



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 171

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

No. 73

House of Representatives

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

PRAYER

Pastor Eli Lara, New Life Family Church, McAllen, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we pause in this moment to acknowledge Your presence and to seek Your blessing in this House. Grant each Member wisdom to discern the greater good, courage to act with integrity, and humility to listen with an open heart.

In these Halls of government, remind us that leadership is a trust and service a sacred duty. Fill this Chamber with a spirit of cooperation and purpose.

In moments of challenge, grant perseverance. In moments of discord, grant understanding. This House needs understanding, Lord, every day. Remind us that the privilege to serve is also a call to integrity, accountability, and grace.

We seek Your guidance as this House begins its work. Grant each Member wisdom beyond our own, compassion that rises above division, and strength to pursue what is good and just for all people.

Bless the families and communities our Representatives serve. Strengthen their resolve to uphold the values of liberty, equality, and peace.

I ask this in Your mighty name.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

WELCOMING PASTOR ELI LARA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas). Without objection, Ms. DE LA CRUZ of Texas was recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give a heartfelt welcome to Pastor Eli Lara of McAllen, Texas, as our guest chaplain this morning. It is a special honor to introduce not only a respected pastor from my community but also a mentor and a friend.

Pastor Lara was raised in a family of ministers and always had a desire to serve others through faith, even from a very young age. He began his ministry in Florida before returning to south Texas to study theology.

Following his studies, the Lord called him to begin a small Bible study, which over the years grew into New Life Family Church, where he now serves as the lead pastor.

Pastor Lara is a true man of faith and a leader who has inspired many. Through his preaching at schools, conferences, and camps nationwide, he has impacted countless lives while leading them to Christ.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Pastor Lara for continuing to bless our lives. We are so blessed to have him open today's session in prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

HONORING THE CAREER OF CAPTAIN CHARLES "CHIP" LEMON

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 31-year career of my friend, Captain Charles "Chip" Lemon, and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement from the Minnesota State Patrol.

Chip, a native of Duluth, Minnesota, was inspired to pursue a career in law enforcement after seeing the positive impact that his uncles and older brother had in their respective careers.

Chip knew that he wanted to serve a bigger purpose than self, which is why he joined the Minnesota State Patrol in 1994. During his 31 years on the job, Chip served in many leadership roles and retired proudly as a captain.

While working for the State patrol, Chip often came to the aid of folks involved in car crashes, and he often felt the significance of helping people who were experiencing their worst day.

As a fellow law enforcement officer, I know that our law enforcement communities have been under attack in recent years, but Chip never wavered under pressure.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Chip Lemon my friend, and the State of Minnesota thanks him for his decades of service.

I wish him a happy retirement spent with his lovely wife, Rhonda, and their five children.

CUTTING LIFELINE OF INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

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

Ms. MCBRIDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn this administration's harmful and illegal efforts to gut

□ 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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the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Let's be clear. This is a direct attack on rural families, veterans, caregivers, and children, including thousands of Delawareans who rely on libraries not just for books but for help with job applications, disability forms, and housing assistance.

In Dover, librarians are helping my neighbors navigate Social Security delays. In Lewes, they are supporting unhoused jobseekers. In Harrington, they are guiding caregivers through pages of red tape just to access basic support.

This isn't just morally wrong. It is a violation of the law. Congress appropriated these funds. This administration is not only defunding vital community programs. It is defying the will of the American people.

With just \$1.93 million per year, Delaware libraries are able to preserve our history, strengthen our workforce, and meet people where they are to deliver critical services. Cutting this lifeline isn't efficiency. It is cruelty.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the administration to reverse course, and I stand with my colleagues in demanding full funding for the services our communities need and deserve.

RECOGNIZING JUNIOR R. "SKIP" BAKER

(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 to recognize Junior R. "Skip" Baker for an incredible 70 years of service to the Genesee Township Volunteer Fire Department.

In 1955, Skip joined the Genesee Township Volunteer Fire Department and has been a steady presence through decades of change. He served as fire police, EMT, and fire warden for 25 years. He even completed EMT training alongside his late wife, Dorothy, and son Bill.

His sons, Bill and Steve, have both held leadership roles, and now his grandson, Christopher, continues the Baker legacy. Skip has driven nearly every apparatus the department has owned and still runs the pumper and tanker with skill.

Skip played a major role in planning the current fire station, saving the department tens of thousands of dollars through smart cost cutting.

Skip has been on the front lines of major incidents, from the Kane tornado to floods, barn fires, and even a military plane crash.

At age 94, he remains calm, capable, and committed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Skip for his lifetime of service and the integral role he has played in ensuring his community's safety.

DISTRICT WORK PERIOD REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during this past district work period, I met with seniors across my district who are worried about losing the lifelines they depend on: Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare.

At one event with our seniors, a Social Security worker told us that wait times are exploding. He said that staff are being watched and pushed to quit every single day. In some cities, offices are even closing.

These are the people who make sure the checks that our seniors depend on go out. Trump and Elon Musk want them to quit.

The Social Security worker told us he felt that he had failed the American people. Let's be clear: He didn't fail us. The Republicans did.

That is why I have been out there raising the alarm. Seniors and their families deserve what is coming. Seniors built this country. They paid in, showed up, and earned these benefits.

If Republicans think they can slash these lifelines without a fight, they are dead wrong. We put seniors over billionaires.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS INDIANA YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT PRIDE

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

Mr. SHREVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hundreds of young Hoosiers who just participated in our annual Special Olympics Indiana Youth Basketball Tournament.

Basketball is a beloved tradition in my Hoosier State, and this tournament is amongst the largest in North America. It has been hosted at the University of Indianapolis, just 2 miles from my home, since 2010.

This year's event brought together athletes from across our State to compete in five-on-five, three-on-three, and individual basketball skill competitions.

Special Olympics Indiana transforms young lives through the power of sports, breaking down barriers while building up kids with intellectual disabilities. It provides 19,000 Hoosier youth an opportunity to fulfill their sporting ambitions, all with the support of 10,000 volunteers and not one red cent of taxpayer money.

These special young athletes embody the spirit of perseverance on the court and in their lives. They have bright futures ahead of them, and we are proud.

100 DAYS OF CHAOS, CRUELTY, AND LAWLESSNESS UNDER THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week marked a stunning milestone: 100 days of chaos, cruelty, and lawlessness under the Trump administration. We see it in our economy, in our homes, and in our relationships abroad.

Just 100 days ago, President Trump inherited a strong economy, yet our economy shrank in the first 3 months of this year. He imposed punishing tariffs, then he didn't, wiping out \$11 trillion in wealth in 11 weeks. The price of gas, eggs, and other groceries are still too high.

The President handed an unelected, unqualified billionaire, Elon Musk, unfettered access to private data and indiscriminately fired devoted civil servants. Services at Social Security and IRS have been slowed in the aftermath.

Because the President has aligned himself with dictators like Putin, our allies across the globe are now openly admitting they can't trust us.

This is not good governance. It is not reform.

Mr. Speaker, history will not be kind to those who enable this President through words or through their appalling silence.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE GRAY WOLF

(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, in northeast California, as in other parts of the country, we are seeing an introduction of a wolf population that is devastating not only to the beef industry and the at least 200 spring calves but also to the rest of the wildlife in the neighborhood.

Places like Sierra County, Siskiyou County, Modoc County, Lassen County, and Plumas County are being devastated by this introduction of the gray wolf.

This is somehow dressed up under the idea that it is endangered, yet the delisting of the gray wolf in the United States has been long sought where we can find tens of thousands of them in upper Midwest States and lower Canada.

Why is it that we have the logic that they have to have one in each county of each State for them to somehow be seen as not endangered anymore?

They are indigenous to a particular area. They do not need to be introduced and devastating the landscape, devastating the people where kids have to sit in cages at bus stops in order to be safe.

Just recently, an elk was chased right up onto the front porch of a constituent in northern California, killed,

and partially devoured right on the property, right next to the building.

Does this mean we are getting a better quality environment because of that? Does that mean we are getting public safety? No. It is getting worse.

□ 0915

REMEMBERING ED ARNOLD

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life and legacy of my very good friend, Ed Arnold. He was born in Texarkana, Arkansas, in 1939. He was a homeless teenager. He joined the Marines. As a marine, he was stationed in California where he got a taste of sunshine and decided to stay in the Golden State.

He played football for Santa Ana College. He played for the Dons' 1961 East-rn Conference championship team.

At Santa Ana College is where he met the love of his life, Dixie. Dixie and Ed Arnold were voted Santa Ana College prom king and queen. Ed never forgot where he got his start, Santa Ana College.

Santa Ana College gave him his education. Santa Ana College introduced him to the love of his life, Dixie.

Ed Arnold today is and was Santa Ana College.

My very good friend Ed Arnold, we will miss him, we love him, and we will never forget him and his contributions to our community.

POPE FRANCIS LED BY EXAMPLE

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

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, Pope Francis led by example. He showed compassion and empathy to all. He reminded us of our shared humanity, and he treated everyone with dignity and respect. Pope Francis understood what it meant to care for one another.

Many of my Republican colleagues often talk about their Christian values. They should practice what they preach. The reconciliation bill shows no compassion and no concern for the American people. Their bill is predatory.

The latest proposal to place so-called per capita caps on Medicaid funding would still jeopardize healthcare for millions of Americans. This includes over 282,000 people in my district. Mr. Speaker, 103,000 children under the age of 19 and 37,000 seniors would have their care ripped away.

I urge my Republican colleagues to stop with their empty platitudes, to stop catering to the cruel authority of President Trump, to stop putting billionaires over the American people. I urge them to take Pope Francis' message of compassion, of respect, and of moral courage to heart.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from en-

gaging in personalities toward the President.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL 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"

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 354, I call up the joint resolution (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", 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. 78

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 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" (89 Fed. Reg. 61029; published July 30, 2024), 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 Natural Resources or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.J. Res. 78.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 78 offered by Representative LAMALFA of California, which would undo the listing of the longfin smelt in

the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment under the Endangered Species Act.

The listing was based on flawed science in response to an ESA-related lawsuit and adds yet another piece of regulatory red tape preventing water from reaching California's Central Valley and communities further south.

California's Central Valley is one of the most prolific agricultural regions in the world, growing hundreds of crops that feed millions of people. However, this region faces continual water uncertainty due to drought and ESA-related regulations.

The Central Valley Project, or CVP, transports water from wetter areas in northern California to drier areas further south, including the Central Valley. It is subject to ESA biological opinions that mandate water that would otherwise go to communities and farms be diverted to the San Francisco Bay.

The effects of this can be seen at this very moment in California where Federal reservoirs are almost full, yet many farmers are only receiving half of their water allocations. This is in large part due to restrictions imposed by the ESA, which will only be exacerbated by the listing of the longfin smelt.

Unfortunately, the rush to judgment that ensued from the lawsuit resulted in a listing based on flawed assumptions and bad science.

First, by solely focusing on the bay-delta rather than the longfin smelt's entire range, the service ignores the fact that the species has been found in dozens of locations, including in and around every tributary of the San Francisco Bay. Meaning the longfin smelt is not at risk of extinction and does not meet the statutory definition of an endangered species.

Instead of being based on science, this listing comes from the common radical environmental playbook of suing for a predetermined outcome.

Radical groups have litigated for years trying to get the longfin smelt listed under the ESA, with a 2024 lawsuit compelling the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to make a listing decision being the latest example.

Unfortunately, as with many ESA-related lawsuits, the species is rarely the true motivation. The leader of the organization that filed the lawsuit in question said the not-so-quiet part out loud when he said that protecting the longfin smelt going forward would require taking more water away from farmers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this CRA and roll back this misguided listing, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

This resolution, H.J. Res. 78, continues a very familiar pattern that we are seeing from this Republican majority: distractions and scapegoats instead of dealing with real crises, real

problems, and solutions to the challenges that are facing working families, including American farmers and rural communities all over this country.

Today, they are bringing us a resolution that tries to blame an endangered fish, the bay-delta longfin smelt, for California's water problems and shortages. They are doing that instead of addressing major problems that are actually impacting farmers in rural communities.

Let's be clear. Removing protections for the longfin smelt will not make it rain. It will not rebuild California's snowpack. It won't refill our reservoirs, not even the reservoir that President Trump recently drained in a public relations stunt that had nothing to do with fighting fires or water supply.

California's water shortage is driven by climate change and also prolonged drought, aging and outdated infrastructure, and overallocation. It is not the fault of some tiny fish.

Meanwhile, farmers, including those in my district, are grappling with worsening droughts, wildfires, floods, extreme weather, and now the fallout from President Trump's disastrous trade policies for agriculture.

All the while, Republicans won't talk about any of those things. Instead, they bring us here to debate whether a small fish should be allowed to go extinct or be protected under the Endangered Species Act. All the while, the significant damage that their policies are causing continue to pile up in rural America, including President Trump's tariffs.

Trump is treating not just our adversaries, but some of our neighbors and our best friends in the world, like they are enemies. He is turning them into adversaries. Tariffs on key trading partners have already cost farmers tens of billions of dollars in lost exports. Markets are shrinking. Input costs are soaring, making it hard for farms to stay in business.

We see the sweeping budget cuts and mass layoffs at critical agencies like NOAA and the Bureau of Reclamation, threatening the services that farmers depend on: water deliveries, weather forecasting, climate data, and much more. Farmers need that stuff. They don't want to go back to the "Farmers' Almanac" in order to make key business decisions.

We see hundreds of millions of dollars in water supply infrastructure projects suddenly in limbo because of DOGE, while our colleagues across the aisle say nothing.

We see the entire rural healthcare safety net, including nursing home care, including services that anyone who has a person with disabilities in their family, depend on. All of that is in limbo as we brace for catastrophic cuts from Republicans as they try to fund their tax cuts for billionaires.

If this Republican majority were serious about helping farmers and rural

communities, they would be working to reverse these harmful policies. They would be standing up for rural America right now. Instead, they are wasting our time. Just because we are debating a 3-inch fish today doesn't mean we need to think like one.

Now, about the impacts of these policies that my friends don't want to talk about. You don't have to take my word for it, you can listen to farmers across America.

Here is Caleb Ragland, president of the American Soybean Association, who says: "Our grave concern is we could permanently lose another big chunk of our export market that we are dependent on for our production. . . . And the U.S. farm economy is in a tough spot, and we just don't have any room for error right now."

Here is Chris Harner, owner of Harner Farm in Centre County, Pennsylvania: "We did get a letter from our one supplier that once the tariffs kick in, they will be passing on the costs."

Paul Krueger, a corn and soybean farmer from Bladen, Nebraska, says: "Any time our country gets involved with any sort of tariffs that affect the agriculture industry, every farmer just kind of groans about that. We're powerless to do anything except take what comes out in the wash."

Here is Travis Johnson, who farms cotton, sorghum, and corn in Texas' Rio Grande Valley. He says: "There's a lot of uncertainty around, and I hate to be used as a bargaining chip. I am definitely worried."

Moving to California, here is Ryan Talley, vice president of Talley Farms in San Luis Obispo: "We don't have months to wait something out. We have to continue our operations at the intensity that we currently farm. We're going to have to take those rising prices and deal with it the best we can."

This is what Republican agriculture policy is doing right now: losing export markets, raising costs, telling farmers to just deal with it. They are complicit in the dismantling of rural healthcare, in the freezing of funding for rural infrastructure, in the threat to programs like SNAP that many families across rural America depend on.

It gets worse. President Trump, Elon Musk, and their enablers are gutting critical Federal services that include scientists. They are hollowing out NOAA and weakening the Bureau of Reclamation. They should listen to the people that these decisions are actually hurting.

I know I am quoting a lot right now, Mr. Speaker, but I want to make sure my colleagues across the aisle are listening, since they are not having any townhalls these days. They need to hear from farmers and the folks in these rural communities that their policies are hurting.

In response to mass firings at NOAA and the National Weather Service, Andrea Young of Hidden Creek Farm in Fauquier County, Virginia, said this:

"I cannot bring the animals to safety. I cannot cover up those tender plants. I cannot know that a rainstorm is coming and so I shouldn't water. I cannot function as a farmer in an indoor environment."

The general manager of 14 California Central Valley Project irrigation districts, in a recent letter to the President about layoffs at the Bureau of Reclamation, said this: "That elimination of Reclamation staff will not further the goal of achieving significant cost savings to the American people."

In other words, they are harming the agency that these irrigators depend on, and they are not even saving money for the budget.

Mr. Speaker, the damage from all of this is real. There are real farmers, real communities, and this is real harm caused by failed leadership. While all that is happening, we are here debating whether to strip protections from an endangered fish. They are turning a small fish into a very large scapegoat, pretending it will somehow provide real support to farmers.

The truth is, the listing of the bay-delta longfin under the ESA is both scientifically and legally sound. The longfin population has declined over 99 percent since the 1980s. Think about that. In just a few decades, only about 1 percent of the population is left. That is like the number of environmentalists left in the Republican Party these days.

□ 0930

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service followed the law, the data, and the science, just as a bipartisan Congress intended when they passed the ESA back in the 1970s, just as Republican President Richard Nixon intended when he signed it into law. The system is supposed to work that way.

Protecting species like the longfin is not just about a single fish, but it is about protecting the ecological health of the entire bay-delta, the largest estuary on the West Coast of the Americas. This delta is the heart of California's water system. Its health underpins clean drinking water for millions, healthy soil for agriculture, and waterfowl populations that hunters depend on.

It is so important, and it requires a broad ecological balance to sustain the farms, fisheries, entire ecosystems, and so many communities and millions of people that depend on it. You can't destroy an ecosystem and expect farms, cities, and wildlife to just thrive. These things rise or fall together.

This resolution takes us in the wrong direction. Let's actually do something real for farmers instead of deflecting and debating distractions. Let's repeal the mindless tariffs on our allies and top trading partners. Let's protect the Bureau of Reclamation and NOAA from these disastrous sabotage cuts. Let's protect rural families and communities by opposing cuts to Medicaid and SNAP.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this resolution that merely distracts and deflects and scapegoats instead of solving the pressing challenges facing farmers and the rest of rural America.

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), the sponsor of the CRA.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time. I appreciate the opportunity to present and to carry this Congressional Review Act that is, indeed, trying to keep some reality involved in the listing of species, as well as the overall operations of government and forming of regulations.

Mr. Speaker, in support of H.J. Res. 78, we want to block the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's misguided decision to list the San Francisco Bay-Delta population of the longfin smelt as being endangered.

What we have is actual evidence. Former director of Stanford's Center of Conservation Biology wrote a piece on this listing, including these highlights:

The Fish and Wildlife Service abandoned its allegiance to using the best available scientific information.

The proposed listing ignores salient information gaps and shrugs off technical peer-reviewed criticisms that go to the heart of the argument for listing the species.

To list this species, the Fish and Wildlife Service employed unreliable data, presented results from analyses that cannot be justified, and made troubling predictions for the fate of the fish that are built on flawed assumptions akin to a house of cards.

The Fish and Wildlife Service used piecemeal data to try and establish population trends and size of this using detection methods not even designed for longfin smelt to justify its action.

Basically, there is no science, and this has long been sought by environmental groups since they have run out of the regular smelt after tens of millions of acre-feet of water have flowed out to the delta.

Indeed, they need to be looking more at the issues going on with the effluent coming out of bay area cities from underpowered sewer systems that affected the delta so negatively and not some idea that farmers are getting too much water.

At a point where farmers have now just gotten bumped up to a 50 percent allocation here the other day by State and Federal water managers, we are seeing that it is going to negatively affect the food supply not only for California and its production but for the whole country.

Mr. Speaker, we have statistics that show that the amount of water flowing into the delta is hardly being tapped. Indeed, 80 percent of it goes right on out of the delta into the Pacific Ocean.

It is interesting to hear my colleague from the north coast talking about rebuilding infrastructure as part of a solution that we should be talking about here.

Mr. Speaker, we talk about it a lot, and hopefully we can move the ball on it. We have an opportunity to build Sites Reservoir, which would provide 1½ million acre-feet of new storage; and raise Shasta Dam by 18 feet, which would provide 600,000 acre-feet of new storage.

If we would operate the pumps in the delta, we would fill the San Luis Reservoir that would be available to the Central Valley. It came up 200,000 acre-feet short this year, which is about the same amount as what they are predicting this listing will cause to short the Central Valley farmers down there if this listing is allowed to happen.

Instead, we get more and more water being demanded for environmental purposes, which really doesn't fulfill an environmental purpose. Instead, the blame gets shifted to something else: talk about tariffs.

Mr. Speaker, we are tarified so heavily, almost 300 percent, on our dairy products that are going into Canada. Something needs to be done for a reset. Rice into Japan will be up to 700 percent at some point. Tariffs need to be looked at, but that is not this conversation.

The longfin smelt is being used as the latest weapon to take water away from farmers and take water away from people. We grow some of the richest crops in the great Central Valley of California—tomatoes, pistachios, and almonds—and they will be denied to the whole country. They will not come from somewhere else unless we import them with lower quality standards, et cetera.

We have, indeed, a lot going on here that is not really truthful. It is sad to hear my colleague from the north coast. Although we are in parallel districts, the First District and the Second District, it seems like we are in parallel universes when I hear him starting to talk about defending agriculture because it is these policies: introduction of wolves; not rebuilding water infrastructure but tearing down dams on the Klamath that now causes people to be subject to flooding; the water allocation of the Scott and Shasta Valleys being taken away by some emergency drought declaration at the same time as they are being flooded; and one thing after another being taken away from farmers and given to wolves instead.

My Democratic colleagues want to introduce 1,700 new grizzly bears into California as one of their ideas, which would devastate livestock. The ideas that are coming out of this building and the regulatory buildings here are the ones that are choking off agriculture, making food more expensive, and taking away options for people to buy great California-grown products instead of having to import them.

It is coming from here. It is certainly not the fault of what the Trump administration is trying to do in addition to building more water reservoirs and having more water available for people.

Why was it that delta pumps were able to fill San Luis Reservoir 2 years ago to the brim, to the full mark, and they can't for the last 2 years?

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from California.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is because of additional water flows that are demanded by the environmental left and certain Representatives in this building. A lot of times, they get them. It seems that the courts are stacked against farmers against this, but we have to fight back.

One tool that we have is H.J. Res. 78, to review what government does and hold it accountable for when it does last-minute, unscientific pronouncements. In this case, it is yet another species that my Democratic colleagues use as a weapon against agriculture and against people's needs.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the time on this.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for all of his efforts on this. He is a farmer. He knows about agriculture. He knows about the water issues in California.

This is an issue that is important to our whole country. It is not just important to California because most of the fruits, nuts, and vegetables grown in this country are in the Central Valley of California. Without water, you can't grow any of them.

If we are taking water away from the Central Valley for unnecessary reasons, that means that the rest of the country is going to suffer when we go to the grocery market.

Mr. Speaker, I think, if truth be known, there is one reason why the longfin smelt got listed. It is because it would divert water away from the Central Valley, and I don't understand that. I don't understand why groups would be so adamant to be taking water away from the breadbasket of our country and shifting it to a purpose that is not accomplishing anything.

There are a lot of myths about the longfin smelt. There is a myth that, if they are listed, it will have no effect on the farmers in the Central Valley. I will read a quote from the science director who was involved from the San Francisco Baykeepers when the listing was finalized:

"Preventing further decline and extinction of longfin smelt will require reducing California's diversion of fresh water from the Bay's watershed to supply unsustainable industrial agriculture. . . ."

If water is taken away from agriculture in the Central Valley, it is unsustainable. You can't grow anything without water.

We need to get back to the science, as Mr. LAMALFA stated, and it is unfortunate that we have to do a CRA on an

endangered species listing, but that is what happens when administrations make bad decisions.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the question has been posed about whether this ESA listing of the longfin smelt is supported by science. I guess this Congress, in all of its infinite mastery of science, has decided to superimpose itself over the scientists at the Fish and Wildlife Service who went through a very public and deliberative process to reach this determination. We are going to now get, I guess, a different scientific interpretation from the great minds across the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, the first Trump administration, back when there was still at least a few people around who followed the law and told the truth, agreed that the longfin smelt was a candidate species for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans slow walked that listing because of politics. That is why the administration was sued. That is why the Biden administration had to comply with the law and follow through with that science-based process. That is how we got a listing.

Let's not pretend that there is no scientific foundation for this listing. Even my friends across the aisle know better than that.

Mr. Speaker, my friend from the Sacramento Valley has suggested that we live in parallel universes. If that is the case, I will choose the universe where Members of Congress face their constituents and answer hard questions instead of running off to Mar-a-Lago or other people's districts or having distractions about fish in the delta and scapegoating them as the cause for all of our problems.

Answer some hard questions from constituents. Talk about facts and reality of California water instead of all of this scapegoating.

With California water, it is always a challenge not to break the fact-check machine across the aisle. It has been suggested that all of this water is wasted out to the ocean for fish, and you have to explain again how the delta system works. That water that flows out to the ocean, almost all of it, the vast majority of it, is for one reason: to make sure that the saltwater in the Pacific Ocean does not intrude far enough into the estuary that the whole system that tens of millions of Californians depend on and that all the farmers in my friend's district depend on doesn't salt up and cease to function.

The Speaker doesn't have to believe me about it or choose between two parallel universes. Ask any California water manager how this works. This is basic stuff, but we have to explain it over and over again because of the fog of political theater that we always hear across the aisle.

It is a little bit like the President of the United States right now who says

that there is a magic spigot in the northwest and in Canada that, if we could get past all of the radical environmentalists and just open up this spigot, unlimited water would flow to southern California, and they would always be able to fight fires.

It is absolute nonsense. Then he pretended to open a magic spigot, and he dumped and wasted a bunch of water a couple of months ago into a dry lakebed.

Our friends across the aisle retweeted all of these totally fake narratives, and now half the world, the world in that other parallel universe, believes this stuff.

It is a constant challenge just to bring the subject back to facts and reality. Talk to water managers. Do a little bit of basic research. This is how the California water system, especially the delta estuary, actually works. Politics is a poor substitute for understanding basic hydrology and facts.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DESAULNIER), a colleague who actually represents the amazing delta region of our country.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. HUFFMAN for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, welcome to California water wars. A famous quote attributed to Mark Twain is:

In California, whiskey is for drinking, and water is for fighting.

Welcome to the debate. This is much more than just the delta smelt. It is interesting to see my two colleagues and friends from parallel universes—I am from a southern parallel universe—debate this because, sometime ago when Mr. LAMALFA and I were in the California Legislature, we thought we had put a lot of this past us when we negotiated in good faith the building of those two reservoirs.

Part of it was to finally require the ag industry to get permits because they were depleting the aquifer so much that the water contractors were complaining. They were water contractors who historically have made a lot of money without providing much value.

I say that in the context of this is an important discussion for the environment appropriately for this committee, the chairman and the ranking member, but it is a bigger issue.

□ 0945

It is an issue about fairness, about subsidies. Yes, the agriculture industry is important, as the chairman pointed out, in California, but we have given them a lot of support over the decades, including subsidies from the Federal Government. When we are looking at fiscal management, we should look at this resource in a larger sense, in my view, as somebody who has represented the delta for decades.

The San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary, which I am proud to represent a significant part of, provides economic benefits to the entire State of Cali-

fornia and, as the chairman said, to larger areas of the West Coast and the country in many ways. It provides clean water, recreation, and all of these benefits to a very large area.

The longfin smelt, one of the several native fish populations within the delta, is an important indicator species for the health of this vital body of water and our economy. It serves as kind of a red herring to help alert to habitat degradation across the delta from poor water quality or diversion of too much water.

Unfortunately, the species population, as the ranking member has pointed out, has declined more than 99 percent from 1980s levels, putting us at risk of losing an important way we analyze the delta in a drought-prone region.

The San Francisco Bay-Delta population of the longfin smelt was listed as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act after thorough scientific review, as has been mentioned, and a public comment process. This Congressional Review Act resolution casts aside the data for no apparent reason. Decisions on whether to list a species as endangered should be based on science as Congress intended under the Endangered Species Act, not on politics.

While I agree with my good friend from California that ensuring reliable water supply and storage is essential to northern California, for both of my friends from northern California, disregarding experts is the wrong way to go about the analysis, obviously.

This debate on the whole water supply and storage, as articulated by the ranking member, is essential to the West Coast. Disregarding these experts and scientists and the proper process for endangered species listing is not the way to do it. Protecting endangered species and providing a stable water supply are not mutually exclusive. They can be done in a way where both delta communities and delta species, and, indeed, the entire West Coast and the country, prosper from protecting this endangered species.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, President Trump, Elon Musk, and DOGE continue dismantling Federal agencies, shredding constitutional norms. Meanwhile, House Republicans refuse to lift a finger to rein in rogue actors or defend the rule of law.

In the face of all of this, American farmers and rural America are paying the price for all of this chaos.

Right now, the real threats to rural America and to water security and the livelihoods of America's farmers are trade wars that are hammering agricultural exports. It is not this endangered fish.

They face a shrinking Federal workforce hollowed out. The very agencies responsible for permitting and delivering water to farmers and communities are being dismantled.

Congressional Republicans are threatening to rescind critical Inflation Reduction Act investments in drought resilience and water delivery.

We also are facing this administration's efforts to block and cancel key funding that Congress has already approved to support drought resilience and repair vital water infrastructure, support that rural America needs right now in the face of extreme heat and weather from the climate crisis and the burning of fossil fuels.

These are the urgent challenges that farmers and communities are actually facing. Instead of confronting them, House Republican leadership devoted this entire week to voting on performative Congressional Review Act resolutions that are meant to deflect and distract from the real problems created by this administration and the complicity of this Congress.

Passing a rule to actually abdicate Congress' own oversight powers when it comes to our Article I trade authority all the way through the rest of this fiscal year is shameful.

Let's be honest. The longfin smelt didn't cause California's water challenges. This resolution won't solve them. It won't improve drought conditions. It won't help farmers one bit.

Yet, here we are, debating a symbolic resolution that is designed to distract, deflect, and scapegoat rather than talking about and trying to solve real problems affecting farmers and rural communities.

This isn't legislating. It is grievance politics.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, first, I acknowledge and agree with my friends from across the aisle. Mark Twain was correct. The more I learn about water, the further west you go, the more it is for fighting. We can agree on that.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to try to help them solve the issue about parallel universes from an outsider's perspective. I would say that most people who live in States that are east of California, maybe some that are north and west of California, if you go to California, you realize it is a very beautiful State, a very blessed State, wonderful resources, beautiful beaches, beautiful forests, the most productive farmland in the country, some of the most unique trees in the world, wonderful weather, good fishing. Everything nice, it seems like California has it.

I think we all love California, but we all realize somehow it is kind of a different universe than the rest of the country that we live in. Maybe they embrace that and like that, the good people of California.

When we look at this legislation, H.J. Res. 78, it is a serious thing. The ESA listing in question was based on incomplete and bad science and will further complicate the delivery of water in

California communities. It is already complicating the delivery of water.

Passing this resolution will further the priorities of President Trump, who has signed two executive orders aimed at removing unnecessary regulations that prevent water from being delivered to southern California.

The current paradigm of having full reservoirs in California while many farmers are only receiving half of the water they are supposed to be getting is unacceptable, and it is unsustainable. It takes away the myth that this is all due to drought conditions. It is not drought conditions in California right now, yet farmers are still only getting half the amount of water they were promised to get.

This resolution is cosponsored by the entire California Republican delegation. I thank each Member for standing up for their constituents and tirelessly fighting for additional water resources in the face of Federal and State government overreach and radical decisions.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on passage of H.J. Res. 78 will be followed by a 5-minute vote on:

Passage of H.J. Res. 88.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 216, nays 195, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 113]

YEAS—216

Aderholt	Bost	Crank
Alford	Brecheen	Crawford
Allen	Bresnahan	Davidson
Amodei (NV)	Buchanan	De La Cruz
Arrington	Burchett	DesJarlais
Babin	Burlison	Diaz-Balart
Bacon	Calvert	Donalds
Baird	Cammack	Downing
Balderson	Carey	Dunn (FL)
Barr	Carter (GA)	Edwards
Barrett	Carter (TX)	Elizy
Baumgartner	Ciscomani	Emmer
Bean (FL)	Cline	Estes
Begich	Cloud	Evans (CO)
Bentz	Clyde	Ezell
Bergman	Cole	Fallon
Bice	Collins	Fedorchak
Biggs (AZ)	Comer	Feenstra
Biggs (SC)	Costa	Fine
Bilirakis	Crane	Finstad

Fischbach	Kennedy (UT)	Palmer
Fitzgerald	Kiggans (VA)	Patronis
Fleischmann	Kiley (CA)	Perry
Flood	Kim	Pfleger
Fong	Knott	Reschenthaler
Foxx	Kustoff	Rogers (AL)
Franklin, Scott	LaHood	Rogers (KY)
Fry	LaLota	Rose
Fulcher	LaMalfa	Rouzer
Garbarino	Langworthy	Roy
Gill (TX)	Latta	Rulli
Jimenez	Lawler	Scalise
Golden (ME)	Lee (FL)	Schmidt
Goldman (TX)	Letlow	Schweikert
Gonzales, Tony	Loudermilk	Scott, Austin
Gooden	Lucas	Self
Graves	Luna	Sessions
Gray	Luttrell	Shreve
Green (TN)	Mackenzie	Simpson
Greene (GA)	Malliotakis	Smith (MO)
Griffith	Maloy	Smith (NE)
Grothman	Mann	Smith (NJ)
Guest	Massie	Smucker
Guthrie	Mast	Spartz
Hageman	McCaul	Stauber
Hamadeh (AZ)	McClain	Stefanik
Haridopolos	McClintock	Steil
Harrigan	McCormick	Steube
Harris (MD)	McDowell	Strong
Harris (NC)	McGuire	Stutzman
Harshbarger	Messmer	Taylor
Hern (OK)	Meuser	Tenney
Higgins (LA)	Miller (IL)	Thompson (PA)
Hill (AR)	Miller (OH)	Tiffany
Hinson	Miller (WV)	Timmons
Houchin	Miller-Meeks	Turner (OH)
Hudson	Mills	Valadao
Huizenga	Moolenaar	Van Drew
Hunt	Moore (AL)	Van Dwyne
Hurd (CO)	Moore (NC)	Van Orden
Issa	Moore (UT)	Wagner
Jack	Moore (WV)	Walberg
Jackson (TX)	Moran	Weber (TX)
James	Murphy	Webster (FL)
Johnson (LA)	Nehls	Westerman
Johnson (SD)	Newhouse	Wied
Jordan	Norman	Williams (TX)
Joyce (OH)	Nunn (IA)	Wilson (SC)
Joyce (PA)	Obenrolte	Wittman
Kean	Ogles	Womack
Kelly (MS)	Onder	Yakym
Kelly (PA)	Owens	Zinke

NAYS—195

Adams	DelBene	Kennedy (NY)
Aguilar	Deluzio	Khanna
Amo	DeSaulnier	Krishnamoorthi
Ansari	Dexter	Landsman
Auchincloss	Dingell	Larsen (WA)
Balint	Doggett	Larson (CT)
Barragan	Elfreth	Latimer
Beatty	Escobar	Lee (NV)
Bell	Espallat	Lee (PA)
Bera	Evans (PA)	Leger Fernandez
Beyer	Fields	Levin
Bishop	Figures	Liccardo
Bonamici	Fitzpatrick	Lieu
Boyle (PA)	Fletcher	Lofgren
Brown	Foster	Lynch
Brownley	Foushee	Magaziner
Budzinski	Friedman	Mannion
Bynum	Frost	Matsui
Carbajal	Garamendi	McBath
Carson	Garcia (CA)	McBride
Carter (LA)	Garcia (TX)	McClain Delaney
Casar	Gillen	McClellan
Case	Goldman (NY)	McCollum
Casten	Gomez	McDonald Rivet
Castor (FL)	Gonzalez, V.	McGarvey
Castro (TX)	Goodlander	McIver
Cherfilus-	Green, Al (TX)	Meeks
McCormick	Harder (CA)	Menendez
Chu	Hayes	Meng
Cisneros	Himes	Mfume
Clark (MA)	Horsford	Min
Clarke (NY)	Houlihan	Morelle
Cleaver	Hoyle (OR)	Morrison
Clyburn	Huffman	Moskowitz
Correa	Ivey	Mrvan
Courtney	Jackson (IL)	Mullin
Craig	Jacobs	Nadler
Crockett	Jayapal	Neal
Crow	Jeffries	Neguse
Cuellar	Johnson (GA)	Ocasio-Cortez
Davids (KS)	Johnson (TX)	Olsewski
Davis (IL)	Kamlager-Dove	Omar
Davis (NC)	Kaptur	Pallone
Dean (PA)	Keating	Panetta
DeLauro	Kelly (IL)	Pappas

Pelosi Scholten Titus
 Perez Schrier Tlaib
 Peters Scott (VA) Tokuda
 Petersen Scott, David Tonko
 Pingree Sewell Torres (CA)
 Pocan Sherman Torres (NY)
 Pou Sherrill Trahan
 Pressley Smith (WA) Tran
 Quigley Sorensen Underwood
 Ramirez Soto Vargas
 Randall Stansbury Vazquez
 Raskin Stanton Vasquez
 Riley (NY) Stevens Veasey
 Rivas Strickland Velázquez
 Ross Subramanyam Vindman
 Ryan Suozzi Waters
 Salinas Sykes Watson Coleman
 Sánchez Takano Whitesides
 Scanlon Thanedar Williams (GA)
 Schakowsky Thompson (CA) Wilson (FL)
 Schneider Thompson (MS)

