding in our country. We have heard the names Kilmar Abrego Garcia and Andry Hernandez Romero. We have spoken of students taken off streets, court orders cast aside, and a supermax prison that now holds victims of abuse.

These are not isolated incidents. They are evidence of a pattern, a government operating outside the law, outside the Constitution, outside the decision of a Supreme Court that has ruled 9-0 that this administration must facilitate the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a government that believes that it can disappear people without charges, ignore the judiciary, and turn the Constitution into a suggestion rather than a safeguard.

Mr. Speaker, this body must exert its collective conscience. This is not who we are, and it must not be who we become. The American people are beginning to wake up. They are hungry for accountability from our government and courage from Congress.

I promise this. This is not the end of our voices. It is only the beginning.

Mr. 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.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 45 minutes

p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-842. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Report to Congress on U.S. Compliance with the Authorization for Use of Military Force in Iraq, according to Section 4 of the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1541 note; Public Law 107-243, Sec. 4(a); (116 Stat. 1501); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-843. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Implementation of Executive Order 12938 Concerning the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction", pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627) and 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-844. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Cuban Compliance with the Migration Accords", pursuant to Public Law 105-277, Sec. 2245; (112 Stat. 2681-824); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-845. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Resolution of the Cyprus Dispute"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-846. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report entitled, "Report on Denial of Visas to Confiscators of American Property"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-847. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's report on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the period of August 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-848. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report titled, "Multinational Force Observers—Implement the Treaty of Peace"; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-849. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on changes that occurred as of 2025-03-19 under the Federal Vacancies Reform Act and an additional report on departure of ambassadors, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-850. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Extension of the Prohibition Against Certain Flights in the Territory and Airspace of Libya [Docket No.: FAA-2011-0246; Amdt. No.: 91-321G] (RIN: 2120-AM03) received April 15, 2025, 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-851. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Depart-

ment's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; New Bern, NC [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1965; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ASO-26] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 15, 2025, 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-852. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D and Class E Airspace; Cheyenne Regional/Jerry Olson Field, Cheyenne, WY [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2456; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ANM-71] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 15, 2025, 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-853. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Challis Airport, Challis, ID; Correction [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2491; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ANM-23] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 15, 2025, 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-854. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Blanding Municipal Airport, Blanding, UT [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2499; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ANM-116] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 15, 2025, 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-855. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Marysville, OH [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2114; Airspace Docket No.: 24-AGL-19] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 21, 2025, 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-856. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification & Establishment of Class E Airspace; Cortez Municipal Airport, Cortez, CO [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2455; Airspace Docket No.: 24-ANM-98] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 21, 2025, 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-857. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D and E Airspace; Bozeman Yellowstone International Airport, Bozeman, MT [Docket No.: FAA-2023-2423; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ANM-63] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received April 21, 2025, 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-858. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31598; Amdt. No.: 4159] received April 15, 2025, 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-859. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums

and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31599; Amdt. No.: 4160] received April 15, 2025, 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-860. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Deutsche Aircraft GmbH (Type Certificate Previously Held by 328 Support Services GmbH; AvCraft Aerospace GmbH; Fairchild Dornier GmbH; Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2714; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00405-T; Amendment 39-22996; AD 2025-06-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-861. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters (Type Certificate Previously Held by Eurocopter France) [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2542; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00611-R; Amendment 39-22984; AD 2025-05-12] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-862. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0468; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00872-R; Amendment 39-22995; AD 2025-06-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-863. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; BRP-Rotax GmbH & Co KG (Formerly BRP-POWERTRAIN GMBH & CO KG and Bombardier-Rotax GmbH) Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0346; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00052-E; Amendment 39-23003; AD 2025-07-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-864. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2419; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00366-R; Amendment 39-22992; AD 2025-06-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-865. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2411; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00874-R; Amendment 39-22981; AD 2025-05-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-866. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0337; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-01016-R; Amendment 39-22980; AD 2025-05-08] (RIN:

2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-867. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2541; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00006-R; Amendment 39-22977; AD 2025-05-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-868. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-1287; Project Identifier AD-2023-00992-T; Amendment 39-22982; AD 2025-05-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-869. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-0028; Project Identifier AD-2023-00919-T; Amendment 39-23004; AD 2025-07-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-870. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Thommen Aircraft Equipment AG Digital Air Data Computers [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2322; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00065-Q; Amendment 39-23002; AD 2025-07-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-871. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Canada Limited Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0486; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00348-R; Amendment 39-23007; AD 2025-06-51] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-872. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0613; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00180-R; Amendment 39-23008; AD 2025-07-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-873. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2025-0614; Project Identifier MCAI-2025-00008-R; Amendment 39-23010; AD 2025-07-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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-874. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Depart-

ment's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2024-2320; Project Identifier MCAI-2024-00268-T; Amendment 39-23006; AD 2025-07-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 15, 2025, 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper claudar, as follows:

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 276. A bill to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the "Gulf of America", with an amendment (Rept. 119-85). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 618. A bill to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the City of North Las Vegas and the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119-86). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

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 Mr. BARRETT:

H.R. 3088. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to include licensed hearing aid specialists under the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. BEYER, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mr. GOMEZ):

H.R. 3089. A bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to carry out a grant program to award grants to States to carry out a paid family leave program, to establish the Interstate Paid Leave Action Network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Armed Services, Oversight and Government Reform, House Administration, and 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 Ms. HOULAHAN (for herself, Mrs. BICE, Ms. LETLOW, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. FEENSTRA, and Mr. BEYER):

H.R. 3090. A bill to establish the Interstate Paid Leave Action Network to provide support and incentives for the development and adoption of an interstate agreement that facilitates streamlined benefit delivery, reduced administrative burden, and coordination and harmonization of State paid family and medical leave programs to benefit employees, States, and employers; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 3091. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat amounts paid for fertility treatments as medical expenses for purposes of health savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. SMUCKER):

H.R. 3092. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for additional requirements with respect to electrodiagnostic 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. BEYER (for himself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. COHEN, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 3093. A bill to provide hiring preference to certain career Federal employees involuntarily removed from the civil service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. COHEN, Ms. ELFRETH, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 3094. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to reduce the duration of probationary periods under an initial appointments for Federal employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. BOEBERT (for herself, Mrs. KIM, Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. CROW, Mr. EVANS of Colorado, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. DONALDS, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. MACE, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. SELF, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. STEEL, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. FITZGERALD, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. BARR, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. HARRIS of North Carolina, Mr. FALLON, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. AMODEI of Nevada):

H.R. 3095. A bill to direct the United States Postal Service to designate single, unique ZIP Codes for certain communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3096. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on Federal agency use of renewable energy certificates; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3097. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from purchasing or leasing new vehicles that are not zero-emission vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. SWALWELL, and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 3098. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to modernize and enhance the fair distribution of the Postal Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 3099. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to local governments for the training of local law enforcement officers on public health threats arising from violations of building codes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FRY (for himself and Mr. MOSKOWITZ):

H.R. 3100. A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to ensure that businesses and organizations that work with vulnerable populations are able to request background checks for their contractors who

work with those populations, as well as for individuals that the businesses or organizations license or certify to provide care for those populations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GARCIA of California (for himself, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. FROST, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. OMAR, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, and Ms. SALINAS):

H.R. 3101. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to provide grants to States, units of local government, and organizations to support the recruitment, training, and development of staff and infrastructure needed to support the due process rights of individuals facing deportation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GUEST (for himself and Ms. PEREZ):

H.R. 3102. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish an Office of Rural Health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. POCAN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. FROST):

H.R. 3103. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to establish requirements for the disclosure of certain information relating to health care sharing ministries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. QUIGLEY):

H.R. 3104. A bill to provide for adjustment of status of nationals of Ukraine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. ESTES, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MOORE of Utah, and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 3105. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Small Business, and Education and 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. KENNEDY of New York (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 3106. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a collective response to a terrorism exercise that includes the management of cascading effects on critical infrastructure during times of extreme cold weather, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia (for herself, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. PANETTA, and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H.R. 3107. A bill to enhance military recruitment by improving access to student directory information, enabling the military to inform prospective applicants about service options and the benefits of military service, such as competitive pay, education, and valuable experience, which is crucial for meeting National Security Strategy requirements and supporting combatant commander demand; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speak-

er, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KUSTOFF (for himself, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, and Mr. POCAN):

H.R. 3108. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to payment for remote patient monitoring 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. LATTA:

H.R. 3109. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to direct the National Petroleum Council to issue a report with respect to petrochemical refineries in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RYAN, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 3110. A bill to prohibit the procurement of certain items containing perfluorooctane sulfonate or perfluorooctanoic acid and prioritize the procurement of products not containing PFAS; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. LEE of Florida (for herself, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. BACON, Mr. CRENshaw, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 3111. A bill to amend the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act to establish grants for States for purposes of modernizing criminal justice data infrastructure to facilitate automated record sealing and expungement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS (for herself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RESCENTIALER, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas):

H.R. 3112. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MAST (for himself, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. WHITESIDES, and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas):

H.R. 3113. A bill to prohibit Federal funds from being obligated or expended to procure certain emergency response maps, direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to procure and distribute certain emergency response maps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. MCBATH (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

H.R. 3114. A bill to require automatic sealing of certain criminal records, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MCBATH (for herself, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BALINT, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BELL, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BYNUM, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. CHU, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COSTA, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CROW, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELUZZO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. DEXTER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. FOSTER, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr.

GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HIMES, Mr. IVEY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEU, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCBRIDE, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MENG, Mr. MFUME, Mr. MIN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. MORRISON, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NEAL, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Ms. OMAR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. SIMON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. STANTON, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. TRAN, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 3115. A bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCGARVEY:

H.R. 3116. A bill to establish a commission to study the creation of a national sovereign wealth fund by the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MENG (for herself and Mr. LAWLER):

H.R. 3117. A bill to amend the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, to expand the replacement of stolen EBT benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. MORAN:

H.R. 3118. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for qualified overtime compensation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa (for himself, Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. SORESEN, Mr. FINSTAD, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. COSTA, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. McDONALD RIVET, and Mr. STAUBER):

H.R. 3119. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to establish the ReConnect program under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and 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. PANETTA:

H.R. 3120. A bill to improve the review and effectiveness of the cost of living adjustments to pay and benefits for members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense whose permanent duty station is located in the 19th Congressional District of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of

such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. DINGELL, and Ms. ROSS):

H.R. 3121. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to expand trauma-informed training for law enforcement personnel and emergency medical technicians related to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking cases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. CORREA, Mr. TRAN, and Ms. LOFGREN):

H.R. 3122. A bill to advance United States national interests by prioritizing the protection of internationally recognized human rights and development of the rule of law in relations between the United States and Vietnam, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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 Ms. STEFANIK (for herself and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 3123. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to laws relating to the payment of certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that are affected by death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. STRICKLAND (for herself, Ms. BROWN, Mr. CASE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. WHITESIDES, and Ms. STANSBURY):

H.R. 3124. A bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. TAYLOR (for himself and Mr. SORESEN):

H.R. 3125. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to provide technical assistance to expand access to broadband service in rural communities; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. TENNEY:

H.R. 3126. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the low-income housing credit for projects that use water submetering; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. TORRES of California (for herself, Ms. MENG, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 3127. A bill to establish the right to counsel, at Government expense for those who cannot afford counsel, for people facing removal; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. DELAUNO, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. CARSON, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. ELFRETH, and Mr. MACKENZIE):

H.R. 3128. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat diapers as qualified medical expenses; and to prohibit States and local governments to impose a tax on the retail sale of diapers; to the Committee on

Ways and Means, 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. WEBER of Texas (for himself, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. BACON, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. CLYDE):

H.R. 3129. A bill to allow certain qualified law enforcement officers and retired law enforcement officers to carry a concealed firearm to protect children in a school zone; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BERA (for himself and Mr. VALADAO):

H. Res. 361. A resolution supporting the recognition of April 4, 2025, as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, and reaffirming the leadership of the United States in eliminating landmines and unexploded ordnance; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. SEWELL, and Ms. CHU):

H. Res. 362. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 30, 2025, as "National Adult Hepatitis B Vaccination Awareness Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. LATTI, Mrs. DINGELL, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H. Res. 363. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of May 9 through May 18, 2025, as "National American Birding Week"; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MEUSER:

H. Res. 364. A resolution calling upon local communities to support organizations that provide resources and aid Gold Shield Families in their time of need; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. OGLES (for himself, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. STEUBE, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama):

H. Res. 365. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the House should recognize Robert Aitken's Bible as a historical document of the United States Congress; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. TRAN (for himself, Mrs. KIM, Mr. CORREA, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MIN, Mr. BAUMGARTNER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. HURD of Colorado, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. CHU, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. FROST, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. LICCARDI, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. BYNUM, Ms. RIVAS, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. SOTO, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ROSS, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BELL, Mr. GRAY, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. DEXTER, Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. RILEY of New York, Mr. HERNÁNDEZ, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. CASAR, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. VASQUEZ, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Mr. KENNEDY of New York):

H. Res. 366. A resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of Black April and the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BARRETT:

H.R. 3088.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. BICE:

H.R. 3089.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution.

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H.R. 3090.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The "necessary and proper" clause of Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 3091.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H.R. 3092.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 (Commerce Clause)

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 3093.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 3094.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. BOEBERT:

H.R. 3095.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 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; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3096.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 3097.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. COSTA:

H.R. 3098.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mr. COSTA:

H.R. 3099.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. FRY:

H.R. 3100.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. GARCIA of California:

H.R. 3101.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GUEST:

H.R. 3102.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 3103.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. KEATING:

H.R. 3104.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3105.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. KENNEDY of New York:

H.R. 3106.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 3107.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8

By Mr. KUSTOFF:

H.R. 3108.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Congress shall have the power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers and all Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 3109.

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 or joint resolution.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Executive the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 3110.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. LEE of Florida

H.R. 3111.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 3112.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 3113.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. MCBATH:

H.R. 3114.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. MCBATH:

H.R. 3115.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCGARVEY:

H.R. 3116.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 3117.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII

By Mr. MORAN:

H.R. 3118.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa:

H.R. 3119.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, 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.

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 3120.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 3121.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

[The Congress shall have the power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all the other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 3122.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 3123.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. STRICKLAND:

H.R. 3124.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. TAYLOR:

H.R. 3125.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 3126.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 3127.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 3128.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: [The Congress shall have Power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WEBER of Texas:

H.R. 3129.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 34: Mr. FULCHER.
H.R. 45: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 225: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.
H.R. 404: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H.R. 436: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 485: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.
H.R. 539: Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 583: Mr. AMO.
H.R. 637: Mr. FLOOD.
H.R. 740: Mr. BAUMGARTNER.
H.R. 842: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. GOLDEN OF MAINE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. FIGURES, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. MFUME, Mr. JOHNSON OF GEORGIA, Mr. TORRES OF NEW YORK, Ms. ROSS, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL OF FLORIDA, Ms. DEAN OF PENNSYLVANIA, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CARSON, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. WATERS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. SWALWELL, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. JOHNSON OF TEXAS, Mr. SUBRAMANYAM, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MANNION, Ms. BALINT, and Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 929: Mr. FIELDS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. KEATING, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 944: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 1004: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 1041: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. TAYLOR, and Mrs. FISCHBACH.

H.R. 1065: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 1083: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.R. 1105: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 1109: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 1110: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 1151: Mr. BELL and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 1181: Mr. TIMMONS and Mr. HUNT.
H.R. 1200: Mr. BEAN of Florida.
H.R. 1207: Mr. BRESNAHAN.
H.R. 1232: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia and Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 1301: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 1321: Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 1357: Mr. FROST.
H.R. 1378: Mr. COMER.
H.R. 1422: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
H.R. 1492: Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 1520: Mrs. BICE.
H.R. 1530: Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 1564: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CASE, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. STANTON, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. BELL.
H.R. 1613: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1650: Mr. BAUMGARTNER and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1676: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 1701: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
H.R. 1742: Mr. BELL.
H.R. 1808: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1822: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CONAWAY, and Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 1827: Mr. BACON, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Ms. PEREZ.
H.R. 1903: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 1909: Mr. MOULTON and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 1954: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.
H.R. 1970: Ms. GILLEN and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 2033: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.
H.R. 2048: Mr. FEENSTRA, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. McCORMICK, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. BACON, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. MCBRIDE, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. VALADAO, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. TONKO, Mr. POCAN, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CASE, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. CISCOMANI, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KILEY of California, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 2065: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 2081: Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 2102: Mr. WALBERG, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. BRESNAHAN, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
H.R. 2118: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 2162: Mr. COMER.
H.R. 2175: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 2189: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas and Mr. GILL of Texas.
H.R. 2253: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 2294: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H.R. 2381: Mr. MOULTON and Mr. TORRES of New York.

H.R. 2395: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H.R. 2416: Mr. BELL.
H.R. 2420: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 2433: Mr. EVANS of Colorado.
H.R. 2459: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 2462: Mr. KNOTT and Mr. MASSIE.
H.R. 2464: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 2466: Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 2488: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. WHITESIDES, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. TRAN, Mr. MIN, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 2528: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 2547: Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. FITZGERALD.
H.R. 2550: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. GILLEN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. RIVAS, and Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 2555: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 2559: Ms. ANSARI.
H.R. 2585: Ms. RIVAS.
H.R. 2597: Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 2602: Ms. PINGREE, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 2603: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 2676: Mr. OGLES.
H.R. 2767: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 2808: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 2831: Mr. LATIMER.
H.R. 2836: Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 2872: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 2888: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 2904: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 2905: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 2906: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 2909: Mr. LANDSMAN.
H.R. 2931: Mr. LALOTA.
H.R. 2939: Mr. McCORMICK and Mr. HAMADEH of Arizona.
H.R. 3014: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 3028: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia and Mr. COMER.
H.R. 3029: Mr. RILEY of New York.
H.R. 3044: Mr. PERRY and Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 3070: Mr. SCHWEIKERT.
H.R. 3079: Mr. BENTZ.
H.J. Res. 54: Mr. NEAL and Ms. MORRISON.
H.J. Res. 67: Mr. BELL and Mr. FROST.
H.J. Res. 93: Mr. MASSIE and Mr. PERRY.
H. Res. 61: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.
H. Res. 64: Mr. BELL.
H. Res. 148: Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H. Res. 262: Mr. STAUBER.
H. Res. 331: Mr. CLEAVER.
H. Res. 339: Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas.
H. Res. 340: Mrs. McIVER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Mr. PANETTA.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H. Res. 353: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.



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No. 72

Senate

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God of light, illumine our way. O God of hope, strengthen our resolve. O God of truth, edify our souls so that we may live today for Your glory. May our lawmakers bring honor to You by being faithful stewards of love, grace, compassion, and patience.

Lord, use them to meet the pressing needs of our Nation and world, providing our Senators with opportunities to be Your hands and heart in these challenging times. Let them never lack the courage or the will to do Your work. May their words, thoughts, and actions reflect the content of Your character.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MULLIN). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RELATING TO "ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM FOR APPLIANCE STANDARDS: CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS, LABELING REQUIREMENTS, AND ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS FOR CERTAIN CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND COMMERCIAL EQUIPMENT"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume consideration of H.J. Res. 42, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 42), providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Certification Requirements, Labeling Requirements, and Enforcement Provisions for Certain Consumer Products and Commercial Equipment".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, April is National Donate Life Month. This is a month to raise awareness about the lifesaving importance of organ donation.

There happen to be over 103,000 Americans on the national organ transplant waiting list. We should have confidence that our organ transplant system is efficient and that the system is also fair.

Sadly, my oversight, dating back as far as 2005, has uncovered decades of corruption and mismanagement in that system. It has left vulnerable patients to die. They are on the waiting list while unused organs from generous American donors go to waste.

Speaking of waiting lists, I have been concerned about reports of those on the

wait-list being skipped over. This furthers the distrust in the organ donation system.

Through my bipartisan oversight and the 2023 Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network law that we passed, the Federal Government is making long overdue changes. The law improved the management and the oversight of our organ transplant system and encouraged participation from competent and transparent contractors.

To build on those reforms, in March, the President signed a continuing resolution that provided authority for the Department of Health and Human Services to collect registration fees from organ transplant member institutions. This action by our President ensures the 2023 law can be implemented properly.

I encourage all Americans to consider being organ donors and to understand the impact it can have on saving lives. So when you get your driver's license, you can tell them you want to be an organ donor.

It says "donor" right there on my driver's license.

And, of course, besides encouraging people to be organ donors, I am keeping a close eye on how the Federal Government is implementing this new law that we passed in a bipartisan measure to give people the chance at a life-saving transplant.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION FIRST 100 DAYS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, Americans woke up this morning to some

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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very troubling news. The economy shrank in the first quarter of 2025 by 0.3 percent. It shrank. It was growing until now. It shrank. It is the worst quarter in years. Businesses, families, and consumers are bracing themselves for the hammer blow of Donald Trump's tariffs, and it is sending the economy into a tailspin.

Today's GDP numbers show that Donald Trump is running America the same way he ran his businesses—into the ground. Before our very eyes, Donald Trump's policies of tariffs and tax hikes are strangling the economy. Donald Trump's first 100 days have been defined by one big “f” word: “failure.” Donald Trump's first 100 days have been defined by the “f” word: “failure”—failure on the economy, failure to lower costs, failure on foreign policy, failure on democracy, failure everywhere you look.

Donald Trump must admit his failure and reverse course and immediately fire his economic team. Otherwise, we will see more of the same: failure and chaos and total incompetence.

His tariff strategy?—total failure. China is not coming to the table. Manufacturing is not racing back to our shores. There is no strategy—only chaos. Every day, he changes his mind. One day, he says yes to tariffs; the next day, no. One day, this country is on the list; the next day, that country is on the list. No tariffs. Double the tariffs. On and on and on. As he is doing this, his policy advisers have different explanations for what he is doing and why he is doing it.

Businesses pay the price for Donald Trump's failed policies. When businesses don't know what the President will do next, they can't plan for the future. They are not going to hire workers. I have talked to business leaders—small businesses, medium-sized businesses, and big businesses—in New York, and I am sure this is true around the country. They are holding off on any new spending because they don't know what Donald Trump will do next. His chaos is just totally impeding our economy. We are seeing it happen in real time.

Because the tariff policy has been such a mess, such a failure, today, later today, Senators WYDEN, KAINE, and I will force a vote here in the Senate to stop Donald Trump's trade wars. Our Republican colleagues have an opportunity to stop Donald Trump. Our resolution presents Republicans with a choice: Stand with Donald Trump or stand with American families.

The GDP number today should be a wake-up call to Republican Senators now more than ever. Four voted with us the last time on tariffs about Canada. Many more should vote with us this time given the new numbers and given that this resolution covers all of the countries that Donald Trump has so failed on with tariffs.

Senate Republicans know deep down that Donald Trump's tariff policies are awful for their States, so they have to

choose today: Stick with Trump or stand with your States.

But the failures don't stop there, just at tariffs. What about his promise to bring down costs? Again, failure—failure to bring down costs. Grocery prices are up. Housing is up. Rental housing is up. The price of a new car is up. Household appliances are up. Big retailers are warning that Donald Trump's trade war will make the problem far, far worse.

Foreign policy? Total failure. Putin is emboldened. China is not coming to the table. Our allies are all losing trust. He is ready to break up the European alliance over Ukraine.

DOGE? Total failure. Elon Musk talked a big game on cutting waste and reducing fraud, but DOGE is attacking Social Security, attacking veterans' care, attacking cancer research.

That is not cutting waste, Mr. Musk. That doesn't make the government more efficient. That puts a dagger to the programs that America needs and which make our country strong.

The list goes on. Rooting out corruption? Failure. Transparency? Failure. The rule of law? Failure. Economic optimism? Failure. It is one big “f” word: “failure.”

While our economy sinks in real time, while consumers get saddled with Donald Trump's tariffs, Republicans are complicit. They are coconspirators. They are aiding and abetting Donald Trump as he cuts taxes for billionaires. They are aiding and abetting Donald Trump as he wants to obliterate Medicaid. They are aiding and abetting Donald Trump as he wants to add \$52 trillion to the national debt. They want to help the richest of the rich while telling the working people to get lost.

The Republican agenda boils down to five dismal words: “Billionaires win; American families lose.” This is a recipe for failure if there ever has been one.

Finally, as Donald Trump destroys our economy, the American people cannot and will not stand by as he also tries to destroy our democracy. Donald Trump is everything the Founding Fathers worried about when they wrote the Constitution. They feared a man who would see the rule of law as a nuisance, who would consider the truth as an inconvenience, and who would regard his fellow citizens as little more than subjects. Either kiss the ring, bow before the throne, or watch your back—that is the ethos of Donald J. Trump.

Republicans howled at the Moon for years about weaponizing government, but no President in American history has weaponized the government like Donald Trump has in 100 days. The Department of Justice has become his personal henchman. He is assaulting the freedom of the press. He is assaulting our education system and institutions of higher learning. His deportation force is expelling American citizens with no due process. Let me re-

peat that. Donald Trump is deporting American citizens with no due process, and the American people don't like it.

One of the traits of a dictator is someone hostile to all forms of accountability, to all forms of criticism. That is Donald Trump to a tee. He is scared of debate. He is scared of opposition. He can't stand the idea of others disagreeing with him. So, instead, he tries to crush anything he views as opposition. That is not strength; that is a sign of deep, deep, deep insecurity.

The more Donald Trump tries to take America down this ominous road, the more he will face resistance. Democrats will oppose his agenda. The courts will oppose his attacks. Most of all, the American people will resist his hostile takeover of our democracy.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, over the last 4 years, the Biden administration subjected Americans to an onslaught of regulations. Altogether, the Biden regulatory agenda cost \$1.8 trillion. He heaped thousands of hours of paperwork on business owners, energy producers, and other hard-working Americans. And to what end? Well, often, these regulations were part of the Biden administration's radical climate agenda: efforts to tie up conventional energy production, force the widespread adoption of electric vehicles, and even go after things like household appliances.

Those days are over. We are no longer regulating our way to the Green New Deal. President Trump has moved swiftly to unleash energy production and remove regulatory barriers, and Republicans in Congress are joining those efforts. To date, we have passed a number of resolutions blocking Biden-era regulations through the Congressional Review Act, and we will continue those efforts this week.

Later today, we will vote on a resolution blocking the Biden administration's onerous appliance standards regulation—an effort that is going to be led here in the Senate by Senator HUSTED.

This rule imposed stricter reporting requirements on a number of household appliances: dishwashers, dehumidifiers, pool heaters, air-conditioners, light bulbs, and the list goes on.

Reporting and certification requirements may not sound like much, but there is a lot of front-end work that has to be done—work that costs time and money and can place a huge burden on businesses and drive up prices for consumers.

In its public comments on the Biden administration's appliance standards, Carrier, an appliance manufacturer, said that the Department of Energy failed to adequately account for the “cost and burden . . . to comply with updated requirements.” A manufacturers association said that the proposed

reporting standards had “no practical utility.” Another objected to what they called “burden without benefit.”

The same could be said of another Biden-era regulation we will be voting to overturn later this week.

Last year, the Biden administration finalized a rule setting stricter standards for commercial refrigerators and freezers. These are the refrigerators and freezers that we see at convenience stores, in restaurants, and at grocery stores. In other words, it impacts a lot of small operators. These stricter standards threaten to drive up costs and reduce choice for the owners of these businesses—costs, I might add, that will inevitably be passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices.

Proponents of this rule claim that more efficient appliances will save businesses money in the long run, but in the case of at least one new standard, the Department of Energy estimates that it will take more than 90 years—90 years—for a business to see those savings—in other words, longer than any business owner will survive at the head of his or her business.

I thank Senator MOODY for leading this effort to eliminate an unnecessary burden on America’s small businesses.

This week, the Senate is also taking up Senator CURTIS’s resolution to overturn the Biden administration’s major source rule.

This rule isn’t just burdensome; it is backward. The Clean Air Act has two categories of pollutants: major source and area source. Major source pollutants are more heavily regulated, but the Biden administration’s rule says that even if you reduce potential emissions below the threshold established in law for classification as major source pollutants, it doesn’t matter; you are still subject to the stricter major source rules. Once in, always in. That is wrong. Worse, it removes an incentive to reduce emissions, undermining the very purpose of the Clean Air Act. So this week, the Senate will vote to eliminate this backward regulation.

We have made progress on reining in excessive regulation, and the American people can count on Republicans to continue our efforts. We know that rules out of Washington can frequently have very negative consequences in the real world. Complying with a new rule costs money that could otherwise go toward innovation, improvements, or investing in employees. For small business owners, a new regulation can mean late nights trying to figure out what it means and how to make the business work while following the rules. Regulations can lead to higher costs and less choice for consumers. That is why we believe that regulatory power should be used judiciously, and it is why we are committed to eliminating rules that impose unjustified burdens.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that the junior Senator from Ohio be allowed to complete his remarks before we go to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CHINA

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about America’s future. It is a future that must be secure. It is a future that must be prosperous, and it is, most importantly, a future that must be free of all dependency from communist China.

For decades, weak policies allowed China to exploit our workers, exploit our innovation, and exploit our markets. Under Republican leadership, America is once again reclaiming our strength.

Yesterday, the Senate confirmed David Perdue to be the Ambassador to China. He is a proven leader, former Senator, extensive experience dealing with China that he has had in the past equips him to represent American interests abroad, and he will do it firmly. His confirmation shows Beijing that under President Trump, America will put our workers, our families, and our security first.

The United States seeks a relationship with China, one that is fair, one that is respectful, and one that is reciprocal. Yet China’s predatory actions demand a robust response. China’s economic abuses are outrageous. What we are seeing is a predatory playbook. And using it in the past, China has gained an unfair advantage over global trade. China rigged the game with subsidies from the state, with currency manipulation, with market access barriers, and forced technology transfers. China abused our free enterprise and our open markets. At the same time, they slammed the door on American businesses. This came at the expense of American jobs, American innovation, and American security.

The risks of dependency are serious. Just this year, China banned exports on several critical minerals that came to the United States.

These critical minerals are vital for our technology as well as our national defense. So what is next? medical supplies? Today, 90 percent of U.S. antibiotics are stamped with “Made in China.” We can’t forget the lessons learned during the COVID pandemic.

We saw how dangerous it is to depend upon communist China for anything but certainly for lifesaving medicines and supplies.

Every American agreed that the United States needed to work aggressively to bring these critical supply

chains home. We said never again would we find ourselves in this dependent position. The costs of inaction are real. Since China joined the World Trade Organization back in 2001, more than 2 million American jobs vanished—jobs that our Republicans in Congress and in the White House are working to bring back with our economic policies.

China’s intellectual property theft alone costs America \$600 billion a year. The Department of Justice links China to four out of five economic espionage cases. China is infiltrating our culture, our skies, and our farmland. They do this because they see us as weak.

Today, China owns farmland in 27 States, often near military bases. My Wyoming colleague Senator CYNTHIA LUMMIS has legislation that would stop China from buying farmland next to Federal lands. This will be a safeguard to our national security.

China’s role in the fentanyl crisis is equally alarming. A recent report from the House Select Committee on Communist China exposed the depth of the Chinese Communist Party’s involvement.

Ninety-seven percent of the illicit fentanyl ingredients come from China. The Chinese Government subsidizes these ingredients, and it shields traffickers from prosecution. This crisis has killed nearly 50,000 Americans last year, and this is a direct result of China exporting illicit fentanyl. President Trump has rightly acted to stop this deadly flood of drugs into our country. Ambassador David Perdue will press China to end its exports of fentanyl.

Militarily, China’s rapid buildup is a growing menace. Their military spending has skyrocketed. Today, China has the world’s largest army. It has the world’s largest navy. It has the world’s second most advanced air force.

China has quadrupled their intercontinental ballistic missiles from 100 to 400. China produces 70 percent of the world’s drones. China’s shipyards vastly outpace our shipbuilding ability, and as the U.S. Secretary of Navy put it, one Chinese shipyard “has more capacity than all of our [U.S.] shipyards combined.”

China’s territorial grabs and provocative actions threaten global peace. China’s purchase of 90 percent of oil sales fuels global terrorism. To counter China’s military aggression, America must undertake a massive military revival. We must ensure America’s strength is unmatched, now and into the future.

President Trump has long known that the Chinese Communist Party is the primary threat to peace, to our prosperity, and to the freedom in the world today. For far too long, previous leaders let China get rich while Americans got ripped off. President Trump is changing everything. His bold actions and determination are finally turning the tide.

In his first 100 days, President Trump created over 450,000 American jobs. His

economic agenda is sparking an industrial revival. Hundreds of billions of dollars in private new investments is pouring into the United States. "Made in America" is back stronger than ever.

Seventy-five countries are now lining up for trade talks with the United States. This is a testament to President Trump's skills as a dealmaker. More will come.

Republicans are going to continue to champion policies that secure our supply chains and bring manufacturers home. We will work to end America's dependence on China for medicine, for minerals, and for manufacturing. This isn't about isolation; this is about our independence.

President Trump is working every day to stop China from raiding our factories, from gutting our industries, and from stealing our jobs. Other leaders dealt with China from a position of weakness. Never again. President Trump is dealing with them from a position of strength.

China must hear us loud and clear: Freedom is a powerful force. We will never give it away. We will not compromise our safety, our prosperity, or our liberty. We will never stop standing up for the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

H.J. RES. 42

Mr. HUSTED. Mr. President, I am proud to stand here and lead this commonsense legislation to reverse the cumbersome Biden-era regulation that we are addressing today. This resolution overturns a Biden-era Department of Energy rule that expands paperwork, testing, and reporting requirements for home and commercial appliance manufacturers, without improving performance standards.

In other words, this rule wastes time and money, raising costs without delivering meaningful energy savings on items like dishwashers, clothes washers, and HVAC systems—things that people need to live and thrive every day. These are just everyday products that Ohioans depend on, and this Biden-era overreach makes it harder to afford them and leaves consumers with fewer choices and more costs.

While I have been in Washington only a few months, I can see the drag that the inflationary policies of the last administration have had on the American people, and it is my priority to make America and Ohio better places to work, live, and thrive. That is why repeal of unnecessary regulations is so important.

This bill contributes to the goal of cutting redtape for manufacturers, which gives consumers more choices and lower costs. This commonsense bill that has earned bipartisan support in the House is ready to be passed in the Senate and sent to the President's desk.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this legislation

when we vote today. A vote for this bill is a vote for making life easier and more affordable for American consumers.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all debate time on H.J. Res. 42 is expired.

The clerk will read the title of the joint resolution for the third time.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read a third time.

VOTE ON H.J. RES. 42

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. BARRASSO. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 223 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	Risch
Budd	Husted	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Curtis	McCormick	Wicker
Daines	Moody	Young
Ernst	Moran	
Fischer	Moreno	

NAYS—46

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Baldwin	Hirono	Sanders
Bennet	Kaine	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schumer
Booker	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Slotkin
Coons	Lujan	Smith
Cortez Masto	Markley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Gallego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—2

McConnell	Whitehouse
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The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 42) was passed.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RELATING TO "ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM: ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATORS, FREEZERS, AND REFRIGERATOR-FREEZERS"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I understand the Senate has received H.J. Res. 75 from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. (Mr. RICKETTS). The Senator is correct.

Mr. TILLIS. I move to proceed to H.J. Res. 75.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to H.J. Res. 75, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers".

Mr. TILLIS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 224 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	Risch
Budd	Husted	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Curtis	McCormick	Wicker
Daines	Moody	Young
Ernst	Moran	
Fischer	Moreno	

NAYS—46

Alsobrooks	Cortez Masto	Hickenlooper
Baldwin	Duckworth	Hirono
Bennet	Durbin	Kaine
Blumenthal	Fetterman	Kelly
Blunt Rochester	Gallego	Kim
Booker	Gillibrand	King
Cantwell	Hassan	Klobuchar
Coons	Heinrich	Lujan

Markey	Rosen	Van Hollen
Merkley	Sanders	Warner
Murphy	Schatz	Warnock
Murray	Schiff	Warren
Ossoff	Schumer	Welch
Padilla	Shaheen	Wyden
Peters	Slotkin	
Reed	Smith	

NOT VOTING—2

McConnell Whitehouse

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RELATING TO "ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM: ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS FOR COMMERCIAL REFRIGERATORS, FREEZERS, AND REFRIGERATOR-FREEZERS"

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 75) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all time on H.J. Res. 75 be expired and the Senate vote on passage of H.J. Res. 75 at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Democratic leader on Thursday, May 1; further, that the Senate execute the order of April 28 with respect to S.J. Res. 49, that all time be expired at 5:25 p.m. today, that the joint resolution be read a third time and the Senate vote on the passage of the joint resolution; finally, that if passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRAPO. For the information of all Senators, we will have two rollcall votes at 5:25 today, first on passage of S.J. Res. 49, followed immediately by the motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 31.

TERMINATING THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED TO IMPOSE GLOBAL TARIFFS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, S.J. Res. 49 is discharged and the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 49) terminating the national emergency declared to impose global tariffs.

Thereupon, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be 6 hours of debate only, equally divided between the leaders or their designees. The Senator from Maryland.

EL SALVADOR

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, yesterday marked 100 days since Donald Trump was sworn in as President. It happened right down that hallway. He promised a golden age for America. He has not delivered that golden age. In fact, in that 100 days, all he has delivered is chaos and destruction.

Consumer confidence is plummeting, and today we learned that our economy is shrinking. This is all a totally self-inflicted, Trump-inflicted wound on America and American families.

That is here at home. On the world stage, Candidate Trump promised to be the great peacemaker, to end the wars in Ukraine and Gaza on day one, but he has nothing to show for that other than distrust from our allies and smiles from our adversaries. He has thrown the Ukrainian people under the bus, and in Gaza, the hostages have not been released, and we are witnessing a humanitarian catastrophe.

Over the last 100 days, Donald Trump has embarked on a lawbreaking spree that has torn up our Constitution, torn apart our government, and torn down our economy.

Over 200 lawsuits have been filed in Federal courts around the country because we are watching this President break laws on every front, on everything from his illegal freezing and impoundments of taxpayer funds for important public programs that benefit communities all over the country, to his illegal firing of patriotic Federal employees, including many veterans who provide critical public services, to letting Elon Musk loose on Federal Government programs with a chain saw—not to make government more efficient but to rig government for the already rich and powerful like Elon Musk at the expense of everybody else.

President Trump has also been abusing his authority to create tariff chaos that has sent consumer confidence plummeting, badly damaging our economy. He is violating the First Amendment by cracking down on students at colleges and universities for their exercise of free speech and right to assemble and also violating another vital constitutional provision: the constitutional right to due process for those who live in America.

It is a staggering amount of lawbreaking in just 100 days. That is why all of us should fight back—in the courts, in this Congress, and in communities all over America.

We know that the American people don't like what they are seeing, what they are experiencing. They are rising up in communities all over America to voice their disapproval with President Trump's performance. They are giving him a big fat F for the first 100 days—total, miserable, failure.

The only people who don't seem to get it are some of our Republican col-

leagues here in the Congress who apparently live in constant fear of being on the wrong end of a tweet from Donald Trump or Elon Musk and want to look the other way in the face of this massive lawbreaking and ripping up of the Constitution.

So I want to take a little inventory, just a small sampling of the actions of this lawless President. I want to cover four categories: his violations of constitutional due process rights; his violation of First Amendment rights; his illegal withholding and impoundment and freezing of public funds that benefit communities all over America; and fourth, exceeding his authorities, claiming emergency powers that he doesn't have in the area of tariffs, making sham claims to justify his tariff chaos that is sabotaging our economy as we speak.