NOT VOTING—22

Boevert Gosar Ruiz
 Cohen Gottheimer Rutherford
 Conaway Hoyer Salazar
 Connolly Mace Simon
 Crenshaw McGovern Swalwell
 DeGette Moore (WI) Wasserman
 Frankel, Lois Moulton
 Garcia (IL) Norcross Schultz

□ 1020

Messrs. HORSFORD, THOMPSON of California, FIGURES, and Ms. PEREZ changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

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 POLLUTION CONTROL STANDARDS; ADVANCED CLEAN CARS II; WAIVER OF PREEMPTION; NOTICE OF DECISION”

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NUNN of Iowa). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of 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”, 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 246, nays 164, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 114]

YEAS—246

Aderholt Bacon Bean (FL)
 Alford Baird Beatty
 Allen Balderson Begich
 Amodei (NV) Barr Bentz
 Arrington Barrett Bergman
 Babin Baumgartner Bice

Biggs (AZ) Hageman Moran
 Biggs (SC) Hamadeh (AZ) Morelle
 Bilirakis Haridopolos Moskowit
 Bishop Mrvan
 Boebert Harris (MD) Murphy
 Bost Harris (NC) Nehls
 Brecheen Harshbarger Newhouse
 Bresnahan Hern (OK) Norman
 Buchanan Higgins (LA) Nunn (IA)
 Buddzinski Hill (AR) Obernolte
 Burchett Hinson Ogles
 Burlison Horsford Onder
 Bynum Houchin Owens
 Calvert Hudson Palmer
 Cammack Huizenga Patronis
 Carey Hunt Perez
 Carter (GA) Hurd (CO) Perry
 Carter (TX) Issa Pfluger
 Ciscomani Jack Reschenthaler
 Cline Jackson (TX) Riley (NY)
 Cloud James Rogers (AL)
 Clyde Johnson (SD) Rogers (KY)
 Cole Johnson (TX) Rose
 Collins Jordan Rouzer
 Comer Joyce (OH) Roy
 Correa Joyce (PA) Rulli
 Ryan Kaptur
 Crank Kean
 Crawford Kelly (MS) Scholten
 Cuellar Kelly (PA) Schweikert
 Davids (KS) Kennedy (NY) Scott, Austin
 Davidson Kennedy (UT) Self
 Davis (NC) Kiggans (VA) Sessions
 De La Cruz Kiley (CA) Sewell
 DesJarlais Kim Shreve
 Diaz-Balart Knott Simpson
 Donalds Kustoff Smith (NE)
 Downing LaHood Smith (NJ)
 Dunn (FL) LaLota Smucker
 Edwards LaMalfa Soto
 Ellzey Landsman Spartz
 Emmer Langworthy Stauber
 Estes Latta Stefanik
 Evans (CO) Lawler Steil
 Ezell Lee (FL) Steube
 Fallon Lee (NV) Strong
 Fedorchak Letlow Stutzman
 Feenstra Loudermilk Suozzi
 Figures Lucas Taylor
 Fine Luna Tenney
 Finstad Luttrell Thanedar
 Fischbach Mackenzie Thompson (MS)
 Fitzgerald Malliotakis Thompson (PA)
 Fitzpatrick Maloy Tiffany
 Fleischmann Mann Timmons
 Flood Massie Turner (OH)
 Fong Mast Valadao
 Foxx McCaul Van Drew
 Franklin, Scott McClain Van Dwyne
 Fry McClintock Van Orden
 Fulcher McCormick Vasquez
 Garbarino McDonald Rivet Veasey
 Gill (TX) McDowell Vindman
 Gillen McGuire Wagner
 Gimenez Messmer Walberg
 Golden (ME) Meuser Weber (TX)
 Goldman (TX) Miller (IL) Webster (FL)
 Gonzales, Tony Miller (OH) Westernman
 Gonzalez, V. Miller (WV) Whitesides
 Gooden Miller-Meeks Wied
 Graves Mills Williams (TX)
 Green (TN) Moolenaar Wilson (SC)
 Greene (GA) Moore (AL) Wittman
 Griffith Moore (NC) Womack
 Grothman Moore (UT) Yakym
 Guest Moore (WV) Zinke

NAYS—164

Adams Castro (TX) Dexter
 Aguilar Cherfilus-Dingell
 Amo McCormick Doggett
 Ansari Chu Elfret
 Auchincloss Cisneros Escobar
 Balint Clark (MA) Espallat
 Barragán Clarke (NY) Evans (PA)
 Bell Cleaver Fields
 Bera Clyburn Fletcher
 Beyer Conaway Foster
 Bonamici Costa Foushee
 Boyle (PA) Courtney Friedman
 Brown Craig Frost
 Brownley Crockett Garamendi
 Carbajal Carson Garcia (CA)
 Carson Davis (IL) Garcia (TX)
 Carter (LA) Dean (PA) Goldman (NY)
 Casar DeLauro Gomez
 Case DelBene Goodlander
 Casten Deluzio Gray
 Castor (FL) DeSaulnier Green, Al (TX)

Harder (CA) McCollum Sánchez
 Hayes McGarvey Scanlon
 Himes McIver Schakowsky
 Houlihan Meeks Schneider
 Hoyle (OR) Menendez Schrier
 Huffman Meng Scott (VA)
 Ivey Mfume Scott, David
 Jackson (IL) Min Sherman
 Jacobs Moore (WI) Sherrill
 Jayapal Morrison Smith (WA)
 Jeffries Mullin Sorensen
 Johnson (GA) Nadler Stansbury
 Kamlager-Dove Neal Stanton
 Keating Neguse Stevens
 Kelly (IL) Ocasio-Cortez Strickland
 Khanna Olszewski Subramanyam
 Omar
 Larsen (WA) Pallone Takano
 Larson (CT) Panetta Thompson (CA)
 Latimer Pappas Titus
 Lee (PA) Pelosi Tlaib
 Leger Fernandez Peters Tokuda
 Levin Pettersen Tonko
 Liccardo Pingree Torres (CA)
 Lieu Pocan Torres (NY)
 Lofgren Pou Trahan
 Lynch Pressley Tran
 Magaziner Quigley Underwood
 Mannion Ramirez Vargas
 Matsui Randall Velázquez
 McBath Raskin Waters
 McBride Rivas Watson Coleman
 McClain Delaney Ross Williams (GA)
 McClellan Salinas Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—22

Cohen Guthrie Salazar
 Connolly Hoyer Scalise
 Crenshaw Mace Simon
 DeGette McGovern Smith (MO)
 Frankel, Lois Moulton Swalwell
 Garcia (IL) Norcross Wasserman
 Gosar Ruiz Schultz
 Gottheimer Rutherford

□ 1037

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

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.

Stated for:

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 114, H.J. Res. 88, I was not recorded due to official business. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 114, H.J. Res. 88.

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. 113 and NAY on Roll Call No. 114.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present today. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 113 and NAY on Roll Call No. 114.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 113 and NAY on Roll Call No. 114.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025, TO MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday next for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1045

“Allah yerhamo”; “God bless his soul.”

CONGRATULATING CATHI HERROD ON RETIREMENT

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

Mr. BIGGS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cathi Herrod, who recently retired from the Center for Arizona Policy after serving 20 years as president.

Cathi dedicated her life's work to promoting and defending the sanctity of life, traditional marriage and families, and religious freedom.

She joined CAP in 1997, shortly after its founding, as legislative counsel. Upon retirement of CAP's founder, Len Munsil, in 2005, Cathi assumed the role of president and has since been a force for good at the Arizona Capitol.

Since CAP's founding, more than 300 pieces of CAP-supported legislation have been passed by the Arizona Legislature, including many that protect the unborn and pregnant mothers.

Cathi has received numerous awards and distinctions for her work. She was recognized by Arizona newspapers as one of the 10 most influential leaders at the Arizona Capitol. She received the Family Champion award from Focus on the Family and received the William Wilberforce Award from Students for Life of America.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the work of dedicated individuals like Cathi who relentlessly strive to promote policies that protect the dignity of every Arizonan. I wish Cathi well in her much-deserved retirement.

PROTECTING WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join millions of American women in condemning Trump's attempt to gut funding for women's health research.

The Trump administration has rescinded women's research projects at an alarming rate. These projects include lifesaving research on early breast cancer detection and so much more. Trump even shut down the Women's Health Initiative, our Nation's largest and most consequential women's health study.

Millions of women's lives are at stake. That is why I led my Democratic Women's Caucus colleagues in demanding that Trump immediately reverse course. I am relieved to announce that the administration heeded our call and the heartfelt appeals of our constituents and restored this crucial funding.

Mr. Speaker, this fight is far from over. The Trump administration is waging a war on science and women. We must stay vigilant, and we will fight back.

HONORING JOAN QUATERMAN

(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 Ms. Joan Quaterman, a remarkable woman who has dedicated 52 years of service to the city of Savannah.

As a longtime employee of the Leisure Services Bureau, she played a vital role in shaping the lives of countless children and families.

For decades, she was a beloved figure at Hull Park, leading summer programs that provided a safe, welcoming space for young people to learn, grow, and have fun. Through games, activities, and free lunches, she ensured that every child felt valued and supported regardless of their background.

Ms. Quaterman was more than just a city employee. She was a mentor, role model, and constant presence in the lives of many. Her kindness, patience, and dedication left a lasting imprint on our community, and her impact will be felt for generations to come. Her work reflects the very best of public service, selflessness, commitment, and unwavering devotion to others.

Today, we congratulate Ms. Quaterman on her well-earned retirement and thank her for more than five decades of service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE SABA

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor the incredible life and legacy of my dear friend, George Saba, who served metro Detroit's immigrant community for over four decades as a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representative.

George would walk in a room with a big smile, and everyone would smile back.

George dedicated his life to reuniting thousands of families, first at the International Institute of Metro Detroit, and later at ACCESS, always bringing compassion, warmth, and unwavering commitment.

Born in Ramallah, George was proud of being Palestinian and of his heritage. He was actively involved with the American Federation of Ramallah, working to preserve and pass on his culture to future generations.

George's work transformed lives, and his presence brought comfort and strength to so many.

On behalf of the 12th Congressional District, we extend our deepest sympathies to his beloved wife, Itidal; his children, Paul and Janan; his late dear son, Amjad; and his entire family and his friends.

May his legacy live on and his memory continue to be a blessing and source of strength.

TRUMP SUPPORTS SOVEREIGN UKRAINE

(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, last night, the United States and Ukraine signed the United States-Ukraine Reconstruction Investment Fund.

Underscoring the alliance of our countries, the agreement provides Ukraine a credible deterrence.

David Zimmerman in National Review reported that the agreement gives the U.S. access to Ukraine's rare earth minerals for a promised security guarantee to protect Kyiv from future Russian aggression, signaling President Donald Trump's commitment to ending the war.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent elaborated: “This agreement signals clearly to Russia that the Trump administration is committed to a peace process centered on a free, sovereign, and prosperous Ukraine over the long term.”

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent, as warned by the FBI. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families through peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin lies as he insults President Trump with a fake cease-fire, murdering civilians yesterday in Odesa.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Warren Stephens on being sworn in as America's Ambassador to the United Kingdom.

CELEBRATING TALENTED ARTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA'S FIRST DISTRICT

(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 celebrate the talented artists of North Carolina's First Congressional District who participated in the 2025 Congressional Art Competition.

I was honored to host a ceremony recognizing over 30 dynamic and talented high school artists. I especially congratulate our first-place winner, Valerie Jacobson of Martin County, for her piece, “The Unbothered Sister,” inspired by her sister.

I also applaud our second- and third-place winners, Addison Rich of Nash County and Reagan Greene of Greene County.

Special thanks go to every participant for their involvement in an extremely competitive competition.

Their artwork reminded me that the future is bright and colorful in eastern North Carolina. These young artists are a true reflection of the heart and spirit of the east.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT TROY SMITH KNUTSON-COLLINS

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

Mr. HUIZENGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, service, and memory of Staff Sergeant Troy Smith Knutson-Collins.

On April 1, a month ago today, Staff Sergeant Knutson-Collins tragically lost his life during a tactical training exercise in Lithuania that also killed three other members of the 3rd Infantry Division.

Troy was born and raised in Battle Creek, Michigan, graduating from Harper Creek High School in 2015. Troy had many hobbies, including woodworking, football, and gaming. After graduating high school, he actually played semi-pro football before he enlisted in the Army at age 20, where he served as an artillery mechanic.

Staff Sergeant Troy Smith Knutson-Collins was deployed to Korea twice and was serving in Lithuania when tragedy struck. In honor of his service, he will be returning back home to Battle Creek and will be buried at the Fort Custer National Cemetery tomorrow, on Friday.

Troy is survived by his wife and five children, along with his parents, Robert and Tosha Collins, and six siblings.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we may all rise and honor the memory of Staff Sergeant Troy Smith Knutson-Collins with a moment of silence.

Rest well, soldier. Rest well.

RECOGNIZING VALOR AWARD WINNERS AND HONOREES FROM FAUQUIER COUNTY

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

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent Valor Award winners and honorees from Fauquier County, individuals who embody courage and service.

Sponsored by the Fauquier Chamber of Commerce, the Valor Awards highlight the critical work local law enforcement and first responders do every day to keep our communities safe.

Among this year's Lifetime Achievement Awards was Warrenton Police Chief Tim Carter. A native of Fauquier County, Chief Carter has served his hometown as a police officer, corporal, detective sergeant, lieutenant, and deputy chief before becoming police chief in 2023.

Also recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award was retired fire chief Dale Koglin. Chief Koglin served

the Warrenton Volunteer Fire Company for 62 years, first joining when he was only 14 years old.

Another award went to Sergeant John Larson, who donated a portion of his liver to a child after screenings said he was a good match.

George Scheulen was honored for his courageous service as a platoon leader in the Army.

To the Valor Award winners and honorees, and to those who work to keep our communities safe every day, I thank them for their service.

FIRST 100 DAYS ARE JUST THE BEGINNING

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, President Trump, Indiana Governor Braun, and House Republicans in our first 100 days have worked in unison to make our communities safer, citizens healthier, and country wealthier.

It has started at the border. The Trump administration's swift and strong actions have caused illegal aliens to simply give up on crossing our borders illegally, proven by the 94 percent drop in apprehensions since March 2024.

These efforts have only been strengthened by Governor Braun sending the Indiana National Guard to the border and the House passage of the SAVE Act.

Governor Braun has made Indiana healthier by signing nine health-related executive orders, one of which addresses the same harmful food dyes and artificial ingredients that President Trump and the administration banned just this past week. This was accomplished while the House literally saved lives by securing medical protection for babies who survived attempted abortions.

Finally, the three have worked in unison in making our country wealthier by both executives implementing their own DOGE initiatives and the House working overtime to codify those cuts.

There is so much more I could mention, but the best of all of this is that it is just beginning.

RECOGNIZING NKH AWARENESS DAY

(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 rise to recognize May 2 as Nonketotic Hyperglycinemia Awareness Day.

NKH is a rare genetic disorder, and there are only 500 kids in the world living with it, four of them calling the Commonwealth of Virginia home.

Today, I am proud to be joined by one of these incredible kids, my constituent Luka, and his family.

Jackie and her dad, Eddy, are also important advocates in Virginia dealing with this disease.

At one of my townhalls, Luka's mom, Shannon, shared their story with me. It was a story where Medicaid was at the center.

Without reliable Medicaid, Luka would not receive his 18 daily medications, at-home care, and other resources he needs. His mom and dad, Shannon and Chris, work full-time jobs, and Medicaid is backup insurance.

By establishing May 2 as NKH Awareness Day, we raise awareness for this devastating disease and recommit to fighting for a reliable Medicaid. That is because every family should be focused on spending time with their loved ones and not worrying about healthcare.

STAND FOR JUSTICE: BRING DETAINEES HOME

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

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, the emergency isn't coming. It is here.

Donald Trump is abducting American children. He is detaining judges. He is disappearing people into foreign prisons. This is authoritarianism in full view.

I didn't come to Congress to sit back while democracy is dismantled. To the contrary, I will use every tool at my disposal to protect our democracy.

When the people of Gresham, Hood River, and Portland demanded action, I went to El Salvador because we have to stand up for due process. As a critical care physician, I am trained to act. I am trained to do everything in my power to address the crisis in front of me.

When we sat down with the U.S. Embassy, one thing was chillingly clear: Donald Trump has done nothing, not one thing, to bring Kilmar Abrego Garcia or any of the detainees home. Their families haven't heard a word—no calls, no updates, and no proof of life, just silence.

Here is what gives me hope: Yesterday, Mohsen Mahdawi, a detained Columbia student, was released on bail. He said something we all need to hold close: We must "believe in the inevitability of justice."

I will stand for justice. I encourage my colleagues to stand for justice, and I look forward to the fight ahead.

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

CHAMPION OF THE WEEK: ADDELYNN FERGUSON

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Addelynn Ferguson as

Ohio's 13th Congressional District Champion of the Week.

Addelynn is a junior from Portage Lakes Career Center in Uniontown, Ohio, and out of nearly 50 participants, she took home the first-place prize for this year's Congressional Art Competition in Ohio's 13th Congressional District.

I had the opportunity to see Addelynn's winning piece, as shown here, and present her with the first-place prize at a community art show in Akron last week. I can truly say that her piece titled "Lollipop" is a captivating and creative portrait of Addelynn's beloved grandmother, Annette.

I had the pleasure of meeting Addelynn and Annette. As you can see, Mr. Speaker, she uses bright, exciting colors that showcase her grandmother's beauty and bright smile.

As the winner of our district's Congressional Art Competition, Addelynn's artwork will be proudly displayed on the walls of the Capitol where visitors from across the United States and the world can see our community's artistic and creative talent.

I personally can't wait to see Annette's smiling face each time I walk to vote on the House floor.

In addition to recognizing her exceptional artistic talent, I also thank Amy Eibel, Addelynn's art teacher at Portage Lakes Career Center.

Art teachers like Amy inspire and support young students like Addelynn each and every day, and we are grateful for their dedication and hard work in the classroom.

I congratulate, again, Addelynn on being the winner of Ohio's 13th Congressional District Art Competition and this week's Champion of the Week. I look forward to seeing what Addelynn and the other talented students in our district create next.

□ 1100

SHANE'S STORY

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a story of a constituent and friend, Shane. Shane has a rare and painful disorder that makes the skin incredibly fragile and there is no cure.

Thanks to breakthrough gene therapy, one Shane helped to test, he and others finally have hope, but that hope is diminishing.

At Trump's urging, congressional Republicans are proposing a nearly \$1 trillion cut in healthcare and have already slashed rare disease funding by over a billion dollars. They are blocking a policy that would allow Medicaid to cover out-of-State care essential for families with children or loved ones with this rare condition, especially since so few hospitals specialize in rare diseases.

Shane lives in Cincinnati, so he has Cincinnati Children's Hospital, but with these cuts, services at Children's will be undermined.

Shane told me recently: I want to use whatever time I have left to help others with this and other rare diseases.

I just wanted to come to the floor today to thank Shane. We are fighting for him and we are fighting with him and every family facing these terrible decisions with these healthcare cuts.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION OVERSIGHT

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to yet another decision by the Trump administration that puts Americans' lives at risk.

On April 1, 2025, almost the entire Division of Blood Disorders and Public Health Genomics, a department of the CDC established to combat blood infections in the wake of the AIDS epidemic, was placed on administrative leave.

This decision to eliminate this division was, of course, made by the Elon Musk Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE.

Now, people with blood disorders across the United States will have to worry about contaminated blood transfusions. They will also be left wondering whether critical research to prevent and treat their conditions will be abandoned, and they will have to reckon with the fact that the same government that swore to help them turned its back on them, all so Republicans can find more money to give billionaires new tax breaks.

Vital programs like the Division of Blood Disorders should not be subject to political games, and those suffering from blood disorders should not have to fear that a blood transfusion will kill them.

Defunding the CDC puts lives at risk, and staff put on administrative leave should be reinstated immediately.

CLEAN AIR ISN'T A PARTISAN ISSUE

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support California's right to clean air. Growing up in southern California in the 1980s, smog alerts were a regular part of life. A lap around the track at school and your chest would burn. We can't go back to those days.

When President Richard Nixon signed the Federal Clean Air Act in 1970, California, under Governor Ronald Reagan, was given a waiver, letting us set stricter air pollution rules than the Federal Government.

Over the years, Republican and Democratic leaders alike, from Gov-

ernors Reagan to Jerry Brown to Arnold Schwarzenegger, stood together to protect California's right to clean up our air. Now House Republicans are trying to strip away California's ability to set our own air pollution standards. So much for State's rights.

After all the progress we have made, they want to turn back the clock and do the bidding of the big polluters.

Clean air is not a partisan issue. It is a public health issue, and I will never stop fighting to protect it.

CELEBRATING GRAND OPENING OF WAYMAN D. PALMER YMCA

(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 with immense joy and gratitude to celebrate the upcoming grand opening of the new Wayman Palmer YMCA in Toledo, Ohio. The event dedication will take place on May 12.

This new facility is more than a building; it is a beacon for enjoyment, a hub for our community, and a promise to our children, families, and neighbors that community life thrives in the heart of Toledo.

For decades, the Wayman Palmer YMCA has been a pillar of the Warren Sherman neighborhood. With this new state-of-the-art facility, Federal funds attracted local funds, and I thank Mayor Kapszukiewicz for joining in this great effort. The YMCA will reaffirm our commitment to the health, wellness, and future of the heart of our community.

This center will not only offer world-class fitness and recreation; it will also provide vital programs for youth development, mentorship, and enrichment. Every child who walks through those doors knows they are welcome.

I congratulate the city of Toledo and feel greatly honored to be able to join with all of the councilmembers and citizens for the upcoming groundbreaking. It will bring renewed hope with the dawn of spring, and I hope to be a party to planting new trees around the region and to celebrate the beginning of spring 2025.

I congratulate all.

CALL FOR RESTORATION OF GLOBAL EMERGENCY FOOD AID FUNDING

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

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

For years, USAID funded the production of ready-to-use therapeutic foods at Edesia Nutrition in my district. The food that was manufactured there has been shipped across the developing world, saving the lives of 25 million

children since 2010, until funding for new orders was halted by the Trump administration earlier this year.

This is not just about saving lives. This food aid has also strengthened America's national security and commercial interests. In the same country where this ready-to-use food has saved the lives of children, the United States relies on cooperation on a range of issues from counterterrorism to access to critical minerals.

When the administration pulled back on this food aid, China and our other adversaries were happy to swoop in to win hearts and minds across the developing world.

Our Nation is safer and more competitive as a result of our goodwill toward others.

So I rise the third time to urge the White House and my colleagues in Congress to restore funding to protect America's global leadership.

NEW FEDERAL ECONOMIC DATA

(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, new Federal economic data came out yesterday, and it showed that in the last 3 months, the U.S. economy shrank by 0.3 percent. This is a sharp reversal from the 2.4 percent growth the economy experienced in the last quarter of 2024. This now is the worst economy that a President has had in their first 100 days since President Nixon.

Despite promises candidate Trump made that he would lower costs on day one, prices remain high, and, in fact, it is expected that prices could rise by 6.5 percent by year's end. Trump policies are why prices remain high, even though he has tried to pin this on former President Biden.

The red light, green light tariff policies have caused uncertainty in all sectors of our economy as well as internationally. Wall Street and Main Street alike have been sending signals for weeks that they do not like or trust those economic plans. The stock market has dropped almost 9 percent and lost \$4.5 trillion in wealth. This is hurting everyday Americans, including people in Westchester and the Bronx.

President Trump is the President now. It is his economy to own and fix.

REMEMBERING VICTIMS OF CHATHAM, ILLINOIS, CAR CRASH

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

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the victims of the horrific car crash that occurred in Chatham, Illinois, on Monday afternoon: Alma Buhnerkempe, Kathryn Corley, Ainsley Johnson, and Rylee Britton.

As we mourn the four children killed in this unthinkable tragedy, it is hard

to find the words to describe the magnitude of our grief. It is a loss that no parent, no family should ever have to endure.

Please join me in praying for them and for the swift recovery of those who were injured.

I am grateful to the first responders who rushed to the scene and for the school staff, faith leaders, and volunteers who have stepped up to assist our community in the aftermath.

As we struggle to come to terms with this loss in the days and weeks ahead, I pray that our community can continue to lean on each other and begin to heal.

REMEMBERING MOLLY McGOVERN

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

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an incredible individual who has taken from this world far too soon, my dear friend, Molly McGovern, the daughter of our colleague Congressman JIM McGOVERN and his beautiful wife, Lisa, and the sister of her very delightful brother, Patrick.

I love all of the McGovern, but Molly was special. Molly was very much my friend and someone who I loved watching live life. Despite a very rare cancer diagnosis, Molly's light just shined so bright. She made me, even as a Member of Congress, feel special.

I watched her go abroad. I let her push me to do fun things, spending every single night of the Democratic Convention with her and her parents.

Molly is going to be so missed, but her memory and her impact and who she was as an individual will live on.

We will take care of her brother, we will watch out for her parents, and I will continue to toast her with an Aperol spritz.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES, Democratic Leader:

MAY 1, 2025.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: Pursuant to section 4703(b) of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Act (20 U.S.C. 4703), I am pleased to appoint the following Member to the Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation:

Rep. JOHN B. LARSON of Connecticut

Best Regards,

HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader.

□ 1115

A MESSAGE TO THE CABINET

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. GREEN of

Texas was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. Still I rise with my cane in hand. So feared, this cane, by many of my colleagues across the aisle. It is feared to the extent that they would conclude that it might be more than a cane. Yet, that is simply what it is, Mr. Speaker.

I rise with my cane in hand because it is the staff and rod that comforts me. I rise with my cane in hand because, quite frankly, I just believe I have the right to have a cane.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on several different topics. As a result, I will move from one podium to another to present these various topics.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the issue of fidelity to sycophancy emanating from the Presidency—fidelity to sycophancy emanating from the Presidency.

I just recently saw—and many of you saw it, as well—Members of the Cabinet, persons meeting with the President in the Oval Office. I never thought I would see persons holding such high and lofty positions pledging fealty not to the Presidency as much as to sycophancy—fealty. It was just unbelievable. The only time I saw anything similar to this was when I was in Communist China and I was with a group of very young children, babies who were maybe 5 or 6 years old at most, and they were all seated in a line. They all behaved in a similar fashion when called upon.

I saw persons with lofty positions, each of them there, I thought, to give the President a report about conditions related to their various areas of expertise and the departments that they are associated with. That is what I thought.

Silly me. They were there to pledge their fealty on national TV to the President of the United States of America. It was a sad sight to see each person telling the President how great you are.

Dear brothers and sisters—and I say “brothers and sisters” because I think we are all related, one race, the human race. Dear friends, Mr. Secretary of State, Madam Attorney General, don't let him steal your self-respect. Don't let him take your decency, as it relates to your humanity, from you. You are allowing him to reduce you to a less-than.

I will speak for you. Mr. President, you are demeaning the humanity of the people who are in service to this country. I will speak for them and tell you that, if I were in that room, I would walk out. I would not sit there and allow you to demean me in that fashion.

At some point, you have to grow the spine, those of you who were in that room. Grow the spine. Grow the will, and grow the determination to stand up. Be the person your family expects you to be. Be the person the country wants you to be and needs you to be.

Don't become a rubber stamp for this President. He doesn't deserve that level of loyalty.

Finally, on this topic, at some point, each of you in that room will have to account for what you have done. I don't mean in a violent way. I just mean that, at some point on the infinite continuum that we call time, you are going to have to account for those times.

The question won't be: How loyal were you to the President? It will be whether you stood on principle when you had an opportunity to deal with the great issues of your time related to this country. There will be a day of reckoning for you. It will not be in terms of harm to you physically but in terms of your reputational risk being codified so that those who look through the fists of time will see what you did and did not do at this time.

ACKNOWLEDGING A BOLD STAND

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise, proud to have this opportunity to speak in this almost sacred place, proud to have the opportunity to address a topic of paramount importance to the American people, and proud to acknowledge a colleague who has taken a very bold stand. This is a colleague who has engaged in a form of protestation that will not always be received initially with the kind of respect that it merits.

Yet, as I have said before, dear friends, when you engage in protestation, when you protest and you "get in the way," as the Honorable John Lewis put it—when you protest and you get in the way, there will be consequences. You must be prepared to suffer the consequences when you get in the way, when you protest. You must. You don't have to like the consequences, but you have to be prepared to suffer the consequences when you get in the way.

Today, I will acknowledge my colleague, a Member of Congress, who filed Articles of Impeachment. I am proud of him. I salute him. I applaud him for what he has done. He too is laying the groundwork for impeachment.

I said some time ago now that this President would be impeached again. I said some time ago that I was going to bring Articles of Impeachment, and I am proud to know that there are others who are now joining in this effort to impeach this President. I am very proud of what this Congressperson has done.

Representative THANEDAR, your Articles of Impeachment, H. Res. 353, are historic. I am going to mention them as such because do not expect the networks—maybe there might be one or two that will say something positive and bring you on, but don't expect it because they give you all of the rationale for impeachment, but they don't want to see it happen.

Unfortunately, there are people like you who have to put principle above politics. I have your Articles of Impeachment in my hand, principle above

politics. Understand, my dear brother, that when you put principle above politics, you are doing what the American people want you to do because the American people, at this time when we are confronting a crisis related to our democracy, the hue and cry is not for you to always win.

For those who believe that you only fight when you win, you are not going to win the hearts and minds of the American people. The American people want to know if you will fight even though you may not win. Will you fight? Will you fight and put everything on the line? That is what the American people are interested in when we hold these positions of public trust.

Don't despair when people say to you: This is not the time.

As Dr. King said: "The time is always right to do what is right."

"The time is always right to do what is right." You did the right thing, and because I am confident and believe in what you have done, I am signing on to your Articles of Impeachment. Add my name to your Articles of Impeachment. I am proud of what you have done because you have put principle above politics.

A PREVIEW OF IMPEACHMENT PROCESS

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. I rise at this moment in time to preview my Articles of Impeachment. This is to preview. This is not to present but to preview my Articles of Impeachment. Before giving this preview, I will thank a couple of people. There are many who I should thank, but there are a couple who I will thank. I thank a couple of people for what they have done in assisting me with these Articles of Impeachment.

My dear friend, John Bonifaz, who has been with me from the genesis of this when we brought Articles of Impeachment against President Trump previously, laid the foundation for it. When people said it can only be done if certain things exist and then later on retracted all of that when they were ready to move forward or had to move forward, to be quite candid with you, because the momentum had shifted, and it built up to the extent that you had notables like the Honorable John Lewis supporting the Articles of Impeachment that I drafted and placed before this House. Other Members who were holding positions of leadership in the House of Representatives signed onto the Articles of Impeachment.

The tide had turned, and there was little choice but to go along with what the people wanted—not what we were doing at the time but what the people wanted and the people were demanding.

I am very proud to thank John for what he has done to assist, but there is also another person who provided me with some very sage advice, someone who I have great respect for and have admired over the decades: Ralph Nader.

Many of you may not know the name, but Mr. Nader was a crusader for justice of the highest magnitude. He

took stands when others wouldn't even speak the words that he stood on. I am proud to thank him for what he has done to assist in helping me to draw conclusions about these Articles of Impeachment.

Let's preview the impeachment process and the Articles of Impeachment that I intend to introduce. I said I would, and I will.

First, let's start with: What is impeachment? I think that because this is something that people hear about and a good many people will conclude that Articles of Impeachment must contain something related to a constitutional crisis, there is no necessity for a constitutional crisis to impeach—none. You can, but most of the Articles of Impeachment have not related to a constitutional crisis.

The first person to ever have been impeached was a judge, and it wasn't because there was a constitutional crisis. It was because of his behavior on the bench and because he was consuming alcohol at a time when he should have been taking his lofty position and adjudicating appropriately.

There was no constitutional crisis. Not only do you not need a constitutional crisis, but you don't have to be convicted of a crime. There doesn't have to be a codified criminal statute that has been violated. None of that is necessary for impeachment. There is no need to commit a crime.

The best example is my colleague who used to sit right over there on this row at the end of this row. My colleague who sat there, who I was here with for more than a decade, the Honorable ALCEE HASTINGS. He was a Federal judge. He was tried and found not guilty of alleged offenses.

After he was tried and found not guilty of alleged offenses, his colleagues put together a committee, and they drew a different conclusion about his behavior. They took their conclusion to the Senate of the United States of America, to the House of Representatives, and my dear friend and brother was impeached. He was impeached and removed from office.

Yet, because I am a believer, I often say there is a God. He was thereafter elected to the Congress of the United States of America.

The point is, however, notwithstanding him having been found not guilty, the Senate found reason to impeach him.

He was impeached for something that he had been found not guilty of by a jury of his peers. Pursuant to the Constitution of the United States of America, you don't have to be found guilty of a crime to be impeached.

□ 1130

Now, along this very line, I would say this in terms of being found guilty. That means that if you had been found guilty of crimes, you can be brought before this body. If you fall within what the Constitution allows for impeachment, you can be brought before this body by way of impeachment.

You can be brought before the Congress if you have committed 34 felonies. If you have committed 34 felonies, you can be brought before the Congress for impeachment if you happen to hold one of the offices presented to us by way of the Constitution of the United States of America such that you might be impeached.

Thirty-four felonies, you can be impeached for that, but I am not going to talk about those felonies today.

I want you to understand something that Gerald Ford said about impeachment, the former President of the United States of America, because there are some people who have read the Federalist Papers. I have read them. I have read the words of Hamilton, the words of Jay, the words of Madison. I have read them.

They now have come to these lofty conclusions about what impeachment is. I am going to tell you the truth of what it is, and I defy any one of these constitutional scholars to contradict with evidence that supports something antithetical to what I am saying.

Gerald Ford got it right, the President. He got it right. He said—and I am paraphrasing; these are not his exact words—impeachment is whatever a given Congress, whenever they vote—218, a majority vote of a given Congress—whenever a given Congress will vote in the majority for Articles of Impeachment on a given date, that will be an impeached person because impeachment is whatever a majority of Congress says it is on a given date.

Now, that was more close to what he said, whatever a given Congress says it is on a given date, and a given Congress would mean the majority of the people voting for impeachment.

There is no appeal. It is a political question by definition. As a political question by definition, it doesn't go to another court if someone differs or the Supreme Court. It goes to the Senate, and the Senate has the trial.

This is why Andrew Johnson could be impeached in 1868, Article 10 of the Articles of Impeachment against him, for speaking ill of Congress. You can be impeached for saying bad things about Congress. Andrew Johnson was.

Let's get one thing straight. All of you constitutional scholars who want to convince people that there is some lofty definition that you have studied for some number of years, and now you have come to conclusions that most people can't understand, my dear brothers and sisters, impeachment is whatever a majority of Congress says it is at a given time, on a given date. That is impeachment.

If Congress chooses to impeach because of the tie that you are wearing at a given time—I wear this tie; there are some people who don't appreciate it as much as I do—you can be impeached. Now, Members of Congress cannot be impeached. We are not included in the definition of persons who may be impeached.

Now, let's talk about impeachment that I plan to file. These impeachment

articles have been drafted. I have gone over them. They have been in my hands for now some time. The finished product was actually in my hands for probably a week or so. I wanted to do some additional things, so I checked, and I have changed and added a few things, but I have had these impeachment articles.

There is a target-rich environment when dealing with this President when it comes to impeachment. Knowing where to start is the issue, not is there a place to start, but knowing where to start is the issue.

I will be introducing these Articles of Impeachment, and I am just going to go straight to one of the articles or maybe the article. I have options. I may delete some things when I introduce. I just want to mention this option because it is the one that people talk about in words other than what I will present.

They talk about this impeachment. They say that he is a threat to democracy. They say that he disrespects the Constitution. They say these things, but I am not sure that everybody who says these things is truly interested in the consequences related to what the President should suffer for doing these things.

I am not sure that they want to see the consequences. I think that there are some people who literally just enjoy saying the President is destroying democracy, the President does not honor the constitutional provision related to respecting a person's right to a trial, a fair trial, which brings along with it the whole notion that you just can't pick a person up off the street, send them to a foreign country with an indefinite sentence, just lock them up—pick them up off the street, take them to a foreign country, lock them up, indefinite amount of time.

There has to be some sense of reality associated with what we do, and I want to talk about that sense of reality.

This President is defying court orders, including orders from the Supreme Court of the United States of America. He is defiant. You heard him say now in two venues—I am going to speak about them briefly in just a moment. He said in two venues that he is not going to honor the necessity for a person to have what we call due process. In two venues, he said it.

Now, the President didn't come out and say, I am not going to honor due process, no. He has said what a reasonable and prudent person can conclude as his indication of not going to honor due process of the law, which is something the Constitution requires if you are going to take life, liberty, or property from a person. A person has to have due process. If you are going to take a person and lock them up, they have to be able to say, Hey, you have the wrong guy. They ought to be able to say it to someone other than the arresting person. They ought to be able to say it to someone who has authority over the arresting person. They ought

to be able to go to a disinterested third party—we call that the judiciary of this country—some member of the judiciary or some judge, go before a judge and say, Judge, you have the wrong person.

You ought to be able to use the great writ of habeas corpus to get yourself before a judge. You ought not be taken out of the country before you have that opportunity. Then if you are out of the country, the Supreme Court can tell you that you ought to facilitate the return of that person.

That is what the Supreme Court has said, and that is what this President is refusing to do, refusing to honor the Supreme Court's order.

I call that, in Article 1 of my Articles of Impeachment, devolving democracy within the United States into a dictatorship with himself as a de facto dictator.

My friends, truth be told, we are now into a de facto dictatorship with a de facto dictator, not a dictatorship that has been declared by some official body.

When the President of the United States declines to honor orders of the Supreme Court of the United States of America, he becomes the person who decides not only that a person should be pursued under the authority of the executive branch—he has now disregarded the separation of powers. He has now encroached upon the supremacy of the judiciary, a coequal branch of government. He dispenses with the necessity for the judiciary to perform its functions. In so doing, he has become a de facto dictator.

Now, this is not in my impeachment orders, but I have to bring this up because of the impact that he is having. I will talk more about what is in my articles in just a moment, but I want to mention this. It could be in, but I want to mention this.

As a de facto dictator, the President is engaging in de facto ethnic cleansing, the removal without due process. I know it is not the kind of ethnic cleansing that most people are acclimated to. Yes, I understand that this is a nouveau ethnic cleansing, nouveau de facto ethnic cleansing, removing people without due process to another country without the person being able to go before some disinterested third party and saying, You have the wrong person. Making the allegation that the person is a part of some gang of thugs, well, a Federal judge addressed that. A Federal judge addressed that, and here is what the Federal judge said. I have it right here. I have it here. Here is what the Federal judge said: So what? So what? You are a member of a gang so now you are not entitled to due process?

Due process is accorded you not because you are a person who is living the high life, wining and dining with the billionaire class, living in the suites of life, having your galas, engaging in the various cocktail events, known to all the people as an honorable person. Yes, that person deserves

due process, but also every person in this country deserves due process if you are going to deprive them of life, liberty, or property. They are required due process under the Constitution of the United States of America.

Now, if you don't respect the Constitution, well, then, you can make these decisions, which is what the President does. If you don't respect the Constitution, you can decide that if you are a member of some gang, I can deport you to some other country, let's just say El Salvador, some other country. I can deport you to that country without due process because you are a gang member. Well, it won't be long before some person who is not a gang member gets deported.

This Federal judge got it right. In essence, he said, So what? If the person is a gang member, they are still entitled to due process.

I almost admire, to some extent, the way this President can persuade people to believe this level of inanity—this level of inanity, not insanity, inanity—how he is able to do this because he is able to convince people that it is more who you are as opposed to what you have done that is more important.

If you are associated with a gang, then you have lost your constitutional rights. That is what he is inculcating in our society. He wants to make that normal. If you allow this to be normal, if we allow this to be normal, if I allow this to be normal, we are disserving the people, in my case, that I represent.

The Constitution doesn't allow this, but this President thinks he is above the law, so he says.

□ 1145

Member of a gang did some other dastardly deeds, as a result he makes the case: This is what people elected me to do, violate the 13th Amendment. Just get them out of the country.

My friends, if you have noticed, most of the people who are being removed from the country, unfortunately, are Latinos. Now, I take a stand for the Latino community because, Mr. President, you, sir, have caused Latinos to become suspect.

I lived at a time when I was suspect in this country, when just being Black in America made you a suspect. Now I talk to people who have no reason to be in fear, but they are because they see what is happening and they see who it is happening to with a great degree of regularity. And because they see it, they are fearful of what can happen to them and they are fearful that if they are not careful, they can be picked up, taken away to another country without due process.

People are paying attention. If you can do this to one person, why can't you do it to another? It looks like you are trying to get a certain group of people out of the country.

If you need some evidence to support what I say, well, how about this? The President wants to give people thousands of dollars to bring new birth to

America, new lives, to birth babies; thousands of dollars. When you have people who are already here, people who are already participating and paying into the tax system, and persons who are abiding by the law. Now you have literally concluded that, even if they will leave by way of some of the things that you are doing that are antithetical to the Constitution, or you are going to force them to self-deport.

Mr. Speaker, I have many people in my congressional district that are Latinos and, yes, the President is trying his level best to get them to self-deport. It is not just the people who have committed crimes that he is after. You don't have to have studied his behavior very long to see that it is people who are not of a certain ethnicity, not of a certain race that he is concerned with.

If he were true to what he says, he wouldn't be saying: We have got to have more babies and then wanting to put millions of people out of this country who are law-abiding, many of them called Dreamers, who came here not of their own volition, and made a life here. They didn't decide to come, but they are here. They made a life.

I have had to go across the border to bring people back that were deported improperly. These people are here in this country making America a better country by their very presence in the country. Not everybody is going to invent something to make America great. Work hard and treat people right, you could be a good citizen and make America great. You don't have to do the things that are going to be written across the pages of time. You can do the simple things, and these people are doing these things. They have made our lives better.

You want to kick them out by accusing some of them of crimes while never convicting them, by sending a person never convicted to prison in another country, but others by bullying them out. Using your bully pulpit and your agents, all of whom now speak with such a degree of disdain for people, it is just remarkable to hear the way they address the issues.

You have developed cohorts who have all become little bullies. They want to emulate you and your aggressive behavior in indicating what they are going to do to people.

What you give you shall receive. It will come back to you.

The point is, you are removing people simply because of who they are and you want to now increase the population by giving women money—people, husband and wife, two people money. I suppose two. I don't know. The way I have heard it, I think it just sounds like he is expecting the one gender to carry this load, and it is a challenge if you are doing it just to get money. I would hope that people wouldn't say: Well, I am going to have a child because I can get \$5,000. Probably there are very few people who will, but you are changing the dynamics or desire to when you already have people here.

I mention this because this is a form of nouveau de facto ethnic cleansing that the President is engaging in.

ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, to the Articles of Impeachment, these articles have two places, maybe three, wherein the President has confessed.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 24 minutes remaining.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, one place where the President has expressed concerns that ought to cause all Americans to want to see some change, to see him have to be dealt with for what he said and what he is doing.

I have in my hand a passage titled: "President Trump meets with President of El Salvador."

There are three different things that I will call to your attention related to impeachment. The first is this meeting in the Oval Office. I am about to read to you something that was published by C-SPAN. If you want the details, you can go to the actual event on C-SPAN and see what I am telling you. This is no secret.

Some of the news media has picked up on it as of late and they are talking about it.

Here is what it says, here is how it reads, here is what it states: During an Oval Office meeting—I am going to paraphrase some of this—with the President of El Salvador, President Donald Trump and members of his administration argued that they were not required to return deported Salvadoran citizen Kilmar Abrego Garcia. Some things bear repeating. I say this quite often. Seems like there is a lot that bears repeating: not required to return this Salvadoran citizen to the United States, in spite of the Supreme Court ruling in favor of facilitating his return.

The Supreme Court of the United States of America, coequal branch of the government, separation of powers, not required to return him, not facilitating it. That is what the President thinks: not required to do it, doesn't have to facilitate his return, and note that they said facilitate. There is a judge that has explained it in great detail what facilitate means. It is a beautifully written opinion.

It goes on to say that the President—and I am paraphrasing—of El Salvador said he was not authorized to return Mr. GARCIA.

Now, they are sitting in the same room, the President of El Salvador, the United States President, seated next to each other, juxtapose right there next to each other for all the world to see, on C-SPAN if you want to see it, and so he says he is not authorized to return Mr. GARCIA, who was legally present in the U.S. before being deported in March. That is what C-SPAN says: legally present in the U.S., legally present, deported to El Salvador without due process.

C-SPAN doesn't have due process right here, but that is what happened.

It goes on to say: The Trump administration alleged that he was a member of the MS-13 gang.

Well, I already covered that. Allege all you want about his behavior. It does not negate his right to due process under the law.

I only regret that you are not sitting and standing right there right now, Mr. President, so that you can hear me say it to you to your face.

He is entitled to due process of the law. Look, if he is a member of MS-13 and he has committed a crime, try him, convict him. Nobody wants to defend members of MS-13, but being a member of a gang does not deprive one of due process of the law.

It goes on to indicate here: "But previously admitted that the deportation was an administrative error." Talk about adding insult to injury.

The administration says we deported this person—not to demean him—Mr. Garcia, deported him by way of an administrative error. Made a mistake. Deported him by mistake, administrative error, but still you refuse to facilitate his return.

What is wrong with you? Have you no respect for the Constitution? You don't have to respect Mr. Garcia, you don't have to respect me, but I want you to respect my constitutional rights and I want you to respect his constitutional rights because the minute I decide that it is okay for you to disrespect his constitutional rights, I have decided it is okay for you to disrespect my constitutional rights. Respect constitutional rights. Mr. Garcia merits that level of respect.

I also indicate in the Articles of Impeachment that this President demeans the judiciary. I think there is much evidence to support my position, but what I would like to do is give you what I feel are some of the—a piece of the best evidence.

I believe this to be the best evidence. This is on Truth Social. I am told that Mr. Trump is either the owner or one of the owners of Truth Social, and this is a tweet that bears the name Donald J. Trump. I don't think he has ever denied making this tweet, and here is what it says, in part. It says—and he is talking about a Federal judge now: "This radical left lunatic of a judge"—he is notorious for calling people lunatics.

I was at home looking at TV. I had been escorted out of the Chamber. I was seated right over there, and when I made my comments about the President not having a mandate to cut Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, the Speaker did what was required of him. The officers did what was required. I am not mad at any of them.

When you protest, be prepared to suffer the consequences. You don't have to like them, and I don't, but I wasn't here, so I was at home.

He uses that word "lunatic," and he used it against people sitting right

here on this side of the aisle. He called the Members of the Democratic Party lunatics from that podium. Lunatics. He has never been reprimanded. He has never been sanctioned.

This House could issue a resolution of reprimand if we had the guts, if we had the intestinal fortitude.

To quote someone that I have learned to respect over the years, Malcolm X, if you just had the chibblings, you could reprimand him for it. Let him know that there are some lines that he can't cross. Let him know that he can't come in our House and call Members of the Democratic Party lunatics or call a Member of the Senate Pocahontas. Let him know that there are boundaries. You can still get elected.

□ 1200

He uses the word "lunatic" here, and I am going to read it again.

"This radical left lunatic of a judge, a troublemaker, an agitator, who was sadly appointed by Barack Hussein Obama was not elected President."

That is the preamble. Now let's go down to the heart of it.

He says: "This judge, like many of the crooked judges . . ." I have to say it again; some things bear repeating. "This judge, like many of the crooked judges I am forced to appear before . . . " 34 felony convictions, 34. That is not here, so I will read it all again.

"This judge, like many of the crooked judges I am forced to appear before, should be impeached."

The President of the United States calling for the impeachment of a judge because he doesn't like the decision of the court. What about respect for a co-equal branch of government? What about separation of powers? What about honoring the law that you have sworn to uphold?

"This judge, like many of the crooked judges I am forced to appear before, should be impeached. We don't want vicious, violent, demented criminals, many of them deranged murderers in our country. Make America Great Again."

This is from the President of the United States of America. It would be hard to convince a reasonable and prudent person who hasn't been through all of this that the President would say such a thing.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court took issue with the President. The Chief Justice took issue with him. He sent a message indicating that we don't impeach judges because we differ with them; we appeal.

He is defying the orders of Federal courts and the Supreme Court of the United States of America. That is what he is doing.

Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 11 minutes remaining.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your kindness.

He is defying the Federal courts. Once you do this, you become a de

facto dictator—you reduce the country to a de facto dictatorship—and for this you must be impeached. The Articles will go into many other aspects of this, but for these things you must be impeached.

These Articles of Impeachment I shall bring, I have said that I would and I will, but I want to give everybody notice right now—right now, take note of this—they will not be the only Articles of Impeachment because the President has done various things that merit impeachment, and at least I am going to build a record so that posterity will know how some of us stood during this time of crisis when the President was violating the Constitution. I will be bringing at least one additional occurrence where there will be Articles of Impeachment presented to this House, maybe more than one more, but I am not going to allow this Congress to escape having a record of what this President is doing. Yes, I am going to bring my Articles of Impeachment.

I know that the President, once he hears the things that I have said, he will try to find some way to weasel out. I call that pickpocket politics, when you catch the pickpocket trying to lift something from your person, and then you decide, oh, well, I really wasn't taking that, I am sorry, just bumped into you.

Well, the President always tries to retract. What I am amazed at is that the media will allow him to take the last thing he says as what he really meant. You would never do that for Barack Obama. You would never do that for, God bless him, the last President of the United States, the Honorable Joe Biden. You would never do that.

However, you take the last thing this President says, regardless as to what else he says about how he is going to enforce his tariffs and what he is going to do with them. Once he sees that it is not working and he starts to retreat, he starts to meander back, crawl back, and then you take that as, oh, well, the President really meant this. What he was saying before was to acquire a bargaining position. Well, Canada didn't think so. Canada didn't think it was just a bargaining position when he said he wanted to make Canada the 51st State. Greenland didn't think so.

Why do we want to think that what this man says last is what he meant at first when what he said at first totally contradicts what he said at last? It makes no sense. Therefore, Mr. President, you shall have Articles of Impeachment presented by AL GREEN, Member of Congress, because I will be fulfilling my constitutional responsibility to do so.

SLAVERY REMEMBRANCE DAY

Mr. Speaker, and still I rise; proud to be an American with great respect for the country I love, and I ought to be proud of it, proud to be associated with it. I am proud because my ancestors were sacrificed for more than 240 years

to lay the foundation for the greatness of this country, the economic foundation. They were sacrificed. They were enslaved. They have never been given the honor and respect that they merit.

We have respected days in this country that I appreciate and respect. We respect Pearl Harbor with a Pearl Harbor remembrance. We respect 9/11 with a 9/11 remembrance. We respect the Holocaust; we have a Holocaust remembrance. We need a Slavery Remembrance Day to give honor and respect to people who were brought here in chains, kept in bondage for more than two centuries to lay the economic foundation for this country.

They had a hand in building this Capitol and a hand in building the White House. They built roads and bridges, planted the seeds, and harvested the crops. These are the people who laid the economic foundation. They are the economic foundational mothers and fathers of the United States of America. I am proud to be a descendant, a scion of the economic foundational mothers and fathers.

I hold this because there are people who would silence me if they could. "Censured, but not silenced." My voice is going to be here as long as there is a breath of life in me and I am a Member of this body. I plan to make sure that history records the truth about what is happening during these times, and there will be many who will want to read what is now my manuscript but it will become my book of the times, the challenging times we live in.

Censured, but not silenced. People assumed that I was going to walk out in shame, but I know this: Dr. King went to jail for his protestation. He didn't want to go to jail. He was censured, incarcerated, but not silenced.

Rosa Parks took a seat in a racist Southern town, taken to jail for simply sitting on a seat on the bus that was vacant. She was taken to jail. She didn't want to go to jail. Rosa Parks, censured in a sense, imprisoned, put in jail, but not silenced.

I don't claim to be a Rosa Parks, I don't claim to be a Dr. King, but I do claim to be one of the many people who are willing to be censured, who are willing to have to suffer, but I won't be silent. I will continue this fight.

People expect us to fight even when we can't win. It is not a question of whether you are going to win, it is will you take a principled stand. That is what the times require, a principled stand. Yes, there may be consequences. Don't hurt anyone. Don't destroy any property. Get in the way, as the Honorable John Lewis put it, whom I got to know well. Yes, get in the way. You may get in the way, and you may have to suffer the consequences. You don't have to like them, but there are times when we have to suffer the consequences for the good that we would do. The Honorable John Lewis called it good trouble. I am honored to engage and to have engaged in this good trouble.

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

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

ECONOMIC ANXIETY

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. SCHWEIKERT of Arizona was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.)

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, as always, I apologize to the bored staff, and I will try not to speak like a machine gun.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to do basically three things. I am going to make fun of us. I am going to actually walk through some debt and deficit numbers, interest, those things that are scaring my economists, myself half to death; and then I am going to touch on some of the—and it is a technical economics term—bedwetting in regard to the reconciliation budget and how people are making things up. Let's have at it.

Due to the fact that I sit in an airplane 10 hours a week, and I have some weird reading habits, I actually came across a paper written last year, published just recently. It is in *Nature Human Behaviour*. It is one of those quirky—excuse me, those academic, but actually what they did is they went back to the late 1800s, and they took all of our congressional speeches up until 2022, and they ran a data set on them.

They ran AI, and can you believe it, Mr. Speaker, they figured out that our congressional speeches have become less and less and less based in facts. I know this is hard for us to believe, but apparently the quality of idiots—I mean, people like me—getting up in front of these mikes and doing presentations and walking through our job has crashed in quality, in facts.

As a matter of fact, they used the word intuition. I basically say we make public policy now by our feelings because, God forbid, we go to our voters and tell them the truth about the math.

It made me feel better because I have mocked us for years on how much of public policy we now make on feelings. It is great television. It gets you followers on social media. You get a hit on cable television tonight if you are willing to make crap up, but do it with passion and feelings, but if you actually want to talk about the math of what is going on in this country, it turns out it is how we are rewarded now as elected officials.

Now, what was interesting is they had the curve actually starting to fall in 1970, and it has just gotten steeper. Part of it and part of my conclusion is television, then moving to cable news, and then moving to social media, we have crashed the diet of robust facts in our speeches.

Now that we are going to make fun of ourselves, let's go on to the next thing. Mr. Speaker, for anyone who asks, we have been running the current data on how much we are borrowing. What would you guess we borrow per second right now? Right now, it looks like we are burning \$72,000 every second. We are borrowing \$72,000 every second. My best guess right now is we will borrow 7.37 percent of the entire economy this year. Try to keep that number in your head because we are going to come back to that in some charts and explain why that is so devastating.

□ 1215

Mr. Speaker, it is like we don't care about people's retirement, our kids, the next generation, and how the hell they will actually cover any of the scale of debt. Then we lie about what drives the debt.

Mr. Speaker, our best guess is we go from that \$72,000 a second this year to maybe about \$82,000 a second next year. This is hard for people to accept, but it is the math. Over the next 10 years, the baseline borrowing was about \$22 trillion. We are trying to figure out how to extend the expiring tax provisions. We have the requests from the White House. We have other disasters and things we are trying to cover.

We are basically looking at—and I am going to show this multiple times—the United States, the day we were elected, Mr. Speaker, how much debt. We will double it. We will double 240 years of borrowing in this 10-year period.

The majority of that borrowing over the next 10 years is interest and Medicare. God forbid we are not allowed to tell people the truth. Most of the debts, deficits, and demographics is the fact we got old. We stopped having children. We have a shortage of young people in this country. We are terrified to tell our brothers and sisters the truth about the math.

Let's have at it. For anyone out there paying any attention—and this number, actually probably right now is a little bit worse. We now think about 75 percent of Federal spending is on autopilot.

Mr. Speaker, when you become a Member of Congress, everything you get to vote on is borrowed. When you vote on nondiscretionary, when you vote on defense, every dime of that is borrowed and about \$400 billion of what is mandatory spending, which means formulaic. When we work so many quarters, we get our benefits. When we serve in the military, we get our benefits. For those who are part of a Tribal group or part of our treaty obligations, certain things are coming to them.

Then there are the things we vote on and the things we try to balance the budget over. We need more money for defense, and we have threats in the world. We get down to where we are trying to balance the budget on about 13 percent of our spending because we are terrified to talk about everything else. We can't touch interest.

I am going to show a slide here in a moment. This one should scare the crap out of people. I know my language is becoming more and more inflammatory, but I can't seem to break through.

This is from something called Moody's Analytics. It is one of those fancy subscription services. They have a bunch of economists and they collect data. They have us in nine budget years, 30 percent of U.S. tax collections will go just to interest.

Mr. Speaker, you pay your dollar in taxes, and 30 cents of that in 2035 goes just to interest. Does it not scare anyone? When the interest growth is bigger than everything we are talking about in trying to say—by multiples, by multiples—we calculate this fiscal year, the one we are living in right this second, we could spend \$1.1 trillion to \$1.2 trillion in just interest.

There is a dataset that if we do some of the things that we were going to do, the Senate's reconciliation budget, with almost no money to pay for it, in 10 years, interest could be a couple of trillion dollars a year. The annual deficit will be three-plus trillion a year. It will probably be \$2.3 trillion this year.

Last year, for every dollar we took in in tax collections, take a guess. What did we actually spend? We took a dollar in tax collections last year. What did we spend? We spent \$1.39. We take in \$1. We spend \$1.39. This year was supposed to be better. We were only supposed to spend \$1.36.

We have a small problem. With some of the GDP growth numbers, just that adjustment, we may have lost \$200 billion in tax receipts in this fiscal year, the end of September, between now and then. It just shows how fragile we are with small movements of interest when we have to refinance \$9 trillion.

Think about this. A single point of interest on U.S. debt—and it takes years for it to roll in because of how much we have to refinance. So we will take about \$9 trillion to market this year and refinance, we will issue a couple of trillion new this year. A single point of interest over 10 years costs \$3 trillion.

Why does this not scare the crap out of people? Why do we not have people coming behind these microphones? But we are better off getting behind these microphones and telling passionate stories, anecdotes, and those things, because that is what gets us on social media. That is what gets people's dopamine hitting. But at some point the math is going to win.

We have the really smart analytic firms saying they are scared about U.S. sovereign debt. We see things happening around the world that makes me very nervous. There is an appetite for going on the long end of the curve.

The United States sells very short-term debt. Then we have 2 years, 5 years, 20 years, and 30 years. We are having real trouble selling the debt on the long end of the curve. Do not pay attention to some of the debt markets

over the last month or two. Mr. Speaker, do you want to know why? We are in extraordinary measures. We are up against the debt ceiling. We are not issuing new debt. We are only issuing refinance and what comes due within the cap.

What happens a couple of months from now when we all raise the debt ceiling? I love the brain trust that says don't raise the debt ceiling.

Did I mention last year for every dollar we took in, we spent \$1.39? Tell me what 39 percent of the Federal spending we should stop doing. When we don't raise the debt ceiling, we have to end all of that. More than a third of all our spending is functionally borrowed. I am happy to do it. Tell me which third we should stop financing. Those are the very people filling up these hallways, demanding we give them more money.

What happens when we raise that debt ceiling, Mr. Speaker, and we have to come to market—Treasury has to come to market—with \$500 billion to \$600 billion functionally to catch up and refund all the accounts we have been borrowing from? That is what is done in extraordinary measures. We grab every account and use that cash, now we have to refund it, and you take that much to market.

We have one analyst who is saying we will see a pop in U.S. interest rates, maybe on the 10 year, hitting five, just, boom. Because suddenly we are grabbing so much of the world's capital to finance what we have been borrowing internally and now we have to pay it back.

Be prepared. These aren't surprises. We all know it, but no one reads the damn documents. It is math, and it turns out telling the truth—remember our story here that fact-based discussions on the floor no longer get us elected. No one listens to them. No one cares about them. We make things up because feelings is now how we make legislation.

This board is almost a year old, but it is to try to make a point to our brothers and sisters, particularly on the left, that keep coming to us and saying: Let's just tax rich people more. We show them—we are going to show the slide here. I am probably going to have to say it two or three times so it sinks in.

We have a detailed report that sort of walks through every tax hike the left has proposed. We are guilty on our side of every cut we have actually proposed. We take every tax hike and then do the economic data on it and get about 1.5 percent of GDP. Our cuts come out to about 1 percent of GDP. If I can do that math, that is 2½ percent.

Mr. Speaker, do you remember at the beginning of this? We are borrowing 7.3. The next time a politician says raise taxes on rich people. And then they are shown that it is a fraction of a fraction of what we even borrow every single day, that is a great rhetorical use of language. It is horrible math; completely fraudulent math. Re-

member demographics but we are not allowed to tell people that because it means we as a society have to do hard things.

I have this chart here. I was just trying to make a point how Washington finances 366 days of spending in 2024. The top 20 percent of earners covered 201 days. For the next core tile down, the next 20 percent covered 41 days. The middle earners, the middle 20 percent, paid for 17 days of government spending. The bottom 40 percent pay for 4 days of government spending. Then 103 days we finance by just borrowing it.

I think we are tied for the most progressive income tax system in the industrialized world. When we modernized the tax code in 2017, the United States income tax system actually became more progressive. Yet how many times have we heard Members say: Well, they gave money to the rich? The rich, after 2017, were paying more of the Federal income taxes.

At some point we are going to have to have this really uncomfortable discussion. Is it on the tax side or the spending side? I have done entire presentations here on the floor where I have shown my colleagues—go back to the last 65 to 75 years. Here is a time of very high marginal tax rates. We take in about mid-17 percent of the economy in tax collection. Very low marginal tax rates, we take in about mid-17 percent of Federal taxes. When we go up, the actual economy slows down. This is what is taken in.

The secret is: How do we adopt regulations and modernize it? How do we adopt tax policy that incentivizes productivity? How do we do the whole thing and get them to interact?

We maximize economic growth, and that growth becomes tax collection stability and gets us to the top of the total dollar amount, but we will probably still constantly fall back into that mean of the percentage of the economy. So have a bigger economy. It is not that complicated.

Upper-income taxpayers overwhelmingly finance the Federal Government. I know this isn't good politics. People like me are supposed to say: Yeah, the rich need to pay their fair share. The top 20 percent of earners pay 25.2 percent. The next core tile pays 15.8 percent. The middle covers 11 percent. The fourth core tile down, the next one down, covers 5.5. We send the bottom 20 percent of income earners money.

Remember that we have sort of this negative tax income system, earned income tax credits, and those things. If someone is in the 20 percent of the bottom core tile, we send them money.

Mr. Speaker, as a matter of fact, we have data—I didn't bring the chart—that shows functionally in America, if you are in the bottom half of the income earners, post-inflation, your life is miserable because wages haven't gone up as fast as inflation did.

□ 1230

That inflation was substantially created by stupid policies from the previous White House and the Democrats

who spent like crazy. When we finance and dump that much cash into the society, you set off inflation.

Mr. Speaker, it is your high school economics class, and here we are a couple of years later. The poor are still poor because we still haven't gotten wages growing faster yet.

What scares the crap out of me is I am now seeing some data saying that we may have a year where inflation could be hovering around 4 percent by the end of the year. We have to do policies to get those wages growing.

I have a chart that will show you, Mr. Speaker, that the bottom 50 percent pay about 4 percent of the income tax, but the bottom one-third actually get money.

In some ways, that is just being compassionate, but we have the data from post-2017, when we did tax reform, when we had the miracle of income inequality starting to really shrink. We had 3 years there where the poor were getting dramatically less poor. Why isn't that moral?

Good regulatory policy and tax policy maximizes that velocity.

Let's really annoy some of our leftist brothers and sisters. This is an article in the Manhattan Institute written by, I believe, Jessica Riedl. It is now about 1 or 1½ years old. What they did is they went through basically all the proposals the left has on raising taxes and, step by step, here is the tax raise, the economic effects, and what we actually take in.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, our rules about the size of the economy, 17.1 or mid-17 percent of the GDP.

Individual income tax, investment tax, raising the corporate taxes, and raising the State taxes, when you got to the end, Mr. Speaker, you functionally were getting about 1.5 percent of new tax receipts for the economy.

I look forward to the Democrats actually proposing this and being willing to vote on it. That is because they throw these things out and get them scored. They controlled everything here 1 year ago, a couple of years ago. You notice they never did them, Mr. Speaker. They pretend this solves the problem.

You get 1.5 percent, Mr. Speaker, and you will have stagnated the economy.

Mr. Speaker, you have already heard the discussions of how close you are to stagflation, which is partially driven because of the economics.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, at the end of the decade or within 9 years or so, 22 or 23 percent of the population is 65 and up. We have a demographic issue for productivity.

The point of showing this chart is the solutions you will hear, Mr. Speaker, if, God forbid, you go on leftwing cable television, sometimes even rightwing. They are mathematical lies.

We are borrowing 7.3 percent of the economy this year. Are we willing to engage in a revolution of using technology and modernization? How many businesses still run themselves as if it is still the 1990s? Government does.

I had someone bring me, just the other day, a piece of healthcare paperwork. I think it might have been from the Indian Health Service. It was a three-part NCR paper for a purchase order for a healthcare procedure that you fill out and, I think, faxed it in. Have we lost our minds?

Yet, we get protesters from the left saying: Don't use technology.

You have seen article after article of the five major databases the United States has, Mr. Speaker. None of them talk to each other. If you are willing to actually read, then you saw the stories of the Small Business Administration having—what was it?—3,300 people who had taken out loans. Except the small problem was that all of them were 114 years old and up, meaning they were on to their rewards. They weren't with us anymore. It turns out \$300 million in loans, no one had paid a dime back, but the Small Business Administration didn't have the ability to bounce off the Social Security mortality or death file.

We have designed these walls to functionally—it is as if the fraudsters designed our data systems here in the Federal Government. Let's go fill out things, go get money, and steal the taxpayers' money, but we are going to make sure that there is no way to check the data that is being filled out because we want to protect their privacy.

Some of that is not privacy. They are asking for a government-insured loan over here, and we can't check the death file? What idiots allowed this to happen? Yet, we get protesters in front of our congressional offices saying: Don't let DOGE and those actually make the system work. I am sorry they are scared of change.

Did I mention that we borrow \$72,000 a second?

How do we convince our brothers and sisters across the country that we, as Members of Congress, the administration, and the bureaucracy, are taking it seriously if we are not even willing to make the data talk to each other?

Back to one of the things that has just annoyed the crap out of me—I used this board a handful of times for some of my leftwing protesters the last couple of weeks, and to their credit, some of them were actually shockingly intellectually honest saying: Oh, that is not part of our talking notes. No one told them the truth.

Mr. Speaker, it is on the internet. Trust me, I am not that bright. I just looked it up. It is there. You can find it.

The next 10 years, the Federal Government baseline was spending \$86 trillion over the next 10 years—\$86 trillion. All we are talking about in trying to modernize and change spending in this reconciliation budget, if we did the high end, so the House, full, all in, high end—which, please God, let us get there. The high end is \$2 trillion. \$86 trillion, we are trying to get 2, that is 2.3 percent, and that is creating the

bedwetting. Do they really love their money, this spending?

Remember, Mr. Speaker, if you don't want tax hikes—I don't want tax hikes. Borrowing is a tax hike. It is just paid for in the future with interest. Stop thinking borrowing is free.

My wife and I have adopted a couple of kids. I have a 2½-year-old. We are incredibly blessed. It looks like he is going to be fine. He is going to be normal. He is absolutely a joy.

When he is 22 or so, just to maintain baseline spending in the United States, we have to double every single tax. That is the morality of this place.

For the lobbyists and the groups that are walking our Halls saying, "We want more spending. Don't do this horrible, devastating 2 percent cut in spending over the next 10 years," I say: Thank you for screwing over my 2-year-old. You are absent in morality. If you are going to walk into our office and demand more spending, then tell us where you think we can modernize and change the cost of government.

We have come here and done presentations that the single biggest expense we have in government, it turns out, is obesity. We did a whole model for the last couple of years, huge amounts. Remember, Mr. Speaker, I chaired the Joint Economic Committee, so I have five Ph.D. economists. We did the data: \$9.1 trillion in additional healthcare costs.

It turns out the morality if we would help our brothers be healthier—but we have to do it through the farm bill. We have to do it through nutrition support. We have to decide we are going to have access to glutides and other things. Are we going to use technology, the wearables and the other things? I have one of those data rings on.

What would happen if one of the most powerful things we can do for U.S. sovereign debt stabilization is a healthier society? Somehow, that becomes a fringe conversation around here because people make money off of our brothers and sisters being sick. It is absolutely perverse.

Mr. Speaker, if you actually go—I think it was 1 year or so ago. I think Goldman Sachs did this huge report on GLP-1 glutides, and somewhere in one of the footnotes that was sent to me, it had this line, a couple of lines, saying that if there was wide adoption and the United States actually became much healthier with much less morbid obesity, there would be healthcare systems that would go bankrupt because they wouldn't have enough multi-chronic sick people to pay their bonds. Think about that.

Everything is about the money here, not about the morality of having a society that is growing and prospering. Prosperity, I would argue, Mr. Speaker, is moral.

How much of the crap we do here is not just satiating today's Twittersphere screaming at us or something that is completely made up but actually building a plan saying:

Here is the prosperity we are going to build for the future.

I probably have already had too much coffee today.

This is just to make a point, and this is more to mock the Senate. I was talking to one of the Senators last night, who is also concerned, as I am. Maybe they hear our voices.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, these are just the base numbers when they are first scored. This number actually came in one-half of that. No interest is attached to it. We stole this from someone else, but it was to make a point.

Democrats complained about that. In the CARES Act, we complained about the excess of spending. In the American Rescue Plan, we complained about that. Then you add in the bipartisan infrastructure act—it wasn't bipartisan. I think they had a handful of Republicans who wanted projects in their district. If you add it all up, Mr. Speaker, all the things we have fretted over over the last decade don't even add up to the amount of borrowing that is in the Senate reconciliation budget because it is so much easier here just to spend and borrow it. There is this attitude here of: Give it to me now. You guys will figure out something in the future.

We have worked with some of the DOGE folks because I have the economists, but go on their official website right now. They think, next year, 2026 fiscal year, we can save \$160 billion. That is real money. If we borrow \$6 billion a day, that is 24, 23 days of borrowing. That is everything we have gotten.

There is this inability for Members of Congress, our staff, and the public to understand the scale of what we are up against.

This basically just reiterates what I am going to show a couple of times here because I need it to sink in. If we do the Senate reconciliation budget with our baseline, we double U.S. debt in 10 years. I am going to say it a couple of times so it sinks in. Debt held by the public—and they are using 2034. We prefer to use 2035 because that is more of an honest budget window. We start to look at what the Senate resolution—this was baseline debt. They add another 32.7 percent to the debt. If we do what the Senate put out in their budget reconciliation, we functionally double publicly held debt in the United States.

What took us 240 years to do, bless us, we can do in 10 because we are good at borrowing money, handing things out, telling people there are no consequences, and making crap up, saying it is healthcare for illegals. Okay, we shouldn't do that, but it is only a couple of days of borrowing over 1 year.

We have to do lots and lots of difficult things. We have done entire presentations where we have shown we could revolutionize the cost of healthcare. We have actually looked at one dataset. We have been studying

this now for months. If I came to you, Mr. Speaker, and said, just in Medicare, duplicative MRI scans, PET scans, X-rays, and ultrasounds could be as much as \$25 billion a year, duplicative scans. Mr. Speaker, what if you have your knee scanned and attached it to this thing so it is portable with you? That is one-quarter trillion dollars over 10 years. Is that a cut? No. It is just a simple use of almost a free technology that is out there where you can load them on this and it is portable with you, Mr. Speaker.

We get lobbyists who don't like that idea because, apparently, they make money on the duplications. The inefficiencies and the frauds, those things are a business model now. Government controls functionally one-quarter of all the spending in the United States, of all the GDP. A big chunk of that is functionally waste, fraud, misallocation, or bad design. Give it whatever title you want, Mr. Speaker.

Many of the lobbyists who are walking these Hallways are here to stop us from modernizing the system and bringing us into this century. Just use the technology. We walk around with a supercomputer in our pocket.

□ 1245

This could crash the price of healthcare, make you healthier, give you access, all these things, and there is an army of people trying to stop us.

Remember, telehealth here was an absolute war. There were millions being spent to stop it because it screwed up people's business models.

I am going to do this a couple more times, and then we are going to do one more example.

If we do what is being planned right now, we finish the next decade, 10 years from now, with either \$73.7 trillion of debt—our other chart actually gets it up to \$74 trillion of debt.

You will hear a Member on the Democrat side or Republican side running for office: I care about the debt, but I am more afraid of telling you the truth of what drives the debt. The fact of the matter is, the people walking the hallways here, often our own constituents, are screaming at us for more spending. Don't they have kids? Don't they even care about their own retirements? It is the absolute vacuousness of immortality.

I grabbed this from The Wall Street Journal. I can't imagine anyone here has had protesters and people showing up in their office about Medicaid, which is supposed to be our safety net for indigents and the poor. I have some old experience with that. For a short time, I actually chaired the Healthcare Committee in the Arizona State Legislature when I was a child. For a while I actually worked on the AHCCCS budget, which is the Arizona Medicaid system. We do something unique. We actually buy managed care HMO policies for our poor people. It is actually shockingly efficient. As a matter of fact, if you took the rest of the country

and adopted the Arizona model, you could save hundreds of billions of dollars over those 10 years.

The Wall Street Journal did us a favor. They actually took the Arizona system, which actually has a shockingly high satisfaction rate and good outcomes. We can make it much better. The punch line here is they are showing something called a provider tax. This was a scam—a scheme. I have to openly admit, on part of it, which was the disproportionate share—this is geeky stuff—I was actually part of managing that many years ago. I was county treasurer, I managed money, and we were part of the swath.

Part of the scam out there is to raise the cost of healthcare, create a tax, capture that tax, and because you raise the price, you also capture more money from the Federal Government in their percentage match.

What The Wall Street Journal did was brilliant. They just produced this chart that says: Do you know the Arizona government—and this is most State governments—actually use this provider tax washing machine and they make money. They actually take in more money. They are not meeting their obligation of—it was supposed to be a partnership. It was supposed to be a match.

Is this a cut? It is just saying there was a deal made in the late sixties that we were going to share some of the risks and some of the costs with our poor by providing healthcare. Then when Obama came in, they did this expansion and 90/10 percent, even though it was going to people who were still work eligible and those things.

Then States—we all knew this was going on, but it was supposed to be temporary. It was supposed to be when coming out of a major recession. We were going to go back to normality. Instead, it is padding for State budgets. That cash isn't going into healthcare; it is financing other things and raising the U.S. debt. This is borrowed money.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) for the purposes of a colloquy.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arizona for his steadfast devotion to highlighting for the American people the state of our fiscal health, which is not good, and the extent to which we are complicit in it.

I would just point out that this thing that the gentleman from Arizona is talking about is so central to everything we are trying to deal with right here, right now, in Congress, and if we don't fix that, then we will have failed.