I want to start with Trump's violations of the constitutional right of due process—a bedrock American principle.

As we speak, President Trump is violating the due process of many, many individuals, including the rights of a man by the name of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, who was snatched off the streets of Maryland and illegally shipped to one of the most notorious prisons in Latin America, called CECOT. As I have repeatedly said, this case is not about one man alone. It is about all of us. I am not vouching for Mr. Abrego Garcia, but I am vouching for his constitutional right to due process—because, if Donald Trump can ignore court orders and trample over the rights of one man, he threatens the rights of everyone who lives in the United States of America.

Mr. Abrego Garcia had legal status in the United States. He lived in Maryland with his family. He had a work permit. He was an apprentice with the sheet metal workers, SMART Local 100, where he worked full-time to help support his family. He was driving in his car with his 5-year-old autistic son when he was pulled over by Federal agents. He was taken to some facility in Baltimore where he asked to make a phone call to let folks know what was happening. He was denied the opportunity to make that phone call.

He was then shipped to the State of Texas. From there, his feet were shackled. He was handcuffed. He was put in a plane where he couldn't see out the windows, and he didn't know where he was going, and he landed in El Salvador and was taken to one of the most notorious prisons in our hemisphere, a place reserved for the worst of the worst, for terrorists.

Now here is the thing: There was a standing court order not to deport him to El Salvador because doing so could put his life in jeopardy from gangs. Indeed, the Trump administration admitted in Federal court that Abrego Garcia was wrongfully seized and shipped to this prison in El Salvador. But instead of fixing the problem they admitted to in court, what did they do? They punished the lawyer who told the truth in court.

And now the Trump administration is ignoring orders from the Federal district court, the Fourth District Court of Appeals, and a 9-to-nothing order from the Supreme Court. We don't get 9-to-nothing decisions out of the Supreme Court very often. But that is what all those courts ordered the Trump administration to do with respect to facilitating the return of Mr. Abrego Garcia, to facilitate his return.

This is not just trampling over his rights. And, again, I want to emphasize: If you allow the President to trample over the rights of one person, you do threaten the rights of everybody who lives in America.

That is why yesterday I wrote to President Trump about this case, and I am going to read that letter to the Senate so no one can say they don't know what is going on in this matter.

Here is what I wrote in that letter:

Dear President Trump,

I read with great interest your interview with Time Magazine regarding the Supreme Court's 9-0 decision ordering you and your Administration to "facilitate" the return of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, who your lawyers admitted in federal court was wrongfully seized and deported to prison in El Salvador. You conceded in that interview—

This is the interview he had with Time magazine just a short while ago.

You conceded in that interview that you have not asked President Bukele—

That is the President of El Salvador—

to return him. You also said, regarding this case, that you "don't make that decision" because your lawyers do. Your comments and the actions of your Administration clearly demonstrate your failure to comply with court orders as you continue to violate Mr. Abrego Garcia's constitutional and due process rights—and when you deny the due process rights of one person, you threaten them for everyone in America. The American public knows this. Recent polling shows that a majority of Americans reject your trampling over constitutional rights in this case.

I went on to write this:

During my visit to El Salvador, I had the opportunity to meet with [the] Vice President. . . . My conversation with him revealed the extent to which you and your Administration are violating the orders of the federal courts and the Constitution of the United States. Our discussion—

Again, referring to my discussion with the Vice President of El Salvador—

showed that your Administration is doing nothing to comply with and implement the Supreme Court order to "facilitate" Mr. Abrego Garcia's return to the United States and revealed that the Government of El Salvador is holding him solely at the request of your Administration and, specifically, because you are paying them to imprison him.

While I had expected a private meeting with Vice President Ulloa, when I arrived at his office there were several cameras rolling—

I think they were probably his own private cameras. I don't know, but they were rolling to record the conversation.

[So] I agreed to have our conversation on the record.

And then I write:

[Mr. President,] I want to report some important details of our [conversation].

Vice President . . . told me that, "El Salvador is not able to take any action regarding the case because the case is in the U.S. and usually we do not express any opinion on domestic affairs."

He went on to say—

I quoted him again—

I mean, the ball is in your court.

Meaning the ball is in America's court, and he used that expression multiple times during our conversation.

I went on to tell President Trump that the Vice President of El Salvador: . . . made clear that "once the case will be resolved definitely and there will be clear instruction regarding this case . . . El Salvador's government will apply [our] principles . . . of course we will act accordingly." He indicated that, "at this current moment we cannot take any actions because the case is still in the United States' situation." He reinforced this point throughout our conversation, saying the "bottom line is this is an issue that has to be solved in the United States. We have not expressed, we cannot express any opinion on that case, because it is up to you."

Again, this is what the Vice President of El Salvador told me and what I reported to President Trump in this letter.

I went on in my letter to President Trump to say:

All of this makes crystal clear that, even though your Administration's lawyers admitted in federal court that Mr. Abrego Garcia was wrongfully detained in Maryland and sent to prison in El Salvador and despite the Supreme Court's order to "facilitate" his return, your Administration has not lifted a finger to comply with the court order. As [the] Vice President. . . indicated, "the ball is in your court."

When I asked—

And I am continuing to report this to the President of the United States.

When I asked [the] Vice President. . . whether El Salvador had any evidence that Mr. Abrego Garcia had committed a crime, his response was, "how can I have it?" He said the Government of El Salvador does not "qualify those persons who are there, we just take them." I asked if El Salvador is imprisoning Mr. Abrego Garcia simply because the United States is paying to keep him and others there. His response was, "exactly, that's it." He also said, "I mean, if the person that you send is not a criminal, is not whatever, I mean it is up to you, that's what I'm saying. I don't want to express any opinion . . . I think it is up to you . . . The ball is in your court."

And the Vice President of El Salvador "made it clear that they did not review the file of Mr. Abrego Garcia."

He said, "We have a deal with the U.S. government. They send people. We host them. They pay. And that's it."

When I asked the Vice President why El Salvador cannot release Mr. Abrego Garcia from prison when the U.S. government conceded in court that he was wrongfully abducted—and whether he is being charged under El Salvador's law—he responded, "What is your recommendation to El Salvador's government? We can take him to the airport and ask an airline to take him to the States? Are you saying the airline would take a person without a passport? What kind of visa should we carry?"

He went on to say—this is the Vice President of El Salvador:

President Bukele said we cannot smuggle a person to the United States. Because if we send a person without a visa, tourist visa, working visa, student visa, what kind of reason can we call to get legally into the United States?" Regarding his papers, he asked, "Who will provide that? We don't have it."

So I continued to report on this conversation in my letter to President Trump, and I said:

I repeatedly pointed out that neither I nor anyone else was asking El Salvador to "smuggle" Mr. Abrego Garcia back into the United States. That argument is, of course, a red herring. I repeatedly pointed out that Attorney General Bondi had said, when President Bukele was in the Oval Office with you—

Referring to the President of the United States—

that the U.S. would send a plane to pick up Mr. Abrego Garcia. So, I was not asking the Government of El Salvador to "smuggle" him into the United States, only to release him from prison.

And I pointed out to President Trump that "Your Administration illegally took Mr. Abrego Garcia to El Salvador in a plane, and Attorney General Bondi has said the United States could send a plane to pick him up. And the U.S. government can certainly provide him with the papers necessary to return."

I went on in my letter to President Trump to say this:

My conversation with [the] Vice President. . . clearly demonstrates that the Government of El Salvador has no independent legal basis for imprisoning Mr. Abrego Garcia; that, as they readily concede, the only reason for keeping him in prison is that they entered into an agreement with your Administration to be paid by the United States. This also reveals that your Administration could easily facilitate his release by letting El Salvador know that—given his wrongful detention—they are not contractually bound to continue imprisoning Mr. Abrego Garcia. My conversation with Vice President Ulloa shows that your Administration's claim that El Salvador is exercising its "sovereign" decision to continue to hold Mr. Abrego Garcia is a farce. The Government of El Salvador is imprisoning him because your Administration is paying them to do so and they claim to be contractually obligated. Obviously, your Administration could say El Salvador was no longer contractually obligated to imprison Mr. Abrego Garcia. Then El Salvador can release him, and Attorney General Bondi can, as promised, send the plane.

I went on to write to President Trump that:

It is outrageous that Mr. Abrego Garcia and his family have been forced to suffer through this trauma because your Administration has, to date, refused to follow the requirements of the Constitution and the orders of the federal courts. Instead of fixing the egregious "administrative error" that the Administration conceded has wrongfully deposited Mr. Abrego Garcia in a prison in El Salvador, your Administration chose to attack and punish the lawyer who told the court the truth. That is shameful.

I went on to write to the President—I think this is important.

It is also shameful that you and your Administration continue to try to change the subject in this case. You—

Referring to President Trump—

continue to put out information on social media asserting that Abrego Garcia is a member of MS-13 and Vice President Vance falsely asserted that he has been convicted of crimes in the United States. Yet the federal district court judge in this case said your Administration had presented the court with “no evidence linking Abrego Garcia to MS-13 or to any terrorist activity.” So your Administration should put up or shut up in court. I am not vouching for the man, Kilmar Abrego Garcia, I am vouching for his rights.

I am going to take a little departure here. I don't know if my colleagues witnessed the interview that President Trump had with an ABC reporter, Mr. MORAN, yesterday, but it is all over social media because it turned out that, you know, President Trump had taken a picture of what was Abrego Garcia's fingers, and he had superimposed—or someone in the administration put an “MS-13,” written that on. That had been photoshopped or otherwise falsely there. Apparently, no one informed the President of this, or he just decided to pretend he didn't know.

In this interview, he said: He had MS-13 on his knuckles, tattooed. The reporter said: That was photoshopped. And Trump's response was to the reporter: Terry, they are giving you a big break of a lifetime. I picked you, but you are not being very nice.

Well, my point here, again, is whatever evidence there may be, the proper form to submit it is in the courts of the United States. And at least today, judges in those cases have made clear that the declaration has not relied on such evidence.

I went on in my letter to President Trump to say this:

It is also dangerous for you to suggest that we cannot fight gang violence without trampling over constitutional rights. More than two decades ago [I pointed out to him] I helped establish a regional anti-gang task force to combat MS-13 and other gang violence in the Maryland-Virginia-D.C. area. We have made substantial progress in this fight, but there is more that can be done. But that is not what you and your Administration are doing. You are engaged in gross violations of the Constitution and due process rights.

I then, in this letter, cite Judge Harvie Wilkinson, who wrote on behalf of a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit the following. I am going to quote him, and I have this in my letter to President Trump:

It is difficult in some cases to get to the very heart of the matter. But in this case, it is not hard at all. The government is asserting a right to stash away residents of this country in foreign prisons without the semblance of due process that is the foundation of our constitutional order. Further, it claims in essence that because it has [already] rid itself of custody there is nothing [else] that can be done. This should be shocking not only to judges, but to the intuitive sense of liberty that Americans far removed from courthouses still hold dear.

I should point out that Judge Wilkinson was a Reagan administration appointee and this was a unanimous opinion of the three-court panel.

I went on in my letter to President Trump to say:

The Fourth Circuit got to the heart of the case. Kilmar Abrego Garcia was snatched from his car while he was driving in Maryland with his five-year-old autistic son, then illegally stashed away in a prison in El Salvador. His wife, his mother, and his brother have been unable to communicate with him in any way. He has a work permit and his fellow sheet metal workers have been organizing to bring him back [home], as have thousands of Americans. His constitutional rights must be respected.

I close with this paragraph in my letter to the President:

This case is not about Kilmar alone. It is about everyone in America. While Mr. Abrego Garcia is at the center of this case, its consequences impact the due process rights of everyone who lives in America. If your Administration can strip away the constitutional rights of one man in defiance of court orders, it can do it to all of us. I will continue to fight to defend the Constitution and due process rights of all who live in America.

That was my letter to President Trump. I haven't heard anything back from them, and they continue to violate the Supreme Court orders.

You know, colleagues, Members can look the other way but cannot deny the fact that this is happening as we speak today. I would urge every Senator to recognize the threat to everybody's rights under the Constitution.

Now I want to turn to another area of lawbreaking—constitutional violations being committed by the Trump administration because not only are they violating the due process clause of the Constitution in the Abrego Garcia case and others, but they are also tearing up the First Amendment and trampling over free speech rights of individuals in America, especially students on college and university campuses but many others as well.

The Trump administration and Secretary Rubio apparently think the First Amendment is like an a la carte menu. In other words, they seem to believe that the U.S. government can punish those who engage in speech that they don't like. That is not how it works. They don't get to cherry-pick speech under the First Amendment and use governmental power, state power, to sanction those who disagree with their points of view.

But that is exactly what they are doing in cases like those of Rumeysa Ozturk, Mahmoud Khalil, and Mohsen Mahdawi. Mohsen Mahdawi was illegally snatched as he was taking his citizenship test in the State of Vermont.

I want to read one of the questions that is on the U.S. citizenship test. It is important that everybody recognize what we ask those who are working to become citizens to understand. Question 6 on the citizenship test reads:

What is one right or freedom from the First Amendment?

And under it there are a number of things, but the first one on there is speech. The second one on there is assembly—speech and assembly. I think members of the Trump administration need to take a refresher course, the

kind we ask citizens to take in this country because, apparently, President Trump, Vice President VANCE, Secretary Rubio, and others would like to cross that question right off the citizenship test.

We observed recently, when Vice President VANCE took an overseas trip, that he lectured some of our European allies like the UK and Germany about freedom of speech. He said that they had too many limits on freedom of speech; that they were curtailing freedom of speech for people who lived in their countries, but here at home, they are tearing up the First Amendment of the Constitution. Apparently, here at home for the Trump administration, freedom of speech exists only for those who agree with their point of view.

Mr. President, you know that our colleague who served with us, Senator Rubio, used to take to this Senate floor regularly to talk about an American foreign policy based on democracy, based on human rights, based on freedom of religion, and, yes, based on freedom of speech and suppression around the world, telling other countries that it was wrong to have the governments lock them up for expressing their points of view. And yet now in their home, Secretary of State Rubio is trashing freedom of speech. He is ripping up the First Amendment of the Constitution, and it is shameful. The American people should not stand for it because if you rip up the First Amendment for some people, you threaten it for everybody who lives in the United States of America.

I was fortunate to grow up in a Foreign Service family. We sort of went back and forth between the United States and other countries. I was proud to be from a family that represented the United States overseas. We are far from perfect, and we have a lot of work to do to live up to the principles that we say we stand for around the world. But one of the things we do—or used to do—is stand up as a beacon for human rights and freedom of speech. That is no longer happening. You can't say you want everybody else around the world to live up to that principle when you are violating it right here at home.

Now Secretary Rubio has doubled way back into a McCarthy-era statute from what was called the McCarran-Walter Act. That was a law passed at the height of the McCarthy era, and he is using that to claim that these students represent a threat to the foreign policy of the United States.

It is pretty pathetic that students expressing their views represent a threat to the foreign policy of the United States. We have students of all different faiths who are protesting the war in Gaza and advocating for Palestinian rights. Others may agree or strongly disagree with what they say, but to claim that they somehow represent a threat to the foreign policy of the United States is ridiculous. It is so clearly being used as a ruse to deny their First Amendment freedom of

speech rights that I hope the courts will see right through it. What it is, is an effort to punish speech.

Donald Trump's lawbreaking doesn't end with his efforts to tear up the constitutional rights of due process and the First Amendment. He is also tearing up article I of the Constitution by illegally freezing, withholding, and impounding funds for important public purposes—funds that have been appropriated by the Congress and signed into law.

The Trump administration has frozen billions of dollars of investments to support public services in communities all over America. The latest count is they are holding up about \$430 billion that was appropriated by the Congress.

You know, just this morning, we had a hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee about the Trump administration's freezing and cutting of funds for NIH, the National Institutes of Health. There was lots of powerful testimony from witnesses, including from a mom who was there with her daughter who had suffered through childhood cancer. And because of past research at NIH, her daughter's cancer was, thankfully, in remission, gone away. But she was there—the mother was there—to say she wants other families who have kids with cancer to have the same opportunities and that those opportunities only exist if we continue to do research into lifesaving cures and treatments. And yet, the Trump administration is sowing chaos at NIH and has frozen some clinical trials.

Meanwhile, Elon Musk and his DOGE cronies are taking a chain saw to the Federal Government and are destroying the ability of the Federal Government to deliver reliable services to the American people, like the damage they are doing at the Social Security Administration. First they say there is no more phone service, use the internet. People couldn't get through on the internet. Go to the local Social Security offices. We are closing the local Social Security offices, and, by the way, we are also firing thousands of people so there won't be anyone in those local offices. And then they say: Oh, well, maybe we better turn the phones on again.

This isn't about government efficiency. This is about rigging the government for people like Elon Musk at the expense of everybody else.

This is an issue that should concern every Member of Congress because it is a direct attack on article I, and it is an attack on the American people and their rights to have these investments made when their elected officials direct them to be made on their behalf.

And yet, just yesterday, the head of the Government Accountability Office, as we know by GAO, testified before a Senate appropriations subcommittee that the Trump administration was stonewalling GAO's efforts to investigate this illegal withholding of funds. Gene Dodaro, who is the Comptroller General, testified that the Office of

Management and Budget “has not been responsive” to GAO's questions about the freezing of billions of dollars in funding Congress had already approved.

Now, this is not the first time we have seen a Trump administration violating the Impoundment Control Act. The last time President Trump was in office, he illegally withheld funds that the Congress had appropriated for helping the people of Ukraine, and he refused to spend those funds—Donald Trump did.

So, back at the time, I wrote a letter to the GAO, asking them to investigate that withholding to see if it violated the Impoundment Control Act. That is a statute of the United States of America. In that case, the GAO found that, yes, the Trump administration—the first round—had illegally withheld those funds. It was an illegal impoundment. So that is what we are seeing right now, and they are not even working too hard to show that they are violating the Impoundment Control Act.

When the head of OMB—the Office of Management and Budget—Russ Vought, was before the Senate Budget Committee for his nomination, at his confirmation hearing, I asked him about the Impoundment Control Act, and I asked him about the past violations of the Impoundment Control Act because, guess what, he also was the head of OMB at the time of the earlier violation, and Russ Vought is back at it again as the head of OMB. So when I asked him about the Impoundment Control Act at his hearing, I got this answer. I asked him about President Trump and the Impoundment Control Act. Here was his answer at the hearing:

Senator, the President ran against the Impoundment Control Act.

My response to him:

Mr. Vought, I know what the President did. He wants to change a lot of things. He can submit legislation to do that. But you are going to be the head of OMB, and here today, at this hearing, you are refusing to comply—to commit to comply—with the Impoundment Control Act; is that right? Are you refusing to commit to complying?

This dance went on and on, and never did he commit to comply with the Impoundment Control Act.

So that is what we are witnessing right now—a violation of the Impoundment Control Act.

We, the Senate, were supposed to get the Trump administration's spending plans for the remainder of fiscal year 2025 a few days ago. For many Agencies, we haven't seen them yet. So we don't know what they say their plans are, but we do know that, as of now, they are withholding about \$430 billion of appropriated funds.

Finally, I want to talk about another area where Donald Trump is violating the law to the detriment of our economy, and that is in the area of tariffs.

Now, Presidents, of course, have some authority to apply tariffs, and I have supported targeted tariffs in the past for strategic purposes. But a num-

ber of small businesses around the country and others have filed lawsuits against the Trump administration for their illegal use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

I see the ranking member of the Finance Committee on the floor here, and he has spoken to this many times, and I want to thank him for his leadership.

I do want to read directly from the complaint that has been filed because the complaint—and this is one.

Congress passed the International Emergency Economic Powers Act to counter external emergencies, not to grant Presidents a blank check to write domestic economic policy.

They go on to point out that, yes, we have a fentanyl crisis in America—all of us agree with that—but using this statute, which is for economic emergencies, and using the statute in the way the Trump administration is doing is a gross violation of the President's legal authority.

As we can see by the downturn in the economy—we just learned that we are seeing the economy contract; we are seeing consumer confidence plunge—President Trump's illegal use of that statute is causing incredible economic pain across the country.

So I want to end with this: When you see this kind of massive lawbreaking going on—violations of the due process clause, violations of the First Amendment, violations of article I and the Impoundment Control Act—I mean, you can just take a marker through the Constitution and cross out those provisions, right? The 14th Amendment—cross it out. The First Amendment—cross it out. Cross out article I. That is what everybody in this body who is not standing up to the President is complicit in right now.

What bullies do—and make no mistake, President Trump is a bully. What they do is they try to pick on people they think are weak. If the rest of us don't stand up for the rights of those people, then it is a very fast and slippery slope to losing the rights of everybody who lives in America.

So I hope that, as we review this first 100 days and the massive lawbreaking that is going on and the tearing up of the Constitution and the tearing apart of the government and the tearing down of our economy, we will all wake up because the American people are waking up. They understand what is going on, and they don't like what they see. So we had better do our jobs here in the U.S. Senate, and I hope, starting today, all 100 Senators will begin to do exactly that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION FIRST 100 DAYS

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, yesterday did indeed mark the 100th day of President Trump's second term, and I think, if you were to pick four words that really describe his first 100 days, it would be promises were made, and promises are being kept. That is precisely what he has done.

If you want to go through some of these, let's start at the southern border.

Under President Biden, criminals, terrorists, and traffickers were flowing across that border, but because President Trump on day one took Executive action to secure that border, illegal crossings are at their lowest level in decades. This is something the American people wanted to see done.

In March, those crossings were down 95 percent from the last administration. I understand that this past week—, they had the lowest number ever—a 99-percent reduction. They had three people who were apprehended.

When you look at deportations, the Trump administration has already removed more than 100,000 criminal illegal aliens. This number has included suspected terrorists, members of violent gangs like MS-13 and Tren de Aragua, and we know that more of those deportations are going to take place.

President Trump is fulfilling the promise he made to make this Nation safe again, to make our communities safe again, and to get these violent gangs and criminals off our streets.

Now, even though these efforts have been very successful and are widely supported by the American people, we have seen some powerful institutions in our country try to block the will of the people and what they wanted to see done. This includes some of our Nation's social media companies. According to reports, Facebook is allowing a black market to thrive on its platform where illegal aliens can buy ride share and delivery driver accounts from credentialed users. In effect, what this black market does is help illegals avoid background checks and be able to work in our country illegally using someone else's name and credentials.

This is not something that is a new problem. Last year, I led a probe into the account security of food delivery services after we had received reports that showed illegal aliens were buying access to the accounts of legitimate users. Thankfully, companies like Uber Eats, DoorDash, and Grubhub implemented stronger driver verification processes after we began this investigation, but Facebook's black market really helps illegals to bypass those protections.

There is one Facebook group that has been out there, and here is the name of it: "UBER ACCOUNT FOR RENT WORLDWIDE." This account tallied 22,000 members who bought and sold delivery credentials.

While the social media platform has taken that specific group down, what we did find is there are now 80 similar groups that are active on Facebook.

This black market not only runs afoul of the law, but it also poses a serious public safety threat, especially for women, children, and the elderly. Just in February—and this is a case in point—there was a lady in Massachusetts. She was allegedly raped after or-

dering an Uber Eats delivery to her home. The app indicated that a woman would be delivering her order. Instead, an illegal alien with horrific intentions is who showed up on her doorstep.

Last week, I sent a letter to Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg, demanding answers about what his company is doing to eliminate this black market from Facebook. He has until May 6 to respond to the questions.

I will continue to press this issue of accountability and public safety with the big tech giants.

While President Trump has worked to secure our border and our communities, he has also focused on making our economy stronger than ever before. In the last 100 days, he has slashed Democrats' far-left regulations, has unleashed American energy production, and has secured trillions of dollars in investment to support American workers and industry.

Now, in Tennessee, we have seen some of the benefits of that, and we have seen millions of dollars in investments. The candy company Charms is investing nearly \$100 million to expand its production plant and distribution center in Covington, TN. Mount Juliet was included in a \$700 million nationwide investment by Schneider Electric to boost domestic manufacturing and energy infrastructure. Electronics company ABB is investing \$80 million in Selmer, TN, to expand manufacturing and to create new jobs.

Later today, I am going to be joining President Trump at the White House as he welcomes many CEOs of these companies that are making these investments in our Nation.

As the President works to usher in a new golden age, we are already seeing incredible results.

In March, our economy added 228,000 jobs, beating expectations by almost 100,000 jobs.

That same month, falling energy costs pushed inflation down to 2.4 percent. That is tied with the lowest inflation rate since February 2021. That was 1 month after President Biden took office and ushered in the worst inflation crisis since the 1970s.

President Trump and my Republican colleagues believe that Americans should have more money in their pocketbooks, not less, which is why we are working to extend the President's 2017 tax cuts. These tax cuts delivered historic growth for the economy, and if we fail to extend them, families and businesses will face the largest tax hike in history. It would be a \$4 trillion tax hike.

That is why, earlier this month, Republicans in Congress passed a budget resolution that will enable us to extend these expiring cuts. At the same time, we are advancing other tax priorities that are championed by the President, including his proposal to cut taxes on Social Security.

By taxing Social Security, the Federal Government is taxing a tax. It makes no sense. Social Security recipi-

ents have paid into this program for decades. They deserve the full sum of their Social Security income. However, nearly 66 percent of retirees are paying taxes on their Social Security benefits because Bidenflation pushed seniors' benefits into higher income brackets.

To address this, I have introduced the RETIREES First Act. It would lower the tax burden on Social Security benefits for seniors by raising the provisional income threshold from \$25,000 to \$34,000 for single filers and from \$32,000 to \$68,000 for married filers.

In effect, this legislation would eliminate income taxes for many of our Nation's retirees, leaving them with more money in their paychecks.

As we work on these tax provisions and more, I am looking forward to working with President Trump to deliver relief for hard-working Tennesseans and, indeed, all Americans.

We are the greatest Nation on Earth, and with strong leadership back in the White House, we can get this Nation back on track.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

S.J. RES. 49

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, later this afternoon, Senators WYDEN, Kaine, and I will force a vote here in the Senate to put an end to Donald Trump's stupid and reckless trade war. I thank Senators WYDEN and Kaine for their leadership on this issue.

We will have now more than 3 hours of debate on it, and that begins now.

Our resolution presents Republicans with a choice: stand with Donald Trump or stand with American families hurt by his trade war. The dismal GDP numbers today should be a wake-up call to Republican Senators now more than ever.

Four Republicans joined us last time to pass a resolution blocking tariffs on Canada because they knew how bad those tariffs were for people back home. Many more Republicans should join us today as the disastrous economic consequences of Trump's reckless trade war gets worse every single day.

If the Senate passes this bill, Speaker JOHNSON and House Republicans should immediately drop their opposition or else they will be complicit in pushing America into a recession.

One thing is clear, Donald Trump's tariffs have been a total failure. Instead of isolating China, Donald Trump's tariffs are isolating us. Instead of spurring American manufacturing, Trump's tariffs are raising costs and driving us into a recession.

There is no strategy with Trump's tariffs, only chaos. One day, Donald Trump says yes to tariffs; the next day, no to tariffs; one day, tariffs on this country; the next day, tariffs on that country. Even Donald Trump's own policy advisers are struggling to explain his flip-flopping.

The only thing Donald Trump's tariffs have succeeded in is raising the

odds of recession and sending markets into a tailspin.

I have talked to business owners in New York. I was in Suffolk County at Tandy's, a well-known dress seller there. Her costs are going up 30 percent because of tariffs, and she is faced with two awful choices: raise prices or lay off employees. And she doesn't want to do either.

Small businesses, medium businesses, big businesses—they are all frozen because they don't know what Donald Trump will do next. They can't plan for the future. Their costs are rising. They can't hire new workers. It is happening all over America.

Senate Republicans know deep down that Donald Trump's tariffs are awful for their States. So today they have to choose: Stick with Trump, or stand with your States and the people of America.

I thank my colleague and yield to the Senator from Oregon, the ranking member of Finance, who has done such a great job on this issue.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, before he leaves the floor, I just want to thank Leader SCHUMER for all the help. We are going to be focused today on something that really matters to people, and I thank him.

Mr. President, we are beginning, as you can tell, to discuss the resolution to repeal the global tariff emergency.

As is becoming routine under this President, Americans were greeted with grim economic news this morning. After 3 years of strong growth and rising job numbers, the U.S. economy actually shrank in the first 3 months of 2025. The trade deficit hit a record \$162 billion. The United States added only half as many jobs this month as expected.

A major culprit is unquestionably Donald Trump and his senseless global tariffs. If this continues to be our tariff policy, every major economist and forecaster is, unfortunately, predicting recession, job losses, and the misery that was all over our news feeds this morning.

The U.S. Senate cannot be an idle spectator in the tariff madness. The Congress has the power to set tariffs and regulate global trade, and Members can vote today—not do something in a month or some other time—but Members can vote today to put an end to Trump's global tariffs and the economic disaster they are creating.

Earlier this month, Donald Trump slapped new 10 percent taxes on nearly everything Americans buy from overseas, 125 percent tariffs on nearly everything from China, and he promises even higher taxes in July on products from nearly five dozen countries. That is just the latest plan.

I think we all understand goldfish have memories that last longer than Donald Trump's tariff promises. Before these global tariffs, there was the on-again, off-again trade war with China

and Mexico; tariffs on steel, aluminum, and cars; and ad hoc exemptions for things like electronics and fertilizer. When the public outcry was so great, Donald Trump had to backtrack.

Donald Trump imposed his global tariffs by declaring an economic emergency under a law call IEEPA. No President has ever imposed tariffs under this law. In my view, Trump's actions clearly go beyond what the law allows, which is why Senators SHAHEEN, KAINE, and I have offered a bill to make it clear that this law does not allow the President to issue tariffs.

Members can vote today to repeal the so-called emergency Trump declared and end the harmful global tariffs.

Now, I am going to talk for just a few minutes with respect to taking stock of the economic carnage that Donald Trump's trade chaos has already inflicted on our country. We are going to examine the administration's own claims about what their plan is and make the case for why every Member of this body should vote to assert the powers of Congress to trade and to end the tariffs, and they should do it no matter their party or which State they represent.

I already mentioned the shocking economic news this morning. By every single forecast, by every measure, Donald Trump's self-defeating tariffs are actively making Americans poorer, and they are doing it now and for years to come.

Economic growth, gone. Inflation, rising. Unemployment projections, up again.

Experts estimate Trump's tariffs will cost average families about \$4,000 a year. Many products from China won't even be available soon, and that is thanks to the tariffs. For the products that are still available, prices are going up—a fact that Donald Trump flails about trying to hide.

When Amazon was rumored to list the impacts of tariffs on prices, Donald Trump threw a fit, reportedly threatening Jeff Bezos and calling it a hostile act. God forbid that Americans actually know what the real costs of his tariffs are.

Meanwhile, Donald Trump and Republicans are charging ahead with plans to go forward with their tax bill, which features more bailouts for billionaires, paid for by kicking millions of people off their health insurance and gutting programs that kids and families rely on to stay safe and healthy.

Donald Trump, meanwhile, puts higher taxes on groceries, clothes, and cars for working families, while he puts his extra time in to pass tax cuts for the wealthy. That is his agenda.

My state knows how Donald Trump's tariff chaos is already hurting real people, and we know how it is drying up markets for “red, white, and blue” products. About one in five jobs in Oregon depends on trade, and the trade jobs often pay better.

Speaking with small businesses and workers all over Oregon—I did it just

last week—every single one warned of damage from tariffs, and soon.

Bob's Red Mill, for example, sells delicious flour and grains, mostly made from wheat and other crops in Oregon. But some of their ingredients—like coconut or tapioca, which just aren't grown here—come from outside the country. The cost of those products goes up because of tariffs.

Worse, foreign markets for Bob's goods are drying out. That is because other countries put their own tariffs on Bob's flour and other Oregon ag products in retaliation for Trump's aimless war.

Oregon grass seed growers estimate that about half of their exports—nearly \$200 million in sales—are being canceled, thanks to the global tariffs.

Donald Trump and his advisers claim there is nothing to worry about. They say the economists and the pundits are overreacting, and everything is going according to plan. Secretary Bessent is on cable news so often, trying to calm investors, that it is a wonder that he has got any time to do a bit of negotiating.

But, as usual, it is not clear at all what the plan is, what their tariffs are supposed to accomplish, or when, if ever, American families and workers will see the relief.

Earlier this month, Donald Trump claimed he would have 200 deals completed within 3 or 4 weeks. Then he said: No, that is “physically impossible” to have all of the meetings needed to seal the deals. He should have thought of that before he started a trade war against the entire world.

Now, he claimed that he was already negotiating with China to lower tariffs and calm trade tensions, but China and Secretary Bessent said that talks have not even started.

This weekend, the Agriculture Secretary said 100 countries had reached out to start trade talks, and almost at the same time, Secretary Bessent said there are actually 18 so-called priority countries, and those talks would take about 90 days.

If nobody in this administration can even agree on what is happening right now, how can they negotiate smart trade deals with nearly every nation on Earth?

Anonymous White House aides continue to say that Donald Trump is working to deescalate his trade war, but Donald Trump doesn't sound like he is willing to admit he got it wrong. He told Time magazine that if tariffs are at 20 percent or even 50 percent a year from now, that would be a “total victory.” So, once again, no one can tell what his administration wants or what the end game is.

I believe it is hard to see how any foreign country right now would make concessions to Donald Trump. That is because he has proven himself to be both untrustworthy and incapable of sticking to a position on tariffs for more than a few weeks at a time.

One foreign diplomat told the press that countries are worried that any

deal they make with the Treasury or Commerce Secretaries will be contradicted by Trump. Other trading partners said they don't want to make a deal now only to have Trump decide on a unilateral tariff in the future.

Donald Trump has trashed America's credibility.

He hasn't just made it unlikely for his administration to get a good deal for American workers. My view is he has hurt every future president who wants to strike a good trade deal.

The best way to restore our Nation's good name is for Congress to step in and assert, finally, our constitutional authority over trade.

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution grants Congress power "To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations" and "To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises." In other words, this is our job. It is not always pretty, but Congress can provide stability and certainty on trade that last beyond a single President's administration.

This body has already signaled bipartisan support for reversing pointless tariffs. We did that when we passed Senator KAINE's bill to end the tariffs on Canada. Today, the Senate can take another powerful step—a powerful step in the right direction—by voting to repeal the global tariffs on a bipartisan basis.

I would just close by saying: Listen to your constituents. Listen to what you are hearing from home, because what I heard was, overwhelmingly, Oregonians and the people I ran into in airports and the like said it is time to bring some certainty and predictability back to making these urgently needed trade policies.

I urge this body to vote for jobs and prosperity rather than unending trade conflict that leaves our country as a loser. I urge every Senator to support this crucial resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BANKS). The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, I want to support everything that my colleague, the ranking member of the Finance Committee, just said about these tariffs.

I want to make two points about the tariffs—one, the tariffs themselves, and then second, the congressional failure to assert its own authority on policies that it has the constitutional responsibility for when our failure results in economic pain and insecurity for the American people.

First of all, the tariffs. When the history of this decision is written, President Trump's imposition of these wild and reckless tariffs is going to be seen as one of the greatest economic blunders in a century. It is that bad.

What is happening in Vermont is happening in every State across this country. First of all, these tariffs are a tax. Second, they are paid for by consumers, by manufacturers, and by producers. Third, it is having a negative impact on trade and on our economy

already. Today's information about the gross domestic product shrinkage is evidence in and of itself.

In Vermont, Trump's tariffs are estimated to cost Vermont households more than \$1 billion. More than 18,000 Vermonters work in industries that are targeted by retaliatory tariffs, but virtually every Vermonter is going to be impacted by increased costs—inflation—as a result of the tariffs.

As an example, food, fuel, energy—all of these things are going to be impacted and really affect people in their day-to-day and month-to-month budgets.

We get a lot of our electricity, a lot of our home heating fuel, and a lot of our petroleum from Canada, especially in the northern part of our State. Those costs are going to be increased, especially with the expected retaliatory tariffs that are imposed on us by countries subject to the arbitrary action of President Trump.

Farmers are really hit hard. Most of our farmers in Vermont import their fertilizer from Canada. There is about a 25-percent increase that they are going to be paying. And these are farmers, as the Presiding Officer knows, that operate on the thinnest of margins in the most uncertain of activities, subject to weather and price fluctuations and so many other things that make our farmers courageous entrepreneurs. But why add 25 percent to the cost of fertilizer when that input cost is already so high? It is mind-boggling to think that this is a voluntary action by the President.

Canada, by the way, happens to be our biggest trading partner, and 34 States have Canada as their major trading partner. In these tariffs—in Canada, we are a 2.1 billion import partner with Canada—20 percent tariff. China—a lot of input from China that our manufacturers use—54 percent tariff, plus who knows how many more tariffs depending on the day and how President Trump feels when he wakes up. Trinidad and Tobago: 81 million, 10 percent tariff. Germany: 75 million. Mexico: 77 million.

Very frustratingly for all of us, the sweeping global tariff order unnecessarily increases prices and taxes on countries that have trade surpluses with America.

I recently heard from a Vermonter who imports coffee and has a niche business that has become extremely successful. The tariffs on Colombia have resulted in this: A container that cost \$700 last month—that container now costs \$13,000. How do you deal with that? A hit to the margin is—no business can absorb that.

Vermont is also home to one of two businesses in the world that produce these unique snow globes, and they have been in business for 25 years. It is a modest business, but it is one that was created by a Vermont entrepreneur, and it has been really successful. They are going to have to close their doors at the end of the summer

with these increased tariffs, basically, on China.

A second point that I think is relevant to these tariffs is the arbitrariness of their implementation and the arbitrariness of how and who is affected. We have a situation where we supposedly have these tariffs on China. Apple Computer, quite understandably, was upset. It was going to increase the cost of iPhones. Well, no problem. Tim Cook was at the inauguration, sitting on the throne of honor, and he had the telephone number, made the call, and the tariffs on iPhones vanished.

You know that snow globe manufacturer that I mentioned from Vermont? She does not have Howard Lutnick's phone number. She does not have Scott Bessent's phone number. She does not have President Trump's phone number. She is out of luck.

So now, with these tariffs and the way they are being implemented without any congressional engagement whatsoever, we are turning our economy from one where it is based on a good product, really good service, where you compete in the marketplace and if your product is better and your service is better, you succeed, to an economy that is more based on access. Do you know Lutnick? Do you know Bessent? Do you know the President?

Oh, and by the way, if you contributed a couple million dollars to the inauguration, you probably do know them and they give out the phone number.

That is absolutely outrageous. People work hard. They produce a good product. They give good service. Shouldn't they be entitled to the reward for the labor that they have done; whereas, what we are seeing now is that if you are connected, you can be rewarded regardless of how good your product is or how lousy your service is. That is offensive—and should be—to every single one of us here, and that is absolutely what is happening in the White House.

Another thing is there is a casual disregard for how hard it is for everyday families in the Presiding Officer's State and mine and in the ranking member's State to pay the bills because inflation has been here. Instead of arguing about who is at fault for that, let's solve the problem, not aggravate the problem. And these tariffs aggravate the problem. There is absolutely no denying that. This is just the wrong thing at the wrong time for the wrong reasons.

Another element of this is, what is the purpose of these tariffs? President Trump won't give a clear answer. It is to make us rich. They will pay; we won't. It is to bring manufacturing back here. Or it is to punish folks that he deems unworthy. It depends on the day, and it depends on who is asking. So there is no coherent rationale connected to the imposition of this enormous economic pain and cost increase that is being imposed on American businesses and American consumers.