I want to be clear to my Republican colleagues: If we do not fix this scheme, this scam—the gentleman didn't misspeak. It is a scam. If we don't fix that, we will have failed.

Let me ask the gentleman a couple of questions.

Prior to the existence of Medicaid, there was no Federal subsidy at all. This scheme couldn't have possibly existed in this way.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, most of this was designed in the late sixties.

I have this weird history. I was a child—in my early twenties. I was a temporary page at the State legislature. Arizona was the last State to enter Medicaid. It was bankrupting our counties because up to that point in the early eighties, the counties were actually the provider of healthcare. We entered this, but we created a really crazy system saying we are going to do managed care to drive the price down.

Mr. ROY. So Medicaid was created, and Medicaid was created to ostensibly provide an avenue to healthcare for the poor and vulnerable, right, as a broad statement. Is that true?

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. The actual language was for indigents. It was mostly for women and children.

Mr. ROY. It was supposed to then be a shared arrangement between the States and the Federal Government, correct?

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. In the early days, it was like a 50/50, not 100 percent coming from the Federal Government.

Mr. ROY. Now, fast-forward, and the current vulnerable population—what we call the vulnerable population—the indigent, the poor, those who need it, single moms, people who are sick, the frail—that population, even under today's law, gets a Federal—we will call it a match; it is really a formula—a match of 50 to 70 percent, depending on the jurisdiction. Is that correct?

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Yeah. It blends out closer to the 70.

Now, talking about the expansion population. That is where—

Mr. ROY. Let's fast-forward. What we are really talking about—for everybody at home watching C-SPAN, all 14 of you—we have a situation where ObamaCare expanded the Medicaid population, and it expanded it massively to a population that is much bigger and much more able-bodied, i.e., healthier.

Now, you would think is that good or bad? I have my problems with it facially, but even if you were going to do it, would you then say, as it does, that that population, the healthier, able-bodied population, should get a 90 percent match from the Federal Government? Because that is what is happening. They get a 90 percent rate for that expanded population, then layer on top of that, and this is what you are now dealing with.

The gentleman's chart that The Wall Street Journal did, where you have the provider taxes, you have this high rate that they are able to collect, and they are juicing it using the provider taxes. They get this 90 percent Federal dollars, and then they are openly—California, for example, has stated they are gaming the system to get Federal dollars to use that to subsidize illegal aliens and people who are not the vulnerable population and, frankly, put it in their general budget. That is what the gentleman is talking about. That is the current state of affairs.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, it goes further.

Have you had the occasion yet, Mr. Speaker, where a group comes into your office—somehow, they were put on a plane, put in a hotel, those things here, they have no understanding of the math, the mechanics, but somehow there were Medicaid providers in your State that had plenty of cash lying around to fly people out to come lobby. So we did this, we pulled open another Wall Street Journal article from a week or two ago talking about how many people in the Medicaid systems in the United States are enrolled in multiple States.

You actually have billions and billions and billions of dollars here that are enrolled in multiple States. Even for the discussion of could we just match data, you actually get objections to this because the fraud is part of the profit model.

I am on Ways and Means. This is something Energy and Commerce has in their primary jurisdiction. They are working through it.

If you just stack up the cheating, the misuse—the vacuousness, the absence of data to try to deal with the multiple enrollment population, if you actually start to stack these things up, how dare you call those cuts. How dare you. Why don't you care about the future of this government and the future of this society? We cannot handle the stacking of debt.

Did I mention the \$72,000 we borrow every second? It only goes up. We have a model that says in the 10-year window, we are up somewhere in the mid-nineties per second in borrowing. We are terrified to tell the truth.

Mr. ROY may not want to be in the room for this one, because this is the stuff that gets you attacked at home. But it is the math, it is the truth, and they are the CBO numbers.

Rising Social Security and Medicare shortfalls nearly drive the entire 2019 to 2033 deficit. This board is a couple of years old, but the facts are the facts.

We are terrified to tell the public the truth. The primary driver of debt is demographics.

This board is actually today. We are waiting for the update, but we have done some back-of-the-board math. The math is much uglier because interest rates are up substantially from when we calculated this 2 years ago.

You functionally have a country that—this one is from 2 years ago—the 30-year debt, we were going to borrow \$124 trillion. If you remove Social Security and its finance costs, Medicare and its finance costs, the rest of the Federal Government actually grew slower than tax receipts. We will probably have the update on this from CBO in the next couple months with the higher interest rates and the higher running debt.

We have models now that say over the 30 years, we are going to be at 200 percent of debt-to-GDP, that that number is no longer \$124 trillion; it may be \$170 trillion of borrowing.

I don't know how many of you plan to still be alive over the next 30 years. Do you really think the world's financial markets are going to finance our debt? We have Ray Dalio, the multi-billionaire hedge fund manager, who is now retired, has actually been coming here to Congress saying: Warning, warning. The entire world's capital markets—because China is borrowing, Japan is borrowing, and now Germany is going back into the debt markets—there is not enough capital in the world.

When the United States is consuming 30 to 40 percent of all the money that goes to sovereigns, to governments—what happens when there is a shortage of savings in the world to finance? We can print money. Of course, that will set off inflation, so your life just becomes more miserable. Since so many of our benefits are inflation-indexed, you can't inflate yourself away from them because they go up. Or we can just pay the higher interest rates.

Now, you already saw the beginning chart, that Moody says in 9 budget years, 30 percent of our tax collections is interest. We have a model that shows a 1 percent increase rolled into our refinancing. In 10 years, 45 percent of all U.S. tax collections, all of it, is interest.

Yet, Mr. Speaker, you have Members here running around here saying: I need more money for SALT. I want actually more money for this program. I want more money for this.

Okay. Bring us ideas on how we modernize spending, how we can reduce costs by technology, by better systems, by a healthier society. Stop showing up at my door demanding more spending. There is no more money.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I don't want to take away any of his thunder.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, he actually just stopped me from cursing, so he did good.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, the question I have for the gentleman: When I graduated from law school at the University of Texas in 2003, the national debt was somewhere in the \$6 trillion range, \$6.5 trillion dollars. When I came to Congress, when I was campaigning to come to Congress, it was just over \$20 trillion. That was 2018. Today, we are pushing \$37 trillion. Is that roughly correct?

□ 1300

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Yes, if you add in internally financed.

Mr. ROY. Correct.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. The CBO says we will end this year at about 37.2. My number is 37.3, so yes.

Mr. ROY. Now, I bring that up because nobody at home understands that. You are doing a good job trying to put it in context.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Yes, 12 zeroes.

Mr. ROY. You are trying to explain it about the amount of money we are borrowing per family or taxpayer per second. Yet, to put it in stark terms, what

we are talking about with the debt and the deficits, what it really means is the inability to afford a house for the average American, right, because the impact that flows from it is, as you alluded to, higher interest rates, an inability for the Fed and for Congress to continue to borrow and print money because of what you are describing worldwide. The ability to have people to buy, our debt goes down.

The cost of debt is going to go up, the interests are going up, inflation is going up, and the average American family is going to take it on the chin. That is what we are talking about.

The reason I bring that up is because our colleagues, as you point out, run around here saying: I need more money for the program. I need more money for—fill in the blank. I need more money for Medicaid. I need more money for SALT. Why? It is because they feel like they have a political interest in doing so.

I am sure the gentleman had, like I did yesterday, the farm bureau coming into your office and needing help. Guess what? I understand why they need help. It is because we, the Federal Government, have messed up their lives quite vociferously.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. We distort.

Mr. ROY. We distort, and so they want help. I get it. Yet, what do I do? Do I vote for food stamps?

I am a cancer survivor—you know that—and I have cancer groups coming in and asking for money. I look at them, and I say: Well, can you go find some way to pay for it?

A lot of my colleagues don't want to do that.

I will close with this. President Reagan had a great quote on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson," a late-night show in the 1970s, before he was President, in which he said:

Every program that a politician brings forward should have to come with a tax increase attached to it.

Why is that? Was President Reagan pro tax increases? I know the gentleman from Arizona knows that not to be true. President Reagan believed in tax cuts and more money in the pockets of Americans to create wealth and to create economic growth.

Yet, why he said that was because we promise things that we can't deliver. We promise things that we deliver that are fake because we are doling out money and printing money to pay for programs. Then, on the other side of the ledger, we never want to say: We need a tax increase to pay for it because we rightly understand that tax increases constrain the economy. In other words, in short, we put ourselves in the box we have created.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. ROY, we use the term "socialize." How do I get it to part of our folklore, our use of language? Borrowing money is a tax hike.

Mr. ROY. Correct.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. You have to understand. Okay. You are not going to raise taxes. I despise raising taxes.

Mr. ROY. Correct.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. I want as much velocity in the economy. I am a classic free-market economist.

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. But borrowing money is a tax hike, and it is a tax hike with interest on it.

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. It is just to be paid at a future date. Yet, because the curve is now steepening—remember that I just showed you some charts that says we may double U.S. debt this decade. The curve is like this.

You don't think we are not going to reach in and take some of your retirement? This is no longer about your grandkids. It is no longer about your kids. It is you, Mr. Speaker.

Yet, I believe the political classes lied their backsides off for so long, or we play this game. You will see some people on social media: You could save a million dollars doing this.

Okay. You borrow \$250 million an hour.

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. The borrow is \$250 million every hour. Watch out for the scam artists who play the game. They give you something that is outrageous. Okay. Get rid of it. Yet, sometimes the things that we will debate for hours here are minutes or sometimes seconds of borrowing.

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Yet, the big stuff, since there are so many lobbyists and constituencies who live off of that money, you are not allowed to talk about that.

Mr. ROY, I am blessed. I have Phoenix and Scottsdale. I have one of the best educated districts in America. I have been fairly prosperous. They tolerate me. They sometimes are not happy with what I say.

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Yet, at least they know that my math is good.

Mr. ROY. Would the gentleman yield on that?

One of the things that I have been saying in this building for the last several months is this debate about what we call, I think somewhat wrongly and incorrectly, "mandatory spending," because it is not mandatory. We have just chosen to put it on autopilot. It is automatic spending. It is not mandatory.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. That is a better name.

Mr. ROY. I have been saying in this building repeatedly that the math has to math. The math has to add up.

Would the gentleman agree that that is the fundamental and core problem in this town when we are talking about the state of affairs?

For example, we in this process have taken Medicare off of the table politically. The President has asked us to take Medicare off of the table. We have taken Social Security off of the table because, by law—

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. We can't do it.

Mr. ROY.—we are not allowed to touch Social Security in the reconciliation process, and then interest is off of the table because you have to pay it. You can't just magically not pay the interest. That adds up to what? It is about 47 percent of the total fricking budget. It is half the budget.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Yes. Just understand, in reconciliation, which is the one time where we are allowed to talk about mandatory spending, the majority of mandatory spending, we are not allowed to touch—

Mr. ROY. Correct.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT.—because, between Social Security and interest, that is probably 54 or 55 percent of all mandatory. Sorry. It is a weird way I remember numbers. Well, let's risk our political careers. How many of you have read—

Mr. ROY. I have done it before.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT.—The Wall Street Journal articles from the last year? I think they have done five or six major, major exposes on something we called Medicare part C. It is the Medicare Advantage. It was the sort of managed care version within Medicare option that was developed by Republicans in 2005.

One of their articles basically says that they identified about \$63 billion of waste, fraud, and misalignment a year.

Mr. ROY. Right.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. A year.

Mr. ROY. Right.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. A year.

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. The MedPAC report, since I am the only idiot who came here to the floor with the MedPAC, but that is partially my responsibility being on the Committee on Ways and Means. The MedPAC report was all highlighted, and we showed the MedPAC report says: Medicare Advantage, part C, is coming in at 120 percent of fee for service.

Just that delta from where it was supposed to be at 95 percent—I know that is a lot of numbers—when we designed Medicare Advantage, long before you and I got here, it was supposed to come at 95 percent of fee for service.

That 25 percent delta is \$100 billion a year. If you do the curve because of the growth of the program that is expected, that is \$1.5 trillion over 10 years just putting it back to what it was supposed to be. It is equal to everything we are talking about trying to reform in our reconciliation packages.

How many conversations have we been willing to have saying: You do realize we could modernize Medicare Advantage so that the incentive for the providers is to have populations be healthier than running around and scoring them as sicker? Just align the incentives. I just found you \$1 trillion.

Why can't we have conversations like this where we are trying to preserve the programs and the future at the same time?

Mr. ROY. If the gentleman is asking a rhetorical question and the gentleman does not have his—

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Yes. You don't have to answer that because, the moment you answer, there will be an army of paid lobbyists, people running ads in your district, probably now beating the crap out of me on social media—

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT.—because, when it is that sort of money, you know they are going to—

You also saw the articles 3 weeks ago in *The Wall Street Journal*. There is criminal investigations now going on. Justice Department now is diving into these folks, so there is more going on here.

I will argue, Mr. ROY—and some of our friends who are fiscal conservatives but also want to modernize the delivery of services, help me. We have spent almost a year diving into the data. What would happen if fixing these misalignments, the waste and fraud—actually, it doesn't get us where we need to be, but it starts moving us in the right direction.

Mr. ROY. I will yield back.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. ROY, I think I am actually against my time, so I am going to do that moment.

I am going to first apologize to the folks who had to try to take our words down for talking too fast, for the poor Speaker who had to sit here and listen to this, and to my staff who is now going to have to write lots of apology letters for all the people who I have just hurt their feelings.

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

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. ROY of Texas was recognized for 30 minutes.)

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT). We have engaged in a colloquy on his time. I am going to start my 30 minutes. He, of course, is welcome to stick around a little bit if he wants.

I am going to just jump off from where he started, or I am going to start from where he left off, and that is to talk about what we are debating on the floor right now, which is the reconciliation bills that we are debating in the House and in the Senate as we speak.

For the average viewer out there, you don't understand what we are talking about. Let me put it in basic terms. The reconciliation process is a part of the Budget Control Act, which basically gives us the ability to reconcile current policies with what we are dealing with, with respect to our spending, debt, and deficits. We have to make that all add up, and we are supposed to do that in a way that would yield deficit neutrality or deficit reduction. That is the general purpose of why we have reconciliation.

Reconciliation, though, because there is a 60-vote threshold in the Senate and that means that certain poli-

cies that the majority wants to get in place in the House and the Senate if they control both Chambers, often hit resistance by the minority party in the Senate, that then reconciliation is used to end-run what we call the filibuster—even though it is really just a 60-vote threshold, end-run that in order to get policy even though we are supposedly not doing policy on reconciliation.

That is how stupid your Congress is, America. That is how you are developing policy: through a bunch of arcane procedures, some of which are great and designed to have cooling effects, and some of which are really stupid.

Yet, what we are doing is trying to find every which way possible to avoid accountability and responsibility, and that is, as I have been putting it around here to reporters and getting reported out, to do basic math because that is, in fact, our obligation, is to do basic math.

Unfortunately, a whole bunch of my colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle and a whole bunch of my colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle refuse to do basic math. They want to say that, through magic fairy dust and through money trees, they can just wish away the reality that we are going to have a certain amount of inflows and a certain amount of outflows every year. Do you want to know why we are \$37 trillion in debt, or soon to be? That is why.

Now, we are having a big debate, America, on what we should do in this so-called reconciliation process. We are going to have tax policy in there that is going to affect our tax revenues to the government but, more importantly, affect the tax bill you receive.

Let me stipulate for the record that when I am attacked a lot in the coming weeks for saying, allegedly, I want to have taxes go up, I am emphatically for cutting taxes. I would like to zero out the tax code, eliminate the income tax, and get rid of the IRS. I would like to do all of those things, and I have legislation to do it.

I will vote for tax cuts, but I refuse to ignore math. If you are going to do a certain amount of tax cuts, which will create a certain amount of economic growth, yes, you still have to model how much revenue will come into the Treasury versus how much you are spending because my Republican colleagues love to spend.

They campaign on tax cuts. They deliver on most of the tax cuts. They campaigned on balancing the budget and cutting spending, and never do it, ever, in the history of ever, with the possible exception of the late 1990s when the Gingrich Republicans, combined with Clinton and, by the way, a dot-com economic explosion, to deliver us a balanced budget. They did it through welfare reform and through some spending constraint. That is the only time in modern history when we have done it.

Here is the problem. This chart shows you what we are dealing with. A

whole lot of people are saying: Well, CHIP, you and all of these fiscal hawks, these fiscal conservatives, you guys want to do all of these massive cuts, and we can't do it. It is crazy what you want to do.

Let me be clear what we are talking about. We are currently running close to \$2 trillion deficits. If we do all of the crazy stuff we are trying to do, we will be running what? Close to \$2 trillion deficits. That is the truth. That is what the models show. That is what we know.

Look here. These are the projections of the way things will be if we do nothing.

□ 1315

The blue line, we do nothing this year. We let the tax cuts expire, taxes go up—let me repeat, I am against that—taxes go up, revenues are projected to do what they do, and we will have the amount of debt over the next 10 years we see here growing from almost \$30-something trillion all the way up to \$50 trillion.

What do these other lines represent? The orange lines are the House bill. The red lines are the Senate bill. We just did a thing where we combined the House and the Senate bill into one budget. We are now negotiating that, and this is all yet to be determined.

Why am I saying all this? No one wants to read all of this. Nobody is going to pay attention to a chart. All of my staff and everybody says, "Don't use charts on the floor. Just go down and say things that will get clipped and sent around." Let me try to say something that will get clipped and sent around.

Even if the House Republicans are successful in working with the President and the Senate to achieve the \$1.5 trillion to \$2 trillion in spending restraint over the 10-year budget window, which is a mere \$150 billion to \$200 billion a year, even if we are successful, we are going to massively increase the debt in the United States all the way to pushing well over \$50 trillion by the end of this budget window. That is it. If we fail, then debt will go up a little higher.

We have an obligation to do better. Everything we are fighting for right now in the House is for crumbs. I haven't decided whether I will vote for it or not vote for it. Why? Because I am one vote. Out of 220 Republicans, I am one vote, and I have to figure out how we build a majority and how the Senate builds a majority and then work with the White House to get a bill signed. I recognize that.

There is a limit that I can accept. I just want the whole world to tell me, should I vote for a bill if we are successful at fighting for what we are fighting for on Medicaid reforms, on unwinding the student loans, on cutting waste, fraud, and abuse, on finding savings and fees on illegal aliens here so that we can pay for continued enforcement of the law at the border? If

we are successful for all of those things in terms of revenues and expenses, I am still going to burden my kids and grandkids with over \$50 trillion in debt.

What does that mean? It means more interest. It means likely higher inflation because, at some point, we can't afford this. That is the fundamental question.

Now, I have a bunch of my colleagues, to the point of the gentleman from Arizona, running around saying that we can't touch Medicaid. Why can't we? Medicaid was expanded under ObamaCare, which we all opposed, and the Medicaid expansion was a big reason why we opposed it. Why can we now not demand reforms to the broken pieces of ObamaCare that expanded Medicaid such that we are giving 90 percent Federal match to the able-bodied, the people who are not the most vulnerable, compared to the vulnerable population who only get 50 to 60 to 70 percent? Why would we do that? Why would we give more to Medicaid recipients than Medicare recipients, which we often do?

Why would we continue to allow States like California and other States to game the system, to get Federal dollars sent back in a money-laundering scheme, as has been reported widely by *The Wall Street Journal* and others? They are openly and knowingly doing it. Why wouldn't we fix that?

Why wouldn't we apply eligibility rules and work requirements, combined with lowering that abusive Federal match rate subsidizing blue States to game the system when they are using Federal borrowed money to prop up their weak State budget? Why wouldn't we fix that?

I don't have a single constituent I know who thinks we ought to continue doing that. Even more so, my colleagues are running around giving in to these arguments that we are somehow cutting Medicaid. That is a lie.

We could have a debate about whether we should actually reduce Medicaid and give more money in other places or free up the States to provide better service or empower Americans to go get the doctor of their choice and be able to afford healthcare without having an employer- or government-provided, insurance-run bureaucratic system enriching insurance bureaucrats and pharma and hospitals because that is what we have.

We don't have free healthcare anywhere in this country. The freest country in the world, and we do not have the freedom to go to the doctor of our choice. We don't. The average family in this country is paying \$25,000 a year to go to insurance bureaucrats to tell them what handful of doctors they can go to, what lousy deductible they get, what ridiculous copay they have.

I have a constituent who died from cancer last year who couldn't go to MD Anderson because she was covered under ObamaCare. Think about that, covered under ObamaCare, sick with cancer, can't go to the best cancer hos-

pital in the world 2 hours from her house. That is your healthcare system, and we won't touch Medicaid.

Our budget contemplates Medicaid going up 25 percent. I am not going to say whether that is good or bad, but can we at least just have the backbone as the Republican Party to not allow our colleagues on the other side of the aisle and the media to say that we are cutting Medicaid when we are increasing Medicaid spending? I mean, it is mind-boggling that we allow that narrative to set in on a program that is broken, that has a trillion dollars of improper payments, that is rife with abuse.

What are we here for? I mean, that would be my question for my Republican colleagues. Why did you run for office? Because I don't recall Republicans running on a big platform of: The government is the solution to all your problems. I don't remember growing up as a child of the eighties listening to Ronald Reagan or, frankly, listening to President Trump's speeches saying, man, we really love government bureaucracy and all the great things it does for the people.

Nobody runs on that. Not a single Republican has run on increasing deficits. Every single Republican has run on balancing the budget. Yet, every year, we vote for more spending. Every year, we vote for more debt. Every year, we increase deficits and add to the debt, every single year.

I want to get right to the chase here because, for the last 2 months, some of us have been willing to walk out and say that we will not vote for the tax cut extensions if we don't get spending restrained. I am getting lots of Republicans around town who like to stir the pot and go and say, "You are going to vote for a tax increase, are you, CHIP? Oh, we are going to hit you hard. We will come after you for voting for tax increases," but they won't say a thing about voting for the inflation tax increase on every American family while they run to the hills on spending restrained because they won't do it. That is the truth.

I didn't come to this town for more of the same. The men and women who walked into a wall of bullets at Normandy didn't do it so we could have \$50 trillion of debt and destroy our own country from within. That is what is happening.

This country is weaker because the very individuals entrusted to defend her, defend the Constitution, and be responsible stewards of the Treasury have failed them and continue to fail them.

Let me be very clear about the budget we are talking about right now. We see what happens to the debt under our budgets. They go way up, but I am not accounting for the other things. What are those other things? This budget, the House budget, assumes that we are able to figure out how to hold what we call discretionary spending flat.

I don't know if the Speaker, who is the only other person in the Chamber

with me, believes that we will hold discretionary spending flat, but history would say we wouldn't. Our budget assumes that we hold discretionary spending flat. That is Defense, DOJ, DHS, all the spending on all the various programs in Commerce, and go down the list.

What else? I read a story yesterday that because of tariff policy—by the way, I support the President using tariff policy to isolate China, restructure our worldwide trade that is being abused by friend and foe, but I just read a story yesterday that they are planning on how to bail out farmers from tariffs.

Remember, 7 years ago, we had to spend \$25 billion to \$30 billion, \$35 billion to bail out farmers for tariffs. This last December, we spent, I don't know, \$30 billion or something in a supplemental bailing out farmers. What happens when we need more money for California wildfires, or what happens when there is a hurricane that hits Florida or, apparently, North Carolina or Tennessee? Is that \$5 billion, \$20 billion, \$30 billion, \$50 billion? You see, Congress doesn't have the ability to say no to spending.

Let's bring it all back. Should I vote for a reconciliation package that will almost certainly guarantee \$1.5 trillion to \$2 trillion of deficit spending because I am getting certain crumbs in cuts in certain committees, and the only reason that I have gotten said crumbs was because we threatened to stop the extension of the tax cuts in order to force the question on spending?

Look, I want to absolutely applaud the great work of a whole lot of committee chairs and my Republican colleagues for the work that they have done to identify spending restraint and savings. Education, they found a bunch of savings. I can go through committee by committee. Last night, we added a lot of fees to pay for border security and stuff in the Judiciary Committee. There are other things we could do.

The math is still going to have to be math. We are going to spend about another \$300 billion in this bill for defense and border security. That is another \$300 billion. We are going to find savings of allegedly \$1.5 trillion over 10 years, so that is \$150 billion a year. What that means is we are already in the hole.

By 2035, the United States will be spending more on interest per year than all Federal programs, aside from Social Security. Right now, Federal debt is so large that 40 percent of all personal income taxes go to paying interest on the Federal debt. Think about that. We have over a trillion dollars a year in interest.

Spending drives inflation. In 2024, the typical American family needed an extra \$17,000 a year to maintain the same standard of living as January 2021.

We have increased spending, our budget, our Federal budget, from

roughly \$3.6 trillion or so in 2015 to almost \$7 trillion now. That is an 80 percent increase.

Does anybody alive think that we can sustain this? Do any of my colleagues, Republican or Democrat, think that we can sustain this? Does anybody alive right now in the Chamber, if they are in the complex and haven't hopped on a plane to fly home because we had our final vote on a Thursday morning and we are going to come back on a Monday night in our usual way of doing things in the swamp, not doing what we should do, does anybody believe that this is going to save the fiscal health of America?

Like I said, I haven't decided if I am going to vote for it or against it. That depends on a lot of variables—the Inflation Reduction Act to actually repeal the ridiculous subsidizing, enriching the Chinese and enriching billion-dollar corporations, and undermining our energy security.

Do we have the resources necessary to secure the border and the fees to pay for it? Are we putting in the provisions that we ought to be putting in there to guarantee that we are going to have the President be able to carry out his campaign promises to remove aliens?

□ 1330

Are we going to have transformational reform to Medicaid so we eliminate the ridiculous 90-percent subsidy of the able-bodied while we are giving a much lower rate of 50 to 70 percent to the vulnerable population?

Are we going to continue to allow the provider taxes and the gaming of the system, the money laundering that is allowing money to go to California to be gamed and to be doled out to illegal aliens and put in their general budget as they openly brag, or are we going to fix that?

Are we going to fix the debacle that is the higher education system? Are we going to restrain their ability to abuse Federal grants, student loan subsidies, or are we going to continue to subsidize Harvard, Yale, Cal Berkeley, the University of Texas at Austin, and the University of Virginia, both my alma maters? I don't care. I would cut them off and take away their money.

Are we going to continue to do as I heard, which is to create additional taxes on cars, or are we going to fix it?

Literally, in order to pay for the Coast Guard and air traffic control, I heard that the T&I Committee, they were poised to put a vehicle tax on every vehicle in America. Limited government, constitutional Republicans were going to tax your car. We fought and said that is a bad idea. So they got rid of the tax, the \$50 tax or \$20 tax, whatever it was, on internal combustion engine cars.

By the way, we are subsidizing EVs and hybrids and so forth in order to get the internal combustion engine off the street, but now we are going to tax the EVs that we are subsidizing, unless we repeal the Inflation Reduction Act.

These are the tangled webs that we weave in a government in which politicians promise to give away free stuff. As I have said before, we are not the United States House of free stuff. You can't just print money and give it to people and say, oh, we will take care of your problems. Yet, that is what we do.

Our best case scenario if we pass this reconciliation package is still \$50 trillion in debt in 10 years. That is literally the best case scenario. I think it is much worse, especially if our interest is going up and we refinance our debt at higher rates, which seems likely, but here we are just nibbling around the edges begging for crumbs. Please, oh, please, please give me \$150 billion a year in savings on a \$7 trillion annual budget, up almost twice in a decade, bloated and expanded under COVID, bloated and expanded under both Democrat and Republican regimes.

We have had an extraordinary first 100 days. The President has turned this ship around. We are securing borders. Apprehensions are down 94 percent. We are resetting our position on the world stage, diplomatically, economically. We are rebuilding our military, which was being decimated by the previous administration, unwinding DEI, rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse in government, firing bureaucrats, identifying all the things that ought to be cut, and that is a good thing.

In Congress, my colleagues are doing some good things. We have passed some good bills that are hitting a wall in the Senate: the SAVE Act, the injunctions bill, a bunch of CRAs to undo the damage of the Biden administration. We passed five this week to undo the damage of the EV mandates.

We have got to stay on offense, and we can and we are doing a lot of great things, but this reconciliation bill, at a bare minimum, can do no harm, and literally that is what we are begging for, when we are trying to fight for \$1.5 trillion in spending reductions, not even cuts. I want to be clear. I will remind everybody about Medicaid. Medicaid, there it is. It is going up 25 percent in our budget, for better or worse. I can make arguments, but it is going up.

Can we at least speak the truth that it is going up? We are begging for crumbs to get \$1.5 trillion in reductions over 10 years. We are going to spend \$86 trillion over the next 10 years. We are just trying to save \$1.5 trillion of that massive increase for crumbs to have \$50 trillion of debt at the end of that rain-bow.

I hope we will come together. I hope we will unite to deliver a product that is worthy of support. I have not decided whether I will be able to support it. We will find out whether it has what is needed.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DIANA DENMAN

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I do want to take one second before I yield to my friend from California to honor a dear friend of mine who passed away a couple weeks ago, Diana Denman.

Often called the godmother of the Texas Republican Party, she passed away on April 17 at the age of 91.

I don't do a lot of the floor speeches on individuals because I feel like if I do them for one or two and I don't do them for everybody that I represent that gets tough. Obviously, veterans, police officers, there are things that rise to the occasion.

Diana was a legendary mentor not just to me but to many of my friends, many of the people that work for me, many of my staff. She played a major role in the political evolution in Texas where Texas went from a historic southern Democrat State to a bastion of conservative Republican politics and a warrior for freedom across the globe.

I was proud to have her support, but more importantly, I was proud to have her friendship. She worked closely with some of my dear friends in politics and former bosses like Senator TED CRUZ and Governor Rick Perry, both of whom are dear friends of mine.

She led a storied life. She rode her horse into the lobby of The Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. She acted in Hollywood where she would go on to meet future President Reagan when she was in Hollywood in that Golden Age. She held many positions in the Reagan administration in the 1980s, and she stood strong against the Soviet Union and Soviet aggression around the globe. She was truly one of the last cold warriors, and I mean that in all of the right and good ways.

As a child of the 1980s, I consider myself a proud cold warrior and believe very much that we need to stand against aggression in the same way President Reagan stood against that aggression and stood for freedom and as a beacon of hope around the world. I think we can learn from that era, as I learned from Diana, about doing things with peace through strength.

I will miss Diana, and she will be remembered for her fierce patriotism and her strong convictions. She was feisty. She was committed. She loved her country. I thank her for her steadfast commitment to the conservative movement, to the United States, to defending our country, and in service of the Lord almighty.

I will keep to fighting to live free, and I will remember Diana through those actions. I will miss her dearly, as will many of my staff who counted her as a mentor.

When I think of the people who have devoted their life to the cause and they come and they go and they pass, I am reminded that we are here for these fleeting moments, what will be our legacy? What will be the legacy of this generation? Are we going to put this country back on a sustainable path? Are we going to actually honor our constitutional commitment to having limited government in which people can live free? Are we going to constrain the appetite for unchecked spending and the racking up of debt and the deficits and the interests that are killing

our economy, our country, and, frankly, the futures of our own children, or are we going to choose the harder path?

As President Reagan said in 1964, it was a time for choosing. Frankly, we didn't actually heed his call. We chose poorly. We chose the path of a massive, bureaucratic tyrannical State. We have empowered government; we haven't reduced it. We have increased spending; we haven't reduced it. We should actually honor that time for choosing, and in the memory of my good friend who served with President Reagan let's re-ignite that call for a time for choosing, to choose that path, to choose the path of the Constitution of limited government, of freedom, of responsible spending, and turning over this country to our children better than we inherited.

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

GAS PRICES ARE LOWER FOR EVERYONE EXCEPT CALIFORNIANS

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. KILEY of California was recognized for 30 minutes.)

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, there is good news for Americans when it comes to gas prices. They are down about 50 cents since last year, but unfortunately this good news does not extend to Californians. As you can see here, we remain a stark outlier with by far the highest gas prices in the country.

As of just a couple days ago, gas prices in California are 29 cents higher than second place Hawaii, an island State. Third place is Washington. Our gas prices are 52 cents higher than Washington. They are 88 cents higher than fourth place Oregon, 94 cents higher than fifth place Nevada, a \$1.16 higher than sixth place Alaska.

This is truly astounding and is one of the main reasons why it has become so hard for people to get by in our State. Now, it is no mystery why this is so: California has by far the highest gas tax in the country, our cap-and-trade program adds a huge amount to the price of each gallon, as well as the requirements of our fuel blend in California.

All of these taxes and regulations combine to give California by far the highest gas prices in the country already and now we have just learned that another refinery is closing. So two refineries have announced they are shutting down in California thanks to our insane energy policies. This certainly is not going to help matters.

It is time for Governor Newsom and the California Legislature to restore just a little bit of common sense when it comes to our energy policies because we cannot afford for these trends to continue. Indeed, it is one of the main reasons that people have been leaving our State in record numbers over the last several years.

UPDATE ON THE HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I will provide an update on the non-existent high-speed rail project in California. As I have noted on this floor before, I have introduced a resolution or legislation to cut off all future Federal funding for California High-Speed Rail. I was with Secretary Duffy when he announced an investigation into where the recent Federal funding has actually gone and I have called upon the FBI Director Kash Patel to launch an investigation into what happened to the \$17 billion that has already been spent.

At this point, the cost of the project is estimated to be about \$100 billion more than it was initially sold to the public.

But we did get some news this week and maybe I have been a little too unkind to high-speed rail.

The new CEO—and, by the way, this is the fifth CEO—so there have been five more CEOs than there have been riders. Five CEOs, zero riders. But the new CEO came out with some exciting news. He announced that he has a goal by the year 2045 of completing the line going from Palmdale to Gilroy.

So let's parse that statement, a goal of by 2045 going from Gilroy to Palmdale to Gilroy.

Well, 2045 is, of course, 20 years from now. I will note that when the project was passed in 2008, it was supposed to be done, the entire thing, by 2020. So the whole thing was supposed to be done 5 years ago, but now the CEO is saying I have got an exciting ambitious plan. We are going to have Palmdale to Gilroy completed in 20 years. And this is just the goal.

There have been a number of goals in the past, in the tortured 17-year history of this project, and they have blown right past them, missing deadline after deadline with more cost overruns than we can even keep track of.

□ 1345

Then, finally, when you look at what his goal—which is very unlikely to actually be reached—is, it is to go from Palmdale to Gilroy. Where are these places?

Remember, the initial project was supposed to ultimately go from Los Angeles to San Francisco, the two main population hubs of California.

Well, Palmdale is a ways away from L.A. It is about 37 miles northeast of Los Angeles, so if traffic is good, it will take you an hour in your car or 2 hours if you are using existing public transportation.

Think about this. You are taking our high-speed rail which, by the way, isn't going to be that fast. It will probably be the slowest high-speed rail system in the world if it even gets built. Then you get out at Gilroy, and you have to somehow have a car there and drive another hour or you hop on public transit for another 2 hours of travel just to get into L.A.

It is similar on the north part of it. Gilroy is 70 miles from San Francisco,

and you would be going for at least another hour, probably more, you would certainly be driving more than an hour after hopping off there if you actually wanted to get into the city.

Of course, I am being facetious when I say that this is an exciting, ambitious plan. It is just another example of why we need to end this project once and for all. There is absolutely no reason that State or Federal taxpayers should continue to fund a project that is going absolutely nowhere, especially when our roads are in such bad shape, among the worst in the entire world.

It is time to redirect this spending toward transportation needs that will actually improve the quality of life for Californians.

COVERED CALIFORNIA TRACKERS

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, an investigation by CalMatters has revealed something extremely disturbing when it comes to the personal health information of Californians.

It has been revealed that the website of Covered California, which is the State's ObamaCare exchange, had a tracker that was collecting the personal health information of Californians, and then transmitting that information for marketing purposes.

Specifically, the CalMatters investigation discovered that trackers on the website of Covered California collected and sent personal information to LinkedIn through one of the company's trackers called an Insight tag. This information included very personal health information, whether the individual was blind, disabled, pregnant, whether they used prescription drugs, their gender identity, whether they are a victim of domestic abuse, how often they sought care at inpatient or outpatient facilities.

A spokesperson for Covered California even admitted they installed these trackers as part of a marketing campaign, and the trackers, by the way, were not removed until this CalMatters report was published. This illegal action was undertaken despite the fact that LinkedIn has publicly advised on their website that the Insight tags "should not be installed on web pages that collect or contain sensitive data and that pages offering specific health-related or financial services or products to consumers," that should not be there, either.

However, despite these warnings, Covered California proceeded. I believe this raises a serious issue under HIPAA, a law designed to protect the privacy of individuals' personal health information.

I have written to Secretary of Health and Human Services, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., to ask for an investigation into what happened in California, into how this was allowed to happen and to any illegal violations that may have occurred. Specifically, I am asking Secretary Kennedy to investigate whether Covered California violated

HIPAA or any other laws, who authorized the use of the trackers, what controls exist to protect privacy in California's Affordable Care Act exchange? How did Covered California evade those controls? How many people have been impacted? Have they been notified? Has there been any restitution? Why did Covered California use the trackers contrary to LinkedIn's explicit guidance? I am asking how this sort of violation can be prevented in the future. This is truly unacceptable, and I am looking forward to getting some answers from this investigation.

CONGRATULATING MARK AND MARCUS HANEY

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take a moment today to commemorate John Adams Academy for its inaugural Servant Leadership Award Gala, which is taking place this weekend.

Now, John Adams is an exceptional school in my district. As a matter of fact, they have three schools now—in Roseville, El Dorado Hills, and Lincoln—and there are hundreds of families on the waiting list. This is a charter school. The school is so popular that there are hundreds of families who want to go there, as well.

If you walk through one of their campuses, you will see quotes from the Founding Fathers on the walls, and you will see all signs of the classical education philosophy that guides the school's instruction.

I have had the chance to work with John Adams over the years in many ways. I have judged the Constitution Bowl at their school. I have been to their ceremonies for veterans. I have met with their student council and participated and helped judge debates that they were a part of. It is truly a special place. This Servant Leadership Award really embodies the spirit of the institution.

John Adams was founded by Dr. Dean Forman, and he is spearheading this Servant Leadership Award, which will be awarded this weekend, and the inaugural recipients will be Mark and Marcus Haney. Mark Haney runs the Growth Factory in Rocklin, which helps early-stage entrepreneurs build startup businesses. They work with them to build the funding case and leadership capacity to attract the capital and team needed to support scaling a high-growth company.

Then his son, Marcus Haney, started AllegiantVETS, which is a way to provide a bridge for veterans leaving military service to be integrated into jobs in their local communities.

Mark Haney, his father, says:

We have imagined the impact that the most resourceful regional leaders could have if united to help one promising entrepreneur.

The Growth Factory is the realization of that vision multiplied by a hundred.

I am a little biased in this respect because I have seen the impact that the Haney family has had on our community in so many different ways. In fact, I honored Marcus Haney with the Veteran of the Year award when I was a member of the State legislature.

I wanted to also give you a description that Dr. Forman has given for what a servant leader is because I think it is a timely reminder in these times in many ways of what we should aspire to in public service or in other forms of community leadership.

The description of a servant leader is as follows: Robert K. Greenleaf said: "The great leader is seen as servant first."

"A servant leader is a servant first, driven by an inner compass of virtues or core values, with a natural desire to serve and empower others. This is not about being subservient but about sincerely wanting to help others by identifying and meeting needs.

"A servant leader has the gift of persuasion through moral authority: the principled use of natural virtues unique to them for the benefit of others. Positional authority: titles, credentials, degrees give only the opportunity to lead but it is the actions in behalf of others that can command, inspire and motivate change and moral behavior in others. A servant leader has submitted himself to his higher nature and asks, 'What is wanted of me?'"

"A servant leader has vision. They have knowledge of the past, recognize what is needed to improve their life, family, community and world and act to bring about a better future for others.

"A servant leader applies true principles such as: public and private virtue, natural law, liberty, life, personal responsibility, et cetera.

"A servant leader has the ability to build coalitions and inspire others to follow as first among equals. They see where things are in their condition, where they should be, and then insert themselves to voluntarily move self and others to the ideal. They model what they teach. Every servant becomes a leader because of their example and influence.

"A servant leader understands that life is not just a quest for pleasure or power but of meaning. Meaning and happiness is found when one is dedicated to a cause greater than oneself. The servant nature is not bestowed and cannot be taken away; it is who one is deep inside. Once this is recognized the servant intentionally chooses to lead. American Classical Servant Leadership is about becoming."

I just say thank you to Dr. Forman and John Adams Academy for providing this tremendous recognition. I look forward to seeing the award promote this idea of servant leadership in the years to come.

Congratulations to Mark and Marcus Haney on being the inaugural recipients.

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am calling on the House of Representatives to act with urgency to reauthorize Secure Rural Schools. The program, unfortunately, because of the House's lack of action, has been allowed to expire. Even though the Senate did pass it last year, the House failed to do so.

Secure Rural Schools provides critical funding for a number of counties in my district and across the country. It was enacted in the year 2000, and it compensates counties with large amounts of national forest land for lost revenue due to declining Federal timber sales. The funds support local schools, roads, and essential public services.

Congress reauthorized the program through fiscal year 2023, but, as I mentioned, the authorization expired in September 30, 2023, and final payments were paid in April of 2024. Congress must reauthorize this to avoid critical funding shortfalls.

For example, in some of the counties of my district: Plumas County relies on Secure Rural Schools for \$3.7 million, Sierra County for \$942,000, Yuba County for \$122,000, Nevada County for \$393,000, Placer County for \$839,000, El Dorado County for \$2.1 million, and Alpine County for \$493,000.

Many of those counties are small counties. This provides critical funding that they need because they have a large amount of Federal land and don't have a large tax base.

I am calling on House leadership and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to act with urgency to get this measure passed and make sure that these communities receive the funding that they need and that they rely upon.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, May 5, 2025, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2024 and the first quarter of 2025, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO DJIBOUTI AND KENYA, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 14 AND MAR. 20, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Amelia Litynski	3/14	3/16	Djibouti .....	.....	760.00	.....	4,535.78	.....	.....	.....	5,295.78
	3/16	3/20	Kenya .....	.....	308.00	.....	5,447.71	.....	.....	.....	5,755.71
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,068.00	.....	9,983.49	.....	.....	.....	11,051.49

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, Apr. 16, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO CAMBODIA AND THAILAND, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 15 AND MAR. 21, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Brett Horton	3/15	3/19	Cambodia	1,058.00	5,864.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,922.30
Jake Hilkin	3/15	3/19	Cambodia	1,058.00	5,864.30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,922.30
Xenia Ruiz	3/15	3/19	Cambodia	1,058.00	13,264.40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14,322.40
Brett Horton	3/19	3/21	Thailand	631.60	2,649.31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,280.91
Jake Hilkin	3/19	3/21	Thailand	631.60	2,649.31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,280.91
Xenia Ruiz	3/19	3/21	Thailand	631.60	6,785.11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,416.71
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	5,068.80	37,076.73	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	42,145.53

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, Apr. 22, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO AUSTRALIA, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 14 AND MAR. 22, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Kate Knudson	3/14	3/22	Australia .....	.....	2,051.00	.....	11,032.81	.....	.....	.....	13,083.81
Meghan McCann	3/14	3/22	Australia .....	.....	3,146.00	.....	17,274.51	.....	.....	.....	20,420.51
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,197.00	.....	28,307.32	.....	.....	.....	33,504.32

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, Apr. 22, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO COLOMBIA AND PERU, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 15 AND MAR. 22, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Chris Bien	3/15	3/18	Colombia		1,426.87		1,431.91				2,858.78
Ben Napier	3/15	3/18	Colombia		1,426.87		1,694.67				3,121.54
Emily Ackerman	3/15	3/18	Colombia		1,426.87		2,734.80				4,161.67
Lori Ismail	3/15	3/18	Colombia		1,426.87		1,432.11				2,858.98
Ray Salazar	3/15	3/18	Colombia		1,426.87		1,404.20				2,831.07
Chris Bien	3/18	3/22	Peru		1,730.00		1,978.14				3,708.14
Ben Napier	3/18	3/20	Peru		1,038.00		1,908.62				2,946.62
Emily Ackerman	3/18	3/22	Peru		1,730.00		3,375.08				5,105.08
Lori Ismail	3/18	3/22	Peru		1,730.00		1,943.17				3,673.17
Ray Salazar	3/18	3/20	Peru		1,038.00		725.97				1,763.97
Committee total					14,400.35		18,628.67				33,029.02

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, Apr. 22, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. GLENN THOMPSON, Apr. 21, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2025

Name of member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Gary Palmer	3/14	3/16	Guatemala .....	.....	654.42	.....	(³)	.....	.....	.....	654.42

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2025—Continued

Name of member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Scott Peters	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		455.00		(³)				455.00
	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		654.42		(³)				654.42
	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		455.00		(³)				455.00
Hon. Randall Weber	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		654.42		(³)				654.42
	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		455.00		(³)				455.00
	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
Hon. Marianne Miller-Meeks	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		574.43		(³)				574.43
	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		434.00		(³)				434.00
	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		574.43		(³)				574.43
Hon. Tom Kean	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		434.00		(³)				434.00
	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		574.43		(³)				574.43
	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		434.00		(³)				434.00
Mary Martin	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		520.64		(³)				520.64
	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		434.00		(³)				434.00
	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
Jacob Tyner	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		520.64		(³)				520.64
	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		434.00		(³)				434.00
	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		520.64		(³)				520.64
Joseph Tuley Wright	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		434.00		(³)				434.00
	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		520.64		(³)				520.64
	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		434.00		(³)				434.00
Sydney Greene	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
	3/14	3/16	Guatemala		520.64		(³)				520.64
	3/16	3/18	El Salvador		434.00		(³)				434.00
	3/18	3/19	Panama		272.00		(³)				272.00
Christopher Sarley	3/17	3/22	Japan		1,988.15		6,357.01				8,345.16
Tiffany Guarascio	3/17	3/22	Japan		1,988.15		6,357.01				8,345.16
Jay Gulshen	3/17	3/22	Japan		1,988.15		6,419.31				8,407.46
Una Lee	3/17	3/22	Japan		1,988.14		6,364.41				8,352.55
Committee total					19,564.27		25,497.74				45,062.01

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE, Apr. 25, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MICHAEL GUEST, Apr. 10, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. BRIAN BABIN, Apr. 1, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
James Ballard	3/15	3/17	Italy		1,012.51				302.00		1,314.51
	3/17	3/19	Germany		595.00				276.00		871.00
	3/19	3/21	Switzerland		822.92				342.00		1,164.92
Hon. Mike Ezell	3/15	3/17	Italy		1,012.51				302.00		1,314.51
	3/17	3/19	Germany		595.00				276.00		871.00
	3/19	3/21	Switzerland		822.92				342.00		1,164.92
Hon. Sam Graves	3/15	3/17	Italy		1,012.51				302.00		1,314.51
	3/17	3/19	Germany		595.00				276.00		871.00
	3/19	3/21	Switzerland		822.92				342.00		1,164.92
Stanton Johnson	3/15	3/17	Italy		1,012.51				302.00		1,314.51
	3/17	3/19	Germany		595.00				276.00		871.00
	3/19	3/21	Switzerland		822.92				342.00		1,164.92
Fleming M. Legg	3/15	3/17	Italy		1,012.51				302.00		1,314.51
	3/17	3/19	Germany		595.00				276.00		871.00
	3/19	3/21	Switzerland		822.92				342.00		1,164.92
Hon. Troy Nehls	3/15	3/17	Italy		1,012.51				302.00		1,314.51
	3/17	3/19	Germany		595.00				276.00		871.00
	3/19	3/21	Switzerland		822.92				342.00		1,164.92
Jack Ruddy	3/15	3/17	Italy		1,012.51				302.00		1,314.51
	3/17	3/19	Germany		595.00				276.00		871.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2025—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Hillary Scholten	3/19	3/21	Switzerland .....	.....	822.92	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,164.92
	3/15	3/17	Italy .....	.....	1,012.51	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,314.51
	3/17	3/19	Germany .....	.....	595.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	871.00
	3/19	3/21	Switzerland .....	.....	822.92	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,164.92
Committee total .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19,443.44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26,803.44

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. SAM GRAVES, Apr. 25, 2025.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2025

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at the right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JASON SMITH, Apr. 9, 2025.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-875. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 26-63, "DC Legendary Musicians Way Designation Act of 2025", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 813); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-876. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 26-64, "Girl Scouts' Way Designation Act of 2025", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 813); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-877. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 26-65, "Closing of a Portion of a Public Alley and Dedication of Land for Alley Purposes in Square 756, S.O. 24-00310, Act of 2025", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 813); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-878. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the Office's Final Sequestration Report to the President and Congress for Fiscal Year 2025, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 904(f)(1); Public Law 99-177, Sec. 254(f)(1); (99 Stat. 1078) (H. Doc. No. 119—47); to the Committee on the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. VAN DREW):

H.R. 3130. A bill to establish education partnership programs between public schools and public health agencies to prevent the misuse and overdose of synthetic opioids by youth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and

Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 3131. A bill to amend and reauthorize the Community Services Block Grant Act; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. BERGMAN (for himself, Mr. BOST, Mr. SELF, and Mr. VAN ORDEN):

H.R. 3132. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to allow for certain fee agreements for services rendered in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of initial claims and supplemental claims for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. ANSARI (for herself, Mr. CASAR, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. OMAR, and Ms. TLAIB):

H.R. 3133. A bill to amend certain Acts related to housing to adjust rental payments with respect to certain Federal rental assistance programs, to ban source of income discrimination in housing, to reform and expand the housing choice voucher program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, 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. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Ms. VAN DUYN):

H.R. 3134. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain services furnished by freestanding emergency centers; 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. BARR:

H.R. 3135. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to automatically qualify offering statements filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with certain securities issued under Regulation A

tier 2, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. BARRAGAN (for herself, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ADAMS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3136. A bill to require the reinstatement of recently terminated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CAREY (for himself, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3137. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the biodiesel fuels credit and the biodiesel mixture credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 3138. A bill to modify the dollar amount thresholds relating to transfers of defense articles and defense services under the Arms Export Control Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. DELUZIO (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CASAR, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. POCAN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. ANSARI, Mrs. SYKES, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 3139. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to expand coverage under such Act to public employees; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. CASAR, Ms. CHU, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 3140. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the denial of deduction for certain excessive employee remuneration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DOWNING (for himself, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. OGLES, and Mr. SESSIONS):

H.R. 3141. A bill to impose limitations on the amount of unobligated balances of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. DUNN of Florida (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. HARIDOPOLOS):

H.R. 3142. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat spaceports like airports for purposes of exempt facility bond rules; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. EVANS of Colorado (for himself and Mr. LANGWORTHY):

H.R. 3143. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to add a standard related to State consideration of reliable generation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself and Mr. QUIGLEY):

H.R. 3144. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a grant program to increase access to medical care for retired Federal working dogs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 3145. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain Nurse Corps payments from gross income; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York (for himself and Mr. FIELDS):

H.R. 3146. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include service as a volunteer firefighter or volunteer emergency medical technician as a public service job for purposes of eligibility for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Mr. HUDSON (for himself, Mr. PFLUGER, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 3147. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from considering, in taking any action, the social cost of carbon, the social cost of methane, the social cost of nitrous oxide, or the social cost of any other greenhouse gas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, 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. JACK (for himself, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. FIGURES, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BRESNAHAN, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. GILL of Texas, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. MOORE of West Virginia, Mr. FINE, Mrs. WAGNER, Mrs. HOUCIN, Mr. STRONG, Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas, Mr. MCGUIRE, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 3148. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program to assist certain members of the Armed Forces and dependents with additional supplemental coverage relating to cancer; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. JAMES (for himself and Mr. BILIRAKIS):

H.R. 3149. A bill to safeguard children by providing parents with clear and accurate information about the apps downloaded and

used by their children and to ensure proper parental consent is achieved, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ROSS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 3150. A bill to amend chapter 16 of title 28, United States Code with respect to the effect of a vacancy of office on complaints against judges; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. ELFRETH, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. LALOTA, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. MESSMER, Mr. HARIDOPOLOS, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. FIELDS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. BERA, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. HARRIGAN, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. FALLON, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. WIED, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. STRONG, Mr. LUTTRELL, and Mr. ZINKE):

H.R. 3151. 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 Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Foreign Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform, Education and Workforce, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, Science, Space, and Technology, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KILEY of California (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 3152. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to address matters relating to patent subject matter eligibility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. KIM (for herself and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY):

H.R. 3153. A bill to require a standard financial aid offer form, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. KING-HINDS (for herself, Mr. MOYLAN, Ms. PLASKETT, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H.R. 3154. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to eliminate the general Medicaid funding limitations for territories of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KUSTOFF (for himself and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 3155. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the employer-provided child care credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 3156. A bill to reauthorize and reform the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY (for himself and Mr. EVANS of Colorado):

H.R. 3157. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to add a

standard related to the evaluation of State intermittent energy policies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. LEE of Nevada (for herself, Mr. AMODEI of Nevada, Mr. STANTON, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. TITUS, Ms. ANSARI, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CISNEROS, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 3158. A bill to amend the Boulder Canyon Project Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expend amounts in the Colorado River Dam fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. McCLAIN DELANEY (for herself, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MOYLAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 3159. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include training regarding financial protections under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act in certain financial literacy training programs for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' 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. MORAN (for himself and Ms. ROSS):

H.R. 3160. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to invest in inventors in the United States, maintain the United States as the leading innovation economy in the world, and protect the property rights of the inventors that grow the economy of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. ROUZER, and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 3161. A bill to make protection against damage and loss resulting from the erosion and undermining of shorelines available under the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. POCAN):

H.R. 3162. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for the importation of affordable and safe drugs by wholesale distributors, pharmacies, and individuals; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SELF (for himself and Mr. LUTTRELL):

H.R. 3163. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to define the purpose, role, duties, and professional qualification requirements for chaplains in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 3164. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide pharmacy payment of certain services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMUCKER (for himself and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas):

H.R. 3165. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to eliminate origination fees on Federal Direct loans; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. STRICKLAND (for herself and Mr. NEWHOUSE):

H.R. 3166. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for expenses relating to the diversion of wasted food, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TORRES of New York (for himself, Mr. CASE, and Mr. MOYLAN):

H.R. 3167. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to allow for the transportation of energy products on vessels between points in the United States to which the coastwise laws apply if at least one such point is in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. VALADAO (for himself and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 3168. A bill to reauthorize the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 3169. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize and modify the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Research programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself and Mr. COURTNEY):

H.R. 3170. A bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. McIVER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. FROST, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. TOKUDA):

H.R. 3171. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that a rule relating to a reduction in force is subject to review under chapter 8 of that title, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mr. BEYER, Ms. OMAR, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FIELDS, Ms. JACOBS, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 3172. A bill to amend section 287 of the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to certain uniform requirements for United States immigration officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 3173. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to add requirements to the annual report of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 3174. A bill to increase loan limits for loans made to small manufacturers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr.

BALDERSON, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Ms. BROWNLEY, and Mr. STAUBER):

H. Res. 367. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 2025 as "Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mrs. TORRES of California):

H. Res. 368. A resolution requesting information on El Salvador's human rights practices pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; 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 Mrs. FLETCHER (for herself, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. AMO, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. FIELDS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MCBATH, Mrs. DINGELL, and Ms. NORTON):

H. Res. 369. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Secretary of Health and Human Services should withdraw a reduction in public notice and comment opportunities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. RULLI, and Mr. CRANK):

H. Res. 370. A resolution supporting May 2 as "National Space Day" in recognition of the significant positive impact the aerospace community has and will continue to have on the United States of America; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. MCCAUL (for himself and Mr. QUIGLEY):

H. Res. 371. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 2025 as "National Brain Tumor Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CASTEN, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H. Res. 372. A resolution recognizing the impact the stigmatization of menstruation has on the lives of women, girls, and people who menstruate, and expressing support for the designation of the month of May as "National Menstrual Health Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on 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. MOORE of Alabama (for himself, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. BICE, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. LUTTRELL, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida):

H. Res. 373. A resolution expressing support for the month of May as "Fallen Heroes Me-

morial Month"; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 374. A resolution recognizing the disenfranchisement of District of Columbia residents, calling for statehood for the District of Columbia through the enactment of the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, and expressing support for the designation of May 1, 2025, as "D.C. Statehood Day"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, Armed Services, the Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NUNN of Iowa (for himself, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. FLOOD, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. BACON, Mr. FINSTAD, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. POCAN, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. SORESENSEN, and Mr. FEENSTRA):

H. Res. 375. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 2025 as "Renewable Fuels Month" to recognize the important role that renewable fuels play in reducing carbon impacts, lowering fuel prices for consumers, supporting rural communities, and lessening reliance on foreign adversaries; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RASKIN (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. NORTON):

H. Res. 376. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 4, 2025, as a "National Day of Reason" and recognizing the central importance of reason in the betterment of humanity; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

ML-3. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Minnesota, relative to Senate Resolution No. 15, expressing the Minnesota Senate's condemnation of President Trump's pardon of criminal participants of the January 6 insurrection who had been found guilty of violent crimes; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. PANETTA introduced a bill (H.R. 3175) to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Thomas H. Griffin for acts of valor as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. BONAMICI:
H.R. 3130.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8
By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania:
H.R. 3131.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof."
By Mr. BERGMAN:
H.R. 3132.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Ms. ANSARI:
H.R. 3133.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
section 8 of article I of the Constitution
By Mr. ARRINGTON:
H.R. 3134.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. BARR:
H.R. 3135.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. BARRAGÁN:
H.R. 3136.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. CAREY:
H.R. 3137.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8
By Mr. DAVIDSON:
H.R. 3138.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Constitutional citation: Article 1, Section 8: Congress shall have the 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. DELUZIO:
H.R. 3139.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. DOGGETT:
H.R. 3140.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. DOWNING:
H.R. 3141.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. DUNN of Florida:
H.R. 3142.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8 Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. EVANS of Colorado:
H.R. 3143.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3
By Mr. FITZPATRICK:
H.R. 3144.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. FITZPATRICK:
H.R. 3145.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:
H.R. 3146.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. HUDSON:
H.R. 3147.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution
By Mr. JACK:
H.R. 3148.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. JAMES:
H.R. 3149.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:
H.R. 3150.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 1
By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi:
H.R. 3151.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of section 8 of Article 1
By Mr. KILEY of California:
H.R. 3152.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII, Clause XVIII
By Mrs. KIM:
H.R. 3153.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8.
By Ms. KING-HINDS:
H.R. 3154.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. KUSTOFF:
H.R. 3155.
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 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 of Officer thereof.
By Mr. LAHOOD:
H.R. 3156.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
U.S. Constitution Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: Congress has the 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 any Department or Officer thereof."
By Mr. LANGWORTHY:
H.R. 3157.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Ms. LEE of Nevada:
H.R. 3158.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 provides Congress with the power to "lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises" in order to "provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States."
By Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY:
H.R. 3159.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)
By Mr. MORAN:
H.R. 3160.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 8
By Mr. MURPHY:
H.R. 3161.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Sec. 8, clause 18.
By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:
H.R. 3162.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for the importation of affordable and safe drugs by wholesale distributors, pharmacies, and individuals.
By Mr. SELF:
H.R. 3163.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:
H.R. 3164.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. SMUCKER:
H.R. 3165.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause I of the U.S. Constitution
By Ms. STRICKLAND:
H.R. 3166.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. TORRES of New York:
H.R. 3167.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8.
By Mr. VALADAO:
H.R. 3168.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause I
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. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 3169.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power "to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian Tribes."
By Mr. WALBERG:
H.R. 3170.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.
By Ms. WATERS:
H.R. 3171.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 3172.

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. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 3173.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 3174.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 3175.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 309: Mr. MOORE of North Carolina.

H.R. 423: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 485: Ms. PLASKETT.

H.R. 516: Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. McCORMICK, and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 833: Mr. DOWNING.

H.R. 844: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 979: Mr. STAUBER, Mr. FINE, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 1004: Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 1046: Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 1151: Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 1200: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1262: Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1267: Mr. YAKYM.

H.R. 1285: Mr. STAUBER.

H.R. 1329: Mr. SMITH of Missouri.

H.R. 1347: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1355: Mr. BISHOP.

H.R. 1364: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 1383: Mr. BERGMAN.

H.R. 1492: Mr. HARRIGAN.

H.R. 1528: Mr. WIED.

H.R. 1530: Mr. FALLON.

H.R. 1688: Mr. MIN.

H.R. 1755: Ms. STEFANIK.

H.R. 1801: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 1845: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 1882: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 1958: Mr. MCGUIRE.

H.R. 2048: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.

H.R. 2102: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 2129: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.

H.R. 2181: Mrs. TORRES of California and Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 2207: Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 2208: Mrs. FLETCHER and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 2209: Mrs. FLETCHER and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 2210: Mrs. FLETCHER and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 2211: Mrs. FLETCHER and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 2296: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 2311: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.

H.R. 2323: Mr. SELF and Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 2355: Mr. MURPHY.

H.R. 2368: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 2381: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 2416: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 2420: Mr. FROST.

H.R. 2462: Mr. COLE.

H.R. 2466: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 2550: Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LICCARDI, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. WATERS, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 2617: Mr. YAKYM.

H.R. 2799: Mr. BEYER, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. LATIMER, Ms. LEE of Nevada, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 2808: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 2816: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 2851: Mr. LATIMER.

H.R. 2854: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 2859: Mr. MAGAZINER and Mr. FROST.

H.R. 2868: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 2891: Mr. CAREY.

H.R. 2964: Mr. YAKYM and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 3057: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 3065: Mr. HUNT.

H.R. 3070: Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.R. 3105: Ms. TENNEY.

H.J. Res. 38: Ms. LEE of Florida.

H.J. Res. 67: Ms. SIMON.

H.J. Res. 80: Mr. THOMPSON of California and Mrs. HAYES.

H. Res. 166: Mr. FINE and Ms. FRIEDMAN.

H. Res. 171: Mr. GREEN of Texas.

H. Res. 339: Mr. YAKYM.

H. Res. 355: Ms. BONAMICI.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS— ADDITIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

The following Member added his name to the following discharge petition:

Petition 2 by Mr. CASTEN on House Resolution 250: Mr. Aguilar.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 171

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

No. 73

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARKWAYNE MULLIN, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, faithfully guide us through life, bringing us where You want us, as we seek Your will. You are our dwelling place, and in Your presence, we find rest. In the shadow of Your wings, we take refuge.

Today, provide safety for the Members of this body. Teach them to delight in Your wisdom and to hear and do Your will.

Lord, give them grace and humility to look to You, to submit to You, and to depend upon You. May the power of Your Spirit renew and refresh them physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. Guide them securely down the paths that lead to life, until they dwell forever in Your presence.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The senior assistant executive clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2025.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARKWAYNE MULLIN, a Senator from the State of Oklahoma, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. MULLIN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will resume consideration of S.J. Res. 31, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant executive 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

NATIONAL HOME VISITING WEEK

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to thank all of my colleagues for unanimously passing my bipartisan resolution to designate a National Home Visiting Week because supporting parents and children is a topic of importance to all of my colleagues and to this Senator.

The first few years of a child's life are crucial to their overall growth and development. In fact, every child deserves a chance to live up to his or her potential. Providing new and expecting parents with the skills needed to meet the demands of their children assists in strengthening families and encourages healthy development.

Evidence-based home visiting programs, like the Federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program help improve developmental outcomes for children and reduce postpartum depression, child abuse, and neglect.

Families ought to have a strong foundation to thrive. Home visitors that provide these evidence-based services help families lay this important foundation.

It is important that we support parents as they raise the next generation. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

100TH DAKOTA RELAYS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, tomorrow afternoon, runners will take their

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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S2723

marks for the 100th returning of the Howard Wood Dakota Relays. I have to say, I look forward to this event every year. It is more than a track meet. It is one of the hallmarks of sports in South Dakota and an incredible tradition that is now marking 100 years.

Each year, thousands of high school athletes come from across the upper Midwest to compete at the Howard Wood Field in Sioux Falls, SD. But the Dakota Relays is not about where you are from or how big your school is; it is about the best competing against the best. And it is a thrilling 2 days—hurdles, relays, the long jump, javelin, and, of course, the special event on Friday night that showcases some of the best runners in the region. Athletes get to compete against other athletes they won't see during a season or even at their statewide track meets, and it is incredible to see how hard these high schoolers work, to see them give it their all, and to see their sportsmanship in both victory and defeat.

For generations, the Dakota Relays has been the ultimate proving ground and a tradition shared by many South Dakota families. My own family's involvement in the relays stretches from the very beginning. My wife Kimberley's grandfather—the legendary "Smokey Joe" Mendel—ran in one of the first Dakota Relays, and he was the first person to be inducted into the Dakota Relays Hall of Fame in 1959. My dad coached a relay team from Murdo—my hometown—that made it to the relays a couple of different times. Both of my daughters competed in the relays when they were in high school. In fact, both were gold medalists. I have a son-in-law who is also a gold medalist at the relays, and my daughter Brittany's 4 x 800-meter relay team still holds the meet record that they set back in 2005.

The Dakota Relays has been a highlight of high school athletes' careers for as long as it has been around. When legendary Washington High School coach Howard Wood established the relays, he did it to give student athletes an opportunity to compete at a high level. That first year featured athletes from nine schools. Today, it is much more than I think Coach Wood ever would have imagined: 3,000 athletes and 20,000 fans are expected this year; 17 future Olympians have competed in the Dakota Relays. It is now the longest running high school track meet in South Dakota and one of the longest running in the entire country.

Even as it has grown, the Dakota Relays still draws its support and strength from the local community, especially from the volunteers who work hard to keep the events running smoothly. The relays couldn't run without these men and women, and I always enjoy the chance to help out when I can; although, these days, I am helping to move hurdles or presenting medals now that technology has replaced me as a timer.

Sioux Falls native Terry Nielsen has volunteered in various roles at the Dakota Relays for almost 50 years.

After all those years, he says:

The success of this meet is based on small town South Dakota.

I couldn't agree more.

The Dakota Relays represent what I love about South Dakota, about our small towns, and about the people and values that make our State great.

At the entrance of Howard Wood Field is a plaque that reads, "Howard Wood . . . Molder of Youth," and I have to say that is what a good coach does: shapes youth, pushes athletes to do more, to be better, to think about more than just themselves. Coach Wood believed that athletics develops character and knowledge that serve athletes in every stage of life.

He said:

Athletics should teach the following [lessons]: To mind one's own business; to be a good loser—to lose without crying; to be a good winner—to win without boasting; to be nonsollicitous of sympathy; to develop initiative and cooperation; good sportsmanship, which is none other than the Golden Rule; a respect for the code; control of the emotional self; to care for the body. . . . My sincere hope and wish is that these few points have been grounded.

That was from the founder of the Howard Wood Dakota Relays.

Howard Wood's legacy is alive and well after 100 years at the Dakota Relays, and as always, I look forward to being there this year to cheer on our athletes and to be a part of this great South Dakota tradition.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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, Donald Trump's first 100 days in office boil down to one word: "failure."

Yesterday, we learned that the U.S. economy shrank—actually shrank—in the first quarter of 2025. It is his first quarter in office, and the economy shrinks. It was the worst single quarter the economy has seen since the time of the pandemic.

And what does Donald Trump have to say about this? Does he admit his mistakes? Does he take responsibility, like any leader should do? Of course not. Donald Trump has said it is Joe Biden's fault the economy is shrinking today. He said it will be Joe Biden's fault if the GDP is bad again in the next quarter.

In Donald Trump's alternate universe, when things go wrong, it is always someone else's fault. It is just appalling.

It is no surprise why Donald Trump's polls are slipping. He starts a trade war with no plan at all and then tells families they will just have to settle for higher prices. He tells parents they will have to accept fewer and more expensive gifts for their kids for Christmas. Leave it to Donald Trump to act like a Grinch in the middle of spring. Fewer choices, higher prices—that is the Trump economy in a nutshell.

But Donald Trump has not acted alone. Republicans in the Senate and the House own his mess too. It is not just that Republicans are silent; they are complicit in Donald Trump's failures.

Last night, Senate Republicans had a chance to stop Donald Trump's tariffs here on the Senate floor. They said no. They chose to side with the tariffs instead. They chose to side with high prices for Americans—\$4,000 more a year. They chose to side with Donald Trump over siding with the American consumer, who is paying more than \$4,000 a year. So Republicans now own Donald Trump's tariffs.

Let me repeat. Republicans own Donald Trump's tariffs.

Don't complain about him. Don't go knocking at the White House door, saying: Get rid of him. You are going along, and you voted to go along.

If Republicans wanted to stop these tariffs, they certainly could. They have the power. Many of them know privately it is the right thing to do, but they are too scared to cross Donald Trump. So instead of siding with the American consumer, they side with him and enable his destructive behavior.

But it is not just tariffs—oh, no. Republicans are behind every failure of Donald Trump. They are his enablers, his collaborators, his coconspirators. We all know they could undo Trump's failing policies if they wanted to, but they sit on their hands and in so many cases are complicit.

Republicans are complicit in Donald Trump's push for tax cuts for billionaires. They are complicit in putting Medicaid funding on the chopping block. They are complicit in adding \$52 trillion to the national debt. They are complicit as DOGE sabotages the Social Security Administration. They are complicit in the leadership failures at the Pentagon. And they will be complicit should the economy slip into a wholly unnecessary recession, God forbid.

In just 100 days of Donald Trump, polls show Americans are getting fed up. They are fed up with the chaos, they are fed up with the lawlessness, and they are fed up with Donald Trump siding with the special few over them. And the longer the Republicans enable Donald Trump's reckless behavior, the American people are going to get fed up with Republican majorities as well.

TARIFFS

Mr. President, now on tariffs and re-tailers. Even Donald Trump admits that prices are going up because of his

trade war. Companies ranging from Procter & Gamble, to Target, to adidas, to Best Buy, to AutoZone all warn—all warn—that a global trade war means that Americans will pay more for their products. Even if some companies try to hold off for a little while, eventually, the dam is going to break. The result? The average household will pay an extra \$4,700 a year. That is a lot of money for an average family.

I urge national retailers to be transparent to their customers. If national retailers raise prices on their products, they should list out exactly how much their price increases are connected to tariffs. They should break it down so consumers know.

Companies itemizing the cost of tariffs for their customers is not “hostile” or “political”; it is being honest with consumers. And it is easy to do. I have talked to businesspeople all over my State and even the country. They know how much the costs are increasing because of tariffs. They simply have to let consumers know as well.

Electric and gas companies already itemize each surcharge and fee in each utility bill. Airline companies on their tickets list out fuel costs, security fees, and base fares. Why shouldn't they and all companies do the same for this new increased cost from tariffs?

Retailers have reportedly already explained to the Trump administration the impact of tariffs on their products. Well, consumers deserve the same courtesy. Itemize the price of tariffs, break down the costs so people can see, and maybe that will cause enough people to put pressure on Republican Senators and Congressmen and on the White House to get rid of these ridiculous tariffs across the world. And it will serve the interests of the retailers as well because if the tariffs go away, their prices will go back down.

Americans deserve to know who is picking their pockets. I call on retailers to disclose to consumers how much tariffs are increasing the prices of their products, and they should do so as soon as possible.

NOMINATION OF FRANK BISIGNANO

Mr. President, on the Bisignano nomination, today, Senate Republicans will vote to advance Frank Bisignano to lead the Social Security Administration.

Frank Bisignano has an ominous reputation: He is Mr. Slash and Burn. Bisignano equals slash and burn when it comes to companies and now when it comes to the Social Security Administration. Everywhere he goes, every company he has been part of, he slashes and burns. So I can't think of a worst Agency for Mr. Slash-and-Burn Bisignano to lead than the Social Security Administration.

Every single Republican who votes yes on Bisignano is voting yes to ax Social Security.

The Social Security Administration is already in chaos. Knowing how popular it is, the Trump administration

doesn't say outright they want to kill it. Instead, they want to strangle it—fewer offices, fewer people in the offices, trying to take away phone lines, trying to take away email—strangle it because they know it is too popular to say they are going to kill it directly.

But already, because of their actions—because of the Trump administration, DOGE, Musk—the Social Security Administration is already in chaos. People's benefits are already in danger of being delayed. Wait times over the phones are getting longer. Field offices are shutting down. Employees are getting fired. Staffing is at a 50-year low. Chaos. And the last place you need it is at the Social Security Administration.

DOGE says—Musk says they want to get rid of waste. There is no waste here. Social Security is one of the leanest operations there is. But they just want to kill it and probably eventually privatize it. The hard-right wing, which hates all government, wants to take this crown jewel that Americans have and love—Social Security—and privatize it? That is what some of them want to do, if you read some of these academic papers. No way. We are going to fight that tooth and nail, and we will stop that.

Republicans have a choice when it comes to this nominee. To confirm him is to be complicit in dismantling Social Security. They should vote against moving forward today.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican whip.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I just heard the minority leader talk about the first 100 days under President Trump.

When I talk to the people at home in Wyoming about the successes of this Trump administration, the first 100 days, compared to what I heard from the minority leader, it is a difference between night and day. Specifically, the people of Wyoming are delighted with the job President Trump has been doing and especially on the issue of the southern border, because for 4 years, Joe Biden and Kamala Harris told us, told all of America, and told all of the world they could do nothing to fix the southern border crisis. They swore nothing could have stopped the 10 million illegal immigrants who flooded into the country. It took President Trump to prove them wrong.

Of all of President Trump's 100-day accomplishments, fixing the Biden border crisis shines the brightest of all. Seal the border; stop the invasion of illegal immigrants—President Trump promised to do it at campaign stops all around the country, and he delivered quickly.

Today, we have the most secure border on record. The southern border has now been closed down tight.

Illegal border crossings are down by over 94 percent since President Trump took office. The Border Patrol agents feel free to do their job once again, and

they are now doing it with pride. Their service and their sacrifice are once again respected—not how it was in the Biden administration. The Border Patrol chief says that morale is “going through the roof.” They are able to do their job.

Even CBS News captured the dramatic turnaround. This is CBS News:

[T]ypically, when we go to the border, we see at least one group of people who are trying to cross into the U.S. illegally. We did not see a single migrant.

CBS News.

Let's contrast that to what we saw with Joe Biden. It is staggering. Think about it. In December of 2023, with the Biden administration, Biden's open border policies allowed up to 14,000 illegal immigrants coming across our border on a daily basis. Today, we are down to less than 7,000 in a whole month. They had nearly twice that amount in a single day in the Biden administration.

This is the result of President Trump in the White House. Illegal immigrants caught at the border face swift removal—not like it was before. In President Trump's first 100 days, only 9 illegal immigrants were released into America—9, period—9. Last year, during that same period, more than 184,000 illegal immigrants were released into the United States.

We didn't need new laws; we needed a new President. And we got one 100 days ago—a President with guts, a President with vision, and a President with a backbone, something we needed desperately and now have.

How did President Trump do it? Well, he ripped up the Democrats' open invitation that said to illegal immigrants from around the world: Come to America.