The other question here that is profoundly important for this institution—every single one of us is proud to be a Member of the U.S. Senate, and I think our pride is about our pride in the Constitution as citizens where, under the Constitution, this Congress plays a role as a coequal branch of government. And I think every single one of us here is wary of the accumulation of excessive power in any one person or in any one institution.

Congress has steadily over the years been ceding much of its responsibility and authority to the executive branch. There is no authority greater than the power to tax, and that is why, in the Constitution, the power to impose tariffs resides in the House of Representatives and the Senate. And shouldn't it be that way? Because in the imposition of the tax, there has to be a decision that—in asking our citizens, who we represent, to turn over hard-earned money to the government, we have to be able to justify the purpose for which those funds are being expended.

By allowing the President to take over, in effect, the taxing authority that occurs when the tariff is imposed, we have ceded that responsibility to him or that authority to him, and we have abandoned our responsibility to look our constituents in the eye if and when we say a tax should be imposed. None of us like to do that, but a government has to collect revenues for the common good. We have delegated that authority to the President, and it is wrong of us to do that.

So we can have different views about whether there should be a tariff or what the rate should be, but we have a collective responsibility to do everything we can to maintain the constitutional structure of three independent branches of government, each a counterweight to the other. That is not just an abstract concept; that is the wisdom that has served us well for well over 200 years, that those checks and balances give all our citizens an opportunity to have a seat at the table when major decisions about their lives and their futures are being made.

So that is why this decision that we are about to make is not just about the tariffs. It is not just about, in my view, how recklessly they are being applied and imposed. It is not just about how they infect our economy with corruption, where it is who you know rather than how hard you work that is going to get you ahead. It is about the basic structure of our constitutional order, and every single one of us has the responsibility to protect that because that is not about us. It is not about who we represent. It is about how our country can operate with a democratic system where every single person, through their representatives, has a seat at the table.

So I urge all of us to take a look at what our constitutional responsibility is. Whether we agree or not on so many different issues of vital concern to the future of this country, we each have a

responsibility to act in a way that protects the constitutional system. That means that we exercise authority over tariffs; we don't give that away to an executive branch decision.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, as the American people can clearly see, President Trump's new tariffs have become a massive tax hike on consumers—a tax on the food we eat, a tax on the clothes we wear, the cars we drive, every cup of coffee we have in the morning.

These rising costs are not just hurting consumers, actually; they are hurting American businesses and our workforce too. We are already seeing the impact. It is not a hypothetical.

I call your attention to my home State, the great State of California, home to two of the largest ports in the Nation in southern California alone, the neighboring Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, that truly power our Nation's economy.

It is not an exaggeration. The Port of Los Angeles, which is the largest port in the United States, expects imports to drop by 35 percent in just 2 weeks' time, as Trump's tariffs and his manufactured chaos bring global trade to a halt. The Port of Long Beach is expecting similar declines.

Take a minute to think about the magnitude of that drop in cargo volume. That decline, at the end of the day, will mean empty shelves and higher prices.

The over \$300 billion in cargo coming through what we know as the San Pedro Bay port complex is tied to nearly 1 million jobs in the region alone and 2.7 million jobs across the country. That is nearly one job for every four containers.

When the richest President in history decides on his own, unlawfully, to haphazardly apply an across-the-board tax on goods—because that is what these tariffs are—the goods-moving industry is going to take a hit. It will mean fewer jobs for port workers, for truckers, and for communities across the country. It will mean more Americans out of work.

While the western port communities may be the first to feel the pain, it won't be long before the effects of these tariffs reach the east coast and the gulf coast.

As I mentioned, this isn't just bad news for American consumers who rely on imports. It is also bad news for U.S. farmers and businesses that rely on the export of goods to other countries.

Trump's tariffs are already damaging important supply chains in ways that will be difficult and very expensive to reverse. And, in the meantime, China and others are all too happy to fill in the void.

I just had a group of growers from California in my office, just yesterday, and they were sharing with me their very specific experiences—fears—that

are playing out. You see, U.S. companies, not just agricultural companies, depend on markets in China and elsewhere in Asia, India, and Europe for sales, for profits that they can, in turn, invest in their own companies and hire more employees.

Now, when those markets are shut off to them and those countries respond to these unnecessary tariff wars provoked by President Trump, they don't stop consuming. Whether it is fruit, vegetables, electronics, or otherwise, they just find somewhere else to get it. When those other countries, those other markets, find a replacement for their supply, they are not going to give it up in 2 months, maybe, if Donald Trump wakes up in a better mood and sees the error of his ways when it comes to these tariffs—because there is that deadline, right? We are in a 90-day postponement of a lot of these tariffs, but we don't know what is coming on day 91.

Tariffs are imposed. Tariffs are not imposed. More significant tariffs are imposed. I hope it has nothing to do with his poll numbers because the American public will continue to feel more pain.

My point is this. Other markets and consumers abroad who have purchased from the United States are going to purchase elsewhere, and they are not going to revert immediately back, even if we get the President to make the right decision in the next couple of months.

Now, like I said, Americans are already feeling the pain. It is going to get worse. Just this morning, the Commerce Department reported our Nation's gross domestic product for the first quarter. The results: Our quarterly GDP declined by 0.3 percent. It wasn't a reduction in growth. It was a decline of 0.3 percent in his first 100 days alone.

Donald Trump's reckless policies actually shrank the American economy. Is that what he bragged about? Is that what he campaigned on? Is that what people voted for?

This shrinking of the economy, by the way, follows 3 years of robust growth of our economy under President Biden. I don't think our Republican colleagues will recognize that, but it is true. The numbers do not lie.

So 100 days of chaos, increased costs, and corruption are shrinking our economy. To my Republican colleagues: Are you hearing this? Are you listening? Are you prepared to act?

American businesses are going to be forced to take on some of these higher costs for materials, to cut back on production, to try to make ends meet, to delay investment. That is the opposite of what we need. We need more investment, not to delay or postpone investment because of tariff uncertainty. And, certainly, they are going to raise prices, because, again, when American companies have to import, it is American companies that pay the tariffs. It is not other countries, as the President

would like you to believe, and those costs get passed on to the consumer.

Meanwhile, the world is moving on without us, as I explained a minute ago.

So let's be clear about the stakes of what we are debating today: A vote against this resolution is a vote to maintain Trump's tariffs that are so clearly devastating our economy already. It will move us closer to a recession solely of Trump's doing. You can't blame it on anybody else. And it is a vote against the American worker, a vote against the American economy, a vote against American competitiveness. Is that what you want to go back and tell your constituents?

Colleagues, I urge you to listen to your constituents, to small businesses in our respective States, the State and local governments. It is not too late to turn back.

Support this resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, President Trump took a strong American economy and broke it in less than 100 days.

Right now, Republican Senators are at a crossroads. Will they vote to stop Trump's chaotic tariffs and save our economy, or will they continue bending the knee to Donald Trump? That is the vote that we are forcing tonight.

When he ran for office, Donald Trump promised, over and over and over, that he would lower costs on day one. Those were his words: Lower costs on day one. In fact, he said after he was elected that it was one of the main reasons that he won. But as soon as the election was over, he ignored that promise.

Instead of working to lower costs on day one, he has decided to start the dumbest trade war in U.S. history, which is already increasing costs for American households and damaging our economy.

So let's take a step back and talk about what has happened since Trump started this trade war.

The stock market took the biggest plunge since the early days of the pandemic, sinking millions of Americans' retirement accounts. Businesses have begun hiking prices and laying off workers. Americans are worried that they won't be able to survive a cratering economy. And, just today, Americans woke up to the news that Donald Trump single-handedly shrunk our economy in 3 months and raised the cost of their groceries.

The warning lights are all flashing red. We have seen this before, but this time our economy is teetering on the edge not because of a mortgage meltdown or a one-in-a-century virus but because of one man alone: the President of the United States.

Unless we reverse course quickly, many economists believe that a recession is inevitable. And like in all recessions, the pain will fall hardest on working families. Many Americans will

face the one-two punch of job losses on top of overwhelming debt burdens. A cascade of defaults and foreclosures and personal bankruptcies could follow.

With so many indications that American families are in serious trouble, our government should be throwing them a lifeline. Instead, President Trump is throwing them an anchor, while he carves out exceptions for a few well-connected billionaires who have bent the knee.

This is the moment for Congress to step up. And where are the Senate Republicans? Watching? Waiting? Hoping it doesn't get worse? Hoping that maybe somebody else will step up?

Well, I am here to say: It is up to us in the U.S. Senate. No one else is coming to save us. We are the ones who have to act.

If Republicans care about the American people, they will vote yes on our resolution today and turn off the fake emergency that Donald Trump is using to impose his on-again, off-again red-light, green-light tariffs—the tariffs that are pushing our economy off a cliff.

Let me repeat: Congress can end this economic threat today. All we need are some Republican Senators to join us to vote down the President's abuse of emergency authorities.

Unless we take action now, millions of people will lose their jobs, families will be destroyed, and our economy will take years to recover. But this time, it will be the President of the United States who destroyed our economy, and it will be congressional Republicans who helped him do it because they didn't have the spine to stand up to Donald Trump.

So I say to my Republican colleagues: Let's get this done. You have a choice. You can either continue to enable Donald Trump's tariff chaos, or you could actually stand up for our constituents. It is truly that simple.

The chaos and corruption of Trump's first 100 days can be curbed. The President is no King, and he only has as much power as Congress is willing to let him keep.

It is time for us—Democrats, Republicans, and Independents—to step up and head off a crisis before millions more American families are hurt. We have the power. We just need the courage to use it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, the Constitution of the United States puts two powers clearly—clearly—within the hands of Congress: the power to tax and the power to conduct trade policy, including the imposition of tariffs. These are powers for Congress, not the Executive. But President Trump finds Congress an inconvenience, and he has decided to take both of these powers onto his own shoulders by imposing a national sales tax—that is what his global tariff regime is—without any vote in

Congress, purely on his own say-so, and to engage every nation in the world in a trade war on his own say-so without involving Congress.

President Trump has said in the past: "I alone can fix it," and we know that that statement is false. No one alone can fix the big challenges facing our Nation. But I think if he were to say, "I alone can break it," the results of the last 100 days would have proven him correct.

President Trump, on Inauguration Day, inherited the strongest economy on the planet Earth—not a perfect economy but the strongest economy, the envy of other industrialized nations. That is what he had just 100 days ago. And we know this morning that strong economy, which was growing for 3 years at a very solid pace, is now contracting.

It is not only the contraction of the economy, it is chaos in the stock market; it is declining consumer confidence; it is projections of recession by Federal Reserve districts and major economists.

All of this is happening because Donald Trump has pursued a three-step strategy of his own: massive layoffs of employees, contrary to congressionally passed appropriations bills, massive slashing of Federal spending programs, including those relied upon by everyday Americans in contravention of congressionally appropriated spending bills, and the waging of a tariff war against the entire planet.

And as my colleagues have said, it is a tariff war that gets announced and then suspended and then delayed and then announced again and then exceptions might be granted if we like you or not. It is chaos.

Last week, I traveled around the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I talked to businesses everywhere in my State. And they talked about the layoffs and they talked about the spending cuts and they talked about the tariffs and they added those three together and said what those three add up to is chaos—the chaos of unpredictability.

Many businesses told me that they want to make investments. They want to make investments to grow their businesses in Virginia, but they are unwilling to make a decision to invest as long as the rules of the road are chaotic and up in the air.

Businesses that import natural products to turn into finished products have to pay a tariff on the import. Businesses who sell their product abroad are losing markets as nations put retaliatory tariffs on the United States. And so these businesses are pausing their investment decisions.

Businesses in Virginia that are connected to multinational businesses are saying that their headquarters are deciding, well, we can invest in the United States or we can invest in another country. It is not wise to invest in the United States when everything is so chaotic.

Let's be clear, and I spoke about this with my colleagues when I talked

about the Canada tariff provision that we successfully rebuked the President on a month ago. A tariff is nothing more than a sales tax. It is a sales tax on the products that everyday Americans use, especially groceries and clothing and building supplies, for farmers, the cost of fertilizer that they need as they are engaging in spring planting. Trump's worldwide tariffs are nothing but a new sales tax.

And the analysis, as this chart shows, of who the tariffs raise taxes on, like every other form of sales tax, tariffs are regressive. They hit lower income people the most. The average tax change as a share of income if the Trump tariffs are implemented, it is essentially on the poorest 20 percent of the American population, the equivalent to an additional 6.2 percent sales tax. For the next wealthiest quintile up, it is a 5.5-percent increase on the sales tax. For the next, it is 5.0, all the way up to the richest 1 percent will see their effective sales tax rate go up by 1.7 percent. This is a sales tax on everyone in the country, but it is a sales tax that, as all sales taxes do, fall hardest on those who can least afford it.

The new sales tax is affecting retirees particularly. So from NBC News:

Retirees 'stunned' as market turmoil over tariffs shrinks their 401(k)s.

We have a Social Security system that is a good foundation for retirement so long as this administration doesn't mess it up, but it is not sufficient for retirement. And what you need for a dignified retirement is Social Security plus private savings, in most people's case, 401(k)s. The turmoil in the market driven by tariff uncertainty is hammering retirees more than just about any other group of people in this country.

The new sales tax is also a drag on economic growth—we saw this in the announcement this morning—but not just economic growth in the United States. I am on the Armed Services Committee, and I had a chance to go visit 2 weeks ago with the new government, incoming government in Germany.

Germany is a great ally. More U.S. troops are on the ground in Germany than any nation other than Japan outside the United States. We are security partners in Ukraine and in European security generally. The new German Government was just elected, the Chancellor will be installed in the first week in May with a mandate to restore the German economy, which has been in the doldrums since about 2019.

And as I talked to German leaders, military leaders and leaders in the civilian government, they said this is going to be the most pro-American, pro-transatlantic Chancellor you will have seen for a very long time, but he is coming in with a powerful mandate to grow the German economy so that we can be even better security partners, so that we can work better together on the manufacture of the F-35 and to help Ukraine in its defense.

But the Trump tariffs are standing directly in the way of this new, pro-American government being able to achieve what they need to be able to achieve. And that is why the IMF said that the Trump tariffs, this new sales tax, will be a drag not just on U.S. economic growth but on global economic growth.

This is a story from less than a week ago. U.S. manufacturing was already slowing before the GDP numbers came out today. A larger share of manufacturers are reporting declines in new orders rather than increases. Some of those declines are driven because of the price effect of tariffs, the price effect of retaliatory tariffs, but some are also being driven by the uncertainty.

There is a chaos penalty on the economy. When you are not sure what is going to happen, you slow your investments, and that is why you see a decline in manufacturing.

The Trump new sales tax, again, as proof from Reuters, "Trump tariffs would harm all involved, U.S. trade partners say."

This is not just something that is hurting everyday Americans—those are those to whom we have a responsibility in this body, but this is affecting the global economy in a way that is shocking.

And China, Japan, South Korea—a company from South Korea just announced a huge investment in Virginia yesterday in the clean energy space. Japan and South Korea, especially, are countries that do a lot of foreign direct investment in the United States. Japan and South Korea are two of our strongest partners, but even they are responding in a hostile way to U.S. tariffs. In fact, you see China, Japan, and South Korea starting to cooperate together to ward off some of the negative economic effects of U.S. tariffs. The last thing we want to do is encourage Japan and South Korea to work closer with China. We want Japan and South Korea to work closer with the United States. But the Trump tariffs are chasing allies into the arms of adversaries. How foolish is that?

And then we end up with the chaos argument that my colleagues had mentioned before. From the New York Times last week: "With Only Bad Options, Businesses Scramble for a Tariff Chaos Playbook."

A tariff chaos playbook.

When the cost of your imports is going up, when your export market is shrinking, when you don't know what the end of the story will be, the options that you have are very murky. Businesses want to have predictability. They want to be able to look into a crystal ball, and if they don't completely know the future, they want to be able to make enough of a prediction about the economic climate that would justify sizable investments.

And in a time of chaos, those investments are not going to be made, and that raises the danger that this first quarter economic contraction will be

followed by another, which would be the textbook definition of a recession.

So how did we get here? From an economy on Inauguration Day that was the strongest in the world, when President Trump stood 50 yards from here and said it was a golden age, to an economy that has nothing but red lights and question marks all over it, we got here because one individual decided to bypass Congress and take both the taxing power and the trade power into his own hands without a debate, without committee hearings, without deliberation, without considering what the people thought about the plan, and that one man and his decisions have taken a chain saw to the American economy.

We must turn this around, and the good news is the Senate has the ability to turn it around. When the Congress passed the IEEPA law decades ago, it recognized the potential that an Executive can overuse the emergency power, and that is why Congress did something rare in IEEPA. They gave the power even to a single Senator, even to a single Senator in the minority party to say: Wait a minute, Mr. President, you have declared an emergency and, guess what, you are wrong. And even at the request of a single Senator, this body is put on the board to have to declare whether we own the policies of the President, this Trump madness, or whether we disown it and urge him to take a different path.

All the economic trends are pointing in the same direction. We should take a different path on the economy before this gets worse. The vote we will have later today gives the Senate, the greatest deliberative body in the world, the chance to stand up and say: Let's take a different path.

I thank my colleagues for their work together on this important resolution and urge a favorable vote on the resolution that we will have later today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, you know, there was an old-fashioned conservative principle that believed that less taxes were better than more taxes; that if you taxed something, you got less of it, so that if you place a new tax on trade, you will get less trade.

There was also this idea that you didn't do taxation without representation. That idea goes not only back to our American Revolution, it goes back to the English civil war as well.

It goes back to probably Magna Carta. I mean, for hundreds of years the English were arguing of the supremacy of Parliament, that Parliament would be able to have the power over the King. So when we were leading up to the Revolution, the cry from James Otis was, "Taxation without representation is tyranny."

These were the words of James Otis, but they still ring true today. It should not come as a surprise that in a country founded on a tax revolt, one person

is not allowed to raise taxes. Our Founding Fathers saw this and said: No, we want to make sure that the authority of taxation begins not only in Congress, that it actually originates in the House, the body closest to the people.

Our Constitution forbids taxes from being enacted without the approval of Congress, and yet here we are.

An emergency has been declared, as the Senator from Virginia remarked, everywhere. There is an emergency everywhere. Sounds like an emergency nowhere. But despite the constitutional restraints or constraints on executive power, Americans have now been ordered to pay higher taxes in the form of tariffs but without the consent of Congress.

The tariffs we discuss today are global tariffs. Just about every country in the world is subjected to at least a 10-percent tariff, to say nothing of the dozens of countries whose imports will be taxed at a much higher rate.

Congress didn't debate these tariffs. Congress didn't vote to enact these tariffs. The tariffs are simply imposed by Presidential fiat, by proclamation.

Government by one person who assumes all power by asserting a so-called emergency is the antithesis of constitutional government. It was Montesquieu that our Founding Fathers looked to in setting up the separation of powers.

And Montesquieu said that when you unite the legislative power with the executive power in the body of one person, that no liberty can exist. They worried about this. They fretted about it. They worried about having too much power with the President, and so they severely constricted the power of the Presidency. They said the President couldn't take us to war; only Congress could. They said the President couldn't spend money; only Congress could. They said the President couldn't tax people; only Congress could.

These were the very bedrock and still are the very bedrock of our constitutional principles. Yet, people—particularly on my side—are looking away and saying: Oh, whatever. We will just let the President do whatever.

Look, I supported President Trump. I still support President Trump on many things. But I am not for a country run by emergencies. Even if the person was doing what I wanted and was, you know, making every day my birthday, I would not be for that unless we deliberated upon that. There are constitutional processes that are incredibly important.

The Constitution doesn't allow the President of the United States to be the sole decider. Even the President must abide by the proper limits of Executive power.

Thankfully, our Constitution does more than merely hope that our Chief Executive will remain within the confines of the Constitution; our Constitution explicitly limits the power of the

Presidency. Our Founders led a rebellion against a King precisely over this. They went to great lengths to circumscribe and limit the power of the Presidency.

Devoted as they were to the preservation of individual liberty, the Founders divided power among three branches of government. But more importantly, those three branches were to check and balance each other to prevent one branch from accumulating too much power.

Madison wrote in the Federalist Papers that the Constitution was to pit ambition against ambition. The natural ambition of men and women to accumulate power was to be checked by other branches of people who would say: You can't have that power. It is our power.

That pitting of ambition back and forth was to constrain government. It was to constrain government from running away and power from being run away with one person.

The Founding Fathers empowered Congress with tools to ensure that the liberties of the people would not be threatened by one-person rule. The Founders would not be surprised that the Executive would attempt to aggrandize power at the expense of the legislature. They would have expected it. Indeed, they did expect it. But they would be surprised—the Founders would be shocked that Congress would voluntarily and recklessly and fecklessly give up their power to the Presidency, to submit to emergency rule. The Founders would not have expected the House of Representatives to become so craven as to refuse to even allow a vote on ending the emergency.

The law says that the vote we will have is mandatory. It is privileged. The Senate will adhere to the law.

The House will not have a vote. The House, in its haste to give away its power to tax, actually passed a rule to prevent a mandatory vote on ending the emergencies. They prevent it because the rule says that days no longer exist. They declared that legislative days will not exist despite the legislature continuing to meet each day.

The House has essentially ruled that days are not days and they are not to be counted as days until such time as the House again agrees to allow days to be counted as days. Does that sound absurd? Absolutely. It is absurd. It is craven. It is cowardice at its best, and it is dishonest because a rule of the House is preventing a law from being obeyed. I didn't know we could pass a rule to prevent a law from being obeyed.

When the emergency powers were granted to the President in 1966, the Emergencies Act was meant to constrain the Republic. We were already worried about too many emergencies. Many on my side have actually cosponsored bills that say emergencies should automatically end unless affirmatively approved by Congress. Many of those people now are looking the other way. They are looking the other way and saying: Well, it is our President now.

I had a reform of the Emergencies Act under the previous President, a Democrat. I had the same bill under a Republican. This should not be a partisan issue.

The Founders would not have expected the upper chamber, the Senate, to let the novel use of a statute traditionally used to sanction adversaries to become used for tariffs to tax American people and to let it go unchallenged. This is not constitutionalism; this is cowardice.

Our system of government cannot work when Congress abdicates its legislative authority. Madison said we would pit ambition against ambition, but what if we have Presidential ambition and we have congressional acquiescence? we have congressional timidity? we have congressional nonentity, choosing to become a nonentity, not participate, do whatever you want? It is a recipe for disaster. Madison and those of the revolutionary generation would have expected Members of Congress to jealously guard their authority from the imperial pretensions of the Chief Executive.

To endorse governance by emergency rule is to fail to live up to what the Constitution demands of us, and failure to do our constitutional duty is an invitation to further emergency rule.

I know some Republicans like the idea of taxing trade, but what if there is a next President who is a Democrat who says: By emergency rule, I decree there will be no gasoline-using cars. We will have only electric cars.

That is what we are preparing ourselves for. Every distortion of the checks and balances of powers gets worse. Every time a party changes hands, they say: Well, you guys did this, so we are going to leapfrog and do this. And it goes back and forth until the individual citizen knows nothing other than the loss of liberty.

Even President Trump didn't try to argue that this law called IEEPA, which is normally used for sanctions—he didn't act upon it in his first term. He makes a claim today, though, likely because the appropriate trade laws on the books require months to be implemented, and he can't wait. And the Republicans go along, and they say: Emergency? No problem. Constitution? What? Constitution? Forget about it.

Members of his political party will stand by his assertion. Some may cast their actions today as an exercise of party loyalty. Some may even be praised by Pennsylvania Avenue. But for those who care to listen closely, within that praise will be heard a touch of disdain.

It is no secret that Congress lacks the fortitude to stand up for its prerogatives, and this is bipartisan. Presidents in both parties routinely exceed their power because they know that Congress has weakened itself to such an extent that it cannot challenge and will not challenge Executive overreach.

Congress delegates its legislative authority to the President so that the

laws we live under are, in reality, written by bureaucrats who the people do not know, will never meet, and cannot hold accountable through elections.

But I don't want to let off both parties on this. The powers that have been given to the President over trade have been given to the President by Congress over many decades. Congress acquiesced. Congress said: Here. We don't want to deal with it. You can have it.

Congress today can scarcely be bothered to even consider individual appropriations bills. By consistently waiting until the last second to pass a massive funding bill and threaten a government shutdown, the leadership deprives Congress of what Madison called its most complete and effectual weapon: the power of the purse.

We just put it all in one bill, and then they say: If you don't for it, you are for shutting the government down.

You can't shut the government down, so you have to vote for the massive bill, which includes more pork than you can probably ever imagine.

Congress has—unique among the three branches—unilaterally disarmed and demonstrated itself unable and unwilling to check the Executive.

If Americans are to live under this emergency rule, it will not be because the President sought too much power; it will be because Congress let it happen.

If Americans are to live in a country where the President alone decides what is to be taxed, at what rate, and for how long, it will be because Congress is too feeble to stand up for the interests and bank accounts of the people.

If Americans live in a country where their elected representatives in the legislature cannot or will not speak for them, it will be because those representatives silenced themselves. They gave in. They did not stand up and do their duty.

We can show the people that the constitutional principle of the separation of powers still means something and that we can successfully challenge the Presidential attempt to raise taxes without the consent of Congress.

Tariffs are taxes, plain and simple. Tariffs don't punish foreign governments; they punish American families. When we tax imports, we raise the price of everything from groceries, to smartphones, to washing machines, to just about every conceivable product.

Voters in the last election indicated they were fed up with high prices. Every time Americans went to the grocery store, they were reminded that inflation and putting food on their family's table was more difficult and left them with less money for other necessities.

Many pundits say the 2024 election hinged on promises to reduce inflation and lower taxes. Does it make any sense to impose a tax on imports that will make all Americans worse off? Shouldn't we learn from our success?

We should ask ourselves a fundamental question: Is trade good? Well,

trade is simply capitalism. Trade never occurs unless you want a product more than you want your money. Has anyone ever made a trade, a voluntary trade, where you thought you were being ripped off? No. You buy stuff only because you think you are making a good deal.

Those who say that, oh, no, we are being ripped off—it is a fallacy. It asserts that one of the parties must necessarily lose or be taken advantage of. The argument belies a fundamental misunderstanding of trade. By definition, every voluntary trade is mutually beneficial.

Trade is good. That isn't an opinion; it is a fact. For at least the last 50 years, as trade rises, so does wealth. And people say the middle class has gotten smaller? Slightly but only because it moved to the upper class.

These tariffs will make Americans poorer, and they will make the defenders of those tariffs pay. Tariffs bring us closer to the day when the people are ruled by a czar of industrial policy. When that day comes, we will wish we had defended the Constitution when we still had the power to do so.

We cannot afford to stand idly by while the constitutional principle of the separation of powers is eviscerated. Legislators who stand aside and abdicate the power to tax will one day rue the accumulation of power in the office of one person.

I stand against this emergency, I stand against these tariffs, and I stand against shredding the Constitution.

I have no animus towards the President. I voted for him and support his administration.

I come to the floor today not because I want to but because I am compelled to. I love my country and the principles upon which it is founded. The oath I took upon taking this office is to the Constitution of the United States and not to any person or faction.

I want to preserve the divisions of power that protect us and our children from the rule of one person. That is why I will today vote to end this emergency. I will vote to reclaim the taxation power of Congress, where the Constitution properly places it, and I urge the Members of my party to do the same.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in opposition to the resolution. Before I get into my prepared remarks, let me just make it clear. What we are doing here today is following a law, IEEPA, which gave authority to the President of the United States to declare an emergency and gave Congress the authority to reject that declaration of the emergency by a vote in Congress.

The President has declared that emergency under the authority of that law, and this resolution has been brought to reject the declaration of

that emergency. That is what we are debating today, and that is what the vote in Congress is about.

I appreciate that many of us in this Chamber have heard from constituents concerned about the economic impact of the tariffs. All of us are watching this issue closely and working with the administration to find ways to minimize its impact on Americans.

We should also be working with the administration to address a shared objective: more opportunities for Americans in foreign markets and an end to discriminatory practices in foreign markets against Americans, against our farmers, and against our businesses.

The President's decision to pause the full reciprocal tariffs for 90 days, other than for China, was a prudent move in that respect. It helped mitigate the impact. It discouraged retaliation but also continued the serious negotiations by our trading partners to address longstanding trading barriers faced by Americans in foreign markets.

I don't believe there is anybody in Congress who would deny that for decades, nations around the globe have put unjustified tariffs on American producers, on American products. We should not undermine these negotiations by the President at this critical juncture. The administration has shared that serious negotiations are proceeding with 18 countries at a minimum now and with more to follow shortly.

In the coming weeks, the U.S. Trade Representative will meet with the Senate advisory group on negotiations and the Finance Committee to discuss these negotiations in detail. I encourage my colleagues to trust the President, at least until they have had the opportunity to hear from his trade team about their efforts.

As the White House recently argued in its statement of administrative policy, this resolution, if we passed it, would signal to U.S. trading partners that they can continue to discriminate against U.S. exports with impunity and would signal that the United States is not serious about addressing structural imbalances in the global economy and the conditions giving rise to the threat to U.S. national security and economy.

Disapproving this emergency will undercut the serious negotiations that are underway, which are also yielding results. For example, India has already suspended its digital services tax on U.S. companies. The President is a good negotiator, and he deserves more time and our support.

Ending these negotiations at their inception benefits only one actor: China. China will see its full reciprocal tariff limited immediately without offering any concessions to addressing longstanding, bipartisan grievances. Moreover, China will benefit because its trade negotiations will continue, while ours will sputter out.

For these reasons, I encourage my colleagues to vote in opposition to this resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

H.J. RES. 75

Mrs. MOODY. Mr. President, I rise today on the 100th day as a U.S. Senator—in fact, Florida's newest U.S. Senator—to urge my colleagues to support H.J. Res. 75, a Congressional Review Act resolution to rescind burdensome energy efficiency requirements on commercial refrigerators and freezers that were imposed by the Biden-Harris administration at the 11th hour just before President Trump's inauguration.

The Biden-Harris administration, as we all know, in many of these agenda-driven regulations pushed out of Agencies, was a disaster for American families, businesses, and industries across our Nation. Their reckless regulatory agenda prioritized Green New Deal virtue signaling over good fiscal stewardship and the interests of the American people by exposing manufacturers and other stakeholders in our industries to regulatory uncertainty and forcing American families to shoulder the burden.

As Florida's attorney general, I was proud many times to lead the fight against regulations that made no sense and were driven by partisan, unelected bureaucrats by filing challenges against these regulations in court.

While it is regrettable that the Biden-Harris administration ignored our concerns and the complaints by Floridians and, instead, forced these harmful regulations into our States and into our industries in the waning hours of their administration, I am proud to now be here in the Senate to help continue the fight against these sprawling, harmful, nonsensical policies that were pushed by these Agencies at the very, very last minute of the Biden administration.

If this regulation were allowed to remain on the books, Biden's shortsighted harmful energy standard would force commercial fridge and freezer manufacturers to discontinue product lines and close factories in the U.S. The results would be layoffs and open the door for other foreign competitors to step in instead of those here in our own country.

Food producers, distributors, wholesalers, grocery stores, consumers would be severely impacted by a sudden unavailability of these commercial-scale appliances at the center of America's food supply chains. That would expose yet another critical supply chain risk associated with foreign dependence and this would be a disaster.

We need to focus right now on prioritizing American businesses, reducing costs for American people, and we need to be focused on opening factories in America, not closing them, especially for such critical products as these that allow for large-scale food distribution and storage.

The government should be making it easier to plan and establish food dis-

tribution chains rather than undermining them with harmful regulatory uncertainty.

We saw time and time again in the last administration the attempt to force costly and burdensome regulations onto the American people and businesses in an effort to advance a partisan "green new scam" agenda. The effects of prices on American families and businesses were devastating.

I firmly believe Biden bureaucrats gave no thought to the effects, jumped right in. And the motto became, frankly: Above everything else, politics first, Americans last. I am proud to take this fight head-on to ensure that Americans are not shouldering the cost of the last administration's regulatory state.

I would like to thank Congressman CRAIG GOLDMAN of Texas for leading this effort in the House, and I urge my colleagues in the Senate to vote for this resolution. I look forward to the legislation heading to the President's desk to become law.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I am here today to defend the standards for our appliances that save energy, that cut climate emissions. They reduce costs for American families and businesses. Yet Trump and his Republican allies are attacking these common-sense appliance efficiency standards.

This morning's vote overturned the Department of Energy's updated energy labeling rule that would have made it easier for appliance manufacturers to test, to certify, and to label their products in a way that consumers can understand.

Energy labels are like food nutrition labels but for your electricity bill. They empower consumers to choose cheaper, more efficient appliances. They drive competition. They create certainty. They help the American people make informed choices and avoid confusion.

The rule that Republicans overturned was not a ban. It was not a mandate. The rule didn't even change underlying efficiency standards. This vote comes after two additional votes earlier this month where Republicans repealed the Department of Energy's updated efficiency standards for gas-fired water heaters and walk-in coolers and freezers.

Let's be clear: These votes are not about appliance freedom. They are about fossil fuel fascism. This is about corporate lobbyists putting profits over people and destroying decades of bipartisan energy efficiency progress. Having the information to make an informed decision about your appliance that your family wants to buy is about choice—your choice. Not Big Oil's choice, not Big Gas's choice—your choice.

Here is the information. Make up your mind. Do you want one that is more efficient? There it is right in the middle of Best Buy, right there in the middle of the store. Pick that one.

Donald Trump's ridiculous culture war against energy-efficient appliances is a war against saving families money. The more efficient the appliance, the less money people pay in their electricity bill. The fact is that Federal appliance efficiency standards are one of the most successful climate and consumer savings programs in American history. And these standards have been around for decades.

Back in 1987, I wrote the law. I am the author of the law that gave the Department of Energy the authority to set binding energy standards for appliances in America, which are supposed to be updated every 6 years. That is my law. It was signed into law as the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act.

Now, I am going to be honest with you, Ronald Reagan vetoed it the first time because the oil and gas industry wanted him to veto it. And that law ultimately did pass, and it covered 13 major appliances—kitchen refrigerators, dryers, air conditioners, and, yes, commercial refrigerators. And since then, the number of appliances has more than quadrupled.

Here is the way you should think about it. We need big electrical generating facilities all across the country. Everyone knows right now that AI is now going to be a huge drain on all of the electricity that we have in our country. So how do we handle that problem? Well, one of the ways of handling that problem is to say that refrigerators have to be more efficient in the amount of electricity which they consume. Light bulbs have to be more efficient. Air conditioning has to be more efficient.

For example, in Texas, in the summer, 80 percent of peak demand for electricity is air conditioning. So if you increase the efficiency by a third in air conditioners, you are dramatically reducing the need to have to build more electrical generating facilities in the country. Or maybe there is more electricity left over for the AI industry if you are working in a way that is trying to maximize American ingenuity. That is who we are. We make things that are smarter.

Now, a lot of people—I would say the natural gas and oil industry at the top of the list—they don't want there to be progress. Why is that? Because the less efficient something is, the more energy, the more electricity that has to be consumed. That is their profit. But what does it do? It says to the consumer: You have to pay more for more electricity. It says that you cannot have new options that make it possible for you to ensure that your family has the most modern, the most efficient air conditioning or lighting or refrigeration or stoves.

No, we are going to lock you into 10-years-ago technology. We are going to lock you into 20-years-ago technology. That is a dream for the oil and gas industry—a dream. But for the consumer, no, they are the big loser because what

we are seeing over the years is after my law passed in 1987, the number of appliances which have been covered has quadrupled—four times as many are now covered.

Former President Biden updated more than two dozen standards that have been delayed under the first Trump administration on behalf of the oil and gas industry. These updates were estimated to save households nearly \$1 trillion annually over 30 years and save the average family at least \$100 per year in lower utility bills. They were also estimated to cut approximately 2.5 billion metric tons of carbon emissions over 30 years. That is the equivalent of taking over 18 million gasoline-powered automobiles off the road each year for 30 years.

That is bad, by the way. That is bad for the oil and gas industry, with fewer greenhouse gases going up, and less oil and gas being consumed. All of that is part of a very bad equation for the oil and gas industry, but it is catastrophic for families. It is catastrophic for our planet that the industries are allowed to dictate policies here on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

These appliance standards have also driven progress in States like Massachusetts, where strong State-level appliance efficiency programs are projected to cut energy costs by \$13 million each year by 2044 for families and small businesses, while fighting climate change. Let's not forget that these rules have support from industry, but now they are the target of political theater out here on the Senate floor.

It is not too late to act. We have one more appliance efficiency Congressional Review Act vote ahead of us. This is why I am urging my colleagues to vote no to overturn the Department of Energy's efficiency standards for commercial refrigerators and freezers.

These standards update the minimum efficiency levels for new refrigerators and freezers at restaurants, grocery stores, and convenience stores that run 24/7, 365 days a year. This rule alone—the one we are going to vote on—would save businesses up to \$4.6 billion over 30 years. These are savings that restaurants and grocery stores could pass on to their customers. And if you have ever worked in a kitchen, you know the importance of reliability and cost savings.

Eliminating this rule would only inject further uncertainty into the market, punish forward-thinking manufacturers, and raise prices on the very businesses—especially small businesses—we say that we want to support. Energy efficiency isn't just an environmental solution; it is an economic one. It cuts costs for renters, for seniors, for small businesses, for schools, and municipal buildings.

Make no mistake about it. Eliminating these standards is climate sabotage. Overturning even a few of them jeopardizes that future. It locks in dirty fossil fuel use. It worsens pollution in frontline communities that are

already burdened by asthma, heat, and high energy bills. We cannot slam the brakes on progress just for fossil fuel profits.

A vote on this next resolution to overturn the updated standards for refrigerators and freezers is a vote against lower bills, against climate progress, and against consumer choice. We need to be investing in the future, not resurrecting the past.

When my mother got disappointed in me when I was a boy—when I was 10 years old—my mother would just say: Eddy, you have to learn how to work smarter, not harder. Otherwise, your father and I are going to donate your brain to Harvard Medical School as a completely unused human organ.

Ah, and what did she mean? She meant that you just had to be smarter and think the problem through.

That is what energy efficiency is. It is working smarter, not harder. It is making the refrigerator, it is making the air conditioner, and it is making everything that we use more efficient so we need less electricity, because that is all our nuclear powerplants, our coal-burning plants, and wind and solar are. They are just ways of providing electricity for the air-conditioning, for the lighting, and for the heating. That is all it is. If we make it 25 percent more efficient, then, all of a sudden, we need 25 percent less electricity which is being generated and 25 percent less pollution that goes up into the air and into the lungs of the children in our Nation. That is what we are debating here today.

Once again, the Republicans are going to side with the oil and gas industry, and they are going to say: America can't figure out how to improve the efficiency of appliances in our Nation.

That is what they are saying, but they are also saying the same thing about our automobiles: No, we can't figure out how to make them more efficient.

That is what they are saying about wind and solar: No, we can't figure out how to deploy it in our country as an alternative to oil and gas.

By the way, the story always comes back to that one issue—oil and gas and their money inside of this system—but the price is being paid by consumers who have to pay higher bills, and it is going to be a price that is paid by our planet, as it gets more and more dangerously hotter.

My mother would always say that the planet is running a fever, and there are no emergency rooms for planets. That is where we are. It is the young generation who is leading us. It is the young generation who is saying: You must do something about climate change.