No more free healthcare. No more free debit cards. No more free cell phones. No more free hotel rooms. No more free plane tickets. No more catch-and-release. That is how you get the job done. President Trump dismantled Joe Biden's parole program abuses—and they were abuses. He replaced catch-and-release with detain-and-deport. He launched deportations at the border and in the country.

He labeled the cartels—those are those evil traffickers of drugs and of people. He labeled them, as he should have, as foreign terrorist organizations. The world heard the message loud and clear. Illegal immigrants, they turned around and they went home.

One Venezuelan illegal immigrant put it this way: I am just going back, he said, because with Donald Trump it is going to be too hard.

That is right; it is too hard to come to this country now illegally. And the American people, and certainly the people in my home State in Wyoming, say that is the way it ought to be. When illegal immigrants know they can't sneak in and then stay, they won't come. Detain-and-deport deters the flow of illegal immigrants.

Now we need to mirror that same success inside America. President Trump is off to a strong start there as well. His strategic and historic deportation campaign, the largest in our history, is making our streets safer, and communities know it. The criminals that President Trump is expelling are the worst of the worst. They are the murderers, the drug dealers, the gang members, the human traffickers.

They are gone. In 100 days, 66,000 deportations have been carried out. Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrests of illegal immigrants, of the criminals, have already outpaced all of 2024 under Joe Biden. Republicans in this body, in Congress—in the House and in the Senate—are moving forward to get law enforcement the resources they need to finish the job, and that includes \$175 billion for border security that we have passed here in the Senate. We will finish the wall. We will boost Border Patrol. We will strengthen ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and expand detention capacity.

The people in my home State are thrilled that President Trump is enforcing the law and restoring order. Now, the Democrats, on the other hand, they are not thrilled; they are furious. They don't like it. They like open borders.

Democrats in Congress are racing to El Salvador to defend an MS-13 gang member—or, as one of the media calls him, the Maryland man. A Member of this body led the charge.

In 2023, that Member's constituent Rachel Morin—she was a mother of five—was brutally murdered by an illegal immigrant. He did not speak out, that same Member who rushed to El Salvador. No. He didn't meet with her family. No. He refused.

You talk about a situation that the American people understand: the difference between the Democrats and the Republicans. Rush to El Salvador but won't talk to the family of a young woman, a mother of five, murdered.

That is the mindset of the Democrats: Open the borders. Let them come in. Let them kill. Let them rape.

It is astonishing.

Rush to El Salvador to fight for a gang member. And that Senator said he wasn't going to quit fighting until that thug is back in America.

So let me ask my colleagues a question: Does that make America safer? Let's remember who the Democrats are fighting for. This is a man who had no right to be here—here illegally; a man who has a lawful removal order; a verified member of MS-13, according to an immigration judge—not according to me; according to an immigration judge—a human trafficker, a man whose wife filed two restraining orders against him, a man who beat his wife, who threatened to kill her and who bragged “nobody can do anything” to him. That is who the Democrats are fighting for.

We are fighting for our safe communities. That is what we need here. They

are not defending fairness—Democrats are not. They are shielding illegal immigrant criminals from justice, and it is wrong. Democrats choose rapists and killers over American families harmed by their policies.

Why? It seems that they want the illegal immigration invasion to continue. Republicans are different. Our party is committed to protecting American families. We stand for law and order. Our mission is to restore safety for the American people—security for the American people and safety for our communities.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

VACCINE PLACEBO TESTING

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, yesterday, the Health Secretary, RFK, Jr., announced that the Department would subject all new vaccines—including vaccines for children and vaccines for well-researched diseases like measles and polio—to placebo testing.

So what does that mean? It means that they would take a bunch of kids, divide them into two groups and give some of the kids the vaccine for rubella and mumps or polio; and then they would take the other half and give them a placebo—a dummy vaccine that doesn't work; it is not supposed to work; and then they would study how the kids fare, to let the disease process continue.

Let me tell you something about my father. My father was the only doctor on the record for the first couple of years after the Tuskegee experiments on African-American men in which they withheld lifesaving medicine from hundreds of African-American men, believing that they were expendable, to “observe the disease process.”

What they are contemplating—and I don't know how serious this is, but what they are contemplating is that at scale with children. I am hoping that the Department clarifies today that is not what they meant; that is fake news. But as of now, they are contemplating populationwide experiments on children to see how the disease process progresses.

There should be 100 U.S. Senators opposed to that, and I pray that they back off of this by the end of the day.

H.J. RES. 75

Mr. President, the Trump environmental agenda revolves around one thing and one thing only: How do we make fossil fuel companies even richer while raising costs for everybody else?

You know, people voted for Trump for all kinds of reasons, but I don't know anybody who voted for Trump hoping that their kids and their neighbors would be more exposed to the most toxic pollutants like mercury and lead that cause cancer, cause brain damage, and cause birth defects. But through their continued rollback of fundamental environmental protections, that is what we are about to do in 10 minutes.

For decades, these regulations have made our communities safer and

healthier. You can step outside or have your kids play at the park without worrying about the air being polluted by harmful toxins. There is no reason that we should trust polluters chasing profits to responsibly self-regulate.

There are lots of problems in the government and there are even some regulations that don't make any sense, but the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, it has been very, very successful over the many, many decades. And what the Republicans are moving forward with today is a rollback of the thing that has protected our kids, our family members, and our community members just to make sure—this isn't even a climate thing—that you are not breathing in the kinds of toxic chemicals that cause brain damage and cause cancer.

Protecting our communities is one of the most basic jobs of a U.S. Senator, and this resolution does the opposite. For that very simple reason, I urge my colleagues to vote against it.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we start the vote now.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the clerk will report the joint resolution.

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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 the third time.

VOTE ON H.J. RES. 75

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 Alabama (Mrs. BRITT).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 228 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Thune
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	
Graham	Moreno	

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Hickenlooper	Reed
Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kelly	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kim	Schiff
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Coons	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Slotkin
Duckworth	Markey	Smith
Durbin	Merkley	Van Hollen
Fetterman	Murphy	Warner
Galego	Murray	Warnock
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Warren
Hassan	Padilla	Welch
Heinrich	Peters	Wyden

NOT VOTING—3

Booker	Britt	Whitehouse
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The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 75) was passed.

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"—Resumed

S.J. RES. 31

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SHEEHY). Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S.J. Res. 31.

Under the previous order, all debate time is expired. 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. 31

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. DURBIN. 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 Alabama (Mrs. BRITT).

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. 229 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moran	
Graham	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	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Fetterman	Murray	Warren
Galego	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	
Heinrich	Reed	

NOT VOTING—2

Britt	Whitehouse
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The joint resolution (S.J. Res. 31) was passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 31

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 "Review of Final Rule Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act" (89 Fed. Reg. 73293 (September 10, 2024)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HAGERTY). Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION FIRST 100 DAYS

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to discuss my concern about the chaos that is roiling the Department of Defense. Sunday will mark the 100th day of Pete Hegseth serving as Secretary of Defense.

During his confirmation hearing, Mr. Hegseth said:

President Trump wants a Pentagon laser focused on warfighting, lethality, meritocracy, standards, and readiness. That is it. That is my job.

Well, Secretary Hegseth is failing the mission President Trump gave him. His actions over the past 100 days have done nothing but distract the Pentagon and undermine warfighting, lethality, meritocracy, standards, and readiness.

In the first 100 days, Secretary Hegseth has terminated or weakened programs and processes that are the bedrock upon which our military recruits personnel and trains servicemembers to go into battle.

For example, in February the Secretary announced his plan to slash the civilian workforce by 5 to 8 percent, terminate probationary workers, and institute a hiring freeze.

These severe measures have only meant more work for the remaining employees and more costly work for military officers and contractors to cover the gaps, or simply not to carry out the missions.

The Secretary has also launched a number of efforts to eliminate diversity and inclusion programs, which have led to more limited recruiting efforts, attempts to separate honorably serving transgender servicemembers, dissolving social clubs at the military academies, banning and removing books from the Naval Academy, and inspiring walkouts by students at DOD schools abroad over book bans and curriculum changes.

Frankly, I joined the Army in 1967 and served on Active Duty for 12 years, and the idea that dependent children of military personnel in DOD schools would protest the Secretary of Defense to me was inconceivable, but it has happened, showing, I think, great anxiety in the ranks of our military personnel all across the globe.

The Secretary is also failing his duty to lead the Department by example. That is one of the key touchstones of any military leader: "Do what I do" and "Follow me."

For example, on March 24, Mr. Hegseth demonstrated a severe lack of judgment when he texted classified military intelligence on the unclassified and unsecured Signal app to at least two group chats, including one with his wife, brother, and personal lawyer, which raises the question: Why would they have access to, or should have access to, highly classified information? That information, if intercepted by an adversary, would endanger the lives of our servicemembers deployed downrange.

The Secretary also installed a "dirty line," which is an unsecured internet connection into his Pentagon office so he could more easily send texts and personal emails. Such actions violate the laws and protocols that every other military servicemember is required to follow.

When military leaders bring in enlisted personnel and junior officers and tell them about the boundaries of proper cyber use, they make it very clear: It is completely inappropriate—indeed,

dangerous—to plug a dirty line into an official computer.

The Department of Defense Office of Inspector General is conducting an investigation of these activities. This mishandling, in the view of most people I know, particularly professional officers, is classified information. And we all look forward to the Inspector General's independent and unbiased finding.

And just hours ago, we learned of press reports that National Security Advisor Mike Waltz will be fired this week because of his own actions around the Signal incident. If true, I welcome the message of accountability that it sends.

Mr. Waltz made a significant mistake in adding a reporter to a sensitive Signal chat, and his failure could have had serious national security consequences. But I respect that he took responsibility for his mistake and paid the cost, apparently.

In contrast, Secretary Hegseth has refused to take responsibility for his own misconduct, which, in my view, was far more egregious than that of Mr. Waltz.

Indeed, the fallout from this incident has further eroded the already dismal credibility that the Secretary brought to the Pentagon. The Secretary's inner circle of handpicked advisers have nearly all resigned or been fired. His chief of staff was dismissed amid allegations of incompetence and unsettling personal behavior. Three of his senior policy advisers were fired for allegedly leaking sensitive information, which they all staunchly deny.

And his top spokesman resigned after losing confidence in the Secretary and writing "[T]he building is in disarray under Hegseth's leadership" and, furthermore "The last month has been a full-blown meltdown at the Pentagon—and it's becoming a real problem for the administration."

And these were the words of Secretary Hegseth's self-selected top spokesperson.

This chain of events is extraordinary and underscores the concerns I raised at Secretary Hegseth's nomination hearing. He does not possess the temperament and management skills needed to lead the Pentagon, and he is proving that over and over.

There have been multiple news reports that Secretary Hegseth spends much of his day focusing on perceived leaks and that he has become paranoid, lashing out at aides and senior military leaders, convinced that they are undermining him.

He has threatened his top military advisers, including then-acting Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Grady and Joint Chiefs Director General Sims with polygraph tests in order to prove that these distinguished military leaders are not liars.

Knowing the quality and the dedication of these gentlemen to the military, and particularly to their obligation for honesty and fidelity, I find it

unusual that they would be receiving the lie detector test.

The Secretary's office should be leading the Pentagon, allowing the rest of the Department to be laser-focused on the missions, but, again, President Trump and Secretary Hegseth have made that very difficult due to the internal disarray they have created by firing key military leaders.

These firings include the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Commander of Cyber Command, the U.S. Military Representative to NATO, the Vice Chair of the Air Force, the Secretary of Defense Senior Military Aide, and the top uniformed lawyers, or Judge Advocates General of each of the military services.

You know, one of the thoughts I had is if you want to go ahead and do things that are beyond the law, the first thing you do is get rid of the lawyers, and that is the first thing he did.

And these are not minor positions. They are vital to the Department's mission, and when left unfilled, the military loses focus and missions are compromised. These officers were fired without a plan to replace them, which is crippling our military's effectiveness during a perilous time.

More importantly, these officers were fired without explanation, which leads to the worst possible outcome for a military force: fear throughout the ranks that one should not speak up, should not refuse an illegal order, and should not call out abuse or question decisions.

General and flag officers are charged with providing their unbiased "best military advice" to the civilian leaders of the Department of Defense. Servicemembers, all the way down to young NCOs and enlisted personnel, are expected to give candid feedback to their leaders and peers, and commanders expect troops to give them the facts straight and true and their best advice because lives are on the line.

In fact, any good officer understands that his success and the success and, indeed, the lives of his troops are based so much on the advice, the insights of noncommissioned officers in his command.

And if that spirit, that aspect of military life in which people can talk the truth to each other is frustrated or essentially annulled, we are in a grave position.

Now, similarly, Congress expects candor from senior officers to provide their best judgment without fear of retribution, for both the security of our country and that of the 2 million service men and women who put themselves in harm's way.

But firing officers as a political litmus test poisons this military ethos. It sends an immediate signal to troops that providing their unbiased best military advice might have career-ending consequences.

Now, I will take a brief moment to discuss the officers who have been dis-

missed. GEN CQ Brown served as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and was fired without explanation, not even halfway into his 4-year term—the first Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to be dismissed during his term of office, and this stretches back many decades.

The Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff was designed by Congress to be such that it bridged elections, that it was not tied into elections, that it was far from elections. But one of the first steps that Trump and Hegseth set was to break this custom, this tradition, really, this value.

When he was informed, he was visiting our troops on the southern border, and he was abruptly dismissed.

General Brown served our Nation honorably for more than four decades. He was a fighter pilot with multiple combat missions, and he led the Joint Chiefs of Staff with dedication and skill. By the way, the Senate approved his nomination by a vote of 83–11, not exactly a vote for a controversial personality. To date, the Trump administration has given no justification for his dismissal.

Seven full weeks passed without a confirmed Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. Gen. Dan Caine has now been confirmed and is working hard to get up to speed. Given what happened to his predecessor, General Caine must realize that in addition to his duties as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he must also deal with the political intrigue consuming the Pentagon.

I hope that General Caine will always provide the best military advice to the President and the Secretary of Defense, even if that advice is not what they would want to hear.

Secretary Hegseth also dismissed ADM Lisa Franchetti who served as the 33rd Chief of Naval Operations. She was the first woman to lead the Navy and the first to serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Admiral Franchetti served in leadership roles at every level throughout the Navy, both on shore and at sea and with postings around the globe. She was a trailblazer, team builder, an inspiration to many.

The Senate approved her nomination by a vote of 95–1, a strong endorsement from this body, based on her record of service. Again, the Trump administration has given no justification for her dismissal.

To date, the administration has not nominated a new Chief of Naval Operations. It has been 2 months since Admiral Franchetti was dismissed, and the Navy remains without a Senate-confirmed Chief of Naval Operations at a time when the service is involved in the most intensive combat operation since World War II, taking place today in the Red Sea. I was able to greet a destroyer returning from the Red Sea and was informed that it had seen more action than any destroyer since World War II.

Gen. Timothy Haugh served as the Commander of U.S. Cyber Command

and the director of the National Security Agency. As the commander of Cyber Command, General Haugh led the most formidable cyber warfighting force in the world, responsible for detecting, deterring, and overseeing cyber operations against America's adversaries, particularly China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, and various terrorist organizations.

General Haugh had a distinguished 34-year career within Air Force cyber and intelligence organizations, including multiple command assignments. Indeed, I was impressed with not only his technical skill, but his professionalism, his commitment to serving the Nation, protecting the Constitution, and doing it with a skill which is remarkable.

I am extremely concerned that press reports indicate that Laura Loomer, a fringe conspiracy theorist convinced President Trump to dismiss General Haugh and fire a slew of expert staff at the National Security Council for no discernible reason.

Now, when a conspiracy theorist can get into the President's office and convince him to fire an officer of General Haugh's demonstrated capacity and others on the National Security Council, there is not only something wrong with that individual, there is something wrong with the President who is listening to them without consulting others.

By the way, the Senate unanimously confirmed General Haugh to his post in December 2023, and once again, the Trump administration has given no explanation for his dismissal.

The Trump administration has not selected a new CYBERCOM commander, and it is unclear if there is any sense of urgency to fill this position. Secretary Hegseth has given a priceless gift to China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea, by purging from our leadership one of our most vital national security commanders.

VADM Shoshana Chatfield served as the U.S. Military Representative to NATO, the first woman to hold this post. She held a vital leadership role within the alliance, particularly as it related to coordinating international support to Ukraine. Admiral Chatfield was among the finest military officers our Nation had to offer, with a 38-year career as a Navy helicopter pilot, foreign policy expert, and preeminent military educator, including as President of the Naval War College.

The Senate unanimously confirmed Vice Admiral Chatfield to her post in December 2023. Again, the Trump administration has given no justification for her dismissal and has not nominated any replacement to this critical posting at NATO.

Gen. James Slife was the U.S. Air Force Vice Chief of Staff, the second highest ranking officer in the Air Force. He spent most of his 36-year career as a special operations helicopter pilot, a daunting and dangerous pursuit. He deployed many times around

the world and flew countless combat missions in perilous conditions.

General Slife risked his life repeatedly for our Nation and led his fellow special operators and airmen with distinction. Again, the Senate unanimously confirmed General Slife to his post in December of 2023. The Trump administration has given no explanation for his dismissal, nor have they nominated any officer to help lead the Air Force.

Lt. Gen. Jennifer Short was the first female senior military assistant to the Secretary of Defense. She advised the Secretary and served as a representative for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, coordinating policy and operations across the Joint Staff, combatant commands, and with the U.S. interagency. A command pilot with more than 1,800 flight hours, including more than 430 combat hours in an A-10, she flew in Operations Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom and commanded airmen at the squadron, wing, major command, and combatant command levels.

The Senate unanimously confirmed her to her post. The Trump administration has given no explanation for her dismissal.

Finally, I am deeply concerned by Secretary Hegseth's dismissal of the Judge Advocates General of the military services. These officers, known as TJAGs, are the most senior uniformed officers in the military. These officers each served more than 30 years in uniform as military lawyers. They were strictly apolitical and held fundamental roles ensuring that balanced, legal counsel was part of every military policy discussion. These officers provided legal oversight that spanned military justice, operational law, administrative compliance, government ethics, and U.S. adherence to the law of armed conflict.

These unprecedented firings, along with the firings of the inspectors general, should alarm everyone about the commitment of the President and the Secretary of Defense to follow the rule of law for the military and also within the United States and across the world.

The Defense Department is one of the most complex institutions in the world, with a budget of nearly \$900 billion and a workforce of nearly 3 million military and civilian personnel. It is an organization that requires strong leadership, stability, predictability, and trust. These qualities are critical because we ask the Department's men and women to risk their lives every day in the service of this country.

Those men and women who gave their lives and all of those who are still serving at this moment deserve the best. They deserve a leader who is truly laser-focused on readiness, lethality, and the mission, not someone who treats his position as Secretary as a performative exercise complete with a Twitter feed dominated with workout videos. Our servicemembers deserve better. They deserve some-

one who is focused on them, not focused on himself.

If Secretary Hegseth does not improve his job performance, the conditions at the Pentagon will continue to deteriorate, and something worse is bound to happen.

I hope Secretary Hegseth takes note. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

PETE HEGSETH

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about how my Democratic colleagues, some RINOs, and the globalist media are working together to try to take down Donald Trump and derail his "America First" agenda. The latest target, President Trump's Secretary of Defense, Pete Hegseth.

I have said many times that I am convinced that many Democrats would rather see America and its leaders fail than to see this country succeed. It is sad, but it is true.

You know, when President Trump nominated Pete Hegseth to serve as Secretary of Defense, he intentionally picked someone who understands what it means to fight for this country, not from behind a desk but from the frontlines. Pete didn't inherit the stars on his uniform; he earned his stripes while serving in the Middle East. He is one of the few in Washington who has been in the fight and experienced the traumas of war. He knows firsthand what the warfighter goes through each and every day, which is why military recruiting has skyrocketed under his leadership.

I don't know about you, but as the dad of two sons, I am glad that the man leading our Department of Defense knows the dangers of war firsthand.

You know, for decades, this country has gotten involved in foreign wars that we have had no business being involved in. Thousands of Americans have lost their lives, trillions of dollars have been squandered fighting wars where no clear objectives past the victory have ever been provided to the American citizen. We just fight them. You would think that we would learn from at least one or two of these painful lessons, but, no, that hasn't stopped the globalist warmonger machine in Washington, DC. They love war because it funds paychecks.

You know, for this reason, Democrats, the swamp, and some RINOs banded together to oppose Pete Hegseth immediately after he was nominated by President Trump—didn't take them long. I am convinced that their opposition to Hegseth was only because he was not part of the military-industrial complex.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I came to the Senate floor to urge my colleagues to support Pete Hegseth's nomination because of his outsider—not Washington, DC, but outsider—status. Thankfully, he was confirmed. But, unfortunately, the smears—some of which have come from

my colleagues—have only gotten worse since Hegseth was confirmed.

Globalists and the media, some Republicans, are working overtime to try to get Pete Hegseth. The media is breathlessly rushing to put a microphone in front of every single disgruntled former Pentagon employee who has been fired by this Secretary. You know, it doesn't matter what you are fired for; all that matters to the media and the RINOs is that they have something to say bad about the Secretary of Defense. It is clear as day that these efforts to embarrass Hegseth are nothing more than desperate attempts to salvage reputations and distract from the successes he is already having in the Pentagon.

The truth is, Hegseth inherited a complete, absolute mess at the DOD. The Pentagon has failed audits 7 years in a row. You know, if a business did that, they would go under. But in our government, that is just par for the course.

And thanks to the Biden administration's horrible withdrawal from Afghanistan, countries who hate us like China, Iran, and Venezuela have been emboldened. Instead of working to deter World War III, however, Joe Biden's Pentagon was more focused on social justice.

In 2024, the Biden Defense Department requested more than \$114 million for DEI initiatives, 114 million. Meanwhile, recruitment was at a historic low and falling. Military readiness was slipping, and the world saw a weakened United States.

Pete Hegseth made it clear that he is here to reverse course and that changes that he has made are already visible to the positive. Secretary Hegseth has already eliminated more than 200 diversity and inclusion positions and cut more than 580 million in wasteful grants and contracts—580 million.

Secretary Hegseth has made it clear that he is focused on warfighting, readiness—mission-focused, not political correctness or appeasing the woke mob. He has restored merit-based promotions, refocused leadership training on battlefield effectiveness, terminated taxpayer-funded abortions for military personnel, and reinstalled discipline as a cornerstone of the United States of America military.

This isn't just talk either. The Department is actively removing woke DEI materials from service academies and replacing them with warfighting-centric curriculums.

He also cut through bloated procurement delays and brought transparency to the defense budget. What a novel concept is actually knowing what your budget is.

You know, just 4 months in, DOD has achieved 100 percent operational control of the border. This was after the Biden administration said for 4 years, hey, there was nothing they could do to secure the border. Well, what a joke.

Under Secretary Hegseth's leadership, the Department has moved to re-

duce acquisition timelines, fast track critical update systems, and is making sure the United States is ready to compete and win wars in the 21st century. And construction on the historic Golden Dome, by the way, is well underway.

But it is not just about equipment; Pete has doubled down on his support for the warfighter by improving access to mental health services and other resources that boost morale and readiness. It was much needed.

He reinstated the servicemembers who were wrongfully removed over their personal decision to not take the COVID-19 vaccine—many of them. He has reinstated quite a few. The fact that President Biden and Secretary Austin dismissed these servicemembers was absolutely dead wrong, and I am glad that President Trump's administration has taken quick action to right this wrong.

You know, when I met with Pete during his confirmation process, I told him plainly: Don't go to Washington to make friends, but go there and fight for the warfighter. So far, he has kept his promise.

I can't speak for everyone, but I know the folks I have talked to back in my State of Alabama are very appreciative. We need a Secretary of Defense who is focused on one thing and one thing only, defending America, and that is what Pete Hegseth is doing. And he will tell you this: There is no second place in war. We have to be ready at all times.

You know, under the Biden administration, 13 American troops lost their lives because of poor planning in Afghanistan. We all know that. We have seen it. We saw it pretty much live.

Under President Trump and Hegseth, we have executed successful strikes against terrorist Houthis that have resulted in critical shipping lanes being reopened. We have to get our shipping lanes open because it is costing this country millions and millions of dollars, and world leaders across the country are begging for this to happen.

Pete Hegseth didn't sign up to be liked by the DC cocktail circuit. You know, he committed to making the military great again, and that is exactly what he is doing.

The swamp doesn't like people it can't control, but America loves its leaders who tell the truth and fight for what matters. Pete Hegseth is one of those leaders. So let's be clear: Pete is not the problem. A lot of the media think Pete Hegseth is a problem. He is not the problem; he is the solution to the problem we have had.

And while the swamp keeps losing its ever-loving mind because we have leaders who are actually putting America first again, Secretary Hegseth will keep marching forward, focused on the only thing that matters: making our military the strongest, fiercest, and most respected fighting force in the world.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

NOMINATION OF FRANK BISIGNANO

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I rise to urge my colleagues to reject Frank Bisignano's nomination to be the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration.

The first 100 days of Donald Trump's second term have been filled with chaos and cruelty that have reached into every corner of American life. Perhaps no development has been as alarming to the elderly and other concerned Americans as the attacks of the Trump administration on Social Security.

Social Security has long been considered the third rail of American politics. It is simply too important to American workers who spent their lives paying into the program out of every paycheck for politicians to idly propose major changes that would harm the earned benefits of Americans. Yet Donald Trump and his billionaire allies have decided that they are simply immune to the concerns of American citizens. They are about to find out just how wrong they are.

Over the past several months, the Trump administration has attacked nearly every aspect of Social Security. First, it was Americans' sensitive private information protected by Social Security. Then it was scheduling field offices for closure across the country. Then it was eliminating phone service for many Social Security claims.

Worst of all, there is a widespread view among Donald Trump's top lieutenants, from Elon Musk to Howard Lutnick, that Social Security is just chock-full of fraudsters. The whiplash caused by day after day of all the disruption and chaos has resulted in bedlam at Social Security, and, in my view, it has put the earned benefits of millions of Americans in jeopardy.

Mr. President, I wish I could stand in the Senate today and say the cavalry is coming; the chaos will soon be over. But I am afraid that is not the case.

If Frank Bisignano is confirmed, he is going to bring more of the chaos, lies, and callous disregard for Americans who count on Social Security that the Trump administration has brought to the Agency through DOGE. That was front and center when the nominee came before the Finance Committee in March.

That was front and center when the nominee came before the Finance Committee in March. Just before the hearing, I received a very valuable statement from a whistleblower, a former senior official at Social Security. The whistleblower stated that Mr. Bisignano had been deeply involved in the DOGE chaos at Social Security. The whistleblower said:

I am concerned that the President's nominee to be Commissioner of Social Security, Frank Bisignano, will not temper the crisis but rather bolster it.

The allegations presented by the whistleblower center around Elon Musk's DOGE and their attempts to access Social Security databases that

hold reams of personal, sensitive information of every single American. These databases represent the Fort Knox of Americans' personal lives—bank account numbers, home addresses, work history, salaries, medical records. Trump's DOGE cronies wanted unfettered access to the databases. They are still fighting for that as we speak, after they have been blocked in court.

According to the whistleblower, Mr. Bisignano personally appointed his Wall Street friend Michael Russo to be the leader of the DOGE team at Social Security. According to the Washington Post, which independently verified the whistleblower's account:

After Russo had trouble persuading the career staff to expedite the hiring of a DOGE software engineer named Akash Bobba, "Mr. Bisignano personally intervened . . . to instruct Social Security Administration staff to onboard Mr. Bobba and give him immediate access" to the agency's private data systems. Bisignano did not address what role he may have had in helping Mr. Bobba gain access. Bobba and Russo did not respond to requests for comment.

That is a direct quote from the Washington Post newspaper.

My view is this is a remarkable statement that ought to alarm all Americans.

I asked Mr. Bisignano about his affiliations with DOGE before, during, and after his hearing. Each time, he disavowed the whistleblower's allegations. I viewed that moment as an opportunity for Democrats and Republicans to come together, as we have done so often on a bipartisan basis, and get to the bottom of this before the Finance Committee reported the nominee to the full Senate. Unfortunately, my Republican colleagues didn't see it that way.

I started by asking the chairman of the Finance Committee for a bipartisan meeting with this whistleblower to evaluate their claims and seek additional evidence to determine if the nominee lied to members of the committee. The majority refused to hold that meeting or postpone the committee vote unless we agreed to hand over any information received from the whistleblower directly to the nominee and the Trump administration.

I just want to be clear on this point. This is a violation of Whistleblowing 101. That is because it allows the government to identify the individual blowing the whistle through a process of elimination. It jeopardizes the whistleblower's anonymity and safety, and I am going to have no part of that as the cochair of the Whistleblower Caucus with my friend CHUCK GRASLEY. There is a long bipartisan tradition in the Senate of treating whistleblowers with great respect and deep care.

I am here to warn America now about a dangerous erosion of congressional oversight that will have a chilling effect on public servants who are thinking about coming forward and blowing the whistle when government Agencies are acting against the interests of the Americans they serve.

Mr. President, I fear that the events I have just described are going to cause public servants who want to do the right thing to put away their whistles. That is bad for good government, it is bad for congressional oversight of laws we delegated to the executive branch through our constitutional authority, and it is bad for Americans who expect their government to be responsive and transparent.

The double whammy of disrespect for Social Security and the Americans who count on its earned benefits, along with the culture of secrecy and lies that exist throughout the Trump administration, is a bad omen for what is ahead for Social Security.

Even if the Republican Party decides to pretend none of this is happening, Americans from Portland, OR, to Portland, ME—all of them—are speaking out, literally, this weekend.

All Americans should be concerned that a nominee for a position of public trust like Commissioner of Social Security is accused of lying about his actions at the Agency, and that efforts to bring this important information to light are now being thwarted.

If Mr. Bisignano can get away with lying before he is even in place as Commissioner, who knows what else he will be able to get away with once he is in office? He could lie by denying any American who paid their Social Security taxes the benefits they have earned, claiming some phony pretense. He could lie about how sensitive personal information is being mishandled or, worse, exploited for commercial use.

I will close with this. I am going to have a lot more to say about the nominee and the Trump administration's disastrous record on Social Security. Today, I urge my colleagues to vote no on the cloture vote coming up to bring sanity back to Social Security and, in my view, safeguard the Senate's long and bipartisan tradition as a safe haven for government whistleblowers who want to speak truth to power.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORENO). The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the confirmation of Mr. Frank Bisignano, who is nominated to be the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration.

The Social Security Administration has the significant responsibility of overseeing the Social Security Program, which provides monthly benefits to millions of seniors, individuals with disabilities, and their families. The Social Security Administration also oversees the Supplemental Security Income Program and issues Social Security numbers and cards, among other critical workloads.

I am confident that Mr. Bisignano has the experience needed to lead this important Agency. He has more than 30 years of executive leadership experience in banks and financial institu-

tions. He currently serves as the chairman of the board and the chief executive officer of Fiserv, Incorporated, a leader in payments and financial technology.

During his nomination hearing, Mr. Bisignano committed to improving customer service at the Social Security Administration, including by bringing down wait times for the Agency's national 800 number and for claims decisions; ensuring that individuals can interact with the Social Security Administration in the way they prefer, whether in person, by phone, or online; and improving the Social Security Administration's payment accuracy.

During Mr. Bisignano's nomination hearing, concerns were raised regarding his alleged connections to DOGE's work at the Social Security Administration. These allegations were raised in an anonymous letter dated March 24, 2025, the day before the nomination hearing.

The allegations focused on the frequency and details of communications between the nominee and Social Security Administration officials. Mr. Bisignano addressed these allegations during the hearing and responded in writing as part of the questions for the record. He has stated clearly that he does not currently have a role at the Social Security Administration and was not part of the decision-making process led by the Acting Commissioner, Lee Dudek, about Social Security operations, personnel, or management.

The Social Security Administration needs steady, Senate-confirmed leadership. Mr. Bisignano would bring his decades-long focus on customer service and operational excellence to the Social Security Administration.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to join me in voting to confirm Mr. Bisignano to serve as the next Commissioner of Social Security.

Mr. WYDEN. To respond to my colleague, who I have worked together with so often in such a positive way, this is an area where we just have a very significant difference of opinion.

The whistleblower was a senior official who worked for years at Social Security. I believe the information given was credible, documented now by the Washington Post reporter who surveyed some of the resources and the individuals who could confirm it.

What I want to do, because I have worked with my colleague so often, is to have a bipartisan process to resolve the matter. What the majority said was, if we were going to have a bipartisan process, we would take the information that the whistleblower gave and we would give it to the administration and anybody else. And it would breach the essence of Whistleblowing 101—what we have worked on for so long.

So I want it understood that I still wish we were doing this in a bipartisan way, as I have done for so long as the cochair of the Whistleblower Caucus.

That would resolve it, and it would be done with the tradition of protecting whistleblowers, as we have done so often over the years and especially in the Finance Committee.

What I think is unfortunate is this is breaking the tradition that the Finance Committee has always done in terms of protecting whistleblowers, doing it in a fair way, and working together. I think we will regret it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, briefly to respond, we worked very closely with our colleagues across the aisle to try to vet this anonymous letter and get the information necessary to evaluate it. We are still willing to look at it.

WAIVING QUORUM CALL

Mr. President, at this point, I ask unanimous consent to waive the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Bisignano nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRAPO. I ask unanimous consent that the rollcall vote begin immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 60, Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031.

John Thune, Katie Boyd Britt, Dan Sullivan, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Crapo, Tommy Tuberville, Jim Justice, John Boozman, Roger Marshall, John Kennedy, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Rick Scott of Florida, Ted Budd, James Lankford, Mike Rounds, John Barrasso, Bernie Moreno.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. BARRASSO. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 230 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Banks	Grassley	Mullin
Barrasso	Hagerty	Murkowski
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Boozman	Hoeben	Ricketts
Budd	Husted	Risch
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Justice	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Sheehy
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Curtis	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	McCormick	Wicker
Ernst	Moody	Young
Fischer	Moreno	

NAYS—45

Alsobrooks	Heinrich	Peters
Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Blunt Rochester	Kelly	Schiff
Booker	Kim	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Coons	Klobuchar	Smith
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Markey	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warnock
Fetterman	Murphy	Warren
Gallego	Murray	Welch
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden

NOT VOTING—5

Britt	Moran	Slotkin
Graham	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

REMEMBERING ELAINE WYNN

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Elaine P. Wynn, who passed away on April 14, 2025.

Elaine was the driving force behind Wynn Resorts and a champion for Nevada. She will be greatly missed and will always be remembered for her influential business and philanthropic work that actually shaped the Southern Nevada community we know today.

Elaine was born in New York and grew up in Miami Beach, but it was Las Vegas where she found her longtime home, and it is Las Vegas that will carry on her legacy.

In 1967, Elaine moved to Las Vegas to be at the center of the gaming and entertainment industry and immediately jumped into the casino business. She cofounded both Mirage Resorts and Wynn Resorts and was instrumental in developing and designing the Mirage, Bellagio, Wynn, Encore, and other world-renowned resorts. She also wove the art, culture, and celebration of the human spirit into all the resorts she helped develop.

Elaine understood that Las Vegas was not just a destination; it was an experience and still is. Her influence on these resorts helped transform the city into the world's premier entertainment and hospitality destination. Let me just say that it was not lost on somebody who was born and raised there and watched as she transformed the Las Vegas Strip.

You know, while building her resort business, Elaine was committed to the

Las Vegas community, particularly through her advocacy for education, arts, and employee well-being. She was always giving back to her city.

Elaine's work to improve children's lives through education included leadership roles at the local, State, and national levels. Elaine chaired the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Foundation from 1985 to 1991. She cochaired Nevada's Blue Ribbon Education Reform Task Force in 2011, and she served on the Nevada State Board of Education from 2012 to 2020, including as president in 2015 and 2017. She also served on the national board of Communities in Schools—an organization dedicated to encouraging children to stay in school—and was the founding chairman of Communities in Schools of Nevada.

Now, let me just say, as somebody who grew up in that community and just so respected Elaine Wynn, I was working in local government at the time and got a call from Elaine Wynn.

Now, when you get a call from Elaine Wynn, it is: Oh, my gosh, it is Ms. Wynn on the phone. I have to take this call.

I got this call to show up—well, not even show up, just be invited—would I be willing to be invited to come to talk to her about Communities in Schools, about education in Nevada. This is how passionate she felt about education.

Oh, my gosh. I am excited. I am honored. I am willing to go there and talk to her.

So I walk in a room with other people. Elaine Wynn is there. But here is the thing: Not only was she—she has always been gracious and warm and welcoming, but she talked about Communities in Schools and introduced us to the staff who were running Communities in Schools in Southern Nevada.

I am bringing this up because the woman who ran Communities in Schools for Elaine Wynn is now one of our Congress Members, SUSIE LEE. She represents now a Las Vegas district in Congress. This is how far-reaching Elaine's networking connections are to Nevada and the people she impacted in such a positive way.

Elaine Wynn Elementary School is located in Las Vegas. It was named in dedication to her in 1991 because of her commitment to education in the State.

She also was a patron of the arts and just truly believed in arts' culture, humanity, and what it can be bring to community. President Obama named her a trustee of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 2010, and she served as cochair of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art from 2015 until her passing. She was one of the visionaries for arts in the community and helped establish and build the Las Vegas Museum of Art.

The ripples of her philanthropy extend further through the Elaine P. Wynn & Family Foundation, where Elaine was personally and actively involved. She will be remembered for her philanthropic spirit as well as her business ventures.