It is the young generation who is saying: We must figure out a way of reducing this pollution that we are sending up into the atmosphere.

Once again, the Republicans are bringing up another bill on the floor of

the U.S. Senate that is going to dramatically increase pollution, and that is going into the lungs of every child, of every pregnant mother in our country, and it is absolutely irresponsible and absolutely unnecessary, except for the role that the oil and gas industry plays in the politics of the Republican Party.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

SAVE ACT

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today with a number of my colleagues. I will speak for the next, probably, hour-plus on the topic of election integrity and the seemingly constant attacks on our election integrity by Donald Trump and our Republican colleagues.

I am joined by a number of my friends and colleagues in our remarks here for the next block. Senator WELCH will be speaking next, our colleague from Vermont, and then Senator BLUMENTHAL, Senator MERKLEY, Leader SCHUMER, Senator KLOBUCHAR, and Senator BENNET. And it will be wrapped up with my partner in organizing this group of Senators, Senator REED, who is not only the ranking member of the Armed Services Committee but is the ranking member of the Appropriations subcommittee overseeing funding for this space.

I rise today, with my colleagues, out of grave concern for the future of our democracy.

I currently serve as the ranking member of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee. I also, as many of you know, am the former secretary of state for the State of California. So I have seen firsthand, not just through the last 4 years but for the last 8, 9 years, the growing threats to our democracy and the threats to the public confidence in our elections.

Sadly, the truth in the year 2025 is that it is not just foreign actors who are trying to undermine our elections and the people's confidence in the elections. It is also so many Republican officials here at home, not just in the Capitol but in statehouses across America—but, yes, even here in the Capitol.

I think of the old horror movie where the person on the phone would say that the call is coming from inside the house. In State legislatures, in the Capitol, and in the Oval Office, radical Republicans are working hard—actively working hard—to make it harder for eligible Americans to exercise their constitutional right to vote. We see it in the endless lies and conspiracy theories about massive voter fraud. We see it in the new barriers being erected that would make it harder for eligible Americans to simply register to vote. And we see it in the Trump administration's firing of the hard-working and dedicated security officials who are tasked with protecting our elections.

So, yes, over the next hour, with my Democratic colleagues, we will peel

back the curtain on the tactics being used to undermine our Federal elections, because our fundamental democracy is at stake.

In Rochester Hills, MI, Republican clerk Tina Barton worked hard to help administer and uphold a free and fair election in 2020. But for her dedication and hard work and professionalism, 1 week after the 2020 election, Tina received an anonymous phone call—not a phone call thanking her for her service but a phone call threatening her life. The voice on the other end threatened to come after her family, to hold a knife to her throat, and to kill her.

As shocking as threats like that may be, Tina represents just one—one in every three election workers who has reported receiving threats, harassment, and abuse. So, for Tina and so many others, that harassment grew worse with every lie spread by the Trump campaign about a so-called stolen election, with threats against election officials continuing in subsequent elections.

There was no stolen election. That is a farce. But for those selfless election workers, Donald Trump hasn't even tried to lower the temperature of political rhetoric or combat the disinformation that leads to the threats and harassment. Instead, he has, actually, actively made it worse for those who are administering elections. Think of the election workers and all of the volunteers who work polling places to help our elections in our democracy thrive. He has made it worse for voters. He has fired Federal workers who combat election misinformation and disinformation.

Why would he and his administration and Republicans in Congress who support him want to make it easier for people to interfere with our elections?

I am at a loss. I am at a loss for an answer. What I do know is that, by failing to counter, by failing to elevate the truth, Republicans in Congress have become complicit as they just sit back instead of pushing back.

Believe it or not, there was a time, not that long ago, when even Republicans had the moral courage to speak out against Trump's attacks on our democracy.

I do think back a few years to my days as the California secretary of state when, during the first Trump administration, he created a commission to investigate these unfounded claims of "voter fraud"—without evidence, baseless claims—but for him, it was important enough to set up a commission to investigate and uncover the truth. The commission set out to collect sensitive, private voter information from every State, demanding that States hand over not just the names of every voter on the voter rolls but their dates of birth, their voting history, their Social Security information, and more.

It was a blatant power grab, long before Elon Musk started tapping into Federal servers, by the way. It was a

blatant power grab which was responded to: 44 States, both Republican and Democratic, said no. Republican and Democratic elections officials throughout the country joined together to reject Donald Trump's demands under his first term. Even in Mississippi—hardly a woke, Democratic bastion, folks—even in Mississippi, then-Secretary of State and now-Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann, a Republican, was outraged. He was so offended by the power grab that he responded to the White House's request with "Go jump in the Gulf of Mexico," saying, "Mississippi is a great state to launch from." Good for him.

So you can imagine my disappointment when, fast-forward to this past March, Trump announced yet another anti-voter Executive order that would empower DOGE to access sensitive voter data—very reminiscent of the request from that first term but now on steroids.

And what did so many of our Republican colleagues here in the Senate and the House of Representatives say? Nothing.

But it is not just that the Republicans have gone silent, they have actually become Trump's enablers here in Congress by forgoing their responsibility to serve as a check and balance on the executive branch.

Any day now here in the Senate, we could see Republicans take up the SAVE Act—the measure that recently passed the House of Representatives, a bill that, I should say, scapegoats immigrants simply to justify new barriers to voter registration. Not only is that wrong, it is un-American. And, again, it is based on a lie.

I bring to this body my 6 years of experience administering elections not just in any State but the most populous State in the Nation, with the largest number and the most diverse number of voters in the Nation. I understand the complexities of both keeping our elections free and fair but also secure. And I am happy to take time to meet with any of you to walk you through the security measures that are in place to ensure the integrity of our elections.

I can tell you this, in case you didn't know already: It is already a crime for noncitizens to vote in our elections. To propose it as a new law is misleading. It is already against the law. And, by the way, it is also extremely, extremely rare.

But if our Republican colleagues were to have their way, American citizens—American citizens—would feel the impacts of the SAVE Act, from the Active-Duty servicemember who has to move for a new deployment and has to work so much harder than they should have to, to update their registration with the new address at the local elections office, which could be hours and hours from the base where they are assigned, to think of a married woman who chose to change her last name when she got married, and now the

name listed on the birth certificate and the name on their ID no longer match. They will have some explaining to do and hurdles to jump over simply to register to vote.

These are just two small examples that impact millions and millions of Americans, should the SAVE Act pass.

And if you make it harder to register, guess what, you have made it harder for eligible citizens to vote. That would be the result of the SAVE Act.

Here in the Senate, I want people to know that together with my Senate Democratic colleagues, I will do whatever it takes to kill this bill, to stop it from passing, to keep it even from coming up, if we can, because we owe it to our constituents to fight every Executive order that undermines our democracy and to keep demanding answers on the firing of Federal workers entrusted with safeguarding our elections.

So over the course of the next hour, Senate Democrats will lay down a marker. We will stand strong against the rising tide of attacks on our democracy. And I will keep leading the fight to stop this cynical and dangerous bill and to stop Trump and Republicans' attempts to undermine our voting rights.

I yield the floor to my next colleague.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, first of all, I want to thank the senior Senator from California not just for his leadership on protecting the voting rights of all citizens in this country but for his work as the California Secretary of State, where he gained a nationwide reputation for running free and fair elections.

Senator PADILLA, thank you so much for your work there, and thank you so much for your leadership here.

I want to stand here in solidarity with my colleagues to push back, oppose, denounce President Trump's March 25 Executive order, which claims to preserve the integrity of U.S. elections. It does no such thing. And, by the way, the idea that the President, who spent years denying the outcome of the election he lost gives him absolutely no credibility when he is speaking about his commitment to free and fair elections.

Like my colleagues—all of us—I am committed to safeguarding the security of our elections and working with anyone and everyone in the Chamber to advance that objective. All of us revere the right of citizens to make the decision about who their leaders are.

Unfortunately, many of our colleagues in the House, Republicans in the House, have fought to gut the election security grants our States depend on. I say that—usually, these are not partisan issues on voting, but it is turning into that. And we are seeing a one-sided, one-party approach, particularly out of the House, that goes to the

heart of our electoral process and the right of each of our citizens to make their decision and their vote be the one that counts.

At the same time, despite the political violence at home and rising tensions abroad, the Trump administration has taken an ax to CISA. As we know, that is the Agency that works to curb emerging cyber security threats. And that threat, those threats, are a threat to the election integrity that is so essential to the well-being of our democracy.

The Executive order makes an assumption that noncitizen voting is a problem. The assertion that noncitizens are voting is alarming. Fortunately, it is not true. Also, Federal law already bars noncitizens from voting in congressional and Presidential elections.

So this is not a question of whether there is some backdoor effort on the part of one party to allow noncitizens to vote. It can't be done. It is illegal now. This Executive order would not change that.

Study after study has also shown that the rate of noncitizen voting is incredibly small, almost too small to measure—roughly 0.0001 percent, according to a reliable estimate. Obviously, that error is so small that it is hard to measure and would not have any material impact on our elections.

If you don't believe me, ask folks over at the libertarian Cato Institute, a very conservative organization. They have labeled President Trump's claims about noncitizen voting as "bogus"—their word, not mine.

The order of the President also raises significant constitutional issues. The Constitution entrusts our States—and in the case of certain core rules of conduct, Congress—with the authority to regulate elections, not the Executive.

The Executive order President Trump has signed flips that framework and purports to vest the President with expansive new powers that he does not have—not just him but any chief executive.

It attempts to enact through Executive fiat what the Trump administration seemingly believes it cannot achieve through the legislative process, through an act of Congress; namely, Senate consideration of the SAVE Act, many provisions of which are contained in the President's Executive order.

I ask my colleagues to join me in focusing our attention on the very real problems that confront our Nation and are pushing back against the Trump administration's usurpation of the Senate's constitutional prerogatives.

President Trump is attacking the right to vote with respect to dismantling of the Department of Justice organization of attorneys who are being punished for their efforts to protect that right to a vote. That organization within the Justice Department is being actively dismantled.

And the President has currently used the Department of Justice as a tool to

enact his—my view—very extreme policy positions, and that includes the Civil Rights Division at the Department whose mission includes protecting the right to vote.

According to press reports, all career supervisors in the voting rights section have been reassigned to other positions completely outside their areas of expertise. In other words, it is about destroying the Civil Rights Division.

The Assistant Attorney General, Harmeet Dhillon, surely, at the direction of the White House, is punishing career attorneys. This is outrageous.

Also, reportedly, political appointees at the Department of Justice have ordered the dismissal of all active cases and the closing of all active investigations by this section.

Our Civil Rights Division within the Department of Justice has a revered history for standing up for the rights of all citizens and their constitutional rights to be enforced and protected, and that brazen attack on the Civil Rights Division will leave it totally unable—as the President, apparently, prefers—to defend the democratic right of our citizens to vote.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the President's Executive order.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, of all the thrills of living in a democracy, none is more meaningful than walking into a voting booth and casting a ballot. I can remember the first time I did it when I came of age.

I can remember, always—and I see it again and again and again—new citizens walking out of the courtroom after the naturalization ceremony, with their certificates of citizenship in their hands and handing it to the League of Women Voters person who is doing voter registrations. It is the thrill of their lifetime to be registered.

Of all the rights we have, voting is perhaps the most meaningful and the most practiced. It is foundational to all the others. It is the way we preserve the others. And that is why the fight for voting rights—and blood has been spilled in the effort to secure it—is a storied bedrock of our American history.

And, now, again—as there has been throughout our history—there are efforts to suppress that right for political reasons, for political gain. That is what we have in the SAVE Act, an effort to erect obstacles and to require documentation that, very simply, Americans—many of them—don't have.

This measure is a solution—supposed solution—in search of a problem. There is no widespread voter fraud. Undocumented people, noncitizens, almost never try to vote. And I am using the word "almost" because I am tempted to say "never." But, of course, you can't rule out a negative. You can't prove it.

But the fact of the matter is, widespread voter fraud, even significant

voter fraud by noncitizens, is an imaginary, delusional issue. Some 21 million U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote don't have the requisite documentation that would be required under the SAVE Act. To solve the delusional nonproblem, the SAVE Act would deprive real citizens of the real right to vote—21 million of them. Married women, younger voters, voters of color—they are the ones who are going to be impacted. I don't know how they would vote in Connecticut or elsewhere, but they have a right to vote, and we should not be fooled by this wolf in sheep's clothing, a measure that masquerades as preserving democracy.

We should not let our voter rolls be purged by a measure that has false pretenses. We must protect the right of every eligible citizen to vote. The best way to do it is to say no to this bill, and I ask my Republican colleagues to join me in saying no because this issue is larger than any one of us.

I hear again and again and again from my constituents in Connecticut about their concern that the right to vote may be restricted. I say to the people of Connecticut right here and now: I will fight this bill because it is wrong, because it eviscerates voting rights, and because it threatens our democracy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHMITT). The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, our Constitution starts out with the three words "We the People," and they are written in supersize font to tell you that that is what the core of our democracy is all about—or, as Lincoln so well summarized, government of, by, and for the people.

There are several things essential to make this happen: the freedom of speech, for one; the freedom of assembly, for another. But perhaps nothing encapsulates the opportunity of a citizen to participate in the direction of their own country more than the ballot box, more than the right and opportunity to vote.

Yet that sacred opportunity at the heart of our Constitution is under assault because there seems to be one party that has decided it is about suppressing citizens' rights rather than empowering and honoring citizens' opportunity to participate in our government. And they have this bill that is all about voter suppression.

Well, we have gone through some serious voter suppression. Some of it was written into our original Constitution. Despite the lofty goals, we didn't allow people of color to vote; we didn't allow women to vote; we didn't allow Native Americans to vote; we didn't allow the enslaved to vote. But we have worked toward that lofty vision that we knew was right.

We remedied slavery, ending it in 1865 with the 13th Amendment. We passed the 15th Amendment to ensure the right to vote shall not be denied by race or color or previous servitude. And

then, some 50 years later—it took 50 additional years before the right to vote was guaranteed to women in the United States of America.

After the Civil War, reconstruction collapsed in about 1877. There was kind of an evil deal that was worked out all over the election of Rutherford Hayes. And that ended reconstruction; and, quickly, a series of measures were passed by States to suppress the opportunity of Black Americans to vote in the South. These included poll taxes; they included literacy tests; they included civics exams—rigged so that only White Americans could pass. But we remedied that situation. We took it on. It took a long time, unfortunately.

In the 1960s, Members of this Chamber and Members of the Chamber down the hall said we are ready to end that discrimination that we knew all along was wrong, those barriers erected for citizens to vote.

But now we have one party, the Republican Party, which was founded on the vision of ending slavery, that wants to suppress the vote of Americans once again. That is incredible. But we are going to stop that bill.

My own State has pioneered the ability to vote by mail, and that provision has spread across the country to States like Utah, a red State. Blue States, red States are saying this makes sense because it ends the corruption on election day where officials stop people from voting by relocating the voting booths to a new location, by putting equipment in there that malfunctions, by understaffing it, by putting out false information about where the voting will be held.

Vote-by-mail ended all of that corruption on election day, utilized so often to stop people from voting who lived in the inner city, who lived in poorer communities, who lived in communities of color—a modern-day version of the suppression that followed the collapse of reconstruction. We stopped it, and blue and red States have adopted those reforms.

But the SAVE Act is about going the other direction. What a name—the SAVE Act—as if it is saving something important as opposed to destroying the opportunity to vote.

So we will absolutely not let our colleagues across the aisle take us backwards to voter suppression.

Under the SAVE Act rules, my mother would likely not have been able to vote. The most common documents to prove citizenship are a birth certificate or a passport. And when my mother married my father, she changed her last name from Collins to Merkley. My mother never had a passport. She couldn't have used a passport. Her name was different than that on her birth certificate. Betty Lou Collins became Betty Lou Merkley. And Republicans want to stop women across the country from voting once again because their name doesn't match their birth certificate. That is pretty extraordinary.

More than half of Americans today who don't have a passport—my mother would have been in that category. She wouldn't have been able to register to vote.

Let's not go backward into the realm of voter suppression. Let's go forward into full voter empowerment. If you believe in this Constitution, then honor it; don't put it in the wood chipper.

Folks today are able to register in a variety of ways. Some say: Well, isn't this opening the possibility that non-citizens are voting? The answer is no. That is not happening.

The Secretary of State of Georgia, in 2022, led a massive examination of the history of voting in Georgia, and the Secretary of State says he could not find a single noncitizen that had cast a ballot in Georgia in 25 years. So don't tell me that your so-called reform is about integrity at the ballot place. We know what it is about. It is about manipulating the vote on election day to stop people from voting, and we are not going to let that happen.

In another case, the Brennan Center examined, in 2016, the behavior of 23 million voters, and they found it was roughly equal to the risk of being struck by lightning that a noncitizen would vote. And we know that in some cases where those have happened—I mean, it is so rare—it has happened because the bureaucracy screwed up and sent them a ballot when they weren't supposed to.

So let's be clear. Our journey toward the vision of citizen empowerment in voting has been imperfect. It has been long. It has been slow. It has seen setbacks like after the collapse of reconstruction. But we have worked steadily toward that vision, that ideal that every citizen should have that full opportunity to participate in the direction of their Nation.

So should the SAVE Act ever be brought to this floor, which itself would be a massive corruption of our responsibility as U.S. Senators, I am voting hell no, and everyone else should as well.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues in standing up for the right to vote and the critical need to ensure that that right is protected.

I want to thank Ranking Members PADILLA and REED for their leadership on this issue and in organizing this floor block. Senator PADILLA, a former Secretary of State himself, understands to a core how important the right to vote is.

The right to vote is sacred to our democracy. It secures all of our freedoms. As Congressman John Lewis once said, voting is the most powerful nonviolent tool we have to create a more perfect Union.

But in recent years, from the January 6 insurrection—I just came from a spotlight hearing in which Officer Dunn and in which former prosecutors

were speaking out about their work on that day. I remember that day because, at 3:30 in the morning, it was Senator Blunt and Vice President Pence and I that were here on our own in this very Chamber and made that walk, which in the morning had been a big celebration of our democracy; but this time we were walking over broken glass, we were walking by marble pillars spray-painted with racist vulgarities. But we made that walk, and our democracy prevailed.

But in one of President Trump's first acts, he pardoned the violent offenders who had struck police officers, who had injured over 100 police officers. That is what he did.

And from that January 6 insurrection to dangerous rhetoric and baseless election conspiracies, to other actions taken by this administration over the past 100 days, we have seen unprecedented attacks on the freedom to vote and our democracy.

Nowhere are these attacks more clear than at the Department of Justice. The Justice Department was founded in 1870 with the very purpose to enforce civil rights. This includes voting rights guaranteed by the 15th Amendment. And since the passage of the Voting Rights Act, the Civil Rights Division has been responsible for enforcing that law.

Today, the work to protect voting rights is as urgent as ever. In 2023 alone, over 19 States enacted laws to restrict access to voting and to make it more difficult to vote.

In the words of Senator WARNOCK, what is happening is simple: Some people don't want some people to vote.

Yet what are the words that are inscribed at the Justice Department over its entrance?

Equal Justice for All.

Department of Justice officials would like us to believe that the fight for equal rights and the fight for voting rights is already over. In fact, the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights has said that the Voting Rights Act "was once necessary to push back on Jim Crow laws."

At her hearing in front of the Judiciary Committee, I asked her if she will enforce section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, which the Supreme Court of the United States, a conservative Supreme Court, just reaffirmed 2 years ago. She didn't answer the question.

It is clear why she didn't answer—because she never planned on enforcing it. In fact, it has been reported that the Department's lawyers in the voting rights section have been directed to dismiss active voting cases.

But they are not stopping—this administration—at forcing attorneys to dismiss cases. Justice Department officials have also removed all of the senior civil servants—civil servants—in the Civil Rights Division. That has had a ripple effect, as you can imagine, causing a mass exodus of experienced attorneys from the Division. And rather than try to stop the loss of talent,

the current head of that Division, installed by the Trump administration, simply told reporters:

I think that's fine.

Well, I don't think that is fine. The people who have endured voter discrimination don't think it is fine. Those of us who have been active in this area, who have heard the stories, as I did when I was Rules chair and held a field hearing in Georgia—the story of the veteran who had signed up to serve and there was no waiting line, and when he comes home to this country and he wants to vote, he finds out that there is a waiting line in the hot Sun for hours; he finds out that his vote in one location, which he figures out, for the primary is different from where he votes in the general and then is different from where he votes in the runoff. That is a system designed to make it harder to vote.

In the election for Senator WARNOCK, suddenly they took down Saturday voting when there are only a few weekends between the general election and the runoff.

Then there were the people in camo standing to intimidate voters in lines in Arizona.

The stories go on and on.

In Harris County in Texas, they had one voting dropoff box in a county the size of my entire State when it comes to population.

So, no, I don't think it is just fine.

It is not just at the Department of Justice that we see an assault on voting. President Trump also issued an Executive order to overhaul our Nation's elections.

As a Federal judge recently made clear, the President has claimed power over our elections that the Constitution does not give him.

If implemented, the order could disenfranchise millions of citizens, including millions of women who changed their last names after getting married, as would the legislation that my colleagues have just highlighted. I heard Senator MERKLEY discussing the problems with this bill.

It would make it harder for men and women in uniform serving overseas to vote, and it would compromise—this Executive order—sensitive, personal data, giving Elon Musk access to private information about citizens, contained in voter files in every State.

Instead of creating barriers to the ballot box, we should be protecting access to the polls. That is why we intend to reintroduce a bill that I led, the Freedom to Vote Act—something that we negotiated over months and months and months. This legislation would set national standards to ensure that all eligible Americans can vote in the way that works best for them, regardless of their ZIP Code. That is why I also strongly support the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to restore and strengthen key portions of the Voting Rights Act.

But there are things that all of us should be able to agree on, like ensur-

ing that State and local governments have reliable Federal support and funding to maintain election infrastructure—something that Senator Blunt and I, when he was chair of the Rules Committee and when he was ranking on the Rules Committee, agreed on, and I know Senator PADILLA is carrying on that torch; that we must, in our local election offices, keep pace with new technology; that we must combat cyber security threats.

I think about Chris Krebs, someone who I respect very much, who was in charge of the Division of the government that makes sure elections are protected from cyber attacks.

After the election in 2016, after that election, he declared it safe. The Attorney General for the United States at the time for Donald Trump, Bill Barr, echoed his words and said it was safe. Then the President just decided at the time—President Donald Trump, in his first term—to fire Chris Krebs.

But that wasn't even enough for this President. He comes back just a few weeks ago and says he is going to investigate Chris Krebs. Why? Because this civil servant had the audacity to declare our election safe and correct, which it was, after spending his time in government working to make sure that it was and that Russians and other countries that wanted to do us harm would not influence our election.

We also should be able to stand by our election workers, including volunteers, who face a barrage of threats and intimidation. We have heard the testimony—so many us—of those who were threatened, of those who were told—election workers just doing their jobs—that their head would be on a stake.

Mr. President, Congressman Lewis never stopped working for our democracy. While we are seeing daily assaults on our democracy, it is our duty to never give up hope and to continue to fight for what Congressman Lewis aptly called “one of the most important blessings of our democracy,” and that is our Nation's right to vote.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New York.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, I want to thank Senators PADILLA and REED for holding the floor on such a vital issue to our country, our democracy, and who we are as a people. I thank Senators KLOBUCHAR and BENNET for participating as well and all the others who did as well.

Well, we know that free and fair elections are the very wellspring of American democracy. When you ask people around the world “What is great about America?” this is one of the first things they say: “They have elections, real elections, free elections.”

But unfortunately—deeply unfortunately—no administration has come closer to destroying that wellspring than the Trump administration. Donald Trump and Republicans are putting our elections in a vice grip—Executive orders from the President on one end

and dangerous legislation from Congress on the other. They don't understand the sacredness of elections and keeping them fair. The kind of legislation, the kind of Executive orders which are so jaundiced, so slanted on the side of one party, are the antithesis of democracy.

On the one side, Donald Trump recently issued an Executive order that would coerce States to prevent millions of Americans from voting. On the other, Republicans in Congress are pushing the SAVE Act—one of the most destructive, dangerous voter-suppression bills in recent memory. It is very reminiscent of Jim Crow. That is what Republicans want to do—they want to not only restore Jim Crow in the South; they want to have Jim Crow spread from one end of this country to the other.

It will not happen. It will not happen.

Let me be clear. I will not let this noxious bill, the SAVE Act, become law. Every Senate Democrat, every single one of us, is united against it. They need 60 votes. The SAVE Act is dead on arrival.

I would like to say it louder so my friends in the House and the rightwing over here can hear: The SAVE Act is dead on arrival.

Democrats and Americans see this bill for what it is—a nasty, vicious attack on our democracy.

The SAVE Act reads more like a how-to guide for voter suppression rather than a serious attempt to secure our elections. The SAVE Act would make easy methods of voter registration—like online registration, registration by mail, and registration drives—a thing of the past.

Massive purges would inevitably remove many American citizens from the voter rolls, and it is already wholly unnecessary. Federal law prohibits noncitizens from voting in Federal elections. It is done with one purpose in mind: voter suppression.

What they have in mind is they think those that vote Democratic are less likely to vote than Republicans if this passes. It is trying to slant the elections away from free and fair.

Every single State already prohibits noncitizens from voting in State elections. So Republicans are trying to strip our democracy down to its studs, all to fix a problem that doesn't exist.

Under the SAVE Act, if you want to register to vote or if you want to simply update your registration, it would be harder than it is right now because on top of your ID card, you will need to provide either your passport, birth certificate, or citizenship certificate.

So if you are one of the 50 percent of Americans without a passport or one of the 21 million American citizens who don't have access to your birth or citizenship certificate, Republicans wants to make it harder—not easier, harder—for you to vote.

If you are one of the 69 million Americans who changed your name after you got married and your certificates don't

match your current name or if you have currently moved recently and changed addresses, Republicans want to make it harder for you to vote.

It is one unnecessary hurdle after another.

We know the SAVE Act is not about securing our elections. It is about suppressing voters. It is about making it harder to vote and easier to cheat. It is despicable. It is damaging—beyond damaging. It goes against the very foundations of our democracy.

Democrats will never, never allow the SAVE Act to become law.

I once again thank my colleague from Rhode Island for sponsoring this act.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I, too, am here on the floor today to oppose the SAVE Act.

Today, Americans register to vote in a variety of ways, typically set by each State in this country, but Federal law requires that Americans attest to citizenship under penalty of perjury.

In Colorado, you can register online; you can register in person; you can register through the mail. It can be as easy as providing your Social Security number and signature, which every American has, through the secretary of state's website.

Alternatively, the SAVE Act would change that by requiring that all American citizens, whether registering for the first time or updating their registration, to present proof of citizenship in person, largely in the form of a passport or a birth certificate. In other words, government issued driver's licenses and military and Tribal identifications would not satisfy the bill's requirements.

The SAVE Act would severely restrict online voter registration and mail-in registration and eliminate voter registration drives altogether. It would make it harder or even impossible for up to 69 million married American women who have changed their names, because their last name doesn't match the one on their birth certificate.

Meanwhile, half of Americans don't even have a passport. How are they going to register under this law? They can't.

Over 60 million Americans who live in rural areas—now they are going to have to drive miles and miles and miles, hours out of their way, to stand in line at a local election agency.

The SAVE Act does nothing to make it easier to cast a ballot; it only succeeds in making it harder for Americans to register to vote and to exercise their rights.

This is not theoretical. Kansas tried to implement its own State-level SAVE Act in 2013, with disastrous results. The law blocked over 30,000 potential registrants in just 2 years—about 12 percent of all voter registrations during the period. State officials

acknowledged in court that over 99 percent of affected voters were U.S. citizens.

Now, even Kansas's Republican secretary of state, who championed the bill when he was a State legislator, has warned against it, saying:

It didn't work out so well.

I would say so. About 12 percent of the people who tried to register couldn't.

Compare those 30,000 Kansans who attempted to register and were denied to the 30 people—30 people—the 30 non-citizens who reportedly voted in the 2016 election nationwide. That is about 0.0001 percent of all votes cast.

If there ever was one, this is a solution in search of a problem, and the only solution doesn't even work. It only makes it harder for law-abiding Americans to register to vote or patriotic Americans to register to vote.

Perhaps it would be better if this bill were modeled after the system that we have in Colorado.

We have set the gold standard in my State. It is a system that actually encourages people to vote in a fraud-free system. In Colorado, we are the first State in America to complete a risk-limiting audit, the gold standard for verifying the integrity of election results to begin with, and it entails counting and comparing a representative sample of ballots to the reported result.

To prevent hacking, none of our voting machines are attached to the internet. We require county clerks to use two-factor authentication to access voter databases.

And once a vote is cast, a bipartisan team of election judges in each county checks every signature against the copy in the database for any discrepancies.

All election officials and judges with access to the tabulation process must pass a Colorado Bureau of Investigation background check. Colorado has spent years implementing top-tier cyber security measures and audits to prevent hackers from interfering with our electoral process.

We have one of the most secure election systems of any State in the country, and because Coloradans have trust in our gold standard system, we have some of the highest voter turnout in America. That is the model we should be using across the country, in my view. Instead of wasting time and taxpayer dollars on the SAVE Act, Congress should be implementing Colorado's practices all across the country.

I yield the floor to my colleague from Rhode Island. Thank you very much for his leadership in bringing the Nation's attention to this issue today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today alongside my colleagues to speak out against the attack on a fundamental right of every American citizen: the right to vote.

I want to thank Senator PADILLA for leading this important effort. The

progress, the prosperity, and success of our Nation, both as an economic power and as an inspiration for freedom-loving people everywhere, has been aided by our efforts to tear down the obstacles that prevent citizens from voting.

Today, the President and, seemingly, too many of my Republican colleagues want to throw that progress away. At the President's urgings, they appear to believe that it is OK to turn their backs on the work, the advocacy, and the sacrifice of women like Susan B. Anthony who worked so zealously for the right of women to vote, and men like Martin Luther King, Jr., and thousands of Americans who dedicated themselves to opening the voting booths to all Americans.

Indeed, the Trump administration and congressional Republicans are now advancing policies that could disqualify tens of millions of Americans from voting in elections. If adopted, these policies will make it harder for low-income individuals, the elderly, women, and even U.S. servicemembers deployed overseas to cast a ballot. Now, that is very ironic.

These men and women in uniform are in dangerous locations to protect our fundamental rights, perhaps the most fundamental right is to vote, and yet this legislation would impair their ability to exercise that right.

Election integrity is essential to our democracy. That is why Democrats vigorously support Federal funding and Federal anti-cyber interference in our elections.

But what isn't essential is breaking a system that successfully prevents fraud and replacing it with one that makes it less likely that American citizens can exercise their constitutional right to vote.

Yet that appears to be the Republican plan. Indeed, through a brazen, illegal, and unconstitutional Executive order, the Trump administration is attempting to mandate that every State change how it operates its elections. Its starkest proposal is to throw out State rules about voter identification requirements and require what is effectively a national ID—while ignoring current law that already makes it a serious crime for a noncitizen to vote.

They have introduced the so-called SAVE Act, which recently passed the House of Representatives. It attempts to codify the President's dubious Executive order.

Now, I can see people saying: Well, what is the big deal about making someone show ID? Well, like many catchy sales pitches, this policy is really a bunch of "gotchas" that will stand between millions of voters and the ballot box.

According to the Brennan Center, more than 9 percent of voting-age American citizens, 21 million people, don't have proof of citizenship—typically a birth certificate or a passport—readily available to show as they try to vote.

And 4 million Americans don't have these documents available at all—perhaps they were lost, destroyed, or stolen—and these Americans could be prevented from voting.

Women who change their names after getting married, and that is 69 million Americans, will not be able to use a birth certificate alone to establish their citizenship, and they might not be able to vote.

Americans could use a passport to satisfy the Trump policy, but according to the State Department, only half of Americans have a passport. And it will set you back \$165 to get one just so you can exercise your constitutionally protected right to vote.

By the way, I wonder if that could be considered a poll tax, which was outlawed through our Constitution, and we have to respect our Constitution. We all take an oath to do that.

The Trump policy allows citizens to use a REAL ID “that indicates the applicant is a citizen of the United States,” but that is a false promise.

As 15 secretaries of state recently wrote: REAL IDs do not indicate citizenship status. Even if the Federal laws for REAL ID were amended, the nearly 140 million REAL IDs that have been issued over the last decade could not be used as proof of citizenship. And these are the experts on elections, the secretaries of state of our 50 States.

Now, some people may still think it is easy to get these documents or register to vote in person, but if you don't have the money to spare to get the proper documents, if you are elderly or disabled or can't easily get to your townhall, what are you to do? Faced with these barriers, they may just give up and not vote at all, which I believe is the ultimate objective of this legislation.

Voter suppression is the way, I believe, that President Trump and others believe they can succeed at the polls. What the Constitution and the spirit of America suggests and what countless generations of American servicemen have fought for is access to the polls for all and enthusiastic voting by American citizens.

And what about the servicemembers who are just deployed overseas and didn't have time to register? How does that young American report in person—because that is what this says, in person—to establish his or her citizenship?

According to military and veterans service organizations, registration methods used for decades by millions of American civilians and uniformed servicemembers abroad “would likely become impossible under the SAVE Act.”

We will send them to war, but we won't let them vote. Trump's policy would also impose unfunded mandates on States. According to the Rhode Island secretary of state who is one of the most, I think, effective secretaries of state in the country, the State government would need to change its voter

registration systems and forms. It may need to purchase new voting machines and equipment, and it would need to pursue a significant public outreach campaign to educate voters about changes in the law.

But the SAVE Act provides zero dollars to cover these costs. States and localities will need to cover this unfunded mandate.

Well, why is the Trump administration imposing these costs and interfering with Americans' fundamental rights as citizens to vote? They claim it is to combat noncitizen voting, but this legislation isn't necessary to do that.

The United States Constitution, the Rhode Island constitution, and Rhode Island State law explicitly state that only U.S. citizens are allowed to vote. Under Federal law, it is a felony for non-U.S. citizens to vote. These laws are enforced, and they are a significant deterrent.

An exhaustive study by the Brennan Center found that at least 30 cases of noncitizen voting were referred for investigation or prosecution during the 2016 election. Trump's Department of Justice in his first term indicted 19 people. The law was enforced, but the objectives of this law are trivial compared to the millions of Americans who must have the right to vote.

Now, those 19 should not have voted, but it is 19 votes out of 129 million cast. And as my colleague from Colorado pointed out, a better mathematician than I, that is a fractional portion of the American public.

And make no mistake, they would suffer the consequences if they did vote illegally, these noncitizens. But we do not need a complete overhaul of our election systems and to strip millions of American citizens of voting rights in order to combat a problem that non-partisan election experts tell us is already addressed by current law.

The real reasons for this policy are to support Trump's Big Lie that the 2020 election was stolen, even though he lost by roughly 7 million votes, to sow mistrust in our government, to deter people from voting. This is all in service of President Trump's insatiable desire for power and his insatiable ego.

Efforts by his enablers to discourage absentee voting have already disenfranchised servicemembers. In North Carolina, Republicans have sought to cancel 65,000 votes in a judicial election—an estimated 2,000 to 8,000 of which were military and overseas voters.

We are on the brink of exporting this injustice nationwide on a much greater scale. Senator PADILLA is right to sound the alarm about this, and I am proud to join him. We want to help our fellow citizens participate in our elections because only their participation will ensure that the government is truly accountable to the people it represents. And as the ranking member of the Appropriations Subcommittee that handles election funding, I hope my

colleagues will join me in restoring funding for election security grants to the States to the total of \$75 million. If you are serious about election fraud, then give the secretaries of state the resources to ensure that ineligible voters do not cast their vote.

Defunding them is an invitation for abuse. This isn't, nor should it be, a partisan endeavor. Democrats and Republicans shouldn't be afraid to face the voters, all voters, and compete on the basis of our ideas and aspirations.

Trump's Executive order and the SAVE Act show that he has a different agenda, consolidating power for himself, not the people, through dissuading and deterring American citizens from casting their vote, one of the most fundamental values that generations of American service men and women have given their lives to protect, and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will understand that.

I yield the floor to the distinguished Senator from Washington.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

EL SALVADOR

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, over the past month, we have seen a wave of righteous outrage across the country in response to President Trump's completely lawless move to disappear hundreds of people to a notorious megaprison in El Salvador, without even the barest semblance of due process.

And as I join my colleagues in calling for the Trump administration to abide by the Supreme Court ruling and facilitate the release of Kilmar Abrego Garcia—a man they said in court was sent to El Salvador by mistake—I have to emphasize that his case is one of many where Trump has completely shredded our norms and laws.

In addition to Garcia, Trump sent off some 200 people, including innocent people who were in our country legally, to a foreign prison without any due process whatsoever, and they did it all on the basis of some arrangement negotiated in secret and paid for with millions of taxpayer dollars.

What we do know is that many of these people were sent there without any criminal conviction. The administration actually admitted that. In their own court filing, the Trump administration acknowledged that many of these people have no criminal records in the United States, and yet all of these people have now been imprisoned in a foreign country with no end date in sight.

Unconstitutional doesn't even begin to cover that.

There are so many questions—basic questions—about this that we all should be demanding answers to. At the barest, smallest, slimmest minimum—and I mean as a starting point—the administration must release more details about this secret agreement where it is paying El Salvador with our taxpayer dollars to imprison people without a trial—details like:

Who all is being imprisoned? How long is El Salvador holding these people with Trump's orders? How many people is El Salvador going to imprison under this agreement? What outside contact is possible for those people? And how do we learn their status and condition? Are they alive? Are they healthy? What are the details?

Most of the details we do have are from reporting, and news reports say the deal was only for El Salvador to take convicted criminals. So why did Trump send people with no criminal record?

And, importantly, where in the world is this money coming from? Does anyone here remember voting to pass a single dollar in appropriations to fund a torture prison in El Salvador? Because I sure don't, and the last I checked, Congress has the power of the purse.

Do you know what else we don't know? We still don't know the names of everyone they did this to. Think about that. We don't have their names. That information should be released immediately—today—because there are families who still have no confirmation where their loved ones are. And the only list we have right now was not even released by the administration. It was reported by the press. Some families only learned their son was gone, their husband was gone, their father was gone through photos of them being marched into a torture prison. This is the first, last, and only update we have had on just about all of those people.

We do not know if they are alive. We don't know if they are being treated decently. We don't even know if they have been moved. Even their lawyers can't reach them.

Here is what we do know, though: There are many names on the El Salvador list of people who were here legally who had no criminal record. That seems to be getting lost in the debate for some of my Republican colleagues. This is not about any one case or any one person. It is about a lawless system for the President to deny due process. And when you cut out due process, you put innocent people in harm's way.

I heard one of my Republican colleagues say last week:

I don't see any pattern here.

Well, I ask him now, and I ask everyone now, to pay attention to the full picture because, of course, you won't see a pattern if you just look at one case and you ignore the many, many others.

There is the case of Andry Hernandez Romero. He is a barber who came here legally. He has no criminal record.

There is the case of Arturo Suarez Trejo. He is a musician. He came here legally. He has no criminal record.

There is the case of Merwil Gutierrez, who—you guessed it—came here legally. No criminal record. In fact, he was apparently grabbed by mistake. One officer reportedly said: No, he is not the one. And another said: Take him away anyway.