I am honored to have known her and to have seen her passion and her work firsthand in my hometown. She cared so deeply for our community. Whether it was education or the arts, she never missed an opportunity to lend a helping hand.

I also know, after talking with so many who worked with her, that Elaine also believed in doing the work now but recognizing succession, that once she is done for the day or once she is done with the work she started, others will follow.

She had a way of ending the day with her staff, and if you are from Las Vegas, you will appreciate this. She would go like this: "Now it is your shift."

The reason why she did that is because—if you have ever played the tables in Las Vegas, at a 21 table, every dealer, at the end of their shift, that is what they do, passing that shift on to the next one. Because she loved Las Vegas and believed in it, that was her way of telling her staff, people she worked with: I am done for now, but now it is your shift. Now it is your time to carry forward all the work we have done.

I can tell you, Nevada has lost a giant, and we are all going to miss her.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Elaine Wynn and her remarkable journey. Out of respect for her, I leave all of you with "Now it is your shift."

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BUDD). The Senator from Texas.

BUDGET RECONCILIATION

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, the Senate has made good progress on implementing President Trump's agenda. After just 100 days, we have confirmed his Cabinet. We are now working on a number of Ambassadors, and we have passed budget resolutions in the House and the Senate. And, of course, we are now grinding out the reconciliation process to make sure that the tax cuts that expire at the end of this year do not expire and we are able to prevent the largest tax increase in American history—a multitrillion-dollar tax increase were we to be unsuccessful.

But, as we know, passing the budget is probably the easiest part of this process which we have just been through, and now the various committees of jurisdiction have their work cut out for them, both in the House and the Senate, to meet the targets laid out by the budget.

Perhaps, one of the most difficult parts of this process will be to identify savings to meet budget targets in order to offset the necessary costs in this "one big beautiful bill." It is going to be really complicated, and it is going to be hard, and there are a lot of moving parts.

But one of the ways we can, I think, make good progress on cutting down on some of the excess spending that Washington seems to always fall into is by implementing work requirements for

able-bodied adults without dependents for all means-tested programs.

So means-tested programs—obviously, that refers to the fact that at certain income levels, people can get access to certain benefits by the government. Medicaid is one example; food stamps is another; temporary assistance to needy families—all of these are means-tested.

But over time, the work requirements for able-bodied adults has been eroded. Now this used to be part of our bipartisan consensus. This goes back to the Clinton era where there was an agreement between Democrats and Republicans that government assistance should be conditioned on work. The philosophy, which I think is a sound philosophy, is that government programs are here to step in to fill the gap, a safety net, if you will, when hard times come along. But we don't want any of our citizens, for a whole variety of reasons, to fall into a trap of long-term dependency. That is not good for them; that is not good for their families; it is not good for the communities in which they live; and it is unfair to taxpayers. Taxpayers shouldn't have to subsidize people who can work and who should work but who don't work.

So conditioning aid on some form of work participation, whether it is an actual job or a job training program or volunteer service was a way to keep Americans from falling into this trap.

So it was 1996 when President Clinton and Newt Gingrich, the Speaker of the House, came together to pass the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act. That is a mouthful. It came to be known more commonly as the Welfare Reform Act of 1996.

This landmark legislation created a program called TANF, or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. TANF imposed a 5-year limit on cash assistance and also implemented work requirements for able-bodied adults without children.

And the success of this law was beyond expectations. Within 5 years, welfare caseloads declined by close to 50 percent, the first significant decline since World War II. At the same time, employment and earnings among low-income individuals went up dramatically. Their standard of living improved dramatically. Employment among single mothers increased from 50 percent to 70 percent within 7 years, while the number of children living in poverty—this is a big one—the number of children living in poverty declined by 2.9 percent.

Unfortunately, this era of bipartisan consensus and good policy was turned upside down by the Obama administration's disastrous decision to roll back the TANF work requirements by issuing waivers.

The U.S. Government spends \$1 trillion on means-tested programs, and work requirements are a commonsense way to reform these programs and to save hard-earned tax dollars of Amer-

ican working families that are now spent on people who can work and should work but don't work.

Recent research from the Foundation for Government Accountability found that more than 62 percent of able-bodied adults who receive Medicaid benefits do not work at all. Let me say that again because it is so shocking: The Foundation for Government Accountability found that more than 62 percent—almost two-thirds—of able-bodied adults who receive Medicaid benefits do not work at all.

Implementing work requirements have worked well for TANF, and adding SNAP or food stamp programs would be a great step forward as well. This policy alone would save up to \$281 billion over the next 10 years.

It was also found in polling that this sort of requirement has been supported by nearly 75 percent of voters. So this is a successful requirement, work requirements, something that enjoyed bipartisan support, and in polling, voters show that 75 percent of voters said they thought it was a good idea.

But setting aside the budgetary implications, work requirements have many other positive, downstream effects for American society. As a nation, labor force participation—that is, those who are either gainfully employed or actively searching for a job—has been on the decline among working-age men for decades now. And, of course, COVID was a huge body blow on the workforce participation rates already. Between 1960 and 2023, the fraction of working-age men who are out of the labor force increased from about 3 percent to a whopping 11 percent. And by 2024, this number was increased to 22 percent—it doubled. This is nearly a 700-percent increase over the past six and a half decades.

Significant numbers of men are opting out of the labor force, and it is detrimental to society for a whole host of reasons. And the truth is, it is detrimental to them because there is dignity that comes with work, self-respect providing for your family, and your contributing to your community. Those are intangibles, perhaps, but important in American society and American culture.

But we also know that many businesses struggle to find workers. The Wall Street Journal recently highlighted that a common complaint among employers, particularly in the manufacturing sector, is that they have many well-paying jobs and they can't find enough workers to fill those available jobs.

Around half of small business owners in construction and manufacturing recently reported having job vacancies they could not fill. Recently, progressive policymakers have decided that widespread illegal immigration was the solution to these workforce shortages, opening up our borders.

Well, we know President Biden—I think unwisely—granted work authorizations to many of the illegal immigrants that were released into the interior of the United States, which further incentivized illegal immigration. That is not the answer.

To make matters worse, President Biden started the Cuban-Haitian-Nicaraguan-Venezuelan Parole Program, which granted work authorization for up to 30,000 illegal immigrants each month—from four countries. None of these programs were authorized by Congress. They were created by the Biden administration, acting outside the law, and they included none of the protections for American workers that Congress wrote into our existing programs.

Thankfully, we have a new President, and President Trump has been taking action to end these illegal practices by the Biden administration.

When we think about what a healthy and flourishing society looks like, it does not include large numbers of prime-age workers sitting on the sidelines or sitting on the couch at home. Rather, it does include a fully engaged population, fully engaged in productive activity like work or training or looking for work.

Opening our borders to criminals and who knows what and granting them work authorizations while able-bodied adult American men sit on the sidelines has never been the answer. Yet that seemed to be the answer that the Biden administration gave us.

I have a better idea, and it is not my original idea. Let's incentivize able-bodied individuals who are currently not working to get back in the job market and fill these positions. If they need training, let's make sure they get the training so they can fill these good, well-paying jobs so they cannot only get off this cycle of dependency, they can support themselves and their families. They can contribute to their communities and contribute to the welfare of our Nation.

By enhancing the work requirements on means-tested government aid programs like Medicaid—but not limited to Medicaid—we, as policymakers, have a much better shot at making our communities function better and allowing more and more people to pursue and achieve the American dream. Human beings were not meant to sit idly, not meant to sit on the couch and play video games all day, not meant to be dependent on others that do labor productively. We were not meant to sit and watch while others toiled and to reap the benefits of their labor.

So as we, the various committees in the Senate and the House, get to work to hash out the details of President Trump's big, beautiful bill that will extend these tax cuts, there is a lot more we can and we need to do. I encourage all of us to use this unique opportunity to do what happened back as a result of the Clinton-Gingrich agreement and the Welfare Reform Act of 1996, and

that is reinstate reasonable work requirements for all of our means-tested programs. It will help us deal with the \$37 trillion in debt that we currently have. And as we all know, we are spending more money on interest on the debt than we are on defense, an unsustainable situation for more than one reason.

But this policy will help us get our fiscal house in order and will help us address the societal ills that our country is facing by encouraging greater workforce participation.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JAMES E. RISCH,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 25-15, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Poland for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.33 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL F. MILLER,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-15

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Poland.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * \$1.20 billion.

Other \$1.13 billion.

Total \$1.33 billion.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing and National Funds.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Four hundred (400) AIM-120D3 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles

Sixteen (16) AIM-120D3 AMRAAM guidance sections, including either Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Modules or M-Code

One (1) AIM-120 AMRAAM Instrumented Test Vehicle

Non-Major Defense Equipment:

The following non-MDE items will also be included: AMRAAM control sections, missile containers, and support equipment; Common Munitions Built-in-Test Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE); ADU-891 adapter group test sets; KGV-135A encryption devices; Computer Program Identification Numbers (CPINs); spares and repair parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; weapons system support and software; classified software delivery and support; classified publications and technical documentation; transportation support; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (PL-D-YAC).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 29, 2025.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Poland—AIM-120D Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missiles

The Government of Poland has requested to buy four hundred (400) AIM-120D3 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM); sixteen (16) AIM-120D3 AMRAAM guidance sections, including either Selective Availability Anti-Spoofing Modules or M-Code; and one (1) AIM-120 AMRAAM Instrumented Test Vehicle. The following non-MDE items will also be included: AMRAAM control sections, missile containers, and support equipment; Common Munitions Built-in-Test Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE); ADU-891 adapter group test sets; KGV-135A encryption devices; Computer Program Identification Numbers (CPINs); spares and repair parts, consumables and accessories, and repair and return support; weapons system support and software; classified software delivery and support; classified publications and technical documentation; transportation support; studies and surveys; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$1.33 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy goals and national security of the United States by improving the security of a

NATO Ally that is a force for political and economic stability in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve Poland's capability to meet current and future threats by providing air-to-air defense to protect Polish and allied forces in transition or combat and significantly improve the Polish contribution to NATO requirements. Poland already has AMRAAM in its inventory and will have no difficulty absorbing these articles into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be RTX Corporation, located in Tucson, AZ. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Poland.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 25-15

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AIM-120D-series Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM) is a supersonic, air-launched, aerial intercept guided missile featuring digital technology and micro-miniature, solid-state electronics. AMRAAM capabilities include look-down/shoot-down, multiple launches against multiple targets, resistance to electronic countermeasures, and interception of high and low-flying and maneuvering targets. The AIM-120D features a quadrangle target detection device and an electronics unit within the guidance section that performs all radar signal processing, mid-course and terminal guidance, flight control, target detection, and warhead detonation.

2. The Common Munitions Built-In-Test Reprogramming Equipment (CMBRE) is support equipment used to interface with weapon systems to initiate and report BIT results and upload and download flight software. CMBRE supports multiple munitions platforms with a range of applications that perform preflight checks, periodic maintenance checks, loading of Operational Flight Program data, loading of munitions mission planning data, loading of Global Positioning System (GPS) cryptographic keys, and declassification of munitions memory.

3. The ADU-891 adapter group test set provides the physical and electrical interface between the CMBRE and the missile.

4. The KGV-135A is a high-speed, general purpose encryptor and decryptor module used for wideband data encryption.

5. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that Poland can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Poland.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR COLLEEN RANDOLPH

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise to recognize Maj. Colleen Randolph, U.S. Marine Corps, for her distinguished and exemplary service, on the occasion of her transfer from the U.S. Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs to the Nation's best service academy, the U.S. Naval Academy. I, and many other Members of the Senate, have had the privilege of working with Major Randolph over the past 3 years as a military escort for congressional travel, continuing the excellent relationship between the Marine Corps and the U.S. Senate.

In her role, Major Randolph enabled the successful execution of over 30 international congressional delegations. Major Randolph distinguished herself through exceptional service to her country and in direct support of every Member of the Senate.

Major Randolph expertly handled congressional inquiries and requests for information from nearly every one of the 100 Senate offices, including my own. My team and I have traveled with Major Randolph on multiple international trips, most recently to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, a region critical to our national security. She has proven to be an incredible asset, consistently demonstrated exceptional problem-solving capability both prior to and during execution of congressional travel, excellent communications skills, and a wealth of knowledge.

Major Randolph also exemplified the candor and knowledge that we have come to expect from the Marine Corps. She is responsive and understands the need to quickly provide accurate information to Members and their teams as we work to serve the American people. Major Randolph is dedicated to the Marine Corps, her country, and always puts the needs of our Nation ahead of herself.

Major Randolph's service in the Senate Liaison Office has left the Marine Corps well positioned to continue the Corps' contributions to the national security of our Nation. In every endeavor during her time with the Office of Legislative Affairs, Major Randolph proved to be an officer of the highest caliber. My colleagues and I bid a fond farewell to Maj. Colleen Randolph, her husband Matt; and we thank her parents Mike and Kathleen; twin sister Kaileigh; and brothers Kane and Cole for all the support they have given her as she serves her Nation. We wish Maj. Colleen Randolph continued success in her next assignment with the U.S. Naval Academy.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. SAM POLLES

• Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, on behalf of the people of Mississippi, I commend Dr. Sam Polles, a public servant who has worked tirelessly to benefit the State.

A native of the delta, Dr. Polles is a lifelong learner. He graduated from Clarksdale High School and continued his education at Delta State College, as it was known then, earning a degree in premed and predoctoral studies. He received both a masters and a doctorate at Mississippi State University. After graduating, Dr. Polles took roles in several organizations focused on agriculture and the outdoors. In 1992, his life's vocational calling came into focus. Dr. Polles began working at the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, and he went on to serve as the agency's executive director for 29 years.

In his position, Dr. Polles touched the lives of almost every citizen across the Magnolia State. He made sure the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks fulfilled its primary mission: to provide quality outdoor recreational opportunities for residents and out-of-state visitors. On a practical level, he implemented point-of-sale systems for purchasing licenses, boat registrations, and reservations at park facilities.

Dr. Polles is a family man. He spent over half a century married to the late Mary Margaret Humber Polles, and he is the father of three sons and the grandfather of seven grandsons. In his retirement, Dr. Polles has continued spending time outdoors with his sons and grandsons, enjoying his favorite outdoor activities, duck and turkey hunting. I join my fellow Mississippians in thanking Dr. Sam Polles for his service and for sharing his love of the outdoors with us all.●

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1582. A bill to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Brandon Williams, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Nuclear Security.

*Bradley Hansell, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security.

*Dale Marks, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Earl Matthews, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report

favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nominations beginning with Teresa A. Bonzani and ending with Onier Villarreal Alejandro, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Laurel M. Chiaramonte and ending with Patricia A. Wilkinson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Isreal Bennett, Jr. and ending with Christopher L. Suhr, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jameson C. Durham and ending with Julia K. Wriglesworth, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with James N. Bond and ending with Robert D. Rose, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Bruce A. Abbott and ending with Christine Lauren Zmuda, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Danielle D. Acacio and ending with Sidney E. Zven, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Caroline G. Ferris and ending with Suzanne Pristau, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Dominic S. Angiello and ending with Hanna Yang, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jeffrey A. Ballou and ending with Brandon E. Stephens, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Steven D. Alaniz and ending with Patrick M. Ralph, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nomination of Vincent T. Chiappone, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with David A. Fishman and ending with Jason M. Selleck, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Ross E. Agee and ending with Joseph C. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Melinda C. Albiston and ending with Jamie M. Szmodis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Scott W. Bohn and ending with Eugene C. Richter, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Ronald S. Adams and ending with Matthew G. Zellner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nomination of John K. Lee, to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Adam J. Polozola and ending with Navdeep Singh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jenara L. Allen and ending with Brent J. Winward, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Hattie Dawn Alexander and ending with Joe X. Zhang, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nomination of Cody W. Clark, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Michael Bartels and ending with Zachary N. Zischang, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nominations beginning with Steven A. Brown and ending with Jessica H. Schafer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Air Force nomination of Angela C. Lipovsky, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Daniel J. Arneson and ending with Chip R. Yde, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nomination of Matthew J. Ryan, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Brenton D. Groeneveld and ending with Shawn L. Tabankin, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Robert R. Andersen III and ending with Janel R. Wiese, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Joseph M. Byrd and ending with Scott A. Wells, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nominations beginning with Andrew S. Brennan and ending with Scott E. Thompson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nomination of Virginia A. Emery, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Raymond L. Ayers and ending with Steven W. Timm, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Army nomination of Stephanie M. Waddell, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Matthew I. Fine, to be Major.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Michael J. Dilling and ending with Melaine D. Weaver, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 14, 2025.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Ryan S. Dean and ending with Daniel B. Krake, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 14, 2025.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Phillip S. Noack and ending with Jennifer M. Raymond, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Marine Corps nomination of Freddie F. Martinez, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Jeremy C. Hawkins, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Justin R. McCann, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Joel C. Nienaber, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Navy nominations beginning with Gieorag M. Andrews and ending with Daniel S. Yassuda, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 1, 2025.

Navy nomination of James W. Gorman, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Ian G. Aucoin, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Christopher H. Elliott, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Karlie M. Blake, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Jeffrey J. Kim, to be Lieutenant Commander.

By Mr. GRASSLEY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

Brett Shumate, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

*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.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 1546. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to address matters relating to patent subject matter eligibility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SHEEHY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 1547. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to reauthorize the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1548. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain Nurse Corps payments from gross income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GALLEG0 (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 1549. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide grants under the Drinking Water Infrastructure Risk and Resilience Program for training programs relating to protecting public water systems from and responding to cyberattacks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 1550. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include training regarding financial protections under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act in certain financial literacy training programs for

members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. LEE):

S. 1551. A bill to deny tax deductions and other Federal funding for the costs of gender transition procedures; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COONS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KELLY, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 1552. A bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1553. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to invest in inventors in the United States, maintain the United States as the leading innovation economy in the world, and protect the property rights of the inventors that grow the economy of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. LEE):

S. 1554. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from minting or issuing 1-cent coins; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. COONS):

S. 1555. A bill to increase loan limits for loans made to small manufacturers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1556. A bill to require the review of promulgated agency regulations and prohibit rulemaking by agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1557. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make technical improvements to the Net Price Calculator system so that prospective students may have a more accurate understanding of the true cost of college; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 1558. A bill to require a standard financial aid offer form, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1559. A bill to revise counseling requirements for certain borrowers of student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MOODY (for herself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 1560. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat spaceports like airports for purposes of exempt facility bond rules; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAMER (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1561. A bill to authorize notaries public to perform, and to establish minimum standards for, electronic notarizations and remote notarizations that occur in or affect interstate commerce, to require any Federal

court to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any State, to require any State to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any other State when the notarization was performed under or relates to a public Act, record, or judicial proceeding of the notarial officer's State or when the notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1562. A bill to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1563. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a grant program to help law enforcement agencies with civilian law enforcement tasks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 1564. A bill to amend the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 to address ecosystem restoration projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1565. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow expenses for parents to be taken into account as medical expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1566. A bill to extend a program for preventing outages and enhancing the resilience of the electric grid, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 1567. A bill to reauthorize and reform the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. COTTON, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 1568. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to modify standards for general service lamps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BANKS:

S. 1569. A bill to modify the criteria for recognition of accrediting agencies or associations for institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. KELLY, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. SCHIFF):

S. 1570. A bill to amend the Boulder Canyon Project Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expend amounts in the Colorado River Dam fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 1571. A bill to award grants to local educational agencies and nonprofit organizations to operate after school programs in certain areas with a high rate of juvenile crime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 1572. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Federal carjacking statute; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 1573. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize and modify the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Research programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 1574. A bill to amend the Stored Communications Act to include Tribal courts as courts of competent jurisdiction; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 1575. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to carry out a study on reservation systems for Federal land; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1576. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the denial of deduction for certain excessive employee remuneration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1577. A bill to amend section 1151 of title 14, United States Code, to modify the restriction on construction of Coast Guard vessels in foreign shipyards; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 1578. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate the Nulhegan River and Paul Stream in the State of Vermont for potential addition to the national wild and scenic rivers system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Ms. ERNST):

S. 1579. A bill to provide for the treatment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) as international organizations for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself and Mr. PAUL):

S. 1580. A bill to require automatic sealing of certain criminal records, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 1581. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create Universal Savings Accounts; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 1582. A bill; read the first time.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 1583. A bill to restrict the use of United States Assessed Contributions to the United Nations under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2719 (2023) to support the African Union's peacekeeping mission in Somalia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 1584. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from considering, in taking any action, the social cost of carbon, the social cost of methane, the social cost of nitrous oxide, or the social cost of any other greenhouse gas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNER, Ms. ALSOBROOKS,

Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHIFF, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1585. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that a rule relating to a reduction in force is subject to review under chapter 8 of that title, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1586. A bill to safeguard children by providing parents with clear and accurate information about the apps downloaded and used by their children and to ensure proper parental consent is achieved, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. Kaine (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. Res. 195. A resolution requesting information on El Salvador's human rights practices pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. MULLIN):

S. Res. 196. A resolution congratulating the University of Oklahoma women's gymnastics team for winning the 2025 National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship, the seventh national title in program history; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 197. A resolution commending and congratulating the University of Connecticut's women's basketball team for winning the 2025 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball National Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. KING, Mr. WELCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. WARNER):

S. Res. 198. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of Health and Human Services should withdraw a reduction in public notice and comment opportunities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. Res. 199. A resolution expressing support and appreciation for the efforts of the Republic of Romania and the Republic of Moldova to defend democracy and combat malign Russian interference; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 167

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 167, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish criminal offenses targeting law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 383

At the request of Mr. Kaine, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 383, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 500

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 500, a bill to reauthorize certain programs under the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, and for other purposes.

S. 879

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 879, a bill to expand medical, employment, and other benefits for individuals serving as family caregivers for certain veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1151

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1151, a bill to expand the use of E-Verify to hold employers accountable, and for other purposes.

S. 1241

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) 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. 1261

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1261, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 1370

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1370, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the possession of certain firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 1392

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1392, a bill to establish Ocean Innovation Clusters to strengthen the coastal communities and ocean economy of the United States through technological research and development, job training, and cross-sector partnerships, and for other purposes.

S. 1428

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1428, a bill to amend title 1, United States Code, to clarify that certain tax exemptions are not treated as Federal financial assistance.

S. 1466

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1466, a bill to establish a Federal Advisory Council to Support Victims of Gun Violence.

S. 1467

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1467, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 1517

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1517, a bill to include sexual assault and aggravated sexual violence in the definition of aggravated felony under the Immigration and Nationality Act in order to expedite the removal of aliens convicted of any such crime.

S. 1527

At the request of Mr. GALLEGO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1527, a bill to modify the multifamily loan limits under title II of the National Housing Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1532, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S.J. RES. 45

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 45, 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 "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1576. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the denial of deduction for certain excessive employee remuneration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I am proud to join Senators BLUMENTHAL, WHITEHOUSE, MERKLEY, BALDWIN, WARREN, VAN HOLLEN, and SANDERS in introducing the Stop Subsidizing Multimillion Dollar Corporate Bonuses Act. Our legislation would finally fully close a loophole that allows publicly traded corporations to deduct the cost of multimillion-dollar bonuses from their corporate tax bills. At a time when the disparity in pay between CEOs and average workers is 290 to 1, there is no justification for forcing U.S. taxpayers to foot the bill for lavish executive compensation packages. But that is what is happening.

Under section 162(m) of the Tax Code, publicly traded corporations cannot deduct more than \$1 million in compensation paid to their top executives. Section 162(m), however, does not apply to all employees, and corporations are exploiting this loophole to claim tax deductions for compensation packages for uncovered employees that far exceed \$1 million. Indeed, publicly traded corporations are offering these lucrative compensation deals to ever increasing numbers of executives—not just a few at the very top of the organization—even when revenue growth for these companies slows.

Both Republican and Democratic administrations have recognized the need to close loopholes in section 162(m). In fact, both President Trump and President Biden signed laws based on earlier versions of my legislation to curtail the abuse of this deduction. This includes ensuring that performance-based compensation is actually counted as compensation under section 162(m) and increasing the number of highly paid executives who are subject to section 162(m). Partially tightening the law in these ways has saved taxpayers billions of dollars. But until the loophole is fully closed, taxpayers will continue to be forced to subsidize extravagant compensation.

The Stop Subsidizing Multimillion Dollar Corporate Bonuses Act would address the remaining gaps by applying section 162(m) restrictions to all employees of publicly traded corporations, subjecting all compensation to a deductibility cap of \$1 million per employee. The Joint Committee on Taxation has estimated that closing this loophole would save taxpayers nearly \$80 billion over 10 years. In other words, taxpayers are currently paying around \$8 billion each year to subsidize exorbitant executive pay packages.

To be clear, our bill does not prevent publicly traded corporations from being able to pay their executives as much as they want. These corporations simply won't be able to deduct the portion of the compensation package that exceeds \$1 million. This is a matter of fairness. It ensures that corporations and shareholders—not taxpayers—are shouldering the cost of the multimillion dollar compensation packages.

I thank Public Citizen, Americans for Financial Reform, the AFL-CIO, the

International Brotherhood of Teamsters, MIT Professor and Nobel Prize Winner Simon Johnson, Take On Wall Street, Americans for Tax Fairness, and the Institute for Policy Studies, Global Economy Project for their support. I urge our colleagues to join us in cosponsoring this legislation and pressing for its passage.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 195—REQUESTING INFORMATION ON EL SALVADOR'S HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES PURSUANT TO SECTION 502B(C) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961

Mr. Kaine (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. PADILLA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 195

Resolved,

SECTION 1. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON EL SALVADOR'S HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES.

(a) STATEMENT REQUESTED.—The Senate requests that the Secretary of State, not later than 30 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution, submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(c)), a statement regarding El Salvador's human rights practices that has been prepared in collaboration with the Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor and the Office of the Legal Adviser at the Department of State.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The statement submitted pursuant to subsection (a) should include—

(1) all available credible information concerning alleged violations of internationally recognized human rights by the Government of the Republic of El Salvador, including—

(A) torture and inhumane treatment of detainees, including detainees who are not citizens of El Salvador;

(B) forced disappearances;

(C) transnational repression;

(D) the denial of due process for residents of El Salvador, including an evaluation of judicial independence in El Salvador;

(E) the treatment of citizens or residents of other countries who are being detained or imprisoned in El Salvador, including any opportunity provided to such citizens or residents to demonstrate they are being wrongfully detained or imprisoned;

(2) a description of the steps the United States Government has taken—

(A) to promote respect for and observance of human rights as part of the Government of El Salvador's activities, including in the context of El Salvador's ongoing State of Exception;

(B) to discourage any practices that are inimical to internationally recognized human rights; and

(C) to publicly or privately call attention to, and disassociate the United States and any security assistance provided for the Republic of El Salvador from, any practices described in subparagraph (B);

(3) other information, including—

(A) an assessment from the Secretary of State of the likelihood that United States security assistance (as defined in section

502B(d) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(d))) provided to the Republic of El Salvador could be used in support of activities by government officials related to the rendition, trafficking, detention, or imprisonment of individuals who are not nationals of El Salvador;

(B) an assessment from the Secretary of State of the conditions in El Salvador's Centro de Confinamiento del Terrorismo (CECOT), including an assessment of allegations of torture and other gross violations of human rights;

(C) a description of any actions that the United States Government is taking to ensure that the Government of the Republic of El Salvador releases United States citizens or residents being detained or imprisoned in El Salvador in compliance with United States court orders regarding their return to the United States;

(D) a description of any actions that the United States Government is taking to address allegations of detention, torture, or forced disappearances of United States citizens or residents by the Republic of El Salvador or efforts to facilitate the detention, torture or forced disappearances of United States citizens or legal residents;

(E) a description of actions the United States Government is taking to provide due process in compliance with United States law for relevant persons detained or imprisoned in El Salvador through an agreement with the United States Government; and

(F) a description of any actions the United States Government is taking to protect United States citizens and residents from unlawful rendering, trafficking, or other means of removal from the United States to the Republic of El Salvador.

SENATE RESOLUTION 196—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2025 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP, THE SEVENTH NATIONAL TITLE IN PROGRAM HISTORY

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. MULLIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 196

Whereas the 2025 University of Oklahoma women's gymnastics team (referred to in this preamble as the "Sooners"), under the direction of head coach K.J. Kindler, won the program's seventh National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the "NCAA") championship title with a final score of 198.0125, overcoming the University of California Los Angeles, the University of Missouri, and the University of Utah;

Whereas the Sooners scored a 49.6125 on beam, a 49.5875 on floor, a 49.4375 on vault, and a 49.3750 on bars;

Whereas the Sooners opened the meet tied for first place and began extending their lead after completing each rotation;

Whereas the Sooners have competed in the team finals 11 out of the last 12 years;

Whereas the Sooners are tied for the third-most women's gymnastics national titles in NCAA history;

Whereas the Sooners posted a 33–2 record, won the Southeastern Conference regular season title, and won an NCAA Regional Championship for the 15th straight year;

Whereas 6 Sooner student-athletes combined for 15 All-America honors—

(1) Jordan Bowers and Faith Torrez received 5 All-America honors in all 4 events and in the all-around, the second time in program history that 2 Sooners earned 5 All-America honors in the same season;

(2) Dani Sievers received a second-team All-America honor for floor routine;

(3) Lily Pederson received second-team All-America honors for vault and bars;

(4) Elle Mueller received a second-team All-America honor for vault; and

(5) Addison Fatta earned a first-team All-America honor in the all-around; and

Whereas Jordan Bowers won the individual all-around national title, the 22nd in program history: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 2025 University of Oklahoma women's gymnastics team for their hard work and dedication to the sport and for the excitement they bring to the University of Oklahoma, the State of Oklahoma, and to Sooners everywhere; and

(2) congratulates the 2025 University of Oklahoma women's gymnastics team on a wonderful season.

SENATE RESOLUTION 197—COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT'S WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2025 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 197

Whereas, on Sunday, April 6, 2025, the University of Connecticut's women's basketball team (referred to in this preamble as the "UConn Huskies") won the 2025 National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as "NCAA") Division I Women's Basketball National Championship (referred to in this preamble as the "National Championship"), defeating the University of South Carolina Gamecocks with a score of 82 to 59, at Amalie Arena in Tampa, Florida;

Whereas this is twelfth National Championship title for the UConn Huskies, the most for any school in the history of NCAA Division I men's or women's basketball;

Whereas, during the 2025 NCAA National Championship tournament, the UConn Huskies defeated 3 number 1-seeded teams by an average of 23 points;

Whereas Geno Auriemma, the UConn Huskies head coach, alongside Chris Dailey, the UConn Huskies associate head coach, won their twelfth National Championship title, the most in the history of NCAA Division I men's or women's basketball;

Whereas Azzi Fudd was named the Final Four's "Most Outstanding Player", scoring 24 points in the championship game;

Whereas Paige Bueckers passed Maya Moore for the most career NCAA tournament points by a UConn player with 477;

Whereas Sarah Strong set a record for points by a freshman in a single NCAA tournament with 114; and

Whereas the University of Connecticut has won a total of 18 national championships between its basketball programs, with 12 in women's basketball and 6 in men's basketball: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the University of Connecticut women's basketball team for win-

ning the 2025 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball National Championship;

(2) congratulates the fans, students, and faculty of the University of Connecticut; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the president of the University of Connecticut, Radenka Maric;

(B) the head coach of the University of Connecticut women's basketball team, Geno Auriemma; and

(C) the associate head coach of the University of Connecticut women's basketball team, Chris Dailey.

SENATE RESOLUTION 198—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SHOULD WITHDRAW A REDUCTION IN PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. KING, Mr. WELCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. WARNER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

S. RES. 198

Whereas public participation in the regulatory process is essential to the formulation of fair and sound policy;

Whereas open rulemaking mitigates the possibility of arbitrary, harmful, and ill-advised rulemaking;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has successfully adhered to Administrative Procedure Act notice and comment period procedures for 54 years;

Whereas the daily lives of millions of Americans are profoundly affected by the regulations that are issued by the Department of Health and Human Services; and

Whereas it is critical that program beneficiaries, State and local governments, human services providers, and organizations continue to be afforded the opportunity for input whenever Health and Human Services regulatory changes are proposed:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of Health and Human Services should withdraw the notice published in the Federal Register on March 3, 2025 (90 Fed. Reg. 11029) that would reduce public notice and comment opportunities, and affirm practices as in effect on February 27, 2025, which involve the public in rule-making procedures.

SENATE RESOLUTION 199—EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY AND COMBAT MALIGN RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE

Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 199

Whereas the Republic of Romania and the Republic of Moldova are committed to supporting democracy, the rule of law, and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries in eastern Europe;

Whereas, in 2024, the Government of the Russian Federation attempted to undermine the democratic systems, economic prosperity, and energy security of Romania and Moldova as part of a wider campaign to expand its malign influence and promote broader instability across Europe and the world;

Whereas, despite growing pressure from Russian leaders, the people and institutions of Romania and Moldova remain committed to supporting democratic values and combating the effects of malign Russian pressure campaigns in eastern Europe;

Whereas Romania—

(1) is a crucial leader of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in this preamble as "NATO"), has made significant investments in military infrastructure and capabilities in order to protect NATO's eastern flank, and spent 2.2 percent of its gross domestic product on defense spending during 2024, which surpasses the requirement set forth in the Wales Summit Declaration of 2014;

(2) is a vital member of the European Union that has led efforts to support the entry of other eastern European countries into NATO, including Moldova;

(3) has the energy resources to help counter Russia's weaponization of energy supplies, including natural gas, against Europe; and

(4) has provided critical support to Ukraine since Russia's unprovoked, full-scale war of aggression began on February 24, 2022, including by providing energy, economic, humanitarian, and military assistance to Ukraine and facilitating the transit of Ukrainian grain across the Black Sea;

Whereas Romania's commitment to robust transatlantic relations and leadership within NATO have made it a target for Russian interference, including during Romania's presidential election on November 24, 2024, which was targeted by a digital campaign backed by a state actor intended to influence the results of the election;

Whereas this digital campaign attempted to manipulate the election in favor of candidates who supported Russian President Vladimir Putin, were critical of NATO, and were critical of Romanian assistance to Ukraine;

Whereas Romania has scheduled a new presidential election to take place in May 2025;

Whereas Moldova—

(1) has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to strengthening its democracy and deepening its European integration;

(2) applied for European Union membership in March 2022, was granted candidate status in June 2022, and began accession negotiations in June 2024;

(3) codified its commitment to joining the European Union in October 2024 through a Constitutional Referendum;

(4) has made tremendous strides in its efforts to join the European Union by 2035, including ongoing efforts to ensure its laws, institutions, and regulations comply with European Union accession standards and regulations; and

(5) has provided substantial humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people following Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022;

Whereas Moldova's democratic and pro-European Union aspirations have made it a target for Russian interference, including—

(1) Russia's weaponization of energy supplies against Moldova by halting the flow of natural gas to Transnistria, where Moldova's main electricity power plant is located, causing serious consequences for Moldovans, including blackouts and a dramatic increase in the cost of energy in the winter months of 2025; and

(2) Russia's efforts to influence Moldova's 2024 elections, including its presidential election and European Union constitutional referendum, in favor of pro-Russia, anti-European Union candidates and platforms, including through—

(A) fake bomb threats against polling stations abroad and preparations to instigate violent demonstrations;

(B) explicit vote-buying campaigns; and

(C) cyber operations against government and private-sector targets, including Moldova's Central Electoral Commission; Whereas Moldova's parliamentary elections are scheduled to take place after the current parliament's term ends in July 2025; and

Whereas international efforts to support Moldova's democracy and address the impacts of Russia's weaponization of natural gas must increase in order to counter Russian interference ahead of the 2025 parliamentary elections: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses robust support and appreciation for the efforts of the Governments of Romania and of Moldova and their people as they work to strengthen state sovereignty and democracy in eastern Europe, despite tremendous pressure from Russia;

(2) applauds the partnership between Romania and Moldova in the energy sector as a model of reducing reliance on the use of Russian energy exports;

(3) expresses support for Romania's critical role within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union;

(4) expresses support for Moldova's aspirations to join the European Union;

(5) condemns Russian efforts to pressure, coerce, or otherwise manipulate democratic sovereign states, including Romania and Moldova;

(6) urges the international community, including the European Union, to increase their support for Romania and Moldova's democracies in advance of their respective elections in 2025, including by—

(A) releasing the full European Commission report detailing the extent of Russian interference in the 2024 Romanian presidential election, including through TikTok; and

(B) administering appropriate disciplinary action and best practices for combating such interference in future elections; and

(7) urges the United States Government—

(A) to strengthen bilateral and multilateral engagements with Romania and Moldova in support of democracy and state sovereignty in eastern Europe; and

(B) to strengthen support for Romanian and Moldovan security and election integrity in advance of presidential elections and parliamentary elections set to be held in May and September, respectively.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I have five requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Sen-

ate. 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 ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., to consider nominations in open session.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing in open session.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 10 a.m., to consider a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., to consider nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Milande Watson of my team be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1582

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1582) to provide for the regulation of payment stablecoins, and for other purposes.

Mr. CORNYN. I now ask for a second reading and, in order to put the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read for a second time the next legislative day.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions that are at the desk: S. Res. 196, OU Women's Gymnastics; and S. Res. 197, UConn Women's Basketball.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that 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, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate complete its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, May 5; 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, and the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; finally, that all postcloture time on the Bisignano nomination be expired and the Senate vote on the confirmation of the nomination at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Democratic leader on Tuesday, May 6; and that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, we will have one rollcall vote at 5:30 p.m. on Monday on the motion to proceed to H.J. Res. 61.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025, AT 3 P.M.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 3:23 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 5, 2025, at 3 p.m.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HARRY CHRISTENSEN REMEMBERED FOR DECADES OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. MOULTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Harry Christensen, a devoted public servant, attorney, and United States Marine Corps veteran from Marblehead, Massachusetts, who passed away earlier this month at 86.