Trump sent them all to a maximum security prison in El Salvador with no trial—disappeared. They have no contact with their lawyer, no contact with family. We do not know if they are alive, and they don't know if anyone is even advocating for them—how hopeless that must feel, how dark.

So is that enough of a pattern for my Republican colleagues? Do you still need more? Because there is also Jerce Reyes Barrios. He is a soccer player. He came here legally. Again, no criminal record.

There is Gustavo Aguilera, a food delivery driver. Legally here, no criminal record.

Or Anyelo Sarabia—here legally, no criminal record.

I mean, how many more before my colleagues can actually admit this is a pattern? How many people have to be disappeared with no due process before it becomes a problem?

Because, for me, one is too many, and the pattern isn't even over yet.

Trump was reportedly ready to disappear even more people to El Salvador before the Supreme Court put its foot down. In this latest round, the Trump administration was preparing to disappear a man who came here legally and had no record, except a traffic violation. Another was a young man accused of being a gang member because of a photo with a toy water gun. That is the level of so-called evidence that gets you locked away in a foreign torture prison under President Trump.

And I will keep saying it. Most of the people they disappeared have no criminal records, and many were even here legally.

They came here for a better life, and Trump disappeared them based on nothing more than tattoos that say "mom" and "dad," or that celebrate soccer teams or a daughter's birth or autism awareness.

And I realize I keep hammering home that many of these people are not criminals and that many of these people came here legally. But I do want to remind my colleagues that this question is not whether someone who has vanished to El Salvador without a trace is good or bad. The question is whether everyone in this country, including American citizens, have the rights they were promised in our Constitution? At the end of the day, it is not about who these people are; it is about who we are—whether we are a country of due process or not, a country of laws or not.

Trump has said where he stands. He literally said: We don't have time to give them due process.

If the Trump administration thinks that someone is a criminal, if they are really bad and dangerous, prove it in court. Prove it. Just simply prove it. It shouldn't be hard. That is how this works. Everyone in this country understands that. You can't just say: Criminals don't get due process when due process is how you determine who is a criminal in the first place.

I mean, in the case of one person they sent to El Salvador, not only did the government's file against him show no criminal record, but it also got his name wrong several times and used two different identification numbers. Those are pretty major errors to make when you are locking someone away, the kind of errors that due process helps to avoid.

That is not some theory. We are seeing it happen in another case right now. There is a couple that Trump is saying is part of a gang. But instead of just disappearing them with no trial to speak of, the administration was forced to prove it—to prove it in court. And do you know what happened? The government failed. The judge found the government's claims completely and wholly unsubstantiated and ordered the couple to be released.

That just goes to show, if we ignore our laws, if we tear down the guardrails that saved that couple, it is not criminals who pay the price; it is innocent people, because due process protects them too.

Due process allows us to confirm whether people are lawfully present. Due process lets us confirm whether Trump is about to send them to a foreign prison. Due process lets us confirm whether people are guilty, instead of going off how they look or what tattoo they may have. And at the end of the day, due process means they get an actual determination of guilt or innocence, instead of getting disappeared with a question mark.

But no one here was told they are facing x years in a foreign prison. There is no end date in El Salvador because there was no sentence, because there was no trial. There was just Trump ignoring our laws, ignoring our courts, and sending people to gulags to rot and die and never be heard from again.

How can anyone ignore that outrageous breach of our laws, of our values?

And as a coequal branch of this government, I want to impress upon my colleagues: It is not just due process that is getting trampled here; it is basic checks and balances.

Trump is imprisoning these people under the Alien Enemies Act. He is using a war power. We are not at war. Everyone here should know that. After all, Congress—we—have to vote to declare war.

I remember every war vote we have taken in my time here in Congress, and I can tell you there has never been a vote on this so-called war Trump declared all on his own.

As if that weren't enough, earlier this month, the National Intelligence Council—the National Intelligence Council—determined that Venezuela is not directing an invasion by gangs. That directly undercut what Trump claimed when he announced his illegal end run around Congress.

Here is the simple question for everyone. There is no invasion. There is no

war. So why is Trump invoking a wartime authority?

But add on top of that that Trump has reached some secret, multimillion-dollar deal to pay El Salvador to imprison these people without a trial.

I am vice chair of the Appropriations Committee. I can tell you, we did not include a single cent, not one penny, for running torture prisons in El Salvador in our last funding bill.

Congress has the power of the purse, but Trump is picking our pockets to fund his own personal gulag.

And, by the way, while we talk about checks and balances, let's not forget how the Trump administration is arresting judges. His allies and advisers are attacking judges publicly and calling to impeach those who disagree with him.

And, of course, Trump is blatantly ignoring the courts. And worse than that, the White House is in open defiance of the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court wrote: The administration must facilitate Mr. Garcia's release.

The White House wrote that he is never coming back.

The Supreme Court wrote: People being targeted under the Alien Enemies Act must have a reasonable opportunity to file for habeas corpus.

The Trump administration said: No. We will give them 12 hours.

Foreign policy is not an end run around the courts or the Constitution. The President cannot just be given unilateral authority to cut completely unethical deals with foreign nations.

What happens when a President negotiates in secret to have his political rivals detained abroad? Is that allowed? Can he argue the courts can't require him to call such a deal off? Or maybe he just denies it and says any agreements are state secrets. Does that work?

If President Trump said he would pay El Salvador \$6 million to assassinate his rivals, I think we would all agree that that is blatantly unconstitutional. And if the court said he had to facilitate the reversal of that deal, and he said, "Well, it is a sovereign nation; I can't stop them from assassinating anyone," I think we would all have a huge problem with that.

So do we want to say that is wrong now, or are we going to have to wait until he tries it?

What are we waiting for? We cannot just all stand by silently as the President pries open a Pandora's box that is altogether unprecedented and that poses a direct threat to our Republic. And let's cut through this BS where Trump and El Salvador are both trying to pretend there is no way to facilitate the return of people sent there wrongly.

Here is the thing: El Salvador has already sent back people that Trump tried to disappear. El Salvador immediately sent back a Nicaraguan individual, and they sent back women—yes, Trump tried to disappear women

to their all-male torture prison in El Salvador. If anyone wants to try and pretend this was some careful vetting process, please explain that to me.

It is not like El Salvador can't send people back. They have already done that.

The administration should be making clear, one, these people were wrongly sent, and, two, that as with others wrongly sent, they need to be returned.

Though I want to keep in mind, of course, that "wrongly sent" is still kind of an understatement. The reality is, these people were completely denied due process. The reality is, President Trump is not just disappearing these people to El Salvador, he is disappearing our most basic constitutional rights, and he is doing it in plain sight, not just in El Salvador either, right here in America.

His immigration crackdown is upturning lives and overturning some of our most basic values like freedom of speech. We have people who are here legally who are being detained and threatened with deportation, not for any crime, not for any violence, but for speech, for protest, for things as simple, as fundamental, as writing an op-ed the administration disagreed with—in America, the land of the free and the land of free speech.

Is dissent the bar for deportation now? Is that what this country has come to? What next? How far does Trump's new standard apply? Can you get deported for saying we shouldn't invade Canada? Can you get detained for an op-ed saying Greenland is not going to be a State? Are you going to have legal status revoked for admitting Biden won the 2020 election? Because this seems outrageous, but it seems perfectly in line with Trump's new policy which amounts to "disagree with the President, your rights are gone." That is fundamentally un-American.

And beyond people who are being targeted for protest, there are thousands of students in this country that Trump is trying to push out over minor issues: fishing citations, jaywalking, speeding tickets, even charges that were dismissed. So far, some 1,800 foreign students are having their visas revoked with little to no explanation, to say nothing of due process. And that includes students in Washington State, my home State, at U-Dub, Gonzaga, Shoreline Community College where I once worked, my alma mater, WSU, and more. It is not clear whether these students have done anything wrong, and it is not clear, in some cases, what exactly they are supposed to do next because when the administration can't revoke visas, it has been trying to remove students' records, something courts have already ruled against.

One of the judges really put it best. I want to read this and quote it to you:

I've got two experienced immigration lawyers on behalf of a client who is months away from graduation, who has done nothing wrong, who has been terminated from a system that you all keep telling me has no ef-

fect on his immigration status, although that clearly is BS. And now, his two very experienced lawyers can't even tell him whether or not he's here legally because the court can't tell him whether or not he's here legally, because the government's counsel can't tell him if he's here legally.

The point seems to be, if we can't deport you, we can scare and confuse you. And to add even more confusion, DOJ announced they were reversing course on some of this only to then say they are still working on a plan to push out all these students.

By the way, we are only still scratching the surface of just how inhumane Trump's immigration crackdown has become. Trump is slashing funds to ensure 26,000 migrant kids have legal assistance, meaning more 4-year-olds are being marched in front of immigration judges expected to make their own legal case with a plushy toy.

Trump is also trying to mass cancel protected status for people who came here who were fleeing harsh conditions and dictators. Trump is sending Christian refugees and women back to live under the Taliban where they will face near-certain persecution.

Trump is sending ICE officials to elementary schools where they tried to gain access by lying about having permission from parents to speak with their kids. ICE officials are arresting people with maximum violence and lawlessness, showing up without judicial warrants, since the Trump administration says it is fine to storm into someone's house without one; showing up in masks, grabbing people off the streets without any badge or identification to distinguish them from a kidnapper; whisking people away in unmarked cars and even smashing windshields.

Back in my home State of Washington, I heard from folks who saw that firsthand.

Last month, ICE aggressively detained Lelo, a farmworker in my State. And it appears he may have even been targeted because of his advocacy for better working conditions for his fellow farmworkers. They are still denying him bond despite no criminal charges.

I spoke with his wife last week who watched in horror as they arrested her husband shortly after he dropped her off at work. She told me through tears about how officers broke his window and pushed him against the car and how Lelo wants to be free so he can take care of his brothers and sisters and work so they can study. He wants to continue doing his work with the community and with the union. And they are working right now to try to get bond, something I strongly support.

This is not someone with a dangerous record. It is someone with a record of hard work and trying to make his community better.

Skagit County is known for its agricultural industry. That industry does not survive without the immigrant farmworkers who help power that local economy, period. More than that, we

are talking about many families who have been here for decades. They are part of our community. They are not just the people who feed this country, these are people who work hard. They followed the law. They should not be terrorized as if they were violent criminals.

Last week, I met with farmworkers there who told me there have been days they have been afraid to go to work because an unmarked vehicle was seen in their neighborhood. They are absolutely terrified of being grabbed off the street by ICE and locked up with no semblance of due process regardless of their legal status.

And this situation is not unique to Skagit County or even to my State. It is happening across the country. Let's not forget, Trump is trying to deport a cancer researcher to Russia where she fears retaliation for protesting the war in Ukraine. Sending her away would both put her in danger and completely upend groundbreaking cancer research. Her colleagues say her role is irreplaceable.

But it is not just cancer research. Trump also deported a little girl—a U.S. citizen—who was on her way to get cancer treatment. She was with her mother, an undocumented immigrant who was forced to choose being separated from her 10-year-old daughter or being sent away together. What an unthinkable choice to force on a mother. What an unthinkable thing to do to a child, a citizen—a citizen—who is fighting cancer.

And Trump has done that twice. That is right—twice. He has deported a mother along with a kid who is fighting cancer—a kid, by the way, who is an American citizen.

He is doing that without giving these parents any meaningful time to talk to a lawyer or a spouse or to figure out what is best for that child. We know that because Trump deported another U.S. citizen last week. That is right, another one. Trump deported a 2-year-old, an American citizen. They refused to tell this kid's father where his wife and kid were being held. They refused to let him talk to his wife for more than a minute. They even forced him to hang up the phone when he tried to give his wife their lawyer's number. And then, as the judge put it, they seem to have "deported a U.S. citizen with no meaningful process."

Now we are hearing about a family in Oklahoma—U.S. citizens who recently moved in who had their home raided by ICE. A mom and her daughters were forced out of their house in the rain in underwear. ICE agents seized their phones, their laptops, even their life savings, and didn't leave so much as a number they could call to get their stuff back. That happened to U.S. citizens who did nothing but move into a new house.

These horror stories underscore something important—Trump's cruel war on immigrants is hurting American citizens too. U.S. citizens are hav-

ing their spouses ripped away. Even servicemembers are seeing their families targeted. They are having their parents ripped away. They are having their lives turned upside down.

Let's not forget, U.S. citizens are even being detained by this administration. We have several instances now where American citizens have been caught up in Trump's immigration crackdown. American citizens have been detained and wrongly locked up, even after someone showed them their birth certificates—even for days.

Let's keep in mind, if you are a citizen who is mistakenly detained and you are being denied due process and you can't reach someone to show them your birth certificate, how are you supposed to get released? What if you are put on the next plane for El Salvador before you get a chance to set the record straight?

Let's not pretend that is farfetched, not when citizens have already been mistakenly detained, not when the government has already admitted it sent some people to El Salvador by mistake, not when Trump has already disappeared some people who were here legally and many people who had no criminal record with no due process and not when Trump has already said he wants to send U.S. citizens to El Salvador prisons. He was caught on mic telling the President of El Salvador he needs to build more jails, telling him the "homegrown" are next.

What happens when you get sent there, and you can't contact a lawyer? These are serious questions. What happens? Because if there is nothing we can do for the people there now, what precedent does that set for the people that are sent there next?

Mr. President, I have been speaking for a while and posed a lot of questions. I hope my colleagues think about this carefully. I am going to wrap it up, but I want to end with just one more. Where will Republicans draw the line because we are well past the bounds of law, and we are well past the bounds of basic humanity.

So I hope more of my colleagues will join me saying enough is enough and demanding transparency, accountability, and justice from the Trump administration.

That starts with some very basic things. First, accurate up-to-date information on the names of people who are being detained and then deported from ICE facilities across the country, including, by the way, the Northwest ICE Detention Center in Tacoma, so their loved ones and community members can at least know where they are.

And we need a clear list of every person who was disappeared to El Salvador, along with what evidence, if any, the government has as well as the full terms of whatever agreement the Trump administration has negotiated with El Salvador's dictator.

But it doesn't stop there. We need to see clear, good-faith efforts to abide by court orders and to bring back every-

one wrongfully, unjustly sent to a foreign prison. We need to have lines of communication so these people can talk to their lawyers or talk to their loved ones and let us know they are OK. And we need due process with evidence, with judges, and a meaningful opportunity for people to present a defense.

Let's be clear, we are not saying everyone is innocent. We are saying no more than what the Constitution says, no more than what the courts have said time and again: Everyone in the United States of America gets due process.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). The Senator from Missouri.

TARIFFS

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to engage in this great debate that is raging across our country. Turn on the TV, read the newspapers, or open your phone, and you will be overwhelmed by the back-and-forths over tariffs, trade deficits, prices, and markets.

We hear the talking heads say that America simply can't afford President Trump's insistence on more favorable trade policies. We hear much less about whether America can afford to continue down the road we have traveled these past 30 years.

That is not a question that people in this city are asking. For many, it is not a question that appears to have occurred to them at all. The debates right now are about the future and how President Trump's policies will shape it. That is good. These are important debates that we should have. But, today, I rise because I want to speak about the past.

I am speaking as an American but, in particular, as a proud Missourian, a boy from Bridgeton. My folks—they weren't wealthy. My grandfather was an infantryman in World War II and returned from the war with an eighth grade education and some money he won playing craps on the Queen Elizabeth on his way home. All of his children worked in his butcher shop growing up. Later, I remember seeing my dad work 7 days a week on the midnight shift to put food on the table and a roof over our heads. He worked hard and lived honestly. And, just one generation later, look where we are.

What a remarkable story about my life—I suppose it is a remarkable story—but the truth is, it is just how unremarkable it really is in this country. That was the everyday magic of America—a country where lives like ours were not just possible but common. It was who we were.

America built the modern world. Our country was forged by pilgrims, pioneers, settlers, and explorers—men whose dreams were too big for the low horizons of the Old World. Our ancestors settled a new continent, tamed a frontier, raised up a great civilization from the wilderness, and planted our flag on the Moon. It was American genius that connected the world, first

through the great steam engine, spanning this continent from coast to coast, then through the miracle of flight. We gave humanity the telephone, the internet, the skyscraper, modern technology, electricity, and the industrial assembly lines that built modern civilization. Even the things we didn't invent, we perfected. Everything that mattered happened here.

But, over the last few decades, the people in power squandered that inheritance. They sent our children and our wealth overseas to defend the borders of distant nations while throwing open our own borders to a tidal wave of mass migration here at home. They shipped the good-paying, middle-class American jobs that once were the backbone of our economy to places like Mexico and China, transforming once prosperous towns and cities into hollow shells of their former selves, often defined by addiction and death. All the while, in the forgotten corners of this land, the men and women who built this country have suffered in silence. They watch in quiet despair as their towns crumble into disrepair, their way of life disappears, and the country they love slips away from them.

The political ideal of a republic is self-reliance. As our Founding Fathers understood, the art of self-government is about people's ability to rely on themselves. There was always trade, of course—this is a natural and good privilege of productive surplus economies—but in a republic, there was also trade between sovereign, self-sufficient communities. The citizen of the classical republic had no need for cheap trinkets, fashion, and sweatshops halfway across the globe. He and his neighbors were the ones building their homes, growing their own food, and when necessary, taking up arms to provide for their own defense. People who depend on others for essential things cannot rule themselves, and if they cannot rule themselves, they cannot keep a republic.

Yes, times have changed. The economy of today is altogether different than the economy our ancestors knew, but that is no excuse for standing by as our home becomes a dumping ground for cheap Chinese goods. Are we really still a sovereign people today? Our independence and our sovereignty are not commodities to be sold on the global market. We can't and won't make everything here, but we must recover the will and the ability to make the vital necessities of our national life. Our country now depends on foreign imports for most of those necessities.

By a nearly 2-to-1 ratio, more Americans now work in government than in manufacturing. Nearly half of our cars, more than 60 percent of our machine tools, 80 percent of our pharmaceuticals, and nearly 90 percent of the semiconductor chips we need for everything from phones to fighter jets are foreign made. That is why the crisis that confronts us today is not merely economic. It is about communism and

slave labor versus freedom. It is about who will win the 21st century. The stakes are high. It is about the survival of our civilization. It is about the kind of Nation and people we are and will be: one that creates and builds or one that simply consumes.

In this city, we tend to speak of big, sweeping abstractions—jobs, wages, deficits, growth. We talk as if these things are numbers and graphs. We forget that every job lost to China and every factory moved to Mexico belongs to a real, flesh-and-blood American, with a life and a family and a home. Each and every data point is a fellow citizen, a neighbor, a son or daughter of this great Republic. Since NAFTA, 90,000–90,000—factories in our country have closed. Think about that and what it means to those families. For the people who benefited, this was just an abstract externality. For the workers, the heartland Americans, it was everything. I know these people. These are my people—these are our people—and for too long, they have walked alone. There is no memorial for their sacrifice, no national outpouring of grief for their loss, no powerful interest group to represent them in the halls of power.

Let me tell you what 30 years of so-called free and fair trade has meant for the folks where I am from.

In the 1990s, our political class embraced a new line of thinking: that America could become more prosperous by opening all trade barriers regardless of how other countries treated us. The result was swift and devastating. By 2004, according to some estimates, Missouri had lost well over 31,000 jobs to foreign trade. By 2010, our trade deficit with Mexico had cost us 12,600 Missouri jobs. By 2013, we had shipped 44,200 Missouri jobs off to China. By 2018, Missouri had lost more than 90,000 jobs in manufacturing alone—over 25 percent of our industrial base.

Until a few decades ago, southeast Missouri was a national hub for garment and shoe manufacturing. In the 1970s, southeast Missouri was home to as many as 90–90—shoe plants. The last shoe factory from that era closed for good in 2005. It had begun as a five-story, 92,000-foot international shoe plant in Cape Girardeau, nicknamed “the Pride of Southeast Missouri.” At one point, it employed 1,200 workers, but cheaper imports from low-wage countries began to flood the market, and by 1990, the old factory was razed and replaced with a one-story plant of, roughly, 300 to 500 workers. By 2001, that had dwindled down to just 50.

Here is what one former employee told a local paper after the plant closed for good:

Now I am working at the Lutheran Home, driving a van, and making a third of the amount of money I made before. My wife also has to work, and, together, we are making two-thirds of what I made alone at the shoe plant. It is very upsetting. You get mad, and then you get hurt, and you think about all the jobs leaving the country and all the people losing their jobs.

Tri-Con Industries, which makes car seat parts, shuttered its factory in Cape Girardeau, too, and moved its production to Mexico. That was another 200 jobs gone.

There are patriotic shoe companies that still want to build in America. Belleville Boots took over a factory in Carthage, MO, in 2020. There are businesses that still love America, and they want to build on the generations of skilled craftsman in places like southeast Missouri, but for decades, our political class has rigged the rules to punish rather than help companies that put America first. This pattern repeats again and again and in every industry.

Up until the end of the 20th century, Missouri still had a major electronics assembly operation. Zenith Electronics—the last major American TV maker—had a large assembly plant in Springfield, MO. It had been in operation since just after World War II, and at one point, it employed 3,300 Missourians; but those jobs, too, had started moving to Mexico in the late 1990s. In October of 1991, Zenith shut down its plant and shipped its operation down to Mexico, taking out 1,500 Missouri jobs in one blow. In Springfield, the average worker made between 5 and 10 bucks an hour. Down in Mexico, it was just 83 cents.

The high priests of the global economy tell us that this is merely creative destruction and that other, better industries will arise to take their place of the ones that were lost. It is true that some of the workers in Springfield went on to find new jobs, but they were often much worse than the ones that they had before. Five years after Zenith shut down, laid-off workers saw an average pay cut of more than 10 percent. More than half of them had held multiple jobs since being laid off, two-thirds of them with worse benefits. Even the workers who enrolled in job retraining programs fared no better than the ones who didn't.

“Those people had worked there for 20 or 25 years,” one laid-off worker recalled. “They were at the top end of the pay scales, and there weren't any more TV repairman jobs out there.”

Toastmaster is a household name. Well, they were headquartered in Missouri, and they made their stuff in Missouri, too, with factories in small towns all across our State; but as we welcomed China into the world economy, Toastmaster began to feel the squeeze of cheap Asian imports. By 2001, every Toastmaster plant in our State was gone, shipping hundreds of jobs from rural mid-Missouri to China. The last one to go, in the town of Macon—near where I went to school—had been in operation since the 1950s. All that remained was a toxic waste cleanup site for the 5,500 people in the town it left behind. Although Toastmaster continued production in certain areas of the United States, Missouri wasn't so fortunate.

Boonville, a town where my grandmother went to high school, was another place that lost a Toastmaster factory. In 2011, the town of about 8,000 people lost its modular home manufacturing factory to the housing crisis too. In 2012, its bread factory filed for bankruptcy. In 2013, Nordyne, which manufactured air and heating products, announced it would be moving production from Boonville to—guess where—Mexico, taking out another 250 jobs.

“From a moral standpoint, it was kicking somebody while they were already down,” the head of the local chamber of commerce said as he talked to a local newspaper.

This is not the distant past, folks. This is the reality that millions and millions of our fellow Americans in Missouri and across the country live this very day.

Haldex, a brake manufacturer, packed up and left for Mexico in 2020, eliminating the last 154 jobs left at the facility in the suburbs of Kansas City. Layoffs began 2 weeks before Christmas. They will save millions of dollars a year paying Mexican workers a fraction of what they paid back home.

I will tell you one more story from the Bootheel in Missouri.

For decades, the Noranda Aluminum smelter there was a lifeline employer for the folks in New Madrid, Marston, and surrounding communities. These were good, decent, hard-working, salt-of-the-Earth folks. I visited with them. The smelter was the engine for their way of life, but in 2016, Noranda filed for bankruptcy and shut down. Why? Because China’s cheap, state-subsidized aluminum had flooded the market, causing global aluminum prices to plunge. In New Madrid—a town of less than 3,000 people—about 1,000 people had gone to find new jobs, usually at much lower pay. The county government went in the red. Local police and ambulance budgets were cut. The local school district lost a \$3.1 million tax payment, which forced their own layoffs and saw a 10-percent drop in enrollment as families left the area.

People lost homes, the mayor of New Madrid said. People got divorced. An American town, filled with American families, left for dead by their own country. What did we do to our own people?

This is not to say that Missourians don’t want fair exchange, one where they can trade and grow with the rest of the world, but the “free trade” that transpired was not free trade at all.

The double-edged tragedy of the system is that not all these companies wanted to leave. Some—perhaps many—wanted desperately to stay. These people were their neighbors, their friends, their family.

But over the past three decades, we punished the companies that were loyal to America while rewarding the ones that weren’t. The businesses that were eager to offshore got big bonuses at the American workers’ expense. The

businesses that wanted to stay here found themselves struggling to stay alive in conditions where they couldn’t compete.

Now, some might argue that Americans don’t want to make shoes anymore, but we did a generation ago. The American workers of that age knew that there was something meaningful in creating and producing.

Today, we have been taken by the idea that our social status is not what we build or create but what we can afford to buy or consume. It is going to take generations to reverse this thinking. The post-war order has given birth to a shallow morality of materialism that measures values strictly in terms of consumption. This is a poisonous new idea, utterly alien to the traditional American way of life.

Our trade policy, like our foreign policy, failed to adapt to the new reality of the world after the fall of the Berlin Wall. The consequences were nothing short of devastating.

At the dawn of the 1990s, as America looked forward to the new millennium, the architects of globalism beamed about the promise of the open society—a world without barriers or borders where all nations and cultures and economies would meld into one global economic zone.

Thirty years on, what do we have to show for it? At home, our factories and the towns that once sustained them lie in ruin, razed by the ruthless logic of the new global economy and cost-efficiency. The Americans who once worked there were replaced by foreign labor overseas. The Americans who once held on were now being replaced by foreign labor here at home. Their children will graduate into a workforce where nearly 1 in 10 workers doesn’t even speak their own language.

The twin horsemen of globalism—unprotected trade and unprotected borders—have been a catastrophe for our civilization. But, in many ways, I don’t blame the illegal immigrant who wants to come here in search of work, but we do have a country of laws, and there are consequences. I don’t blame the factory laborer in Vietnam who takes the job that once belonged to an American. Do you know who I blame? The people in power who allowed them to do it.

I blame the corporate bosses, the special interests, and, yes, the politicians who sold our country out for a seat at the table of the globalist banquet.

I blame the ideologues of the status quo, the international elites, the so-called citizens of the world who see our country as a global economic zone, a giant shopping mall with an airport attached.

I blame the people in cities like this one, who seem to have forgotten the men and women in towns like Boonville and New Madrid or their brothers and sisters, because “American” is not just a box you check on a tax form but a sacred responsibility that binds us to one another, an unbro-

ken chain between our past and our future.

I do not know what the future holds, but I do know what the past has meant. I know that something has to change and that President Trump is the first politician in a generation to even care enough to try.

The 77 million “deplorables” who cast their lot with Donald Trump last November were the forgotten Americans—the blue-collar patriots, the conservatives of the heart, miners, mechanics, tradesmen, and farmers; men and women who worked with their hands, grew our food, built our homes, and drilled our fuel, whose labor powered our country, whose taxes sustained our government, and whose children served and sacrificed in our wars. They stand with this President because he stood with them when no one else would.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 5 minutes, followed by Senators WYDEN and SCHUMER for up to 1 minute each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

S.J. RES. 31

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I rise today in support of my friend from Utah, Senator CURTIS, and his Congressional Review Act resolution to overturn the final rule of the Biden Environmental Protection Agency’s review of final rule reclassification of major sources as area sources.

This misguided rule would remove a major incentive for dozens of industries to reduce emissions. It would further saddle American energy producers and manufacturers with regulatory costs and burdens and, simply put, operates under a premise that is purely unfair.

Under this rule, once you classify as a major source, you are always considered a major source even though—you would even be prohibited from ever achieving an “area source” status again even if your emissions output decreased below the applicable threshold. This tells American manufacturing and energy leaders that no matter what you do, you will always operate under the strictest regulatory standard available. We should instead provide incentives for industries to lower their emissions and keep alive the option of returning to an area source once emissions are reduced.

Over the last 20 years, no other country has reduced its emissions like the United States, and we do not need overly restrictive regulations to continue this.

Giving our private sector the ability to innovate on a sensible timeline is a different approach than the inflexible, top-down mandate that became accustomed over the past 4 years.

The good news is, every Member of this Chamber now has the opportunity to right this wrong and reinstate the rule in place before that, which allowed for reclassification of these sources.

The former rule, which was put into place by President Trump's first administration, encourages industries to take proactive steps to reduce emissions without increasing regulatory burdens. The results during President Trump's first term were overwhelmingly clear: Source reclassification reduces hazardous air pollution in our communities.

We need to take every opportunity available to rightsize regulatory requirements prohibiting our ability to revitalize American manufacturing and achieve energy dominance, while taking steps that reduce emissions through innovative technologies that I have advocated for alongside my colleagues across both aisles of this Chamber.

We need to remember that our manufacturing, energy, and environmental policies do not need to be at odds with one another. A robust manufacturing sector, energy reliability, and a clean environment are not mutually exclusive.

I am proud to join in this effort alongside Senator CURTIS, my colleague on the Environment and Public Works Committee. This is an opportunity to return to commonsense environmental policy, and I encourage my colleagues to join us in supporting this resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 1 minute to conclude, and Senator SCHUMER will ask for an additional minute as well, and we would wrap up. But I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That order has been granted.

S.J. RES. 49

Mr. WYDEN. Thank you, Mr. President.

Senators, the devastating economic news we got this morning should be enough for Senators to vote yes tonight.

The only winner from the tariffs is China, which is scooping up markets and allies Donald Trump has left in the dust.

Senators, vote yes. Reclaim American trade policy, and end its outsourcing to Donald Trump.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, this resolution presents Republicans with a choice: Stand with Donald Trump or stand with American families hurt by the trade war.

The dismal GDP numbers today should be a wake-up call to Republican Senators now more than ever. Donald Trump is doing with the economy and tariffs what he did with his own business: Drive them under. It is terrible.

We hope that Republicans will join us because the devastation of the tariffs is apparent. Families are paying more. IRAs are going down. The country is on

the edge of a recession because businesses are paralyzed.

The only solution: Pass our legislation, have JOHNSON pass it in the House, and tell President Trump his tariff policies are chaotic and plain dumb.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will read the title of the joint resolution for the third time.

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

VOTE ON S.J. RES. 49

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. WYDEN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 225 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Reed
Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schiff
Booker	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Collins	Lujan	Slotkin
Coons	Markey	Smith
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Galleo	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Paul	
Heinrich	Peters	

NAYS—49

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Ricketts
Boozman	Hawley	Risch
Britt	Hoeben	Rounds
Budd	Husted	Schmitt
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Justice	Sheehy
Cotton	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cramer	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	Lummis	Tuberville
Curtis	Marshall	Wicker
Daines	McCormick	Young
Ernst	Moody	
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—2

McConnell Whitehouse

The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 49) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JUSTICE). The majority leader.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

MOTION TO TABLE

And I move to table the motion to reconsider.

VOTE ON MOTION TO TABLE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. THUNE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 226 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Banks	Graham	Moreno
Barrasso	Grassley	Mullin
Blackburn	Hagerty	Ricketts
Boozman	Hawley	Risch
Britt	Hoeben	Rounds
Budd	Husted	Schmitt
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Justice	Sheehy
Cotton	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cramer	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	Lummis	Tuberville
Curtis	Marshall	Wicker
Daines	McCormick	Young
Ernst	Moody	
Fischer	Moran	

NAYS—49

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Reed
Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schiff
Booker	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Collins	Lujan	Slotkin
Coons	Markey	Smith
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Galleo	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Paul	
Heinrich	Peters	

NOT VOTING—2

McConnell Whitehouse

(Mr. HUSTED assumed the Chair.)

The VICE PRESIDENT. On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 49.

The Senate being evenly divided, the Vice President votes in the affirmative. The motion to table is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HUSTED). The majority leader.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "REVIEW OF FINAL RULE RECLASSIFICATION OF MAJOR SOURCES AS AREA SOURCES UNDER SECTION 112 OF THE CLEAN AIR ACT"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. THUNE. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 31, S.J. Res. 31.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 31, S.J. Res. 31, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Review of Final Rule Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act".

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Mr. THUNE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 40, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 227 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Graham	Mullin
Barrasso	Grassley	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hagerty	Paul
Boozman	Hawley	Ricketts
Britt	Hoeven	Risch
Budd	Husted	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Collins	Justice	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sheehy
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Curtis	McCormick	Wicker
Daines	Moody	Young
Ernst	Moran	
Fischer	Moreno	

NAYS—40

Alsobrooks	Hassan	Reed
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schiff
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schumer
Booker	Kim	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Slotkin
Coons	Klobuchar	Smith
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Markey	Warnock
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Fetterman	Murray	Wyden
Gallago	Ossoff	
Gillibrand	Padilla	

NOT VOTING—8

Heinrich	Peters	Welch
McConnell	Sanders	Whitehouse
Murphy	Warner	

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RELATING TO "REVIEW OF FINAL RULE RECLASSIFICATION OF MAJOR SOURCES AS AREA SOURCES UNDER SECTION 112 OF THE CLEAN AIR ACT"

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. RICKETTS). The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 31) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Review of Final Rule Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

FOUNDATION OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION CHARTER AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 616 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 616) to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the Federal charter for the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 616) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 616

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Foundation of the Federal Bar Association Charter Amendments Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. ORGANIZATION.

Section 70501 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (b); and
(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

SEC. 3. MEMBERSHIP.

Section 70503 of title 36, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

"(a) ELIGIBILITY.—Except as provided in this chapter, eligibility for membership in the corporation and the rights and privileges

of members are as provided in the bylaws.";

and
(2) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b).

SEC. 4. GOVERNING BODY.

Section 70504 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 70504. Governing body

"(a) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The board of directors is the governing body of the corporation. The board may exercise, or provide for the exercise of, the powers of the corporation. The board of directors and the responsibilities of the board are as provided in the bylaws.

"(b) OFFICERS.—The officers and the election of the officers are as provided for in the bylaws."

SEC. 5. RESTRICTIONS.

Section 70507 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 70507. Restrictions

"(a) STOCK AND DIVIDENDS.—The corporation may not issue stock or declare or pay a dividend.

"(b) POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The activities, funds, income, and property of the corporation may not be used to carry on political activity or attempt to influence legislation.

"(2) NO CONTRIBUTION, SUPPORT, OR PARTICIPATION.—The corporation or a director or officer in the corporate capacity of the director of officer may not contribute to, support, or participate in any political activity or in any manner attempt to influence legislation.

"(c) DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME OR ASSETS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The income or assets of the corporation may not inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, a director, officer, or member during the life of the charter granted by this chapter. This subsection does not prevent the payment, in amounts approved by the board of directors, of—

"(A) reasonable compensation; or

"(B) reimbursement for expenses incurred in undertaking the corporation's business, to officers, directors, or members.

"(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This subsection shall not be construed to—

"(A) prevent the award of a grant to a Federal Bar Association chapter of which an officer, director, or member may be a member; or

"(B) prevent the payment of reasonable compensation to the corporation's employees for services undertaken on behalf of the corporation.

"(d) LOANS.—The corporation may not make a loan to a director, officer, member, or employee.

"(e) IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY.—Members and private individuals are not liable for the obligations of the corporation.

"(f) CLAIM OF GOVERNMENTAL APPROVAL OR AUTHORITY.—The corporation—

"(1) may not claim congressional approval or the authority of the United States Government for any of its activities; and

"(2) may acknowledge this charter."

SEC. 6. PRINCIPAL OFFICE.

Section 70508 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking "the District of Columbia," and inserting "a United States location decided by the board of directors and specified in the bylaws,".

SEC. 7. SERVICE OF PROCESS.

Section 70510 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 70510. Service of process

"The corporation shall comply with the law on service of process of the State or District in which it is incorporated."

SEC. 8. DEPOSIT OF ASSETS ON DISSOLUTION OR FINAL LIQUIDATION.

Section 70512 of title 36, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 70512. Deposit of assets on dissolution or final liquidation

“On dissolution or final liquidation of the corporation, any assets of the corporation remaining after the discharge of all liabilities shall be distributed—

“(a) as provided by the board of directors; and

“(b) in compliance with the charter and bylaws.”.

SEC. 9. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

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

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SERVICE AND THE NATIONAL HONOR GUARD AND PIPE BAND EXHIBITION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 9, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 9) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 9) was agreed to.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions, which are at the desk: S. Res. 191, S. Res. 192, and S. Res. 193.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, were printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

MORNING BUSINESS**DONATE LIFE MONTH**

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today, I want to recognize National Donate Life Month. Throughout the month of April, our Nation observes National Donate Life Month to highlight the lifesaving impact organ donations continue to have in Kansas and around the world.

Each year, more than 100,000 potential recipients wait for news that they will be receiving an organ transplant and thousands more are waiting for tissue or cornea transplants. Sam Allen, a native Kansan and currently an intern in my Washington, DC, office, was a recipient of an organ transplant. Sam's story as a beneficiary of this lifesaving procedure is one of many stories about how the generosity of organ donors can transform lives.

The need for this critical healthcare is ever-growing. Another person is added to the transplant waiting list every 10 minutes. Unfortunately, the need for organs is much greater than the supply. The waiting list grows daily, and many people face barriers to accessing organ donation. Sadly, 20 people die each day in the U.S. waiting for an organ transplant. These are not just numbers; they are fathers, mothers, children, and friends whose lives tragically ended too soon.

National Donate Life Month is a time to raise awareness about organ donation, which is an act of kindness and compassion, offering life and hope to those in need.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have worked to reduce these barriers and make certain Kansans have greater access to the organ donation process, most recently in facilitating the passage of the *Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement Transplantation Network Act*.

This month, we honor organ donors and their families, but there is more to do. I look forward to working with my colleagues to continue to highlight the barriers to receiving these lifesaving procedures and support fair policies to make certain all Americans have the opportunity of a second chance through organ donation.

As we celebrate National Donate Life Month, I would like to thank those who are registered as organ donors or have made the sacrifice to be a living donor. Your generosity is an inspiration.

I look forward to continuing the work to create a future in which waiting for a transplant is no longer a crisis and where everyone has the chance to live a full and healthy life.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been

present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 210 on the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture: Lt. Gen. John D. Caine (Retired) to be Major General in the Regular Air Force).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 211 on the Nomination (Confirmation: Lt. Gen. John D. Caine (Retired) to be Major General in the Regular Air Force).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 212 on the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture: Lt. Gen. John D. Caine (Retired) to be General and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 213 On the Nomination (Confirmation: Lt. Gen. John D. Caine (Retired) to be General and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff).

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW LUGER

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise to honor Andrew Luger, who recently completed his second tenure of service as U.S. Attorney for the District of Minnesota.

Andy is a good friend, a dedicated public servant, and he has been an extraordinary U.S. attorney. I thank him for his devotion to the cause of justice.

Andy has served our State for decades. He first came to Minnesota to work as an assistant U.S. attorney in 1992. He was later nominated and confirmed to lead the office as the U.S. Attorney for Minnesota in 2014 and again in 2022. Throughout his service, he earned the trust of people across the State and worked tirelessly to keep it.

Under his direction, the office successfully prosecuted several high profile cases on behalf of the American people. He led a team of prosecutors, local police, and Federal investigators in putting Jacob Wetterling's killer behind bars, closing a case that had eluded law enforcement for decades. It was one of the most notorious missing children cases in our country's history.

He has earned the respect of the law enforcement community and took on violent criminals, major white collar offenders, and sex traffickers.

He also fought to protect our civil rights. Under his leadership, the office stood up for the Abu-Huraira Islamic Center's right to build a mosque in the city of St. Anthony.

When he returned to spearhead the office in 2022, he picked up where he left off—and led the office in responding to new threats, like fentanyl and pandemic fraud.

Under his leadership, the U.S. Attorney's Office prosecuted the largest pandemic fraud case in the United States. Federal law enforcement in Minnesota brought to justice dozens of defendants who stole \$250 million in COVID aid that was supposed to go to feeding children.

But it is not just the cases that will define Andy's service to our State. It is

the relationships he built between the U.S. Attorney's Office and local law enforcement and communities throughout Minnesota. He traveled across our State to talk to Minnesotans about what they needed to feel safe in their communities.

This work became even more important following Hamas' attacks on October 7. Andy prioritized working with Minnesota's Arab, Muslim, and Jewish communities to combat the troubling rise in hate crimes that made people feel unsafe in their homes, in their places of worship, and in public. He also strengthened relationships with Native Tribes and substantially increased the number of prosecutors who work on Tribal justice cases.

Under Andy Luger's leadership, the U.S. Attorney's Office in Minnesota has continued its tradition as one of the premier prosecutor offices in the country. He has led a great team of incredible lawyers, and his energy and passion has inspired everyone he worked with.

Our justice system, the State of Minnesota, and our country have benefited greatly from Andy's service. We thank him and wish him all the best in the future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MEENAKSHI DWARAKA AND SALOME CASTILLO VALENCIA

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Meenakshi Dwaraka and Salome Castillo Valencia of Nashua as April's Granite Staters of the Month for their work to establish a free coding class for local elementary school students.

Both Meenakshi, 16, and Salome, 17, were interested in coding from a young age. Meenakshi's dad, a computer scientist, first inspired her to develop digital skills, and she quickly realized that she enjoyed competing in coding competitions. Salome learned how to build websites and code during the Covid-19 pandemic and has continued to improve her skills and even sell websites that she has created. The girls, who met in sixth grade, noticed that there were not many opportunities to learn computer skills until students entered high school, despite the increasing importance of the field. They decided to help fill this gap by starting a free coding class for students in third grade through fifth grade so that kids from all backgrounds could learn the basics of coding from a young age.

The class, which Meenakshi and Salome teach at their local community center in Nashua, has grown over the weeks. When they first started offering the class, they didn't have very many students, but over time, they have seen an increase in attendance and interest. Students from different high schools in the area have also reached out to ask

for help in starting their own classes and expanding the program. Students in the class learn block coding, basic robotics, and computer safety, giving students the opportunity to learn skills that will eventually help them compete in the 21st century economy.

Meenakshi and Salome's dedication to increasing access to computer skills is an excellent example of the Granite State spirit of sharing knowledge in order to empower others. Their commitment to helping students from all backgrounds prepare for the future—and have fun—is why I am glad to name them April's Granite Staters of the Month.●

REMEMBERING SHIRLEY VENORE TODD

• Mr. HUSTED. Mr. President, today I would like to honor and recognize the life of Ms. Shirley Venore Todd of Dayton, OH. Ms. Todd was a cornerstone of the Dayton community, serving as a pillar of faith and support to those around her. Her commitment to the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church of Dayton spanned over 60 years, underscoring her devout faith and commitment to community service. She will be forever remembered as a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, and friend. Her enduring legacy is carried on by her children, who embody her devotion to serving others. Her special gift to Ohio is her son Ron, who has been a leader in bringing Ohioans together to create understanding and hope.●

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-4. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho requesting that Idaho's Governor, Attorney General, and congressional delegation work cooperatively with incoming cabinet officials to ensure they implement laws and regulations consistent with the President of the United States's agenda and to facilitate the permitting of critical mineral development and processing production of these minerals; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 102

Whereas, the Legislature of the State of Idaho recognizes the importance of the domestic mining industry to the nation's manufacturing, technology, agriculture, and food security; and

Whereas, Idaho contains a number of critical minerals such as molybdenum, cobalt, antimony, copper, phosphate, rare earths, uranium, gold, and silver. Because these minerals cannot be produced synthetically, they must be mined and processed. Outside of the United States, most of these minerals are produced by countries whose interests are not aligned with the United States and/or do not require minimum environmental standards; and

Whereas, Idaho has a number of mines, considerable mineral exploration, and several phosphate processing facilities that are

the backbone of state and local economies. These operations provide high-quality products for the United States, such as phosphate fertilizer for national food security, and thousands of high-paying jobs and also support many other vital local community industries and services; and

Whereas, over the past decade, Idaho companies have expended millions of dollars to improve the environment and implement best-in-industry practices and innovative solutions to protect Idaho's natural resources. Such efforts have been effective and successful; and

Whereas, the Legislature applauds the current administration for its commitment to cut bureaucratic red tape, expedite permitting on federally managed lands, and ensure that domestic companies can continue to operate and mine in a predictable and cost-effective manner, thus benefiting the country's economy; and

Whereas, the federal government is vital to the continuation of the mining and mineral industry as most of these critical mineral deposits are located on federally managed lands. Idaho companies need efficient and predictable permitting processes for mines and processing facilities, including mine permits and land exchanges and acquisitions. Unfortunately, well-intended environmental laws have been weaponized by certain groups to delay, thwart, and end domestic mining and mineral processing production. These misguided efforts have caused bureaucratic inaction and overreach resulting in environmental studies and administrative records that can reach upwards of 100,000 pages and take decades to complete; and

Whereas, after these exhaustive administrative processes are completed, companies still face uncertainty given the prospect of costly litigation, unfavorable court decisions, and presidential administrations that may altogether decline to defend these critical decisions. The tension caused by the byzantine and antiquated administrative process has reached the United States Supreme Court through the Amicus Brief of the State of Idaho, et al., in *State of Utah v. United States of America*, Docket No. 220160; and

Whereas, there are several federal agencies involved in the permitting and oversight of mineral development and processing, including the United States Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the Idaho Legislature requests that Idaho's Governor, Attorney General, and congressional delegation work cooperatively with incoming cabinet officials to ensure they implement laws and regulations consistent with President Trump's agenda and to facilitate the permitting of critical mineral development and processing production of these minerals; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature requests that Idaho's Governor, Attorney General, and congressional delegation work with the current administration to examine the relevant federal statutes, such as the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq., and the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., and take any and all legislative, executive, and judicial action necessary to remove roadblocks that impede the production and processing of critical minerals in Idaho. This request also extends to state agencies that are involved in the leasing, permitting, and regulation of the mining and mineral processing industry; and be it further

Resolved, That the Idaho Legislature recognizes the critical tipping point in this country's efforts to domestically produce vital goods and services. It appreciates past efforts and requests the continued and focused efforts of Idaho's Governor, Attorney General, and congressional delegation to ensure that Idaho's mining and mineral processing industry continues to remain a vital cornerstone of the state's economic makeup; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled, and to the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.

POM-5. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Minnesota expressing condemnation of the President of the United States's pardon of criminal participants of the January 6 insurrection who had been found guilty of violent crimes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Whereas, on January 6, 2021, a violent mob in Washington, D.C., and other locations around the United States vandalized public buildings; threatened the lives of lawmakers, staff, and the general public; physically assaulted members of law enforcement for several hours; and jeopardized the peaceful transfer of Presidential power; and

Whereas, in the following four years, the biggest criminal investigation in United States history, which involved cooperation from partners in local, state, and federal law enforcement, secured charges against more than 1,500 people for crimes connected to the attack, including 400 for violent crimes; and

Whereas, every single one of these convictions was erased on January 20, 2025, the first day of President Donald Trump's second term, when he used his power to issue a full and unconditional pardon for all those who had been found guilty of crimes that day, including those guilty of violent crimes; and

Whereas, these assailants used bats, flags, chemical sprays, poles, stun guns, tasers, and stolen police shields and batons to beat law enforcement officers for hours; and

Whereas, officers who showed up to work that day to keep our nation's Capitol safe were choked, crushed and pinned in doorways, tased repeatedly, dragged, and beaten for hours; and

Whereas, law enforcement officers in our state and nation put their lives on the line each day to protect and serve our communities; and

Whereas, members of our law enforcement community should be treated with the utmost respect; and

Whereas, law enforcement in Minneapolis and many other cities across our country have faced abuse fueled by inflammatory rhetoric of activist groups, extremist politicians, and other protesters; and

Whereas, violence against our brave men and women in uniform at any time and in any place is reprehensible, and should be condemned at every turn; and

Whereas, several convictions were for carrying loaded firearms in the melee, mere yards away from members of Congress and their staff and Vice President Mike Pence; and

Whereas, President Trump's pardon included the commutation of 14 people linked to the extremist groups Oath Keepers and Proud Boys, who had planned elements of the attack; and

Whereas, granting full, complete, and unconditional pardons to those who violently assaulted police, causing the death of one of

ficer, the suicides of four, and injuries to 174 others, sends a message to law enforcement that violence against police is excusable and that their lives are expendable; and

Whereas, these pardons undermine our justice system and devalue the service and sacrifices made by United States Capitol police and all law enforcement officers to keep our country and the seat of government safe; and

Whereas, erasing convictions of these violent attacks politicizes public safety and deals a heavy blow to morale of law enforcement across the country, including Minnesota; and be it further

Resolved, By the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it condemns President Trump's pardon of those found guilty of violent crimes for their participation in the January 6 attack; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare a copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by his signature and that of the Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit it to Governor Tim Walz, the President of the United States, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, and the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:12 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 60. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to "Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 859. An act to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices.

H.R. 1402. An act to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1442. An act to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrate to individuals, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill and joint resolution were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 859. An act to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices.

H.J. Res. 60. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to "Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles".

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-863. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report to advise that he is exercising his authority to designate an Acting Inspector General of the Department of Education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-864. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 15, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-865. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expansion of Buprenorphine Treatment via Telemedicine Encounter" ((RIN1117-AB78) (Docket No. DEA-948)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-866. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Third Temporary Extension of COVID-19 Telemedicine Flexibilities for Prescription of Controlled Medications" ((RIN1117-AB40) (RIN1117-AB78) (RIN1117-ZA06) (Docket No. DEA-407)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-867. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to three (3) vacancies in the Department of Health and Human Services, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 23, 2025; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-868. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Civil Rights, Department of Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Department's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-869. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Breakage on Late Contributions, Makeup Contributions, and Loan Payments" (5 CFR Part 1605) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 15, 2025; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-870. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-871. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of

Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-872. A communication from the Chair, Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2024 report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-873. A communication from the Principal Deputy Special Counsel, Office of Special Counsel, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's fiscal year 2024 report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-874. A communication from the Equal Employment Opportunity Director, Office of Minority and Women Inclusion, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-875. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-876. A communication from the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-877. A communication from the Staff Director, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-878. A communication from the Chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-879. A communication from the Chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-880. A communication from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmit-

ting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-881. A communication from the Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's fiscal year 2024 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-882. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-47, "Unlicensed Establishment Enforcement Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2025"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-883. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-46, "Second Chance Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2025"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-884. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-45, "Clemency Board Waiver Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2025"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-885. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-43, "On-Premises and On-Site Extended Hours Program Amendment Act of 2025"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-886. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 26-44, "Certificate of Need Improvement Amendment Act of 2025"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-887. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Amendments" (RIN2900-AS26) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 23, 2025; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-888. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Continuity of Care via Telemedicine for Veterans Affairs Patients" ((RIN1117-AB40) (RIN1117-AB88) (Docket No. DEA-407)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2025; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. RISCH for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Brian Burch, of Illinois, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Holy See.

Nominee: Brian Burch.

Post: Ambassador to the Holy See.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

Burch, Brian; \$500, 9/16/10, CatholicVote PAC; \$20, 10/22/10, ActRight PAC; \$50, 1/3/12, ActRight PAC; \$500, 5/7/19, Dan Lipinski for Congress; \$10, 5/08/19, Dan Lipinski for Congress; \$2,500, 8/29/23, Pete Ricketts for Senate; \$2,500, 9/20/23, Ted Cruz Victory Fund; \$5,000, 8/15/24, Pete Ricketts Victory Fund.

*Nicole McGraw, of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Croatia.

Nominee: Nicole McGraw.

Post: Republic of Croatia.

Nominated: March 10, 2025.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

Self:

Committee Name, Date of Contribution,

Amount, Contribution Type:

GOP Winning Women-Florida, 10/11/2022, \$2,000.00, Contribution.

Amanda Adkins for Congress, 10/11/2022, \$250.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Committee to Elect Jennifer-Ruth Green, 10/11/2022, \$250.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Lori Chavez-Deremer for Congress, 10/11/2022, \$250.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Scheller for Congress, Inc., 10/11/2022, \$250.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Salazar for Congress, 10/11/2022, \$250.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Cassy for Congress, 10/19/2022, \$250.00, Contribution.

Monica for Congress, 10/19/2022, \$250.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Kiggans for Congress, 10/19/2022, \$250.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Trump 47 Committee, Inc., 5/29/2024, \$200,000.00, Contribution.

Republican National Committee, 5/29/2024, \$23,200.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Republican National Committee, 5/29/2024, \$123,900.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Save America, 5/29/2024, \$5,000.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Republican National Committee, 5/29/2024, \$41,300.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Never Surrender Inc., 5/29/2024, \$3,300.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Never Surrender Inc., 5/29/2024, \$3,300.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Trump 47 Committee, Inc., 5/30/2024, \$100,000.00, Contribution.

Republican National Committee, 5/30/2024, \$100,000, Transfer from authorized committee.

Winred, 8/8/2024, \$100.00, Contribution.

Trump 47 Committee, 8/19/2024, \$53,000.00, Contribution.

Republican National Committee, 8/19/2024, \$49,835.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Never Surrender, Inc., 8/19/2024, \$3,165.00, Other Receipts.

Winred, 9/16/2024, \$104.10, Contribution.

Trump 47 Committee, Inc., 9/27/2024, \$125,000.00, Contribution.

Republican National Committee, 9/27/2024, \$73,930.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Republican Party of Guam 4, 9/27/2024, \$800.00, Transfer from authorized committee.
 Connecticut Republican State Central Committee, 9/27/2024, \$10,000.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

DC Republican Party Federal Account, 9/27/2024, \$10,000.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Georgia Republican Party Inc., 9/27/2024, \$10,000.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Alaska Republican Party, 9/27/2024, \$10,000.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Republican Party of Guam, 9/27/2024, \$13,500.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Mississippi Republican Party, 9/27/2024, \$10,000.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Winred, 9/30/2024, \$100.00, Contribution.

Winred, 10/3/2024, \$96.00, Contribution.

Winred, 10/31/2024, \$96.00, Contribution.

Oklahoma Leadership Council, 10/31/2024, \$4,533.70, Transfer from authorized committee.

Republican Party of Guam, 10/31/2024, \$9,065.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Republican Party of Louisiana, 10/31/2024, \$10,000.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Republican Party of Kentucky, 11/8/2024, \$10,000.00, Transfer from authorized committee.

Spouse:

Committee Name, Date of Contribution, Amount, Contribution Type:

Wesley Hunt Victory Fund, 2/3/2025, \$25,000.00, Contribution.

Bernie Moreno for Senate, 10/29/2024, \$100.00, Contribution.

Bernie Moreno for Senate, 6/20/2024, \$500.00, Transfers from authorized committees.

Team Moreno, 6/14/2024, \$500.00, Contribution.

Steve Chabot for Congress, 9/20/2022, \$250.00, Contribution.

Steve Chabot for Congress, 4/7/2022, \$500.00, Contribution.

Jane Timken for Ohio, 1/24/2022, \$1,000.00, Contribution.

*Thomas DiNanno, of Florida, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

*Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary of State (Political Affairs).

*Sarah Rogers, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

By Mr. CRUZ for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Jared Isaacman, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

*Olivia Trusty, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2025.

*Olivia Trusty, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of five years from July 1, 2025.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation I report favorably the following nomination list which was printed in the RECORD on the date indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that this nomination lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

*Coast Guard nomination of John O. Mansolillo, to be Lieutenant Commander.

By Mr. LEE for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*Dario Gil, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Science, Department of Energy.

*Preston Griffith, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Energy.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BUDD, Mr. LEE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MCCORMICK, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. MOODY, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 1521. A bill to amend the United Nations Participation Act of 1945 to provide for a prohibition on contributions to the United Nations related to discrimination against Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HAGERTY:

S. 1522. A bill to require the District of Columbia to comply with Federal immigration laws; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1523. A bill to modify operations of the National Water Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. 1524. A bill to establish the William S. Knudsen Commission for American Defense-Industrial Mobilization, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1525. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to stop minting the penny, to require cash transactions to be rounded up or down to the nearest 5 cents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1526. A bill to establish the American Worker Retirement Plan, improve the financial security of working Americans by facilitating the accumulation of wealth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself and Mr. MCCORMICK):

S. 1527. A bill to modify the multifamily loan limits under title II of the National Housing Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1528. A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to ensure that businesses and organizations that work with vulnerable populations are able to request background checks for their contractors who

work with those populations, as well as for individuals that the businesses or organizations license or certify to provide care for those populations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 1529. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from authorizing or facilitating commercial finfish aquaculture operations in the Executive Economic Zone except in accordance with a Federal statute authorizing such action; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 1530. A bill to enhance military recruitment by improving access to student directory information, enabling the military to inform prospective applicants about service options and the benefits of military service, such as competitive pay, education, and valuable experience, which is crucial for meeting National Security Strategy requirements and supporting combatant commander demand; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KIM, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1531. A bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1532. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the railroad track maintenance credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. KING):

S. 1533. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent and codify the pilot program for use of contract physicians for disability examinations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1534. A bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1535. A bill to ensure high-quality remote physiologic monitoring services for Medicare beneficiaries and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 1536. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to support the national defense and economic security of the United States by supporting vessels, ports, and shipyards of the United States and the United States maritime workforce through tax policy; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1537. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to approve interstate commerce carrier apprenticeship programs for purposes of veterans educational assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1538. A bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. FETTERMAN (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 1539. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the minimum capital investment for certain depots of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. FETTERMAN (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1540. A bill to amend the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, to expand the replacement of stolen EBT benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 1541. A bill to support the national defense and economic security of the United States by supporting vessels, ports, and shipyards of the United States and the U.S. maritime workforce; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CURTIS:

S. 1542. A bill to support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing primarily in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, to safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 1543. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 1544. A bill to prohibit the Federal Insurance Office of the Department of the Treasury and other financial regulators from collecting data directly from an insurance company; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1545. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to ensure community accountability for areas repeatedly damaged by floods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. Res. 188. A resolution recognizing April 4, 2025, as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, and reaffirming the leadership of the United States in eliminating landmines and unexploded ordnance; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. KIM):

S. Res. 189. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 1, 2025, through April 30, 2025, as "Fair Chance Jobs Month"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 190. A resolution seeking justice for the Japanese citizens abducted by North Korea; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. Res. 191. A resolution supporting the designation of April 2025 as the "Month of the Military Child"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. Res. 192. A resolution designating April 30, 2025, as "National Assistive Technology Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. KING, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. KELLY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BARASSO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. Res. 193. A resolution designating April 2025 as "Financial Literacy Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 194. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the month of April 2025 as "Parkinson's Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 110

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 110, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to exclude extensions of credit made to veterans from the definition of a member business loan.

S. 128

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 128, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require proof of United States citizenship to register an individual to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S. 193

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 193, a bill to repeal the Alien Enemies Act.

S. 236

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 236, a bill to amend the Act of August 9, 1955 (commonly known as the "Long-Term Leasing Act"), to authorize leases of up to 99 years for land in the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Reservation and land held in trust for the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), and for other purposes.

S. 275

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 275, a bill to improve the provision of care and services under the Veterans Community Care Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 463

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) were added as cosponsors of S. 463, a bill to facilitate the implementation of security measures undertaken by the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

S. 522

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 522, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

S. 649

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 649, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to members of the National Guard who perform certain full-time duty, and for other purposes.

S. 688

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 688, a bill to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally.

S. 756

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 756, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain postsecondary credentialing expenses as qualified higher education expenses for purposes of 529 accounts.

S. 761

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr.

DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 761, a bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 861

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 861, a bill to streamline the sharing of information among Federal disaster assistance agencies, to expedite the delivery of life-saving assistance to disaster survivors, to speed the recovery of communities from disasters, to protect the security and privacy of information provided by disaster survivors, and for other purposes.

S. 911

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 911, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to include certain retired law enforcement officers in the public safety officers' death benefits program.

S. 978

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 978, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to establish a mortgage insurance program for first responders, and for other purposes.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1032, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with combat-related disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1099

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1099, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to limit the authority of district courts of the United States to provide injunctive relief, and for other purposes.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to unfreeze funding for contracts of the Department of Agriculture, to prohibit Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service office closures, and for other purposes.

S. 1232

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1232, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service indus-

tries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1241

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1241, a bill to impose sanctions and other measures with respect to the Russian Federation if the Government of the Russian Federation refuses to negotiate a peace agreement with Ukraine, violates any such agreement, or initiates another military invasion of Ukraine, and for other purposes.

S. 1260

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1260, a bill to reform rural housing programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1275

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1275, a bill to provide Federal-local community partnership construction funding to local educational agencies eligible to receive payments under the Impact Aid program.

S. 1404

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1404, a bill to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods and cargo for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces.

S. 1454

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1454, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide for greater protection of roosters, and for other purposes.

S. 1458

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1458, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable adoption tax credit.

S. 1502

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1502, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish the distribution of fentanyl resulting in death as felony murder.

S.J. RES. 1

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr.

RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 1, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to limiting the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve.

S. RES. 36

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 36, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States, States, cities, Tribal nations, businesses, institutions of higher education, and other institutions in the United States should work toward achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1528. To amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to ensure that businesses and organizations that work with vulnerable populations are able to request background checks for their contractors who work with those populations, as well as for individuals that the businesses or organizations license or certify to provide care for those populations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Comprehensive Health and Integrity in Licensing and Documentation Act of 2025" or the "CHILD Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. DEFINING "COVERED INDIVIDUAL" FOR PURPOSES OF BACKGROUND CHECKS UNDER THE NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION ACT OF 1993.

Section 5(9)(B) of the National Child Protection Act of 1993 (34 U.S.C. 40104(9)(B)) is amended—

- (1) in clause (i)—
 - (A) by inserting " , contracts with," after "is employed by";
 - (B) by inserting " , contract with," after "be employed by"; and
 - (C) by striking "or" at the end;
- (2) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii);
- (3) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

"(ii) is employed by or volunteers with, or seeks to be employed by or volunteer with, an entity that is under contract with a qualified entity";
- (4) in clause (iii), as so redesignated, by adding "or" at the end; and
- (5) by adding at the end the following:

"(iv) is licensed or certified, or seeks to be licensed or certified, by a qualified entity";

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 188—RECOGNIZING APRIL 4, 2025, AS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR MINE AWARENESS AND ASSISTANCE IN MINE ACTION, AND REAFFIRMING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE UNITED STATES IN ELIMINATING LANDMINES AND UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE

Ms. BALDWIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 188

Whereas landmines and unexploded ordnance threaten the safety, health, and lives of civilian populations and create humanitarian and development challenges that have serious and lasting social, economic, and security consequences for affected populations;

Whereas demining and clearance of unexploded ordnance enables displaced people to return to their homes and has a direct impact on development outcomes such as food security, school attendance, and economic development;

Whereas people in at least 60 countries and other areas are at risk from mines and unexploded ordnance in their communities;

Whereas more than 141,500 deaths and injuries resulting from anti-personnel or anti-vehicle mines and other explosive remnants of war have been recorded in the Landmine Monitor database since 2001, and thousands more individuals around the world are killed and injured by such mines and remnants each year;

Whereas demining programs make the United States safer, stronger, and more prosperous by removing explosive hazards that pose a risk to United States service members and Americans abroad, by strengthening relationships with governments and communities, and by supporting agricultural production and the creation of new markets;

Whereas, over the past 3 decades, the United States has been the global leader in supporting conventional weapons destruction, providing more than \$5,090,000,000 in assistance to more than 125 countries and areas since 1993;

Whereas, since 1989, the United States Agency for International Development has allocated more than \$350,000,000 through the Leahy War Victims Fund in more than 50 countries to provide artificial limbs, wheelchairs, rehabilitation, vocational training, and other assistance to survivors of accidents caused by landmines and unexploded ordnance;

Whereas the United States Government expressed its support for the Maputo +15 declaration of June 27, 2014, which established the goal “to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines and clear all mined areas as soon as possible”;

Whereas there are 165 States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, done at Oslo September 18, 1997;

Whereas there are 111 States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, done at Dublin May 30, 2008;

Whereas the recent use of landmines, cluster bombs, and other munitions, particularly in the Middle East, Afghanistan, Burma, and Ukraine, has created new humanitarian priorities and funding requirements for demining, while legacy mine contamination remains an urgent challenge impacting millions of people globally;

Whereas Russia's aggression in Ukraine has resulted in an estimated one-third of the territory being contaminated with landmines and unexploded ordnance, creating a massive need for clearance operations as a prerequisite for Ukraine's recovery;

Whereas these needs in Ukraine do not diminish the similarly urgent need for humanitarian demining in other parts of the world;

Whereas additional resources for demining will be needed to achieve a world free of the threat of landmines and other explosive hazards;

Whereas the Senate recognizes the communities from Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, including the many Hmong, Cham, Cambodian, Iu-Mien, Khmu, Lao, Montagnard, and Vietnamese people who supported and defended the United States Armed Forces during the conflict in Southeast Asia during the 1960s and 1970s;

Whereas the Senate remembers the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War on April 30, 2025, and the sacrifices of the members of the United States Armed Forces that served in the conflict;

Whereas, since the end of the Vietnam War, more than 40,000 people in Vietnam have been killed by unexploded ordnance and 60,000 have been injured;

Whereas, since 1979, more than 25,000 people in Laos and 65,000 people in Cambodia have been killed or injured by landmines or unexploded ordnance; and

Whereas, on December 8, 2005, the United Nations General Assembly declared that April 4th of each year shall be observed as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to support international humanitarian efforts to eliminate landmines and unexploded ordnance;

(2) recognizes those individuals in numerous countries who, at great risk to their personal safety, work to locate and remove anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance;

(3) affirms its support for the goal, as expressed by the Maputo +15 declaration of June 27, 2014, to intensify efforts to clear mined areas to the fullest extent possible by 2025;

(4) calls upon the United States Government—

(A) to continue providing the funding necessary to support international humanitarian demining activities;

(B) to maintain its international leadership role in seeking to rid the world of areas contaminated by landmines and unexploded ordnance; and

(C) to rededicate itself to addressing legacy mine contamination as an urgent humanitarian priority; and

(5) reaffirms the goals of the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.

SENATE RESOLUTION 189—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 1, 2025, THROUGH APRIL 30, 2025, AS “FAIR CHANCE JOBS MONTH”

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. KIM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 189

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) nearly 80,000,000 people have a record of arrest or conviction;

(2) an estimated 19,000,000 people have felony convictions;

(3) nearly 13,000,000 people are charged each year with misdemeanor offenses;

(4) 600,000 people are released each year from Federal and State prisons;

(5) Black, Indigenous, and Latino people are 5, 4.2, and 2.4 times more likely than White people to be incarcerated, respectively, and also face higher rates of arrest; and

(6) LGBTQ+ individuals are 3 times more likely to be incarcerated and also face higher rates of arrest;

Whereas people who have been convicted of a crime and served their sentence continue to face consequences after release due to systemic biases and stigmas against formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas recidivism rates in the United States are among the highest in the world, with almost 44 percent of people who are released returning to incarceration within 1 year;

Whereas, in the United States, nearly ⅓ of the formerly incarcerated population is jobless at any given time;

Whereas, in the United States, nearly 14,000 laws and regulations and 48,000 collateral consequences restrict formerly incarcerated individuals from getting professional licenses needed to work in some jobs;

Whereas 20 States and the District of Columbia allow occupational licensing boards to categorically reject applicants with prior convictions;

Whereas obstacles to employment, such as difficulty obtaining identification needed for employment, add undue burdens on returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas formerly incarcerated individuals earn nearly \$100 less per week than the average worker;

Whereas fair-chance employers can leverage financial incentives, such as the work opportunity tax credit, to benefit from hiring formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas employing returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals will result in a robust, vibrant, diverse, and resilient workforce;

Whereas having jobs that pay living wages, are conducive to health, provide opportunities for skillset development, provide opportunities for promotion, and provide benefits will facilitate stable employment and reduce recidivism;

Whereas returning citizens who have received vocational training while incarcerated are 28 percent more likely to obtain employment within 1 year of reentry into society than those lacking such training; and

Whereas, in addition to employment insecurity, returning citizens and formerly incarcerated people face numerous other obstacles to reentry and societal reintegration, including—

(1) housing insecurity and homelessness rates that are 10 times higher than the general public;

(2) near total restrictions in 12 States on access to temporary assistance for needy families established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.); and

(3) greater prevalence of chronic health conditions, lower quality and coverage of health insurance, and mortality rates that are 13 times higher than the general public: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of April 1, 2025, through April 30, 2025, as “Fair Chance Jobs Month”; and

(2) supports efforts to—

(A) ensure that people directly impacted by incarceration obtain stable and high-quality employment, housing, healthcare, and nutrition;

(B) dismantle structural barriers to fair-chance hiring and employment, such as licensing restrictions, employer liability, and insurance restrictions;

(C) expand workforce development programs for returning citizens, formerly incarcerated individuals, and others directly impacted by incarceration, including—

(i) pre-apprenticeship programs;

(ii) registered apprenticeship programs;

(iii) career coaching, résumé-building, technology literacy, and other skillset development programs; and

(iv) programs that educate employers on best practices for, and the benefits of, fair-chance hiring;

(D) match jobs providers with returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals seeking jobs;

(E) support efforts from labor unions and worker organizations to engage returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals who are seeking jobs;

(F) publicize work opportunities that are open to applicants with prior arrest or conviction records; and

(G) foster greater collaboration and dialogue between Federal, State, and local government agencies, community-based organizations, advocacy groups, employers, labor unions, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, and others directly impacted by incarceration to enhance fair-chance hiring and employment and help to heal communities impacted by mass incarceration.

SENATE RESOLUTION 190—SEEKING JUSTICE FOR THE JAPANESE CITIZENS ABDUCTED BY NORTH KOREA

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 190

Whereas the United States Government recognizes that North Korea was abducting Japanese citizens since the 1970s;

Whereas, in September 2002, North Korea admitted that it had abducted Japanese citizens and promised to prevent further recurrences;

Whereas, in October of 2002, only 5 abductees were returned to Japan after being held prisoner for 24 years, despite the explicit commitment of North Korea to investigate what had happened to all abductees;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights upholds the basic principles of liberty and freedom enshrined within the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights;

Whereas human rights awareness is essential to the realization of fundamental freedoms and contributes to promoting equality, preventing conflict and human rights violations, and enhancing participation in democratic processes;

Whereas these abductions of Japanese citizens by North Korea directly conflict with the basic principle of liberty and freedom; and

Whereas there have been several attempts at dialogue between North Korea and Japa-

nese leaders in an effort to yield stable results: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on North Korea to release any abducted foreign nationals, including those from Japan;

(2) urges North Korea to return the remains and provide information on any deceased abductees;

(3) urges North Korea to make such reparations as are appropriate regarding abductees;

(4) urges North Korea to apologize and permanently cease such activities; and

(5) encourages the President to ensure that this matter is addressed in any future interaction with North Korea officials.

SENATE RESOLUTION 191—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2025 AS THE “MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD”

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 191

Whereas millions of brave United States servicemembers and veterans have demonstrated their courage and commitment to freedom by serving the Armed Forces of the United States of America in active-duty posts around the world;

Whereas there are more than 1,600,000 children connected to the military across the United States;

Whereas it is only fitting that the people of the United States take time to recognize the contributions of servicemembers and veterans, celebrate their spirit, and let the men and women of the United States in uniform know that while they are taking care of us, the people of the United States are taking care of their children;

Whereas the recognition of a “Month of the Military Child” will allow the people of the United States to pay tribute to military children for their commitment, struggles, and unconditional support of United States troops;

Whereas, when a servicemember joins the military, it is a family commitment to the United States, and military children are heroes in their own way; and

Whereas a month-long salute to military children will encourage the United States to provide direct support to military children and families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of April 2025 as the “Month of the Military Child”; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to observe the Month of the Military Child with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor, support, and show appreciation for military children.

SENATE RESOLUTION 192—DESIGNATING APRIL 30, 2025, AS “NATIONAL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. CRAMER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 192

Whereas assistive technology is any item, piece of equipment, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of an individual with a disability or an older adult;

Whereas an assistive technology service is any service that directly assists an indi-

vidual with a disability or an older adult in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device;

Whereas, in 2024, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that 1 in 4 individuals in the United States, or almost 70,000,000 individuals, have a disability;

Whereas, during the 2022–2023 school year, the Department of Education reported that there were more than 9,500,000 children with disabilities;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that, among adults 65 years of age and older, 2 in 5 have a disability;

Whereas assistive technology enables individuals with disabilities and older adults to be included in their communities, including by making their classrooms and workplaces more inclusive;

Whereas assistive technology devices and services are necessities, not luxury items, for millions of individuals with disabilities and older adults, without which they would be unable to live in their communities, access education, or obtain, retain, and advance gainful, competitive, and integrated employment;

Whereas the availability of assistive technology in the workplace promotes economic self-sufficiency, enhances work participation, and is critical to the employment of individuals with disabilities and older adults; and

Whereas State assistive technology programs support a continuum of services that include—

(1) the exchange, repair, recycling, and other reutilization of assistive technology devices;

(2) device loan programs that provide short-term loans of assistive technology devices to individuals, employers, public agencies, and others;

(3) the demonstration of devices to inform decision making; and

(4) State financing to help individuals purchase or obtain assistive technology through a variety of initiatives, such as financial loan programs, leasing programs, and other financing alternatives that give individuals affordable, flexible options to purchase or obtain assistive technology: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 30, 2025, as “National Assistive Technology Awareness Day”; and

(2) commends—

(A) assistive technology specialists and program coordinators for their hard work and dedication in serving individuals with disabilities in finding the proper assistive technology to meet their individual needs; and

(B) professional organizations and researchers dedicated to facilitating the access and acquisition of assistive technology for individuals with disabilities and older adults in need of assistive technology devices.

SENATE RESOLUTION 193—DESIGNATING APRIL 2025 AS “FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. KING, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. KELLY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 193

Whereas, according to the 2023 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households—

(1) approximately 4.2 percent of households, representing 5,600,000 households in the United States, remain unbanked and therefore have limited or no access to savings, lending, or other basic financial services; and

(2) an estimated 14.2 percent of households, representing about 19,000,000 households in the United States, remain underbanked, including nearly 1 in 4 households without a high school diploma;

Whereas, according to a report entitled “Financial Capability of Adults with Disabilities” by the National Disability Institute and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, people with disabilities are more likely to struggle with the key components of financial capability, which are making ends meet, planning ahead, managing financial products, and financial knowledge and decisionmaking, and could benefit from targeted financial education;

Whereas, according to the statistical release of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the fourth quarter of 2024 entitled “Household Debt and Credit Report”—

(1) outstanding household debt in the United States has increased by \$3,890,000,000,000 since the end of 2019;

(2) outstanding student loan balances have increased steadily during the last decade to more than \$1,600,000,000,000; and

(3) delinquency rates increased for all debt types except for debt related to student loans;

Whereas the 2023 Employer Survey of the Employee Benefits Research Institute reported that financial wellness benefits, including broad-based financial education, are a tool to improve worker satisfaction and productivity;

Whereas, according to the National Endowment for Financial Education, as of 2025, a total of 27 States have passed legislation requiring students to complete a financial education course prior to completing high school, representing more than 50 percent of all students across the United States;

Whereas, in 2024, survey research conducted by the National Endowment for Financial Education reports that—

(1) 83 percent of adults in the United States say that their State should require a semester or year-long course focused on personal finance education for high school graduation, and 82 percent of adults in the United States whose high schools did not offer such a course say they wish they had been required to take one in order to graduate; and

(2) 1 in 4 respondents in multigenerational households who took financial education in secondary school and found it useful report a quality of financial life that is better than they expected, compared to 11 percent of those who did not take financial education in secondary school and a survey-wide average of 16 percent;

Whereas a growing amount of empirical evidence affirms that exposure to financial education in high school has measurable and substantive effects on the financial knowledge and financial behavior of young adults, including studies that show—

(1) requirements for financial education in high school—

(A) are associated with fewer defaults and higher credit scores among young adults aged 18 to 21; and

(B) increase the likelihood that college-bound students will apply for financial aid; and

(2) individuals exposed to financial education in high school demonstrate greater fi-

ancial literacy and, as a result, are more likely to plan for retirement and less likely to report being financially fragile;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared to—

(1) make sound money management decisions about credit, debt, insurance, financial transactions, and planning for the future; and

(2) become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas financial education in schools in the United States is critical to a long-term financial inclusion strategy to reach students who are not able to get sufficient personal finance guidance at home;

Whereas increased financial literacy—

(1) empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions; and

(2) reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2025 as “Financial Literacy Month” to raise public awareness about—

(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and

(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 194—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE MONTH OF APRIL 2025 AS “PARKINSON’S AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 194

Whereas Parkinson’s disease—

(1) affects over 1,000,000 individuals in the United States with nearly 90,000 individuals diagnosed each year;

(2) is the fastest-growing and second most common neurodegenerative disease in the world;

(3) is believed to be caused by a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause in most individuals is still unknown; and

(4) is the 15th leading cause of death in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

Whereas, by the year 2037, it is estimated that the number of individuals in the United

States with Parkinson’s disease will nearly double, and Parkinson’s disease will cost the United States at least \$80,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson’s disease can include dementia and cognitive impairment, tremors, slowness of movement and rigidity, gait and balance difficulties, speech and swallowing difficulties, depression, and a variety of other symptoms;

Whereas there are millions of family caregivers, friends, and loved ones whose lives are greatly affected by Parkinson’s disease; and

Whereas more research, education, and community support services are needed—

(1) to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson’s disease; and

(2) to maintain the dignity of individuals living with Parkinson’s disease: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of the month of April 2025 as “Parkinson’s Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Parkinson’s Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson’s disease;

(4) recognizes the individuals living with Parkinson’s disease who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals across the United States working to improve the quality of life of people living with Parkinson’s disease and their families.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I have nine requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive session.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a business meeting and hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

The Subcommittee on Airland of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 4 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 1; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate resume consideration of Calendar No. 31, S.J. Res. 31; further, that at 11 a.m., the Senate execute the order with respect to H.J. Res. 75; further, that following disposition of H.J. Res. 75, the Senate resume consideration of Calendar No. 31, S.J. Res. 31, all debate time be expired, the joint resolution be read a third time, the Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution, and, if passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; further, that following disposition of Calendar No. 31, S.J. Res. 31, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Bisignano nomination; finally, that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture motion with respect to the Bisignano nomination ripen at 1:45 p.m. tomorrow.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator MARKEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION FIRST 100 DAYS

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, 100 days ago, Donald Trump proclaimed "the golden age of America begins now." But in 100 days, since Inauguration Day, "King" Donald has shown us that he sits on a throne of fool's gold—one built on empty votes, unfulfilled promises, and lie after lie after lie.

In just over 3 months, "King" Donald's reign has rained down chaos and corruption and cuts and crisis on the American people. And he is counting on you not to pay attention. He is hoping you don't notice that, every day, costs are rising, retirement savings are sinking, and families are living paycheck to paycheck and they are bearing the burden of the Trump world.

He is relying on all of us to roll over, accept his absolute rule, and let him and his caviar Cabinet enjoy the circus while they pass a massive tax break for their billionaire buddies out of all of the programs that would serve every family in our country.

So to help us all keep track here on the 100th day of the Trump Presidency, here are the 100 damages from Trump's 100 days:

In his first 100 days, Donald Trump, No. 1, propped up Big Tech billionaires at his inauguration, right here in this building.

No. 2, withdrew the United States from the World Health Organization.

No. 3, pulled the United States out of the Paris climate agreement to save our planet.

No. 4, created DOGE.

No. 5, called to end birthright citizenship through an Executive order, which is unlawful because it cannot override the Constitution of the United States.

No. 6, canceled nearly \$400 million in funding to support communities' efforts to eliminate or reduce flood damage.

No. 7, eliminated the Office of Climate Change and Health Equity, which addresses greenhouse gas emissions from the health sector and facilitates interagency coordination to address climate change impacts on the public health of all 330 million Americans.

No. 8, he attacked clean car regulations that save drivers money at the pump.

No. 9, unleashed ICE at schools and hospitals and churches to threaten children and families.

No. 10, disbanded the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, which championed the first Federal gun safety legislation in more than 30 years.

No. 11, repealed the Biden administration's AI protections for minority communities in our country.

No. 12, he helped States refuse abortion care in life-threatening emergencies.

No. 13, threatened to take over the Panama Canal.

No. 14, he fired 18 inspectors general who work to eliminate government waste and fraud and abuse.

No. 15, threatened to hold California wildlife aid hostage.

No. 16, threatened to use military action against Greenland to take it by force and violate its sovereignty.

No. 17, illegally fired two National Labor Relations Board officials.

No. 18, banned transgender Americans from serving in the U.S. military.

No. 19, restricted access to gender-affirming care.

No. 20, he froze the Clean School Bus Rebate funding, standing in the way of keeping our air clean for kids on buses in our country.

No. 21, spread misinformation about vaccines and risked the health of millions of Americans.

No. 22, he blamed a plane crash on DEI—irresponsible.

No. 23, eliminated the public records office at the Centers for Disease Control.

No. 24, scrubbed health data related to HIV from the CDC website.

No. 25, allowed DOGE access to sensitive Treasury Department information about all Americans.

No. 26, fired the Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau because he favors the interests of his billionaire buddies over those of American consumers.

No. 27, gutted Federal protections for worker safety.

No. 28, scrubbed the mention of climate change from any Federal Agency in our country.

No. 29, froze \$10 billion in disaster funding as part of a bogus investigation into nonprofit support for undocumented immigrants.

No. 30, cut cancer research funding.

No. 31, cut diabetes research funding.

No. 32, cut HIV-AIDS research funding.

No. 33, cut heart disease research funding.

No. 34, cut mental health research funding.

No. 35, cut family caregiving research funding.

No. 36, cut funding to recruit the next generation of health researchers, putting years of innovation at risk.

No. 37, withdrew grant opportunities with the Office on Violence Against Women.

No. 38, threatened providers, hospitals, and community health centers because of the type of care which they provide.

No. 39, froze funding for community health centers in our country.

No. 40, ordered the suspension of EV charging funding.

No. 41, tried to rename the Gulf of Mexico.

No. 42, illegally rescinded \$80 million in congressionally appropriated FEMA funding for New York City bank accounts.

No. 43, fired—and then rehired—over 300 staffers at the National Nuclear Security Administration, jeopardizing

the security of the U.S. nuclear stockpile.

No. 44, threatened to take over Canada.

No. 45, weakened NATO by cozying up to Russia and alienating our allies.

No. 46, cut Alzheimer's research, delaying breakthroughs that could find a cure for this tragic and deadly disease.

No. 47, terminated the American Climate Corps.

No. 48, cut hundreds of employees from the FAA.

No. 49, fired more than 200 probationary FEMA workers.

And No. 50, fired more—this is unbelievable—than 2,400 National Park Service workers nationwide, including at Minute Man National Park, Springfield Armory, and Cape Cod National Seashore.

No. 51, called to privatize the U.S. Postal Service, jeopardizing jobs and the fast, safe, and efficient delivery of our mail.

No. 52, fired workers responsible for answering the Veterans' Administration Crisis Line.

No. 53, worked with Republicans in Congress to gut Medicaid.

No. 54, terminated hundreds of VA contracts, including those in cancer research and suicide prevention.

No. 55, fired more than 1,000 NOAA employees nationwide.

No. 56, gutted USAID and halted global humanitarian assistance.

No. 57, fired 2,400 VA employees, with plans to cut 80,000 additional VA employees.

No. 58, froze funding and canceled classes at the National Fire Academy.

No. 59, canceled the Local Food for Schools and Local Purchase Assistance Programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, ending subsidies that go directly to farmers for schools and costing Massachusetts alone and our farmers \$18 million.

No. 60, ordered the closure of the environmental justice offices at the Environmental Protection Agency and not just at headquarters but at all the regional EPA offices as well.

No. 61, froze and announced the termination of the climate bank, the green bank funding.

No. 62, froze \$20 million in community change grant funding to improve air quality in Springfield, MA, the former asthma capital of the United States; and cut another \$1 million from Massachusetts Department of Public Health to combat asthma rates in Western Massachusetts.

No. 63, eliminated the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

No. 64, wiped the Surgeon General's advisory calling gun violence a public health crisis—wiped.

No. 65, called for the firing of judges who have disagreed with him, which clearly would violate the U.S. Constitution.

No. 66, illegally fired the Democratic Commissioners at the Federal Trade Commission.

No. 67, cut off legal representation for unaccompanied children in immigration proceedings.

No. 68, cut funding to fight the opioid epidemic in our country. It is still an epidemic.

No. 69, threatened to block a media merger if CBS didn't change its reporting.

No. 70, gave DOGE access to sensitive Small Business Administration data.

No. 71, Signalgate.

No. 72, abducted Rumeysa Ozturk off the streets of Somerville, MA—a graduate student whom I just visited in prison in Louisiana. The Trump administration has not charged her with a crime, has presented no evidence. The Trump administration must release Rumeysa now.

No. 73, cut funding to help kids get vaccinated.

No. 74, terminated collective bargaining for tens of thousands of Federal workers.

No. 75, called to end funding for the broadcasters of the public broadcasting system of our country.

No. 76, cut off \$106 million in education funds for Massachusetts.

No. 77, threatened a military attack against Iran, which could have set off a full-blown regional war in the Middle East.

No. 78, fired nearly everyone who works on the low-income heating assistance program and their Federal staff—fired nearly everyone.

No. 79, fired 870 workers at the National Institutes for Occupational Safety and Health, approximately two-thirds of their workforce. That is occupational safety and health.

No. 80, cut funding for the Head Start program. There are 800,000 young people in Head Start. Slashed that funding.

No. 81, canceled more than 1,000 National Endowment for the Humanities grants totaling more than \$363 million.

No. 82, delayed broadband grant funding.

No. 83, allowed a measles epidemic to spread uncontrolled across our country—a measles epidemic in 2025.

No. 84, eliminated more than \$880 million in Federal climate resilience aid that helps communities build disaster-resilient infrastructure.

No. 85, opened America's public lands to new coal mining.

No. 86, targeted State and local laws aimed at tackling the climate crisis.

No. 87, moved to end lifesaving parole programs for Afghans and Ukrainians and Cubans and Haitians and Nicaraguans and Venezuelans.

No. 88, moved to sunset critical environmental regulations.

No. 89, blocked \$2.2 billion in Federal grant funding to Harvard.

No. 90, froze public safety grants for public broadcasters in our country.

No. 91, halted Federal leasing and permitting for wind projects in our country as they open our public lands for coal mining.

No. 92, gutted permitting processes in order to fast-track dirty energy projects to reward his Big Oil and Gas and Coal cronies.

No. 93, canceled \$90 million in disaster prevention funding to Massachusetts alone.

No. 94, put all staff on the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness on administrative leave, essentially shutting down the Agency that works on homelessness in our Nation.

No. 95, suspended food safety inspections after firing the Food and Drug Administration workers—food safety inspections, suspended in our country in 2025.

No. 96, terminated \$400 million in grants for AmeriCorps.

No. 97, suspended refugee resettlement in our country for the first time.

No. 98, arrested Judge Hannah Dugan, alleged that she helped an undocumented man avoid immigration enforcement.

No. 99, increased funding for the Sentinel ICBM program, which, as it increases the risk of accidental launch, makes nuclear war more likely on our planet.

And No. 100, deported children who are United States citizens.

100 days, 100 damages. This is where our country is right now, and this is what we must stand up and fight to prevent from becoming any worse.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 9:34 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 10 a.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS NATIONAL ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing April as National Arab American Heritage Month (NAAHM).

During the month of April, the Arab American Foundation formally recognizes and celebrates the achievements of Arab Americans, embraced by cultural institutions, school districts, municipalities, state legislatures, public servants, and non-profit organizations nationwide.

Since migrating to America, men and women of Arab descent have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends, while also setting fine examples of model citizens and public servants.

The Arab American Institute estimates there are roughly 3.7 million Arab Americans living in the United States, contributing to virtually every aspect of American society: in medicine, law, business, education, technology, government, military service, and culture.

The first known Arab immigrants arrived in 1527, before the founding of United States, and have helped shape and strengthen modern America to be the great nation it is today.

Their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education, and diversity in faith and creed add strength to our great democracy and enrich our society.

The celebration of Arab American ancestry and cultural heritage educates our fellow Americans, counters misconceptions and harmful stereotyping, promotes diversity and equality in our society, and acknowledges the valuable contributions and heritage of Arab Americans in this country.

In 2023 and 2024, President Biden made official proclamations recognizing the month of April as National Arab American Heritage Month. Illinois, Virginia, California, and Indiana's Senate have passed permanent legislation designating the month as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the contributions of Arab Americans and hereby declare April 2025 to be recognized as National Arab American Heritage Month by Virginia's 11th Congressional District. We encourage our citizens to join us in this special observance.

RECOGNIZING DAKOTA PARTELOW, GOLD AWARD

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating

Dakota Partelow. Dakota is a member of Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida, Troop 608, and has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact, by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities and the world with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1–2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Dakota's project in partnership with Valerie House was an excellent endeavor to address youth mental health and grief in our community. Dakota took action by researching youth mental health and grief, then redesigning the children's waiting room at Valerie House to create a more welcoming space. She repainted the room and assembled a resource box filled with toys and activities to support the well-being of grieving children. Her efforts will have a lasting positive impact on the community.

On behalf of the 17th Congressional District of Florida, congratulations to Dakota for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Dakota for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MILDRED "MAMA K" AUSTEN KENERSON

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of Mildred "Mama K" Austen Kenerson, a woman who graced this world for an incredible 105 years. Her passing marks the end of an era, but her legacy of resilience and compassion continues to inspire future generations.

Mrs. Kenerson was born on April 19, 1919, in Braxton Mississippi. She was the second child to the late Eddie Lee Perkins and Idella Harper Perkins, who raised seven children in total. Mrs. Kenerson was educated in Rosendal School for Children and attended the historic Piney Wood Country Life School. As she continued to pursue higher education, Mrs. Kenerson attended Jackson State Teacher's College, now known as Jackson State Univer-

sity. At 19 years old she obtained her Teaching Certificate to educate the children at Dry Ridge and D'Lo Colored Schools in segregated Simpson County.

From her earliest years, Mrs. Kenerson embraced the teachings of Christ and remained a devoted member of St. John Baptist Church, an institution with roots stretching back to 1865.

She was a vital part of the St. John community, evidenced by her pivotal role in the inaugural Church Homecoming Program on May 30, 1982. There, they united families such as the Perkins, Bridges and the Dents. For years, Mrs. Kenerson and her sister-in-law, the late Doris Wilson Perkins poured countless hours of dedication into the preparations for St. John Baptist Church's cherished annual events, fostering years of unity and fellowship.

Mrs. Kenerson's life stands as a testament to the power of faith, the strength of community and the enduring bonds of family. Her devotion to St. John Baptist Church and her unwavering spirit will long be remembered.

Mrs. Kenerson was an employee of the Chicago Public Schools; she worked at the Daniel Webster Elementary School from 1969 to 1999, where she was a teacher, a tutor, a parent liaison, and provided support to staff and the Reading Lab. She instilled a passion for learning in her students, serving as a mentor to her colleagues and providing creative boards throughout the school. Mrs. Kenerson retired after 30 years of service.

In 1963, she entered in Holy matrimony with John Dubois Kenerson, a man of enterprise and community. Mr. Kenerson was the standing President of Standard Burial Insurance Company, founded in 1952. Mr. Kenerson built a family of businesses that included the William Ray Funeral Home with his sister Eunise Smith and Mr. Hodges. That funeral home is now operated by their nephew and niece, William and Annie Ray.

Together, they raised two children: Carolyn Austin and Rowland Austin. Their legacy lives on through their children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Mildred "Mama K" Austen Kenerson.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE BOULOS SABA, JR.

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, the 12th Congressional District honors the incredible life and legacy of George Saba, who served Metro Detroit's immigrant community for over four decades as a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representative.

George dedicated his life to reuniting thousands of families, first at the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit and later at ACCESS, always bringing compassion, warmth,

• 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.

and unwavering commitment. Born in Ramallah, George was deeply proud of his Palestinian heritage and actively involved with the American Federation of Ramallah, working to preserve and pass on his culture to future generations. His work transformed lives, and his presence brought comfort and strength to so many.

We extend our deepest sympathies to his beloved wife Itidal Swiss Saba; children Paul (Jomana), Janan (Benjamin), and the late Amjad George Saba; grandchildren Victoria, George, and Natalia; and his entire family. May his memory continue to be a blessing and a source of strength.

CONGRATULATING TOM TEMIN ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tom Temin on the occasion of his retirement after nearly 48 years in journalism.

Tom has had a storied career in journalism that began with a bachelor's degree in photojournalism from the Rochester Institute of Technology. He also completed the Stanford Professional Publishing Program. While he ended up spending the majority of his career in Washington, he spent 17 years with Cahners Publishing Company, editing magazines in the industrial supply, electronics, and systems integration industries. He also worked in weekly and daily newspapers in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

Once in D.C., Tom immersed himself in the federal government market. He has held numerous leadership roles in this space, including editor-in-chief of Government Computer News (GCN) for 15 years, then the most-read and highest revenue business-to-business publication in the market. The publication won several Jesse H. Neal awards from the American Business Media (ABM) editorial program. After the Washington Post Company acquired GCN, Tom became executive vice president, editorial, at the newly formed PostNewsweek Tech Media Group. There he oversaw the content of GCN, Washington Technology—also a Jesse H. Neal award winner—and several other properties.

For the past 16 years Tom has hosted Federal Drive with Tom Temin, weekday mornings on Federal News Network (FNN) 1500 AM. The show covers a range of topics, such as legislation, federal IT, oversight, and the federal workforce. His guests are often federal executives, members of Congress, think tank experts, and attorneys with subject matter expertise on a myriad of federal issues. Podcasts of Federal Drive broadcast interviews garner some 50,000 downloads per month, and Tom has conducted approximately 10,000 interviews over the course of hosting the show.

In addition to his show, Tom organizes and stages a Motorcycle Ride for Charity each year with FNN's support. The event makes contributions to the Federal Employees Education and Assistance Fund (FEEA), Friends of Patients at the NIH, and the U.S. War Dogs Association.

Throughout his career, Tom has been a speaker and moderator at events staged by groups such as AFCEA, the Association for Federal IRM (AFFIRM), and ACTIAC.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Tom Temin on his retirement. I wish him the best in all of his future endeavors and hope he enjoys retirement with his wife, children, grandchildren, and his Harley-Davidson Motorcycle.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF
UNITED DISABILITIES SERVICES

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate and recognize United Disabilities Services for their 60th anniversary.

Founded in 1965, United Disabilities Services is one of the leading disability services providers in Pennsylvania helping older adults, individuals with disabilities, and veterans lead more independent and fulfilling lives. What began as United Cerebral Palsy of Lancaster County in 1965, has since expanded its scope to include personal care and care management services, adult enrichment programs, and the modification of homes and mobility equipment such as wheelchairs. Additionally, their advocacy for the inclusion of people with disabilities, their training and placement of service dogs across our communities and schools, and—on a lighter note—their popular puppy calendars have all extended their reach beyond the individuals and families they directly serve.

Today, United Disabilities Services employs hundreds of individuals and touches the lives of 20,000 people each year. Though headquartered in Lancaster County, UDS serves over 50 counties in Pennsylvania as well as nearby states.

As UDS celebrates 60 years of service, I would like to thank the organization and its employees for everything that they do. Their selfless efforts have made Pennsylvania's 11th District a better place for all.

RECOGNIZING SHERI JONES

HON. TOM BARRETT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true legend in Michigan broadcasting, Sheri Jones, who is retiring after nearly 37 years as a trusted voice and compassionate presence on WLNS-TV 6 in Lansing.

Since 1987, Sheri has been more than a news anchor—she's been a steady, reassuring presence in our homes. Her warm demeanor and unwavering professionalism have made her a beloved figure across mid-Michigan. Whether reporting breaking news or moderating debates, Sheri brought clarity, dignity, and heart to every story she told.

Her excellence has not gone unnoticed. Sheri is a proud inductee of both the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame and the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame. She's

received multiple Emmy nominations, accolades from the Associated Press, and recognition from the Michigan Association of Broadcasting. Sheri is also a proud member of the Silver Circle of the Michigan chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences—an honor reserved for those who have devoted a quarter-century or more to broadcast excellence.

But Sheri's impact goes far beyond the newsroom. She's been a tireless advocate on the frontlines of some of our most pressing issues—raising awareness about the opioid crisis, mental health, and human trafficking. Additionally, she has used her platform not just to inform, but to inspire change.

Sheri Jones is more than a journalist—she is a storyteller, a mentor, a community champion, and a true public servant. Her retirement marks the end of an era for Michigan journalism, but her legacy will continue in the lives she's touched, the issues she's illuminated, and the community she's helped build.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and a grateful mid-Michigan community in recognizing Sheri for her decades of service and wishing her all the best in this well-earned next chapter.

CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF
THE NEW HIDALGO COUNTY
COURTHOUSE

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the historic opening of the new Hidalgo County Courthouse in Edinburg, Texas.

I am proud to announce that this new and modern courthouse will house 24 district and county courtrooms, a court of appeals and an additional six future courtrooms to accommodate and serve our growing county.

This courthouse replaces its outdated predecessor, providing Hidalgo County with the modern judicial space it deserves.

I am honored to represent a thriving community and I am excited to see our infrastructure and local government develop alongside with our population.

This new courthouse stands as a symbol of our growth and continued development in South Texas, and its design proudly reflects the culture, people, and heritage of the Rio Grande Valley. With local designs, architecture and native vegetation, this courthouse stands as a new pillar for South Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Hidalgo County on this historic achievement and commemorate the opening of the New Hidalgo County Courthouse.

RECOGNIZING REAGAN GRAHAM,
GOLD AWARD

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating

Reagan Graham. Reagan is a member of Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida, Troop 441 and has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact, by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities and the world with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1–2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Reagan's project, "Heart & Sole," in partnership with Angel's Attic, The Out-of-Door Academy, and Woodland Community Church, was an excellent endeavor to address clothing access for homeless individuals in our community. Reagan took action by educating and training over a dozen volunteers on clothing insecurity among homeless individuals. She guided them in organizing a clothing drive, collecting over 2,000 pairs of socks, and establishing a permanent sock closet. Her efforts will have a lasting positive impact on the community.

On behalf of the 17th Congressional District of Florida, congratulations to Reagan Graham for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Reagan for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

CONGRATULATING MARY ANN
FLYNN ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a dedicated professional with the Department of Veterans Affairs on the occasion of her retirement. Ms. Mary Ann Flynn is an exemplary public servant who has demonstrated the highest standards of professionalism serving our Nation's veterans.

Ms. Flynn began her distinguished legal career in the United States Navy, where she served on both active duty and in the Navy reserves as an attorney. As a Captain, she served as a military judge on the United States Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals. Following her time on active duty, Ms. Flynn joined the Department of Veterans Affairs in its Office of General Counsel (OGC), where, with the exception of a short period when she served as the Deputy Director for Policy and Procedures for the Veteran's Benefits Administration's Compensation Service, she spent the bulk of her more than 32 years of service.

In OGC, Ms. Flynn progressed from a staff attorney to Deputy Assistant General Counsel,

then Principal Deputy Assistant General Counsel, and finally Chief Counsel of OGC's Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims Litigation Group, an appellate litigation office of over 125 attorneys representing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs before the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Her career in public service is a testament to the importance of selfless service to others.

For the vast majority of her legal career, Ms. Flynn provided guidance and legal counsel to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in cases before the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. She has been involved in a remarkable breadth of important legal matters related to veterans' benefits, striving to ensure that veterans, their families, and caregivers get the benefits to which they are entitled. Her contributions to developing and evolving the practice of veterans' law will have a lasting legacy and merit special recognition.

As Ms. Flynn embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that she will recall, with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment, the outstanding contributions she has made to the United States Navy, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and veterans of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Ms. Mary Ann Flynn for her years of service to our armed forces and our Nation. I congratulate Ms. Flynn on her retirement. May her life be filled with health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING THE STICKNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Stickney Police Association, the oldest organization in the Village of Stickney, located in Illinois' 4th Congressional District. For a century, the members of this association have been a positive presence in the community. They have raised funds to support youth athletics, clubs, churches, schools, and both the Fire and Police departments.

Beyond their philanthropic work, the Stickney Police Association has played a vital role in building and maintaining trust within our community. They understand the importance of supporting one another and serving all members of the community with respect and care.

Our community appreciates their ongoing efforts to keep us safe and supported.

I thank the Stickney Police Association for their unwavering commitment to service and their dedication to our community and each other. Congratulations on their centennial celebration.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF JAY BYERS

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of President Jay Byers, a true servant leader, devoted father and husband, and proud Iowan whose lifelong commitment to our state inspired all who had the privilege of working with him.

President Byers was a graduate of Manson High School and a proud member of the Simpson College Class of 1993. He earned his law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law before beginning his career serving the people of Iowa's 3rd district as a staff member for former Congressman Leonard Boswell.

I came to know Jay during his time at the helm of the Greater Des Moines Partnership, where he spent more than a decade building one of the most respected economic development organizations in the country. Under his leadership, the Partnership gained national recognition, growing to include 24 affiliate chambers, more than 6,500 members, and thousands of businesses across central Iowa.

I saw President Byers' leadership and commitment firsthand while I served in the Iowa Statehouse. He understood intuitively how to unite business leaders, educators, and policymakers around a common vision, always driven by our shared goal to make Iowa a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

Although Jay spent much of his professional life expanding opportunities for Iowa businesses, he never left the Simpson College community. He served on the Board of Trustees for 11 years before returning to education full-time in 2023 as the 25th president of Simpson College, where he kindled a sense of pride and community that led the college to its largest freshman class in more than a decade.

Mr. Speaker, President Byers' passion was building a stronger, more connected, and brighter Iowa and that legacy will endure far beyond his years of committed service. He is survived by his wife Katie, and their daughters, Sophie and Charlotte, who remain in our thoughts and our prayers.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring President Jay Byers.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
FRANCINE KERNER, CHIEF COUNSEL,
TRANSPORTATION SECURITY
ADMINISTRATION

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Francine Kerner, who retired on February 28, as Chief Counsel of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) after dedicating over 50 years of her career to public service.

On September 11, 2001, Ms. Kerner woke up and went to work, just like any other day. For her, that was as Deputy Assistant General

Counsel at the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Enforcement Division. She was in her office at Main Treasury when the terrorist attacks began. That fateful day changed the world and changed Ms. Kerner's life.

A few weeks later, Congress enacted the Aviation and Transportation Security Act and established TSA. Ms. Kerner was one of a small group of federal workers chosen to stand up the fledgling agency with a monumental task ahead of them.

To secure U.S. passengers and the American people from the grave threat posed by airline hijackers, Congress mandated that TSA begin screening passengers and checked baggage at 450 commercial airports within just a few months. Meeting these deadlines at the time required the largest mobilization of the federal government since WWII and the largest civilian undertaking in the history of the U.S. government.

As TSA Chief Counsel, Ms. Kerner was responsible for providing the legal and policy advice for this record level of mobilization. For the next 23 years, she served as a principal architect of TSA's mission-critical programs and operations, supported by the outstanding team of attorneys she recruited, guided, and whose careers in Federal Service she unstintingly advanced.

Prior to being named TSA's Chief Counsel, Ms. Kerner's Federal career spanned two decades, beginning as Counsel to the Inspector General (IG) at the Commerce Department in 1979 before serving in several managerial positions at the Treasury. She later helped the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms overhaul its fair hiring, promotion and professional development programs.

Ms. Kerner found her way into public service after earning her law degree at the New York University School of Law in 1974. While at NYU Law, she interned for the New York City Law Department and served with such distinction that her supervisor, Mary P. Bass, later asked her to work in the Carter Administration where Ms. Bass was serving as the first IG at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Ms. Kerner is the recipient of numerous awards earned throughout her career of service, including the Presidential Meritorious Rank Awards in 2001 and 2022; the American University Roger W. Jones Award in 2023; the D.C. Bar Association's Beatrice Rosenberg Award for Excellence in Government Service; the Burton Award for Public Service in the Government; and the TSA Federal Woman's Program Trailblazer Award in 2011, in recognition of her efforts to advance the career of women at TSA.

Throughout her career, Ms. Kerner never lost sight of the importance of family. She was careful to foster a family-friendly environment in each office she led. Her devotion to her own family set a powerful example for the many employees that she supervised and mentored across her decades in federal service. I want to conclude by recognizing her husband Michael Klein, her children Elizabeth and Adam, her daughter-in-law Robin, and her grandchildren, Maxine, Louis and Sidney. On behalf of a grateful Nation and the residents of Maryland's beautiful Eighth District, I wish Francine Kerner and her family nothing but the best as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

HONORING JIM HANDLEY FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO FLORIDA AGRICULTURE

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Jim Handley retired from his roles at the Florida Cattlemen's Association after 27 years of service on April 15, 2025. Executive vice president of the Florida Cattlemen's Association and chief executive officer of the Florida Beef Council since 1998, Jim has also served as executive director of the Florida Cattlemen's Foundation, executive director of the Florida COW PAC, chief operating officer of the Florida Cattle Enhancement Board, and managing editor of The Florida Cattleman and Livestock Journal.

Though Jim isn't one for fanfare, his contributions speak volumes. He has always led with heart—building genuine relationships and championing education, youth involvement, and public outreach. His guidance helped expand fundraising efforts, modernize facilities, and elevate Florida's cattle industry on multiple fronts. Jim's leadership has forged Florida into one of the strongest and most respected state associations in the country.

Throughout his career, Jim has also served on numerous volunteer boards, including the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET), the Florida 4-H Foundation, the Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame, and the Florida Agriculture Council, among others. While he has received more awards than he would ever mention himself, one recent honor stands out. In 2024, he was both surprised and humbled by the establishment of the Jim Handley Endowed Professorship of Beef Sciences at the University of Florida. The endowment was created by the Florida Cattlemen's Foundation in recognition of Jim's unwavering commitment to the future of Florida's cattle industry, its people, and the quality of education coming from the state's flagship land-grant university.

Jim Handley retires, leaving a legacy of integrity, leadership, and loyal service to Florida agriculture.

RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOMESTRETCH

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Homestretch, an extraordinary organization based in Northern Virginia that has transformed the lives of thousands of families facing homelessness and poverty.

Founded in 1990, Homestretch has served more than 2,500 families, providing not just shelter, but the comprehensive tools and support needed to achieve long-term stability and self-sufficiency. Their mission is deeply rooted in the belief that with the right resources, even the most vulnerable families can overcome the devastating cycles of homelessness and poverty.

We are in the midst of an unprecedented affordable housing crisis, both nationally and in

the Commonwealth of Virginia. Since 2020, homelessness in Virginia has increased by 10 percent, with family homelessness alone rising a staggering 17 percent between 2021 and 2022. The work of organizations like Homestretch has never been more vital.

Homestretch serves families in the most challenging of circumstances. 90 percent of the adults in their program are single mothers. A majority are survivors of domestic violence, individuals with disabilities or no work history, and many face high debt, damaged credit, and language barriers. Roughly 60 percent of those served are people of color, and one-third are refugees or seeking asylum.

Despite these challenges, Homestretch helps families not only secure housing, but also access education, develop a career path, find childcare, secure reliable transportation, and improve their physical and financial health.

Their model is comprehensive and long-term. Participants work toward degrees and certifications, learn financial literacy, improve their credit, save for the future, and gain the tools to provide for themselves and their children. Homestretch measures success not simply by whether a family finds shelter, but by whether they emerge with the ability to maintain stable housing, meet their basic needs, and chart a course toward economic mobility.

For someone experiencing homelessness, knowing you are part of a community that cares and will give you the assistance necessary to get back on your feet can help ease the burden of your plight. In a county as economically prosperous as Fairfax County, it can be easy to forget there are still citizens who go without the most basic necessities. Organizations like Homestretch are helping to make sure that we bring everyone to the table and providing all with a path towards economic success and independence.

This incredible work is made possible by the dedicated staff, volunteers, donors, and community partners who have supported Homestretch for 35 years. It is a shining example of what can be achieved when we invest in people, meet them where they are, and give them the tools they need to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Homestretch on its 35th Anniversary. Northern Virginia is stronger, healthier, and more compassionate because of the work of Homestretch.

POEM TO HONOR DARIN COWARD

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Darin Coward who worked for 23 years at Colonial Williamsburg. He was beloved by all his co-workers and many guests over the years due to his hospitality and welcoming nature. My thoughts and prayers go out to his loved ones. I include in the RECORD the following poem:

A SPIRIT OF 76

In these the days of our lives, there are those who to us such warmth provide.
All in their thoughts and deeds realized.
Filling our hearts up so deep inside.
Darin was such a man of warmth and caring.

Imbuing The Sprit of 76 in all his sharing.
 Born in Michigan in 1976, later to cross the
 heartland for a career to pursue.
 To work in one of our forefather's bastion of
 freedom true.
 Colonial Williamsburg of that old red, white,
 and blue.
 A lover of history, why she called out to his
 heart there was no mystery.
 Like all the great Inn Keeper's of old, he too
 was a shining example of hospitality to
 behold.
 Treating his guests like gold, to warm all of
 their hearts and souls.
 With that kind of smile from across the
 room heart's would hold.
 Humble as the day was long, all a part of his
 life's and our Lord's song.
 As year after year, visitors walked up to the
 front desk hoping he'd appear.
 Creating bonds of friendship throughout all
 those years.
 And why it hurts so bad, knowing what a
 wonderful friend we once had here.
 Who never let power go to his head, rising up
 the ranks in what his fine life to all
 had said.
 The kind of boss every worker wishes by to
 be led.
 Now, proving only the good die young with
 tear in eye, now in heaven in The Army
 of our Lord an angel on high.
 And in the coming years, as I walk the paths
 of all magnificent patriots of the past
 so here.
 All have met Darin will remember him and
 all those patriots and shed a tear.
 All one in the same, great American Patriots
 who once walked the streets here.
 Tonight across Michigan and Williamsburg
 as you lay your heads down to rest.
 There comes a gentle rain, are but our Lord's
 tears from up in Heaven to ease your
 loved ones pain.
 And they will hear Darin on the wind, and
 when they wake will feel him next to
 them where he's been,
 Watching over them, until one fine day up in
 Heaven they meet again.
 And won't have to cry no more.
 Our moments are fleeting, so it's our time on
 Earth which surely shows our worth in
 our greetings.
 All over our Nation so many have been
 touched by Darin meeting.
 For his kindness and his caring this spirit of
 76 with them sharing.
 Like Frost said, "I have miles to go" before
 I rest.
 Life is short so like Darin always give your
 best.
 Rise . . . rise up to heaven Darin with tears
 in yours eyes, for our world you have
 blessed.
 In loving memory of Darin Coward.
 by Albert "Bert" Carey Caswell

RECOGNIZING THE MARRIAGE OF
 EMILY McLAUGHLIN WISNIEWSKI
 AND BRANDEN ANTON
 EHRENREICH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Emily McLaughlin Wisniewski and Mr. Branden Anton Ehrenreich, who were joined in marriage on Saturday, April 26, 2025. This special occasion celebrated the love between two remarkable individuals and marked the beautiful journey they have shared to-

gether. This union is a testament to the driven, thoughtful, and vibrant paths they have led to this important moment. Emily, native to New Jersey, is the daughter of John and Deborah Wisniewski. Born and raised in La Plata, Maryland, Branden is the son of Kurt and Tammy Ehrenreich.

Emily is a graduate of New York University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Political Science, and Georgetown University, where she obtained a Master of Science in Quantitative Economics and Econometrics. Emily has made significant contributions in her career, working for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and as a statistician for the U.S. Census Bureau. The Royal Conservatory of Music has rated her an accomplished, certified pianist. Branden holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Mount Saint Mary's University and a Master of Science in Computer Science from Towson University. Branden is a talented research scientist at a research and engineering company. Together, Emily and Branden have built a strong, loving partnership that reflects their shared values and passions.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in leading this body in recognition of Emily McLaughlin Wisniewski and Branden Anton Ehrenreich as they embark on their marriage together. It is with great pleasure that I join their friends and family in honoring their exceptional union. I wish them a lifetime of happiness, love, and adventure.

RECOGNIZING HARLEY CROSS,
 GOLD AWARD

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Harley Cross. Harley is a member of Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida, Troop 5005, and has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact, by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities and the world with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1–2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Harley's project, Community Food Pantry, in partnership with the DeSoto County Sheriff's Office, Stamp Our Hunger, DeSoto Cares, All Faiths Food Bank, and local Girl Scout troops, was an excellent endeavor to address hunger in our community. Harley took action by collecting food donations, educating community members about food insecurity, and building a

brand new food pantry to serve her community, which will have a positive impact on our community for years to come.

On behalf of the 17th Congressional District of Florida, congratulations to Harley Cross for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Harley for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KENWOOD OAKLAND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the remarkable 60th Anniversary of the Kenwood Oakland Community Organization (KOCO), a cornerstone of community empowerment and a beacon of hope in the 1st Congressional District of Illinois and the City of Chicago.

The Kenwood Oakland Community Organization, otherwise known as KOCO, was founded in 1965 by visionary community and religious leaders. It stands as one of the oldest Black-led, membership-based grassroots community organizations in Chicago. KOCO has served as a vital force for justice, dignity and transformation, steadfastly uplifting low-income and working African American families in the Kenwood-Oakland and broader Bronzeville communities.

KOCO's enduring mission is to cultivate multi-generational leadership and effect meaningful change in public policy. It has made significant strides through impactful campaigns that have expanded access to affordable housing, ensured equitable education opportunities, advanced youth leadership development, championed the rights and well-being of senior citizens and vigorously fought for healthcare access and environmental justice.

KOCO's dedication to their mission has achieved historic victories, leaving behind an indelible mark on the community. This includes the construction of King High School, the establishment of over 400 units for those that needed affordable housing, founding a vital community medical clinic, as well as establishing a national precedent through the successful reopening of Dyett High School, which followed a courageous 34-day hunger strike.

KOCO's advocacy has aided in the reopening of the University of Chicago's adult trauma center and secured the landmark Community Benefits Agreement that proactively prevents the displacement of long-term residents surrounding the Obama Presidential Center. Additionally, KOCO launched transformative initiatives such as GirlsLead, the Bronzeville Restorative Justice Hub, and the Silver Fox Café, each centering on healing the community and fostering economic development in the Black community.

Under the dedicated and visionary leadership of Executive Director Shannon Bennett, KOCO continues to expand its reach and deepen its impact while remaining grounded in its core mission: to empower new generations of Black leaders who will continue the vital

work of advancing opportunity, liberty, and justice for all.

KOCO's historic legacy, its transformative impact on the lives of countless individuals and families, and its enduring role as a beacon of hope and liberation for the City of Chicago and the Nation will continue to inspire our community to great acts of service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 60th anniversary of KOCO.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LORTON COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER (LCAC)

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) on the momentous occasion of its 50th Anniversary and to honor its extraordinary service to the residents of southeastern Fairfax County.

Founded in 1975 as the Lorton Community Information Center, LCAC began as a grass-roots effort to connect neighbors in need with basic essentials such as food, clothing, and human services. What began at Gunston Elementary has since evolved into a lifeline for thousands across Lorton, Fort Belvoir, Newton, and beyond.

Under the visionary leadership of founder Christine Herbstreith, LCAC was built on the idea of a "supermarket of human services," a dream that became reality in 2022 with the opening of the co-located Lorton Community Center and Lorton Library. From this vibrant hub, LCAC continues to expand its reach and impact.

In just the past three years, LCAC has witnessed a steady rise in demand. From serving 1,700 individuals in FY 2023 to nearly 1,800 in just the first half of FY 2025, LCAC has never wavered in its commitment to serving our community. Food pantry visits alone are expected to top 11,000 this year, a testament to both growing need and the Center's enduring role in meeting it.

As Executive Director Rob Rutland-Brown has noted, this work continues through trusted partnerships, dedicated volunteers, and the incredible generosity of donors. Even amid economic uncertainties and the potential impacts of federal policy changes, LCAC remains steadfast, adaptive, and deeply rooted in service.

In 2025, LCAC is not only marking its golden anniversary with a gala celebration and a tribute to its founder, but also with strategic initiatives to deepen its impact. These include strengthening its food pantry and case management programs and investing in education and workforce development.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating LCAC on 50 years of transformative service. I extend my deepest appreciation to the board of directors, staff, and countless volunteers past and present who have made this work possible. Through their compassion and commitment, they have built not just a service organization, but a pillar of hope and dignity for all in our community. Here's to the next 50 years of progress, partnership, and purpose.

HONORING THE LUCAS FOUNDATION

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, the 12th Congressional District recognizes the critical work of the LUCAS Foundation, and its upcoming 1,000-mile relay run to raise awareness about the tragic reality that suicide is the leading cause of death among law enforcement officers.

Beginning its powerful six-state journey in Atlanta, Georgia, on September 24 and ending in Detroit, Michigan, on September 30, this run encompasses 130 relay legs. More than just a physical feat, the relay serves as a crucial call to action, dedicated to raising vital awareness about the mental health crisis within law enforcement and dismantling the stigma that often prevents officers from seeking the help to overcome their battles.

I honor the volunteers, families, and first responders behind this effort and support their call for congressional action to recognize this epidemic and uplift suicide prevention work. I thank the LUCAS Foundation for their tireless commitment to saving lives and creating a culture of support and healing.

RECOGNIZING THE HIGH PLAINS HONOR FLIGHT

HON. GABE EVANS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate our Nation's brave men and women and to recognize the High Plains Honor Flight Network, which conducts trips for veterans to Washington, D.C., to tour the monuments built to honor their bravery and service. The High Plains Honor Flight gave some of our fellow brave men and women the chance to visit our Nation's capital. As a fellow veteran myself, I am pleased to honor the High Plains Honor Flight and to recognize the World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans of Colorado who took part in it.

Mr. Speaker, the veterans who participated in this flight are as follows:

Veteran of World War II: Richard Chubb.

Korean War Veterans: Dale Bellinger, Elmer Dillman, Donald Garcia, Robert Golden, Donald Mayfield, David Mourisse.

Veteran of both Korean and Vietnam War: Darwin Dow.

Vietnam War Veterans: Anthony Aragon, Robert Archuleta, Dennis Argo, Clarence Axtell, Thomas Bacon, William Baker, Alfred Barthelemy, Larry Beck, Kenneth Beckstead, John Bona, Dallas Bowles, Robert Bowser, James Brinks, Richard Brown, Henry Castillon, Richard Clappitt, Dennis Clermont, Thomas Corrick, Kenneth Cosby, Manuel Covarrubias, Duane Crasper, Gary Cummins, Milo Cushman, Herbert Davis II, Arthur Dehn, Jr., Ben Delahay, David DeMars, Manfred Dorth, William Dundas, Robert Eatman, William Eckert, Donald Eddy, Darrell Einspahr, Teddy Emmons, William Farr, Daniel Frodsham, Sylvio Gamache, Leslie Gardinier, Melchor Garza,

Frank Gower, Delbert Hammond, George Hampton, Edward Hansen, Larry Hanson, Stanley Hanson, Delbert Hawkins, Harlow Hill, John Hoelscher, Robert Holt, III, Alfred Homan, Lowell Hummels, Jerome Jaworski, David Johnson, Jonnie Johnson, Korwin Johnson, Clifford Jung, Leonard Juranek, William Klingman, Richard Kotch, Homer Kurtz, Jr., Richard Laingor, Steven Lamon, Jim Lantis, Peter Lederer, Robert Lindsey, James Ling, Larry Luckow, Ronald Macaluso, Karl Magnuson, Russell Maher, Edward Messer, Philip Mollendor, Jr., Robert Mygatt, Robert Neal, John Neill, Jr., James Nelson, Richard Nenno, Michael Nissen, Merlin Otteman, James Pelster, Jonathan Platt, Lloyd Poindexter, Peter Raube, Ronald Ring, James Roof, Jr., John Ross, John Schieler, Carolyn Schneider, David Schneider, William Schumann, Larry Seems, Jerry Severidt, Bryon Shapiro, William Sipe, Carl Smith, Danny Smith, William Stanley, Jr., Lawrence Starck, Richard Steely, Ronald Stine, William Sturgeon, Jerry Tausz, Allen Thomsen, Carlton Thygesen, Antonio Trujillo, Edwin Visconti, Wilton Webb, William Williams, Michael Young, Richard Yurkus.

It is my honor and privilege as a veteran and the United States Representative of the 8th District of Colorado to recognize the sacrifice and service of these men and women and all other members of our Nation's military. I thank them for their bravery and service to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND KENNETH F. HODGES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a distinguished South Carolinian—a pastor, legislator, artist, and community builder whose influence reached far beyond his beloved Lowcountry.

Reverend Kenneth F. Hodges, a native of Bennetts Point, passed away on April 22, 2025, having left an indelible imprint on the spiritual, cultural, and civic life of South Carolina. His journey was marked by service, creativity, and a deep devotion to both his heritage and his faith.

Born to Benjamin and Lydia Hodges in the Sea Island community of Bennetts Point, Reverend Hodges excelled early in both academics and athletics. A record-setting track star at Walterboro High School, he went on to earn a business degree from Clark College, where he also studied photography under the esteemed Edmond Marshal. His powerful images of African life and culture earned national acclaim and awards. His passion for the arts led him to establish LyBensons Studio and Art Gallery—later expanding into the Gullah Geechee Visitors Center on St. Helena Island.

After earning a Master of Divinity degree from the Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta, Georgia, Reverend Hodges pastored churches in Bennettsville and Beaufort, South Carolina. At Taberacle Baptist Church, he spearheaded efforts to honor African American icons, including securing recognition for Robert Smalls' gravesite and leading the construction of the Harriet Tubman Monument. His spiritual calling extended abroad as he preached and taught across Africa and the United Kingdom.

Elected to the South Carolina House of representatives in 2006, Reverend Hodges served until 2016. He introduced the bill naming the Combahee River crossing the "Harriet Tubman Bridge," led the creation of the SC Microenterprise Development Act, and chaired multiple legislative subcommittees. His work consistently reflected a commitment to empowerment, equity, and cultural preservation.

Reverend Hodges was a devoted husband to Patricia A. Few and a proud father to three daughters—Kendra, Kenya, and Kenithea. Through faith, public service, and the arts, he uplifted generations and preserved the stories of his people with grace and purpose.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in recognizing and honoring the extraordinary life of Reverend Kenneth F. Hodges. He was more than a leader; he was a vessel of faith, a preserver of culture, and a voice for those who too often go unheard, and to me—a personal friend. South Carolina is richer for his service. May his memory inspire us to serve with the same humility, passion, and purpose that defined his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BECCA BALINT

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present on April 29, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 109, and NAY on Roll Call No. 110.

HONORING PRIVATE JAMES "STANLEY" MITCHELL

HON. DOUG LAMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great American hero, Private James "Stanley" Mitchell, who volunteered to serve our great Nation in World War II and died 82 years ago in a Japanese POW camp in Luzon, Philippines. Private Mitchell's remains were located and identified and have been returned to his family, a testament of his courage and sacrifice.

Private Mitchell was born in Joplin, Missouri on October 2, 1917. The family would move frequently during his early life, eventually settling down in Hamilton City, California.

On March 4, 1941, Private Mitchell enlisted in the United States Army and was deployed as part of the 31st Infantry Regiment on assignment to Clark Field in Luzon, Philippines. Ten months after his initial deployment to the Philippines, Imperial Japanese Forces would bomb Pearl Harbor, bringing the United States and all her territories into World War II. Japanese forces begin a full-scale invasion of Luzon, Philippines on December 22, 1941. The 31st Infantry Regiment stood defiant and courageous against overwhelming Japanese forces until their surrender on April 9, 1942.

Private Mitchell joined approximately 72,000 American and Filipino prisoners of war (POW) on a 65-mile march known as the Bataan Death March. These brave souls endured tor-

ture, starvation, disease and ultimately death at the hands of the Japanese forces. By the end of the march, only approximately 52,000 American and Filipino POWs remained alive.

Private Mitchell and many surviving POWs would be held at the Cabanatuan POW Camp. Conditions would not improve for these courageous men. On January 7, 1943, Private Mitchell succumbed to starvation and disease, dying at a weight of only 70 pounds. Private Mitchell was buried in one of the many mass graves at the camp.

The Cabanatuan POW Camp would be liberated on January 30, 1945, with only 489 POWs remaining alive. Unfortunately, 2,656 brave American POWs had lost their lives at the camp.

Private Mitchell was the first World War II casualty from Hamilton City. His status as a POW brought great sadness and pain to his family. The news of his death brought devastation to his parents and family. His remains were exhumed and identified in September of 2024. Private Mitchell's remains were brought home to the United States on May 3, 2025, and he will be laid to rest between his parents at the Los Molinos Cemetery, in Northern California.

Private Mitchell's story and sacrifice will not be forgotten. His legacy and impact to our community will continue to be felt. His return will bring closure to his family. God bless Private Mitchell and welcome home.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF SAIGON

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Fall of Saigon.

April 30, 2025, marks 50 years since the pivotal moment that signaled both the end of the Vietnam War and the beginning of a new chapter for millions of Vietnamese refugees—many of whom have made extraordinary contributions to communities across the United States, particularly in Northern Virginia.

On April 30, 1975, the world watched as the city of Saigon fell. For many, it marked a day of loss, of country, of family, and of home. Yet it also marked the beginning of a remarkable story of resilience, strength, and hope.

In the years that followed, hundreds of thousands fled Vietnam in search of liberty and opportunity, many finding a new beginning here in the United States.

Northern Virginia is home to one of the largest and most vibrant Vietnamese American communities in the country.

Places like the Eden Center stand as a testament of the rich cultural heritage and entrepreneurial spirit.

The businesses, traditions, and values the Vietnamese American community upholds continue to enrich our region and make invaluable contributions.

The Vietnamese American community's story is one of perseverance, courage, and hope. Their contributions have made our communities stronger and better.

Their journey embodies the ideals we hold dear: perseverance through hardship, strength

in adversity, and an enduring hope for a better future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this history, paying tribute to the lives lost and forever changed, and reaffirming our commitment to the universal values of freedom, democracy, and human dignity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEREK TRAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, when attempting to cast my vote on April 29, 2025 for S. 146—the TAKE IT DOWN Act, my voting card did not properly record my vote. Had my voting card been functioning properly, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 104.

RECOGNIZING VICTORIA MORTON, GOLD AWARD

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Victoria Morton. Victoria is a member of Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida, Troop 135, and has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact, by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities and the world with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1–2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Victoria's project, "Pet Resource Central," in partnership with the Community Resource Center of Punta Gorda, the Harry Chapin Food Bank, the Animal Welfare League, the Suncoast Humane Society, and peers at Port Charlotte High School, was an excellent endeavor to address food insecurity and animal welfare in our community by creating a pantry for low-income pet owners. She collected donations to stock the pantry and hosted free workshops on affordable pet care. Additionally, Victoria provided free grooming services, including ear and teeth cleaning, nail trimming, and created a resource booklet with spay and neuter information. Victoria dedicated 136 hours to her project, which will have a lasting and positive impact on the community for years to come.

On behalf of the 17th Congressional District of Florida, congratulations to Victoria Morton

for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Victoria for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

CONGRATULATING LINDA LARSON
ON HER GRADUATION FROM
INVER HILLS COMMUNITY COL-
LEGE

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Linda Larson on fulfilling her lifelong dream of completing her college education. Linda graduated with an Associate's Degree with an emphasis on political science from Inver Hills Community College. She also graduated as part of Phi Beta Kappa.

Linda grew up on a small farm near Ruthton, Minnesota. As the daughter of a tenant farmer, Linda learned early on the challenges and instability farmers face in trying to earn a living. This informed her work at the Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU), where she has advocated for affordable healthcare and the needs of family farmers. Additionally, Linda has been a strong leader for women in farming. In 2013, she helped reestablish the MFU Women's Conference and later received the 2013 MFU Leadership Excellence award along with her husband, Brian. She is the current president of the Dakota County Farmers Union and regularly attends Farmers Union events at the local, state and national level.

I know Linda through her work on my Farmers Advisory Council, which she has been a member of since I came to Congress in 2019. Linda has provided invaluable feedback to my work on agriculture policy as I've fought to ensure family farmers have a strong farm safety net. I look forward to our continued collaboration to pass a bipartisan farm bill.

I congratulate Linda on her graduation and thank her for her service to our community.

RECOGNIZING GOLD AWARD GIRL
SCOUT RECIPIENTS

HON. SCOTT FITZGERALD

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating several remarkable Girl Scouts from Wisconsin's 5th Congressional District for demonstrating leadership, creativity, and a commitment to making a lasting impact by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts help their communities and the world by identifying a community need, investigating it, devising a plan, and leading a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1 to 2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leader-

ship, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to make the world a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to the following outstanding young women:

Ayla Abraham, Troop 6249
Sophia Ayer, Troop 8017
Angela Brandes, Troop 4796
Mia Bremner, Individually Registered Member
Madeline Bruss, Troop 8329
Abigail Connett, Troop 4801
Anissa Griffith, Troop 4633
Alexandra Higbee, Troop 4569
Jenna Jegl, Troop 6239
Rayna Jellish, Troop 9300
Katelyn Kosfeld, Troop 8093
Gracie Lochowicz, Troop 4801
Tatiana Mamalakos, Troop 8004
Sarah Marcheske, Troop 8329
Lauren Munson, Troop 4796
Zoe Peterson, Troop 8017
Kylie Rich, Troop 4801
Megan Schatz, Troop 4679
Skylar Smith, Troop 4333
Samantha Sroka, Troop 8093
Sydney Vande Hei, Troop 4582
Sydney Zarske, Troop 8004
Eleanor Zgonc, Troop 8004

Mr. Speaker, I commend these Girl Scouts on their incredible accomplishment, and thank them for all the work they have done in service of communities across Wisconsin's 5th Congressional District.

INDIA-U.S. DEAL SIGNALS ENERGY
SOVEREIGNTY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, Vice President J.D. VANCE with his Indian-American wife Usha, achieved a global recalibration for energy independence meeting with America's appreciated ally Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

It is an extraordinary recognition of the positive impact of Indian-Americans that the Second Lady of America is an Indian-American herself.

American partnership has never been more important with the world's oldest democracy allied with the world's largest democracy.

An excellent analysis of this energy achievement was provided in the daily Threat Status newsletter from The Washington Times on April 28, 2025, by Vijay Jayaraj of the CO2 Coalition in Fairfax, Virginia:

OPINION

In a landmark move that may well redefine the future of U.S.-India trade relations and global energy geopolitics, Vice President J.D. Vance announced a new trade deal with India. The day after he met with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 21, Mr. Vance said the two countries had "officially finalized the terms of reference for the trade negotiation."

The deal, initiated against the backdrop of President Trump's tariff threats, could be a masterstroke of economic diplomacy. Mr. Trump's announcement of a 90-day pause on

reciprocal tariffs, which could have raised duties on Indian exports, gave India a window to negotiate.

The energy economics of this deal and its potential to reshape the global market for fossil fuels are fascinating. In his announcement, Mr. Vance declared, "We want to sell more energy to India and also help it explore its resources, including offshore natural gas reserves and critical mineral supplies."

The arrangement could propel India toward its long-standing goal of energy surplus. This feat appeared daunting, perhaps impossible, against the nation's projections for a massive increase in demand, the fastest-growing among major economies for the next two decades.

Let's get it straight: India has a long way to go before it even contemplates reducing its consumption of hydrocarbons. Even a middle-class Indian like me residing in a major city experiences power blackouts regularly, which is precisely why the nation has postponed net-zero ambitions to a distant 2070. Even the documents for the country's participation in the nutty United Nations Paris Agreement prioritize domestic energy security over international climate diplomacy.

India's reliance on imported energy, which includes more than 85% of its crude oil and roughly 50% of its natural gas, poses a strategic vulnerability. The government aims to more than double natural gas' share of the energy mix to 15% by 2030. U.S. liquefied natural gas suppliers have surpassed the United Arab Emirates to become India's second-largest LNG supplier, trailing only Qatar.

A key player in this unfolding saga is GAIL Ltd., India's state-owned natural gas company. On April 11, GAIL issued a tender to procure 1 million metric tons per annum of LNG from an existing or new U.S. LNG liquefaction project, with operations commencing by 2030. The agreement, potentially extendable by five to 10 years, signals India's commitment to U.S. supplies.

GAIL had to stall a similar process in 2023 to buy a stake in a U.S. LNG plant after President Biden banned export permits for LNG projects. The ban was lifted only after the Trump administration returned to the White House.

The timing of the upcoming deal is notable, strengthening India's position as a counterweight to China. The Quad alliance—comprising the U.S., India, Japan and Australia—gains heft as India bolsters its energy security and economic clout.

As Mr. Vance emphasized, the U.S. willingness to share technology and expertise could enhance Indian autonomy, reducing reliance on adversarial suppliers. This alignment is particularly crucial as China intensifies its trade outreach in Southeast Asia and seeks to blunt the effect of U.S. tariffs.

The Western media will decry the expansion of fossil fuel trading as a climate catastrophe, as though that would resonate with a serious person. The U.S.-India deal wisely eschews climate moralizing and embraces a symbiotic truth: America's shale boom and India's hunger for energy perfectly match.

This deal reaffirms energy sovereignty. Perhaps it marks the beginning of a global recalibration, in which nations rediscover the courage to assert their right to energy abundance and economic self-determination without apologizing to the corrupt and decrepit climate cartel of Brussels, Davos and U.N. corridors.

May the new world order feature developing nations standing for their futures and rejecting the false campaign of planetary salvation.

RECOGNIZING THE CHARTERING OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service organization, Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. (TLOD), and to celebrate the chartering of their Fairfax County Chapter.

The story of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. began in 1964 with a simple lunch invitation. When Mrs. Willie Lee Glass was unable to attend a luncheon hosted by Mrs. Lyndon Baines Johnson, she asked Major Ozell M. Dean to attend in her place. Inspired by what she witnessed at that gathering, Major Dean reached out to Mrs. Glass and other distinguished Texas women to explore the possibility of forming an organization dedicated to addressing the challenges faced by youth in their communities.

From its inaugural meeting on June 4, 1964, at Texas College in Tyler, Texas, TLOD has grown into a renowned national service organization with 135 chapters and over 5,300 members across the country. Their mission has expanded to include service initiatives for youth, women, senior citizens, community beautification, and strategic partnerships.

A cornerstone of their efforts remains the Top Teens of America (TTA) program, which provides young people with educational, social, cultural, and economic development opportunities. Today, more than 3,200 Top Teens benefit from this vital program.

Now, in 2025, the Fairfax County Chapter joins this legacy of service under the leadership of:

Amber R. Talbert, President

Dr. Charlotte Lofton, 1st Vice President

Millisa Lucas Gary, 2nd Vice President

Angel Lungelow Cooper, Recording Secretary

Indra' Gibson, Treasurer

Crystal Bivens, Financial Secretary

Marlo Thomas Watson, TTA Advisor

Additionally, the chapter is privileged to have Lady Tangie Lafaye Phair as its Organizer, guiding a distinguished group of charter members committed to advancing TLOD's mission in Fairfax County. Under the visionary leadership of National Area II Director Lady Hope V. Ruffin and President and CEO, Lady Eddie Lee Marsh, Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. continues to leave a lasting impact on communities across the Nation through service, mentorship, and advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Fairfax County Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. I commend these outstanding women for their dedication to service, mentorship, and community engagement.

CELEBRATING GEORGE PERRY'S 103RD BIRTHDAY AND HONORING HIS SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate George Perry on his 103rd birthday and for his longstanding service to his country and the York County community.

You would be hard pressed to find a better representative of York County than Mr. George Perry. He has served his country, his community, and is still active in the running of his family's business. George Perry was born on his family's dairy farm in York, Pennsylvania in 1922. Since then, Perry has become an icon in the community as the head of his family's thriving business, Perrydell Farms. Perrydell Farms produces fresh milk and ice cream made, all of which is made on site.

Not only is Perry a veteran of the dairy industry but also World War II. He left college in 1943 to join the Army and fight in the Pacific. After the war, Mr. Perry took over Perrydell Farms in 1949 with his brother. Together, they helped to establish Perrydell as a local one-stop-shop for fresh, high-quality milk and ice cream. In his 103 years, Mr. Perry has seen a great deal of change in agriculture in York County. One constant throughout that time has been Perrydell Farms, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2023.

Perrydell's long and storied history in York County is due in large part to the work of George Perry, who over his more than a century of life has pursued a mission of providing quality products to his community. Perrydell Farms is now run by Mr. Perry's three sons, Tom, Greg, and Chip. Despite no longer running the farm, George is regarded as the farm's patriarch, an invaluable member of the farm and family's history in the dairy industry.

It is with great enthusiasm that I congratulate Mr. Perry on his 103rd birthday, his service to our country, and his success as a business owner. His stewardship of Perrydell Farms has allowed it to remain a staple of the community, and I hope for their continued success for years to come.

HONORING PRINCIPAL MARKISHA STOVALL

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today, the 12th Congressional District honors an exceptional leader within our community: Principal Markisha Stovall of Madison Carver Academy. Her unwavering dedication to her students, their families, and our community embodies the very essence of exemplary public service.

Born and raised in Detroit, Principal Stovall's resilient life story includes overcoming the loss of her mother to addiction, her father's incarceration, and being raised by her grandmother with five siblings. Despite these hardships, she graduated from Michigan State University and, as a single mother, became an educator to uplift all children.

Serving as the Principal of Madison Carver Academy, her leadership has yielded transformative results: a significant 33 percent surge in enrollment, an impressive 99 percent average attendance rate, the establishment of over 20 enriching student clubs, and the implementation of crucial wraparound services to support families facing crises.

The 12th Congressional District honors her leadership and commitment to our students and community. I congratulate her on all her accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELON LOUISE WILLIAMS

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of Elon Louise Williams, a woman whose dedication to her family and community left an enduring legacy.

Mrs. Williams was born on July 14, 1930, to Melvina and Hayden Owens. She had one brother, Yeoman Owens, who preceded her in death. She lived in Harvey, Illinois and was from Milton, Florida.

Mrs. Williams was a woman of strength and devotion. She shared over 60 years of life and love with her beloved husband, the late Sylvester E. Williams, whom she married on January 6, 1950.

Together, they raised four children: Alan Williams, Dale Williams, Vera Williams and Janet Williams, all who attended college. Their family was built on love and mutual respect.

For over three decades, Mrs. Williams faithfully served her community as a mail sorter for the United States Postal Service. She often worked long hours diligently ensuring our local postal operations ran smoothly. She was more than a mail sorter, however. With her consistent presence and friendly nature, she was a source of connection for those in her community. Her commitment to her work and the genuine care she had for her community earned her numerous commendations from both her colleagues and her community.

Mrs. Williams's positive influence extended throughout her community. She was known for her generosity, always ready to offer a helping hand or a word of encouragement. She made a difference in countless lives, often in deeply meaningful ways.

Beyond her career, Mrs. Williams was the cornerstone of her family. She provided unwavering love, support and guidance, shaping the lives of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Her wisdom and kindness created a lasting impact that will be felt for generations.

While we mourn her passing, we take solace in knowing her legacy will extend far beyond her years on earth. Her kind spirit will live on in the lives of those she touched, and we will not soon forget her incredible deeds and generosity. I thank Mrs. Elon Louise Williams, for her years of unwavering service. May she rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Elon Louise Williams.

RECOGNIZING KRYSTA FOWLER,
GOLD AWARD

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Krysta Fowler. Krysta is an individually registered member of Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida and has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact, by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities and the world with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1–2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Krysta's project, "BAT-vocate: Appreciation and Awareness for Bats," in partnership with The City of North Port, North Port School District, The Environmental Conservancy of North Port, Peace River Wildlife Center, Girl Scouts of Gulf Coast Florida, was an excellent endeavor to address the issue of bat endangerment, conservancy, and awareness in our community. Krysta took action by constructing 26 sustainable bat habitats across Bradenton, North Port, and Ft. Myers to support endangered bat populations. She led educational workshops for Girl Scouts and community members on bat conservation and successfully petitioned the City of North Port to establish a Bat Awareness Day. Additionally, she collaborated with the council to develop a Girl Scout badge curriculum, ensuring ongoing education on bat conservation. Her efforts will have a lasting positive impact on the community. It is an honor to represent brave individuals like Tigran Gambaryan in Congress, and I celebrate his return home to his wife Yuki and their two young children. God bless their family.

On behalf of the 17th Congressional District of Florida, congratulations to Krysta Fowler for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Krysta for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

RECOGNIZING THE 2025 INSTITUTE
FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES AND
DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2025 recipients of the IES Sales

Excellence Awards presented by the institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development.

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations who demonstrate exemplary performance through leadership, risk taking, innovation, vision, and customer development.

I am proud to include in the RECORD the following awardees:

Anthony Robbins is receiving the 15th Institute for Excellence in Sales Lifetime Achievement Award. Anthony was the Senior Vice President, Federal Sales for NVIDIA. He has been responsible for supporting federal customers and their missions, providing the technology and expertise needed to transform and improve their operations.

The Honorable Beth McGrath is Deloitte's Global Leader for Government and Public Services and is the 9th recipient of the IES Women in Sales Leadership award. In her role she is committed to strengthening synergies across global Industries and Government and Public Services with a focus on client mission needs and solutions.

Kristina Bouweiri is receiving the 2025 IES Entrepreneurial Sales Leader of the Year and serves as president, CEO and sole owner of Reston Limousine and Travel Service Inc. Kristina has built a globally recognized transportation business with a combination of innovative spirit, shrewd adaptation and a tireless dedication to diversity and international understanding.

Jessica Scott is receiving the 2025 Institute for Excellence in Sales Partner of the Year award. Jessica Scott is a senior team lead and corporate new hire coach at Carahsoft. She runs the IES partnership for Carahsoft and for dozens of their partners. A graduate of the IES Women in Sales Leadership Forum, she is a tireless advocate for her sales team and Carahsoft's technology partners.

Souror Humpton is receiving the 2025 Institute for Excellence in Sales Jay Nussbaum Rising Sales Star award. She is a Federal Account sales leader at Oracle Corporation.

Jack Daly is receiving the 2025 Institute for Excellence in Sales Speaker of the Year award. Jack Daly is the king of street-tested methods about smart selling. With a remarkable 30 plus year track record in sales, executive, and entrepreneurial positions, has been called the best professional sales trainer in America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Anthony Robbins, Beth McGrath, Kristina Bouweiri, Jessica Scott, Souror Humpton, and Jack Daly for their innovative and effective leadership and congratulating them on being recipients of the 2025 IES Sales Excellence Awards. I wish them the best in all of their future endeavors.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose

of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 1, 2025 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 6

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Anthony Tata, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, and Katherine Sutton, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Defense.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for Library of Congress and the Architect of the Capitol.

SD-138

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine field of streams, focusing on the new channel guide for sports fans.

SR-253

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Agriculture.

SD-124

11:30 a.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine veterans at the forefront, focusing on the future at VA.

SD-106

3 p.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine S. 1462, to improve forest management activities on National Forest System land, public land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and Tribal land to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested land.

SR-328A

MAY 8

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine winning the AI race, focusing on strengthening United States capabilities in computing and innovation.

SR-253

MAY 12

3:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To receive a closed briefing on space superiority.

SVC-217

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2679–S2721

Measures Introduced: Twenty-five bills and seven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1521–1545, and S. Res. 188–194. **Pages S2714–15**

Measures Passed:

Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 223), Senate passed H.J. Res. 42, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Certification Requirements, Labeling Requirements, and Enforcement Provisions for Certain Consumer Products and Commercial Equipment”. **Pages S2679–82**

Foundation of the Federal Bar Association Charter Amendments Act: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 616, to amend title 36, United States Code, to revise the Federal charter for the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S2709–10**

Authorizing use of Capitol Grounds: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 9, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition. **Page S2710**

Month of the Military Child: Senate agreed to S. Res. 191, supporting the designation of April 2025 as the “Month of the Military Child”. **Page S2710**

National Assistive Technology Awareness Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 192, designating April 30, 2025, as “National Assistive Technology Awareness Day”. **Page S2710**

Financial Literacy Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 193, designating April 2025 as “Financial Literacy Month”. **Page S2710**

Measures Failed:

National Emergency Designation on Global Tariffs: By 49 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 225), Sen-

ate failed to pass S.J. Res. 49, terminating the national emergency declared to impose global tariffs, after the Committee on Finance was discharged of consideration. **Pages S2683–S2708**

Subsequently, a motion was entered to reconsider the vote (Vote No. 225) by which the resolution failed of passage. (By 50 yeas to 49 nays, Vice President voting yea (Vote No. 226), Senate tabled the motion to reconsider.) **Page S2708**

Measures Considered:

Energy Conservation Program—Agreement: Senate began consideration of H.J. Res. 75, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers”, after agreeing to the motion to proceed. **Pages S2682–83**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 224), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution. **Pages S2682–83**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all time on the joint resolution be considered expired and Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader in consultation with the Democratic Leader on Thursday, May 1, 2025. **Page S2720**

Clean Air Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of S.J. Res. 31, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “Review of Final Rule Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act”, after agreeing to the motion to proceed. **Pages S2708–09**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. 227), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the joint resolution. **Page S2709**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the joint resolution at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, May 1, 2025; that at 11 a.m., Senate execute the order with respect to H.J. Res. 75, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy relating to “Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Commercial Refrigerators, Freezers, and Refrigerator-Freezers”; that following disposition of H.J. Res. 75, Senate continue consideration of S.J. Res. 31, all debate time be expired, and Senate vote on passage of the joint resolution; and that following disposition of S.J. Res. 31, Senate resume consideration of the nominations of Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031; and notwithstanding Rule XXII, the motion to invoke cloture with respect to the nomination ripen at 1:45 p.m.

Page S2720

Messages from the House: Page S2712

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Page S2712

Executive Communications: Pages S2712–13

Petitions and Memorials: Pages S2711–12

Executive Reports of Committees: Pages S2713–14

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S2715–16

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S2716–19

Additional Statements: Page S2711

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Pages S2719–20

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—227) Pages S2682–83, S2708–09

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:34 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 1, 2025. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2720.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

Committee on Appropriations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine biomedical research, focusing on keeping America’s edge in innovation, after receiving testimony from Sudip S. Parikh, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and E. Cartier Esham, Alliance for a Stronger FDA, both of Wash-

ington, D.C.; Hermann Haller, MDI Biological Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine; Barry P. Sleckman, University of Alabama O’Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, Birmingham; and Emily Stenson, Seattle, Washington.

AMERICA’S AIR FORCE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Airland received a closed briefing on America’s Air Force, from General David W. Allvin, USAF, Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Dale R. White, USAF, Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, and Major General Joseph D. Kunkel, USAF, Director of Force Design, Integration, and Wargaming, Deputy Chief of Staff for Air Force Futures, all of the Air Force, Department of Defense.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 196, to improve online ticket sales and protect consumers, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 259, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to publish a list of entities that hold authorizations, licenses, or other grants of authority issued by the Commission and that have certain foreign ownership;

S. 320, to authorize the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 580, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People’s Republic of China;

S. 606, to authorize the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to reimburse the Town of Chincoteague, Virginia, for costs directly associated with the removal and replacement of certain drinking water wells;

S. 688, to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally, with an amendment;

S. 725, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting, to categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification system, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 769, to amend the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act to clarify the definition of foreign country for purposes of malign foreign talent recruitment restriction;

S. 1003, to require the Federal Communications Commission to issue an order providing that a shark attack is an event for which a wireless emergency alert may be transmitted;

S. 1081, to require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to submit certain reports to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, with an amendment;

S. 1278, to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to conduct a project to improve forecasts of coastal marine fog;

S. 1378, to enhance the use by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of artificial intelligence for weather forecasting, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1433, to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, with amendments;

S. 1437, to require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to establish a program to identify, evaluate, acquire, and disseminate commercial Earth remote sensing data and imagery in order to satisfy the scientific, operational, and educational requirements of the Administration, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1492, to require the Secretary of Commerce support the leadership of the United States with respect to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology; and

The nominations of Olivia Trusty, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, Jared Isaacman, of Pennsylvania, to be Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and routine lists in the Coast Guard.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 714, to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Preston Griffith, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary, and Dario Gil, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Science, both of the Department of Energy.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Leslie Beyer, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, and Andrea Travnicek, of North Dakota, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of the Interior, and Theodore J. Garrish, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (Nuclear Energy), and Tristan Abbey, of Florida, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, both of the Department of Energy.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine opportunities to strengthen water infrastructure programs, focusing on the IIJA's successes, after receiving testimony from Tom Goulette, National Rural Water Association, West Point, Nebraska; Kyle Dreyfuss-Wells, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Cleveland, on behalf of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies; and Eric Oswald, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, Lansing, Michigan.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Rodney Scott, of Oklahoma, to be Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Brian Burch, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Holy See, Nicole McGraw, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, Thomas DiNanno, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Sarah Rogers, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy, and Allison Hooker, of Georgia, to be an Under Secretary (Political Affairs), all of the Department of State.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee began consideration of S. 558, to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal anti-discrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and S. 163, to require institutions of higher education participating in Federal student aid programs to share information about title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including a link to the

webpage of the Office for Civil Rights where an individual can submit a complaint regarding discrimination in violation of such title, but did not complete action thereon and adjourned.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Terrance Cole, of Virginia, to be Administrator of Drug Enforcement, and Gadyaces Serralta, of Florida, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service, both of the Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intel-

ligence matters from members of the intelligence community.

RISE OF ANTISEMITISM AND OLDER AMERICANS

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the rise of Antisemitism and supporting older Americans, after receiving testimony from former Representative Ted Deutch, American Jewish Committee, Washington, D.C.; David Schacter, Holocaust Memorial Miami Beach, and Rabbi Mark Rosenberg, Chesed Shel Emes Florida, both of Miami; and Rebecca Federman, Community Security Initiative of New York, New York, New York.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 42 public bills, H.R. 3088–3129; and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 361–366, were introduced. **Pages H1773–77**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1777**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:
H.R. 276, to rename the Gulf of Mexico as the “Gulf of America”, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–85); and

H.R. 618, to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the City of North Las Vegas and the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–86).

Page H1773

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Gimenez to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H1731

Recess: The House recessed at 11:17 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m.

Page H1740

Recess: The House recessed at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m.

Page H1741

Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”: The House considered H.J. Res. 88, providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United

States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, May 1st. **Pages H1748–55**

H. Res. 354, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (H.J. Res. 60), (H.J. Res. 78), (H.J. Res. 87), (H.J. Res. 88), and (H.J. Res. 89) was agreed to yesterday, April 29th.

Recess: The House recessed at 4:58 p.m. and reconvened at 5:15 p.m.

Page H1759

Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emission Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Emission Airport Shuttle; Zero-Emission Power Train Certification; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”: The House passed H.J. Res. 87, providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emission Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Emission Airport Shuttle; Zero-

Emission Power Train Certification; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”, by a yea-and-nay vote of 231 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 111.

Pages H1741–48, H1759

H. Res. 354, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (H.J. Res. 60), (H.J. Res. 78), (H.J. Res. 87), (H.J. Res. 88), and (H.J. Res. 89) was agreed to yesterday, April 29th.

Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The ‘Omnibus’ Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”: The House passed H.J. Res. 89, providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The ‘Omnibus’ Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”, by a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 112.

Pages H1755–59, H1760

H. Res. 354, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolutions (H.J. Res. 60), (H.J. Res. 78), (H.J. Res. 87), (H.J. Res. 88), and (H.J. Res. 89) was agreed to yesterday, April 29th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, May 1st.

Page H1760

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1759 and H1760.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Committee Meetings

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an oversight hearing on the U.S. Postal Service. Testimony was heard from Tammy L. Hull, Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Postal Service.

MISSILE DEFENSE AND MISSILE DEFEAT PROGRAMMATIC UPDATES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing entitled “Missile Defense and Missile Defeat Programmatic Updates”. Testimony was heard from General Gregory M. Guillot, U.S. Air Force, Commander, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command; Lieutenant General Collins, U.S. Air Force,

Director, Missile Defense Agency; Lieutenant General Sean A. Gainey, U.S. Air Force, Commanding General, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command; and Andrea Yaffe, Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL CHIEFS: PERSONAL POSTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing entitled “Military Department Personnel Chiefs: Personal Posture”. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Brian S. Eifler, Deputy Chief of Staff, G–1, U.S. Army; Vice Admiral Richard Cheeseman, Jr., U.S. Navy, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Personnel; Lieutenant General Caroline Miller, U.S. Air Force, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Personnel; Lieutenant General Michael J. Borgschulte, U.S. Marine Corps, Deputy Commandant, Manpower and Reserve Affairs; and Katharine Kelley, Senior Executive Service, Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Human Capital.

INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE: HONORING EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT’S PROMISE TO PARTICIPANTS

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “Investing for the Future: Honoring ERISA’s Promise to Participants”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

GLOBAL NETWORKS AT RISK: SECURING THE FUTURE OF COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Global Networks at Risk: Securing the Future of Communications Infrastructure”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ASSURING ABUNDANT, RELIABLE AMERICAN ENERGY TO POWER INNOVATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Assuring Abundant, Reliable American Energy to Power Innovation”. Testimony was heard from Mike Goff, Acting Undersecretary of Energy, Department of Energy; David L. Morenoff, Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; Terry Turpin, Director, Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a markup on Financial Services Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025. Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 was ordered reported, as amended.

THE NEED FOR AN AUTHORIZED STATE DEPARTMENT

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Need for an Authorized State Department”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on legislative proposals to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2001 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, H. Con. Res. 14. Legislative proposals to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2001 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025, H. Con. Res. 14 was ordered reported, as amended.

ADVANCING FEDERAL WATER AND HYDROPOWER DEVELOPMENT: A STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing entitled “Advancing Federal Water and Hydropower Development: A Stakeholder Perspective”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 1451, the “Quapaw Tribal Settlement Act of 2025”; H.R. 2302, the “Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025”; H.R. 2389, the “Quinault Indian Nation Land Transfer Act”; and H.R. 2400, the “Pit River Land Transfer Act of 2025”. Testimony was heard from Representative Randall; Bryan Mercier, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; John Crockett, Deputy Chief for State, Private, and Tribal Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a markup on Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for

Fiscal Year 2025; H.R. 323, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 80 Prospect Street in Avon, New York, as the “Officer Anthony Mazurkiewicz Memorial Post Office Building”; H.R. 397, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 216 Cumberland Street in Rochester, New York, as the “Minister Franklin Florence Memorial Post Office”; H.R. 1372, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 300 Macedonia Lane in Knoxville, Tennessee, as the “Reverend Harold Middlebrook Post Office Building”; and H.R. 1830, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 840 Front Street in Casselton, North Dakota, as the “Commander Delbert Austin Olson Post Office”. The Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 was ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 323, H.R. 397, H.R. 1372, and H.R. 1830 were ordered reported, without amendment.

RISKY BUSINESS PART 2: THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled “Risky Business Part 2: The DOE Loan Guarantee Program”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1163, the “Prove It Act of 2025”; H.R. 2027, the “Returning SBA to Main Street Act”; H.R. 2987, the “Capping Excessive Awarding of SBLC Entrants Act”; H.R. 2931, the “Save SBA from Sanctuary Cities Act”; H.R. 2968, the “Business over Ballots Act”; H.R. 2965, the “Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025”; and H.R. 2966, the “American Entrepreneurs First Act”. H.R. 2027, H.R. 2987, H.R. 2931, H.R. 2968, H.R. 2965, H.R. 2966, and H.R. 1163 were ordered reported, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a markup on Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025. Committee Print providing for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 14, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 was ordered reported, as amended.

ANSWERING THE CALL: EXAMINING VA'S MENTAL HEALTH POLICIES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled "Answering the Call: Examining VA's Mental Health Policies". Testimony was heard from Ilse Wiechers, Deputy Executive Director, Office of Mental Health, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and Julie Kroviak, M.D., Principal Deputy Assistant Inspector General in the Role of Acting Assistant Inspector General for Healthcare Inspections, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY,
MAY 1, 2025**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Matthew Lohmeier, of Arizona, to be Under Secretary of the Air Force, Justin Overbaugh, of Florida, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, and Daniel Zimmerman, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Sec-

retary, all of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine insurance markets and the role of mitigation policies, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul Dabbar, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Leah Campos, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, Charles Kushner, of New York, to be Ambassador to the French Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Principality of Monaco, Edward Walsh, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to Ireland, and Joseph Popolo, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, all of the Department of State, 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, and Brett Shumate, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 10:15 a.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing entitled "Small UAS and Counter-Small UAS: Gaps, Requirements, and Projected Capabilities", 9 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, May 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of S.J. Res. 31, Clean Air Act, and Senate will vote on passage of H.J. Res. 75, Energy Conservation Program, and on passage of S.J. Res. 31 at 11 a.m.

Following disposition of S.J. Res. 31, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 1:45 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, May 1

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.J. Res. 88—Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”. Consideration of H.J. Res. 78—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt”.

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