Harry Christensen exemplified what it means to live a life of service. He was a highly decorated veteran of the United States Marine Corps, receiving numerous awards, including the prestigious Silver Star for gallantry in action. After his military service, Harry returned to Massachusetts and built a respected legal and civic career. He was deeply committed to his community, especially his hometown of Marblehead, serving for decades on the Marblehead Board of Selectmen.

Beyond his official roles, Harry shared his wartime experiences with local students, believing that personal stories brought history to life in ways textbooks could not. For over a decade, he spoke to classes at Marblehead High School, helping students understand the human cost of war through his firsthand accounts. His honesty and devotion left lasting impressions on Marblehead students, making the lessons of history real and deeply felt.

Harry never wanted to be far from Marblehead Rock. He loved the Marines, his country, his town, and—most of all—his family.

May Harry's life remind us all that public service is a calling grounded in humility and honor. I extend my deepest condolences to his family, friends, and the countless members of the community whose lives he touched. We miss Harry. *Semper Fi.*

RECOGNIZING GARRETT COOK ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Garrett Cook of Norwalk, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Garrett's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education

while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Garrett brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending St. Paul High School, he participated in National Honor Society becoming president, Teen Leadership Corps, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Garrett was involved in basketball, baseball and marching band. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Garrett Cook on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Garrett will excel during his career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. HERN of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church on its centennial anniversary.

Established in 1925, this parish has served Tulsa and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America for a century. The Church continues to be a strong and dedicated partner in the Tulsa community.

This impressive anniversary highlights the congregation's devotion to the greater Tulsa community, as well as their unwavering faith in God and commitment to His will. One hundred years of service is an extraordinary accomplishment.

The rich traditions of the Orthodox Church extend back to the earliest days of Christianity, established in the lands surrounding the Mediterranean, where the first Christian communities lived and worshipped. These traditions have survived millennia, connecting the modern Orthodox Church to the earliest practitioners of our faith and welcoming congregants of all races and cultures.

Congratulations to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Tulsa for reaching this significant milestone. I join the congregation and Tulsa community-at-large in celebrating this centennial anniversary, and I sincerely wish the Church sustained success and prosperity for years to come.

RECOGNIZING HANNAH DICKINSON, GOLD AWARD

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. STEUBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Hannah Dickinson. Hannah is a member of Sandy Beaches Service Unit within Girl Scouts of Southeast 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.

Hannah's project, Kindness Counts, in partnership with Port Charlotte High School and the National Honor Society and Key Club, was an excellent endeavor to address mental health and bullying in our community. Hannah took action by coordinating with school administrators, educating community members about the harmful effects of bullying, and creating a motivational mural to be displayed at her school, which will have a positive impact on our community for years to come.

On behalf of the 17th Congressional District of Florida, congratulations to Hannah for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Hannah for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

CONGRATULATING THE WORK AND DEDICATION OF CAROL HAMILTON

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the work and dedication of Carol Hamilton, who is retiring on May 1, 2025, from her role as Group President for Acquisitions, Business Development, and West Coast Headquarters at L'Oréal. Carol has been a business leader and a champion of philanthropic causes for decades.

• 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.

Carol started her career at L'Oréal in 1984, joining the Consumer Products Division as Marketing Director for L'Oréal Paris in the United States. She continued to foster her passion and built the L'Oréal flagship brand from a small indie brand in the 80's into the No. 1 global beauty brand worldwide, behind the iconic phrase "Because I'm Worth It."

In 2008, Carol transitioned from mass to the world of luxury beauty, taking the helm as U.S. President of L'Oréal Luxe. During her tenure, Lancôme became the No. 1 luxury beauty brand in the U.S., surpassing the established market leader.

Alongside her acquisition role, in 2020, Carol was charged with a new responsibility: the creation of and leadership over L'Oréal USA's new corporate office in El Segundo, California, which brought L'Oréal's west coast brands under one roof for the first time.

Beyond her professional achievements, Carol has been a tireless champion for women's empowerment and philanthropic causes. In 2009, she spearheaded the Armani Acqua for Life program with UNICEF and subsequently joined both the National Board and New York Regional Board. In 2013, Carol created the Women in Power course in gender equality for L'Oréal executives with the Harvard Women's Leadership Board.

With retirement, Carol will have the time to continue doing what she loves: travel around the world with her husband Rodney, gardening, and spend time with her cats, Rosie and Elvis.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
POLICE CHIEF DAVID HOOVER

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Logan Township Police Chief David Hoover, who retired after 35 years of service in law enforcement in Blair County, Pennsylvania.

Chief Hoover began his tenure as an officer in Logan Township in 1992 and was promoted to sergeant and detective sergeant in 2004 and police chief in early 2023.

Chief Hoover's achievements include helping to acquire equipment that was needed by officers to effectively perform their duties and supporting the adoption of rules and policies that contributed to a positive work environment for the officers.

The mandate of the Logan Township Police Department is to fulfill its public safety mission with honor and integrity and to conform to the highest ethical standards.

The leadership of Chief Hoover reflected an enduring commitment to that mandate, and his retirement is a perfect time to recognize his success in perpetuating it.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Police Chief David Hoover on his retirement and express fond wishes for joy and contentment in all future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER
KREPICH

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Christopher Krepich for his career in the U.S. House of Representatives.

An Altoona, Pennsylvania native, Christopher began his near decade long career on the Hill a year after graduating from Pepperdine University in 2014. Christopher has served in many different roles during his tenure and worked for Representatives Sean Duffy (WI-07), Keith Rothfus (PA-12), Jim Sessenbrenner (WI-05), and Brad Wenstrup (OH-02). I came to know Christopher when he began working as a Press Secretary for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce under Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers in 2022, where he served a vital role informing the public of the work the Subcommittee on Health was fighting for while I was Subcommittee Chairman. Christopher then went on to become the Communications Director of the full Committee on Energy and Commerce. Since becoming Chairman of the full committee, Christopher has been an expert policy communicator as a dependable and reliable member of my team serving as Senior Communications Advisor.

Recently, Christopher departed the Committee on Energy and Commerce to accept a role as the Director of the Office of Communications for the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services—a role I know he is sure to succeed in. I wish him the best, congratulate him on his new role, and thank Christopher Krepich for his near decade long service in the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING CONNOR BENDER ON
HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO
ATTEND THE UNITED STATES
NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Connor Bender of Avon Lake, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Connor's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Connor brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Saint Ignatius High School, he participated in student government, Saint Ignatius Broadcast Network, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Connor was involved in

rugby, earning his varsity letter and becoming team captain. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Connor Bender on his offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Connor will excel during his career at the Naval Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

CONGRESSIONAL EDUCATION
AWARD

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of outstanding school employees in Florida's 16th Congressional District.

School employees work tirelessly because they understand that their efforts are not just about fulfilling a job description, but about shaping the future.

They deserve recognition because they are the architects of knowledge, the mentors of tomorrow's leaders, and the unsung heroes who work behind the scenes to ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Eleven years ago, I established the Congressional Education Awards program with the aim of providing special acknowledgment to administrators, educators, and support staff within Florida's 16th Congressional District for their outstanding achievements in both teaching and inspiring students.

The following school employees were nominated and selected to receive Florida's 16th District's 2025 Congressional Education Award for their accomplishments:

Leadership Award: Joseph Hougland, Stewart Elementary School.

Hurricane Shelter Award: Laura Roark, Sylvia Sorto and Andrea Keezer, Williams Elementary School; Joanne Gushue and Hayley Rio, Harvey Elementary School; Angelia Thompson, Lillian Parsons and Deanna Fisher, Shields Middle School; Miriam Jordan, Scott Samsoe and Bradley Scarbrough, Buffalo Creek Middle School; Kimberly Coulson, George Coulson and Rebecca Sargable, Collins PK-8 School; Tiffany Staton, Flor Pardo and Melissa McCullough, Daugherty Elementary School; Maricely Mendez, Olga Castillo and Aliya Norman, Reddick Elementary School; Ginger Thomas, Ana Miranda and Kate Barlaug, Mona Jain Middle School; Brenda Rau, Charles Parsons and Gary Graham, Durant High School; Kristen Bowden, Anissa McDuffy and Kimone Cooper, Lee Middle School; Sara Walker, Patti Heffner, Juliette Gini, Michelle Liemann and Carol Pope, Freedom Elementary School; Carmen Palacios, Lenny Draper and Connie Dixon, Gene Witt Elementary School; Kevin Harrington, Tracey Shank and Sheila Waid, McNeal Elementary School; Leslie Bothke, Mike Brabrandt and Todd Richardson, Gullett Elementary School; Annie Mousseau, Jennifer Pettas, Cristal Garcia and Debra Riley, Miller Elementary School; Crystal Pagan, Joshua Fuentes and Christine Wasylkiw, Sumner High School; Premdai Hansraj, Mohammad Hammad and Tamara Brooks, Mulrennan

Middle School; Michelle Bailey, Lisa McLeod and Carol Ricks, Myakka City Elementary School; Mary Cardarelle-Hermans, Robert Greer and Carl Auckerman, Nolan Middle School; Aaron Depaola, Antonio Da Silva and Kathy Price, Willis Elementary School; Tania Vidal, Laura Sanchez and Greg Sander, Prine Elementary School; Roxie Blackwelder and Richard Greene, Sugg Middle School; Deanna Sabatino, German Pena-Garcia and James Mennes, Mills Elementary School.

Relief After the Storm Award: Hillsborough Education Foundation; Manatee Education Foundation.

Support Staff Award: Eric Cooke, Williams Elementary School; Emanuel Harris, Braden River Middle School; Kelly Taillefer, Braden River Middle School; Steven Vance, Braden River Middle School; Brooke Whalen, Dorothy C. York Innovation Academy; Fay Pollock Servoss, Rogers Garden-Bullock Elementary School; Angela Nowakowski, Gene Witt Elementary School; Sherriann Johnson, Gibsonton Elementary School; Lora Sevarino, McNeal Elementary School; Nicole Yancey, Myakka City Elementary School; Kimberly Thomas, Willis Elementary School; Suzanne Theiss, Southeast High School; Dilcia Navarro, State College of Florida Collegiate school.

Teacher Award: Laura Redeker, Anna Maria Elementary School; Susan Nova, Harvey Elementary School; Katharine Kimbrell, Braden River Middle School; Jessica Mynatt, Braden River Middle School; Tasheta Riley, Braden River Middle School; Joseph Gibson, Haile Middle School; Kim Wilder, Gene Witt Elementary School; Stacy Freeman, McNeal Elementary School; Julie Read, McNeal Elementary School; Sarah Tateosian, McNeal Elementary School; Stephanie Tretolo, McNeal Elementary School; Natalie Hutchings, Newsome High School; Christiana Miller, Newsome High School; Montine Vona-Pergola, Newsome High School; Kathleen Yates, Newsome High School; Leslie Windeuser, Sumner High School; Felicia Chasey, Lakewood Ranch High School; McKenzie Gorskey, Lakewood Ranch High School; Jennifer Grant, Lakewood Ranch High School; John Wilkerson, Lakewood Ranch High School; Linda Chamberlain, Manatee Technical College; Hannah Hunter, Willis Elementary School; Noelle Kourakos, Willis Elementary School; Kathleen Bayliss, Sea Breeze Elementary School; Andrew Angelo, St. Stephen's Episcopal School; Geoff Revard, St. Stephen's Episcopal School; Emily Vargas, State College of Florida Collegiate School.

Administrator Award: Rudy Keezer, Ballard Elementary School; Marcos Rodriguez, Bloomingdale High School; Kimberlain Zenon, Braden River Middle School; Samantha Webb, Able Elementary School; Sheila Waid, McNeal Elementary School; Marla Massi-Blackmore, Tillman Elementary School; Jeannie Galindo, Lakewood Ranch High School; Jennifer Canady, River-view High School; Craig Page, Southeast High School.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, I congratulate each of these outstanding educators and offer my sincere appreciation for their service and dedication.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDREW S. CLYDE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call No. 105, On Ordering the Previous Question

for H. Res. 354. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 105.

HONORING DICK KING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to honor the life of a special constituent.

Dick Elmer King, of Saint Catherine, Missouri, passed away on March 25, 2025. He was born on March 9, 1938, the son of Gird Lester and Josephine Marie (Groetcke) King in Copemish, Michigan. He married Dorothy Joann Gaston on May 19, 1969, in Miami, Oklahoma. She preceded him in death on October 28, 2021.

Dick dedicated his life to service. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served from 1956 to 1964, and served in Morocco, Tripoli, North Africa, Zaragoza, Spain, and Oklahoma. From 1993 to 1997, he was the Eastern District Commissioner in Linn County, Missouri. Then, he served as the Presiding Commissioner of Linn County from 2008 to the present.

He was a member of the Brookfield VFW Post No. 4557, Brookfield American Legion Post No. 182, and Marceline Masonic Lodge Post No. 481. Dick was active in the Ararat Shriners Hospital and the Macon Flywheel Association.

Dick is survived by his seven children, sixteen grandchildren, thirty-five great-grandchildren, and one great-great-granddaughter.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing a life well-lived, and in thanking Mr. Dick King for his service to his country and community. I am proud to represent Mr. King in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING GRACE ANDERSON ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Grace Anderson of Norwalk, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Grace's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Grace brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Edison High School, she participated in Spanish Honor Society, dance, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Grace was involved

in track and field and cross country, earning her varsity letter in both. I am confident that she will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Grace Anderson on her offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Grace will excel during her career at the Naval Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

HONORING PROVIDENCE PLACE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN CHAMBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Providence Place Senior Living, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, on its 25th anniversary.

A family-owned company founded by former Pennsylvania governor George M. Leader in 1998, Providence Place serves nearly 1,000 seniors across seven communities in central and eastern Pennsylvania.

As Providence Place has grown over the years, the company has maintained an emphasis on three core values—caring service, authentic relationships, and a commitment to providing value.

While serving residents with differing levels of need, Providence Place strives to create a culture and environment where all seniors control their lives, have a sense of purpose, and make meaningful contributions to their community and those around them.

On behalf of everyone in the 13th Congressional District, I congratulate Executive Director Holly Townsend and her entire team at Providence Place's Chambersburg location on this significant milestone and offer best wishes for continued success.

HONORING CAPTAIN SCOTT LEATHAM

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Captain Scott Leatham of the City of Tempe's Fire Medical Rescue Department. Captain Leatham lost his battle with a rare form of cancer, which was caused by the carcinogens he was exposed to over his career as a firefighter, on December 19, 2024, at the age of 39.

Our community, along with his wife, Ashley, his 15-year-old son, Kaden, and his 12-year-old daughter, Kali, grieve his loss still. Captain Leatham radiated positivity and goodwill. When he decided to commit his life to public service, everyone knew that it was a perfect fit.

From a young age, Captain Leatham dreamed of becoming a firefighter, and in

2013, he started an over-a-decade-long career at the Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department. He went to work every day with a positive attitude, a passion for his profession, and unwavering selflessness. He took on a number of roles, serving as a firefighter, technical rescue technician, SWAT medic and member of the dive team. His former supervisors remember him as a standout—the epitome of what a firefighter should be. As a reward for his years of excellence, Scott was promoted to captain paramedic in 2022.

Beloved by his department and his wider community, Captain Leatham was living the life he had always dreamed of—a life committed to public service, family, and faith—when he received the devastating news of his diagnosis. Yet even in his final days, Captain Leatham remained positive, and certain he made the right decision in choosing a profession he found so meaningful and rewarding. Hundreds of fellow service members, friends, family, and community members attended Captain Leatham's funeral in January of this year to pay their respects.

Firefighters face an increased risk of cancer diagnosis and cancer-related death as a result of their service, and Captain Leatham's story is a powerful reminder of the sacrifices shouldered by our firefighters as they dedicated their lives to ensuring public safety. Despite the risks of this profession that this loss so painfully illustrated, Captain Leatham's fellow crew members at Tempe Fire Medical Rescue Department feel inspired by his legacy and are continuing to serve the people of Tempe with pride.

Ahead of National Firefighters Day, I stand to honor Captain Scott Leatham and all our Nation's firefighters. We are forever indebted to them for their courage and their service.

Godspeed, Captain.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF SERVICE OF DICK YOUNG

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the remarkable life and service of Richard "Dick" Young, a lifelong member of the Lancaster, New York community, who recently passed away at the age of 94.

Dick was a proud graduate of Lancaster High School, Class of 1948, where he served as class president and remained dedicated to keeping his classmates connected for decades. In fact, those remaining from his class gathered in 2023 to celebrate their 75th reunion—an extraordinary milestone.

Following graduation, Dick answered the call to serve his country by joining the United States Navy. From 1948 to 1949, he served aboard the USS *Buck* 761 Destroyer, supporting efforts during the Chinese Revolution. After his initial service, he enrolled at Marietta College, but when the Korean War broke out, he was called back to duty—this time serving as a ship-fitter on the USS *Marsh* DE699 from 1950 to 1952. In recognition of his dedicated service, Dick was honored in 2019 through the Honor Flight to Washington.

Dick returned home to join the family business. His father, Lester Young, had founded

the Young Fire Equipment Corporation in 1944, and by the time Dick completed his military service, he was destined to lead the company. As President, he relocated it to 204 Cemetery Road in Lancaster, where his Navy-honed skills and forward-thinking mindset revolutionized the fire apparatus industry. He designed firetrucks that were decades ahead of their time—earning a reputation for building the "Cadillac of Firetrucks."

Though Young Fire closed in 1991, Dick's passion for innovation never waned. In 1993, he launched the Performance Advantage Company in Lancaster, which continues to design and distribute tool and equipment mounting solutions for the fire service, military, and other industries in over 38 countries.

In 2007, Dick established the Greater Lancaster Museum of Firefighting, located next to his business. The museum showcases historic firefighting artifacts, including those from local departments and even pieces from the 9/11 Towers. It stands as a tribute to volunteerism, which Dick regarded as the backbone of strong communities. He often said, "Communities cannot function without the selfless sacrifices that volunteers contribute. We've got to encourage more volunteers."

Dick also served his community as an elected member of the Lancaster Village Board, where he played a key role in uniting the Village and Town to address critical infrastructure needs, including improvements to the sewer system.

Mr. Speaker, Dick Young leaves behind a legacy of service, innovation, and unwavering dedication to his community and country. His accomplishments, generosity, and leadership set a gold standard that will continue to inspire generations to come. May he rest in peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend the vote due to an unforeseen conflict. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 112.

RECOGNIZING SARAH CONNOR ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Sarah Connor of Avon, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Sarah's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education

while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Sarah brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Avon High School, she participated in Sign Language Club, Model UN, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Sarah was involved in track and field and tennis, earning her varsity letter in both. I am confident that she will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sarah Connor on her offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Sarah will excel during her career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT H. PETERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 112.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WARREN DAVIDSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I missed the first Roll Call Vote in the vote series due to an important meeting with constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 108.

COMMEMORATING THE BOROUGH OF EBENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with residents of the Borough of Ebensburg in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, in commemorating the borough's 200th anniversary.

Founded in the 1790's and incorporated decades later, Ebensburg conducted its first borough council meeting on April 27, 1825.

Ebensburg was the first permanent settlement on the Allegheny Front. The town was built on lands purchased in 1796 from Dr. Benjamin Rush, who was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Within a decade, Ebensburg became the county seat.

Three log houses remain from Ebensburg's pioneer period, including the Hugh Roberts Homestead, which was built in 1797. The homestead is the oldest structure in Cambria County.

As one county official observed, Ebensburg is a town built not only by hands and hard work, but by faith, courage and an unshakable belief in the American spirit.

As Ebensburg celebrates this significant milestone throughout the year, worthy tribute is bestowed upon the many generations of residents, business owners, community leaders and government officials who have partnered to fulfill collective goals and aspirations.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate the Borough of Ebensburg on its 200th anniversary and express fond wishes for continued growth and prosperity.

HONORING CARNEGIE MEDAL
RECIPIENT, SARA SCHALLER

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and sincere admiration that I rise to honor a true hero from Indiana's First Congressional District, Sara Schaller from Hammond, Indiana. Sara was recently awarded the Carnegie Medal for her courageous acts that saved a fourteen-year-old girl from drowning in Lake Michigan.

On June 20, 2023, Sara Schaller and her four-year-old daughter made a trip to the beach at the Indiana Dunes National Park. Suddenly, a rip current swept two swimmers out into Lake Michigan about 300 feet from shore. Sara did not hesitate to act, and after asking a woman to watch her daughter, she ran into the lake and swam out to reach the drowning girl. Sara grabbed the girl under both arms and swam with her 150 feet back to safety where bystanders helped to pull her out of the water. Paramedics were able to treat the girl at the scene of the incident, and she later recovered at the hospital. For her swift and valiant efforts that saved a young girl's life, Sara Schaller is to be commended.

The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission awards the Carnegie Medal to civilians who enter extreme danger, risk death or serious injury to an extraordinary degree while saving or attempting to save the lives of others throughout the United States and Canada. It was my honor to invite Sara to my office to present her with the Carnegie Medal on April 22, 2025. On that day, Sara's family shared their praises for her heroic feat. Sara was raised by a family of first responders who were not surprised at her ability and willingness to act at a moment's notice to help someone in need. Truly a "hometown hero", Sara Schaller is worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Sara Schaller for her courageous deeds and in congratulating her on being presented with the prestigious Carnegie Medal. Sara's story serves as an inspiration to us all, and we as a community are grateful for her determination and bravery.

RECOGNIZING CHARLES KNIGHT
ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT
TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES
MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Charles Knight of Republic, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Charles's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Charles brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Columbian High School, he participated in Boy Scouts earning his Eagle Scout rank, Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Charles was involved in soccer, earning his varsity letter and becoming team captain. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Charles Knight on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Charles will excel during his career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

VIRGINIA'S FOURTH DISTRICT
WOMEN IN EXCELLENCE AWARDS

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable group of women whose leadership, service, and achievements have made a profound impact on communities across Virginia's Fourth Congressional District and beyond. From advancing equity in education and environmental justice to transforming industries through innovation and empowering families in need, these honorees exemplify the very best of civic and professional excellence. Each awardee has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to making a difference—lifting others as they lead and setting powerful examples for future generations. It is a privilege to celebrate their accomplishments and recognize their outstanding contributions.

Businesswoman of the Year—Monika Mueller: Monika's journey to becoming Chief Strategy Officer is a true testament to her visionary leadership, relentless innovation, and

deep commitment to empowering others. Over the past several years, she transformed multiple departments, drove major revenue growth, expanded international operations, and championed the use of AI to accelerate performance across the company. Beyond her business achievements, Monika mentors women, volunteers with organizations like IT Girls, and uplifts her community with the same passion and dedication she brings to her career. Her story is one of resilience and excellence, making a lasting impact.

Non-Profit of the Year—Little Hands VA: Little Hands Virginia is transforming the lives of young children and their families by providing essential items, such as diapers, safe sleep spaces, and strollers, to those in need across Central Virginia. Focused on children from birth to age three, Little Hands alleviates financial stress for families, improves early childhood outcomes, and strengthens community support systems. In just five years, they have grown from serving 100 children a month to reaching over 10,000 annually through partnerships with 130 local organizations. Their work not only addresses immediate needs but also empowers parents and creates a foundation for lifelong success—making Little Hands a shining example of compassion, impact, and community leadership.

The Women of Impact in Education Award—Kayla Diaz: Kayla Diaz has dedicated her career to breaking down language and cultural barriers for students and families at Colonial Heights Public Schools. Drawing from her own experiences navigating a new language and school system, Kayla became a tireless advocate for better support services, leading to the creation of a full-time interpreter position she now proudly holds. Beyond translation, she builds bridges, fosters understanding, and empowers families to thrive. A first-generation college graduate and proud daughter of Puerto Rico, Kayla's work embodies compassion, resilience, and a deep commitment to educational equity.

Women in Action Volunteer Award—Fatima Smith: Fatima M. Smith is a powerful advocate, volunteer, and community leader whose work spans anti-violence initiatives, racial justice, and philanthropy. With over 15 years of experience, she has championed child advocacy, led major legislative efforts to protect survivors, and founded Collective 365 to empower Black and Brown communities through accessible grant funding. Through her work with organizations like Side by Side and the Children's Advocacy Centers of Virginia, and as a mentor and speaker, Fatima's unwavering commitment to building safer, more inclusive communities makes her a true force for positive change.

The Dr. Gladys West Women in STEM Award—Pamela Bingham: Pamela R. Bingham is a trailblazing environmental engineer whose 30-year career has bridged STEM, environmental justice (EJ), public health, and community empowerment. As Operations Manager for the University of Maryland's Health, Environmental, and Economic Justice Lab, she leads initiatives that support grassroots environmental justice (EJ) organizations and empower future generations through education and mentorship. From managing multi-million-dollar climate action grants to volunteering with Girl Scouts and the National Society of Black Engineers, Pamela's impact is far-reaching. Pamela remains a tireless advocate

and role model, embodying leadership and a passion for justice in every space she serves.

Law and Government Champion Award—Gray Montrose: Gray Montrose is a leader in land use, environmental law, and conservation, with over a decade of experience advancing cultural heritage and resource protection. As Deputy Director of Land Conservation at the Capital Region Land Conservancy and a former Assistant Attorney General, she has shaped major policies on environmental justice, clean air, coastal resilience, and community revitalization. A passionate volunteer and advocate, Gray has received accolades like the Greater Richmond Bar Foundation's Volunteer of the Year and the Sierra Club's Green Giant Award. Through her legal expertise, community leadership, and commitment to access to justice, she continues to drive positive change across Virginia.

Media and Communications Champion Award—Claudia Massey: Claudia Massey has made a lasting impact in media and communications as a bestselling author, TV and radio host, columnist, and Certified Life and Wellness Coach. Through her podcast and documentary, *Reclaiming My Life*, she reaches audiences worldwide, sharing stories of strength and hope. Claudia also founded *Rena's New Life Ministry*, supporting underprivileged families through school supply drives, Secret Santa programs, and scholarships. She preserves gospel music through *Quartet Unstoppable* and advocates for the elderly through *Patience for Patients, LLC*. Her dedication to service and community makes her a deserving recipient of the Media and Communications Champion Award.

RECOGNIZING BRANNON RAINS

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brannon Rains on his career with the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

A Dundee, Oregon native and 2018 graduate of Oregon State University, Brannon began his career in the U.S. House of Representatives as an intern for his home state Congressman, Representative Greg Walden (OR-02) before joining the House Committee on Energy and Commerce in 2018 as a Staff Assistant for Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers. Since that time, he has served as a Legislative Clerk, Policy Analyst, and most recently a Professional Staff Member for the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade. When I became Chairman in January, Brannon stayed on as a valuable member of my team as a policy expert in critical areas such as artificial intelligence, data privacy, and children's online safety. During his time in the United States House of Representatives, he has helped develop important pieces of legislation including the RANSOMWARE Act and the American COMPETE Act. Brannon was also crucial in planning legislative hearings regarding technology policies, Federal Trade Commission, and Department of Commerce.

Recently, Brannon accepted a role in Senator TODD YOUNG's office as a Policy Advisor. I thank him for his service, congratulate him on his new role, and wish him the best.

HONORING THE ATLEE HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring the 2024 Class 4 VHSL State Champions Atlee Varsity Raiders baseball team. Led by head coach Michael Morris, this team made history by winning the school's first ever Regional Championship and first ever Virginia State Championship. That accomplishment is a testament to their hard work and dedication to each other as teammates and as brothers.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM SIKORA ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that William Sikora of Avon, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

William's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

William brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Avon High School, he received the College Board National Hispanic Recognition Academic Achievement Award, the AP Scholar with Distinction Award, attended Buckeye Boys State, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, William was involved in wrestling, earning wrestler of the week. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating William Sikora on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that William will excel during his career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ELISE WOBBE

HON. MORGAN MCGARVEY

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. MCGARVEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Christina "Elise" Wobbe, a

vibrant and talented individual who touched the lives of many through her passion for the performing arts and her kindness. Born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, Elise's journey was marked by dedication, creativity, and an unwavering commitment to her craft.

From a young age, Elise immersed herself in the world of dance, singing, and acting. Her early start in dance paved the way for a lifelong love of performance. She showcased her talents at the Youth Performing Arts School (YPAS) at duPont Manual High School, where she graduated in 2024. Elise's excellence was further recognized when she attended the Governor's School for the Arts in 2022, specializing in musical theater.

Continuing her artistic journey, Elise enrolled at Syracuse University as a first-year musical theater major. Her commitment to excellence earned her a place on the Fall 2024 Dean's List. She actively contributed to the university's theater community, serving on the production staff and costume crew for the Department of Drama's production of "Pippin."

Elise's unexpected passing on February 14, 2025, in Syracuse, New York, was a profound loss to all who knew her. Her warmth and genuine nature left an indelible mark on those around her. Her family fondly remembers her ability to light up any room and her knack for turning strangers into friends. They expressed, "She lived her dream each and every day with exuberance, determination, and genuine kindness."

In recognition of her impact and to honor her legacy, the family has established the Elise Wobbe Scholarship. This scholarship aims to support a YPAS senior pursuing a career in the performing arts, ensuring that Elise's passion continues to inspire future generations.

Elise Wobbe's legacy is one of passion, kindness, and artistic brilliance. Her spirit continues to inspire, reminding us of the profound impact one individual can have on their community.

HONORING THE APPOINTMENT OF LOS ANGELES POSTMASTER MARICELA LUNA

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maricela Luna, the first Mexican-American Latina to serve as Postmaster of Los Angeles since the city's postal establishment in 1850.

It is fitting that Maricela Luna's appointment coincides with the 250th Anniversary of USPS. As the 42nd Postmaster in Los Angeles, Marci's story is one of unwavering commitment in service to the local community. Luna is an exemplary public servant dedicated to operational and logistical excellence befitting of the United States Postal Service. Her dedication to innovation and inclusivity sets a high bar for all of us in public service, and a living example of the legacy USPS which has served Americans since it was established in 1775.

I am hopeful that Luna's groundbreaking appointment will serve as a catalyst to inspire to future generations—especially in the Mexican-

American and Hispanic communities—towards a life of public service. May this appointment deepen public trust and strengthen the Postal Service for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Maricela Luna, 42nd Postmaster of Los Angeles.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MASTER PATROL OFFICER DENNIS BEVENOUR

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gettysburg Borough Master Patrol Officer Dennis P. Bevenour, who retired after serving the community with distinction for over 16 years.

Officer Bevenour joined the Gettysburg Police Department as a Patrolman in September 2008 and was promoted to Criminal Investigator, Intelligence Officer and Master Patrol Officer.

He entered law enforcement after a 27-year career in the United States Air Force. His impressive record of public service also includes roles as a volunteer firefighter and Probation and Parole Officer.

Officer Bevenour was widely respected by colleagues and supervisors for his expertise in criminal investigations. He was instrumental in securing grant funding to enhance the security of the borough building and to upgrade the police department's records management system.

Throughout the Borough of Gettysburg and beyond, Officer Bevenour's legacy of dedication, professionalism and community service will be forever respected and appreciated.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I express gratitude to Officer Bevenour for an extraordinary record of military and public service and offer fond wishes for joy and contentment in retirement.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTIAN SOLTIS ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Christian Soltis of North Ridgeville, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Christian's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Christian brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Elyria Catholic High School, he participated in National Honor Society, National Society of High School Scholars, Buckeye Boys State, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Christian was involved in football, wrestling, and track and field, earning his varsity letter in all three. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Christian Soltis on his offer of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Christian will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins her service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GADSDEN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Gadsden State Community College. Gadsden State is currently under the leadership of President Dr. Kathy Murphy.

One of the initial founding institutions of Gadsden State is the Alabama School of Trades. It was established in 1925 as the first state-operated trade school in Alabama and the entire southern United States.

Classes began on September 16, 1925, with 42 students enrolled in the inaugural class. Four courses were available: printing, electricity, bricklaying and cabinetmaking. All students lived in the newly constructed dormitory equipped with modern conveniences such as steam heat and plumbing that featured hot and cold running water. Students helped government workmen lay bricks to build the school's first permanent two-story buildings.

The Alabama School of Trades continued to thrive as a training center for the area's technical industry with increasing student enrollment and course offerings. In 1942, courses were converted to War Training. At the close of World War II, new courses were added to help veterans re-enter the workforce such as: Radio, TV, Auto Mechanics, Machine Shop, Refrigeration, Drafting, Photography, Upholstery, Auto Body, Barbering, General Farm Dairy, Poultry and Heavy Equipment.

In 1973, the school's name was changed to the Alabama Technical College and began offering associate in applied technology degrees. In 1985, the Alabama Technical College merged with Gadsden State Community College and is now known as the East Broad Campus. It is home to many of Gadsden State's workforce development programs such as Precision Machining, Mechanical Design, Industrial Automation, Welding, Electrical, Electronic Technology, Salon/Spa, Court Reporting, Truck Driving, Skid Steer Training, Certified Nursing Assistant, Phlebotomy and Civil Engineering.

As a result of mergers and expansion of services, Gadsden State is now a sprawling Community College with five campuses including East Broad, Wallace Drive, Valley Street (HBCU), Ayers and Cherokee. Gadsden State serves Etowah, Calhoun, Cleburne, Cherokee and St. Clair counties in northeast Alabama. There are 70 programs of study offered to over 5,000 students.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Gadsden State Community College a happy 100th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF BILL MATTHYS

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bill Matthys—a man whose life reflects a steadfast commitment to education, public service, and community.

Raised in rural Wharton County, Mr. Matthys graduated from El Campo High School in 1965, later earning degrees from Wharton County Junior College and the University of Houston, including a BA in English and Journalism and a master's in Curriculum and Instruction. In 1967, he married Pamela, his high school sweetheart, and together they built a loving family and a legacy of service.

Following college, Mr. Matthys served on active duty in the United States Army from 1970 to 1974, including time stationed in Germany, and later in the Army Reserve until his honorable discharge as a Captain in 1981. His service to our Nation was marked by integrity and continued through his 35 years dedicated to public education in Texas. He worked as both a teacher and administrator, with 16 of those years at Cuero ISD. After retiring from education, he continued serving the community through legal work as a certified paralegal at a local firm.

His civic involvement has been just as remarkable. He has served on the boards of the Cuero Chamber of Commerce, the Cuero Lions Club, the Cuero ISD Education Foundation, and the DeWitt County Habitat for Humanity. For 17 years, he represented the people of Cuero on the City Council, including 14 years as Mayor Pro-Temp.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Matthys represents the very best of servant leadership. His life is a testimony to the impact one person can make through quiet faithfulness, love for family, and a deep-rooted commitment to community.

May God continue to bless him, his family, and all those he serves.

RECOGNIZING JOHN PAUL GRAY ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that

John Paul Gray of Findlay, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

John Paul's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

John Paul brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Findlay High School, he participated in Gliding Stars Ice Skating, Buckeye Boys State, High School Business club, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, John Paul was involved in track and field and cross country, earning his varsity letter in both. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating John Paul Gray on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that John Paul will excel during his career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I was quarantining after testing positive for COVID-19 and was unable to vote on April 28 through May 1, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on the following bills:

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—Roll Call No. 105;

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—Roll Call No. 106;

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"—Roll Call No. 110;

Congressional disapproval, of the rule submitted by the EPA relating to "CA Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Em Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Em Airport Shuttle; Zero-Em Power Train Cert.; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"—Roll Call No. 111;

Congressional disapproval, of the rule submitted by the EPA relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The 'Omni-bus' Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"—Roll Call No. 112;

Congressional disapproval, 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"—Roll Call No. 113; and

Congressional disapproval, of the rule submitted by the EPA relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"—Roll Call No. 114.

I would have voted Yea on the following bills:

Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act—Roll Call No. 103;

TAKE IT DOWN Act—Roll Call No. 104;

TICKET Act—Roll Call No. 107;

Youth Poisoning Protection Act—Roll Call No. 108; and

Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act—Roll Call No. 109.

SUPPORTING UKRAINE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, Democrats will always be a friend to those fighting for their freedom—and the American people will always stand with Ukraine.

While ceasefire negotiations may be underway, Ukraine is not giving up, nor should they. Russia's offensives have stalled. European partners and allies are still committed to the struggle against aggression from Putin. And the Ukrainian people are speaking clearly, through their elected President Zelensky, that they are a sovereign Nation, and they speak for themselves. Only Ukraine can decide when it is done fighting—no one else.

It is our job in America to continue to support our ally. History teaches that aggressors never stop of their own accord. And they are never satisfied with appeasement. If Vladimir Putin's war is rewarded with Ukrainian land, he will try again for more.

I will continue to advocate for our ally Ukraine—for their defense, for the civilian and military resources they need, and for allowing them to control their own destiny. That is our obligation as an ally and as the world's strongest democracy.

It is my promise to them. As the lead Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee, I promise that I will never give up that fight. I will continue to support resources and funding for the Ukrainian people, and I urge them not to give up. We must all continue speaking out, for as long as it takes, until Ukraine is safe and free once more.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS SENSELESS ATTACKS ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans just wasted another week in Washington with no legislation to show for it that

would address our shrinking economy or rising cost of living.

Instead, they launched a series of attacks on a national park, an endangered species, and the ability of states to set strong standards to protect the air that we breathe.

H.J. Res. 60 would prevent the National Park Service from regulating motor vehicle use in the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, where just 6 percent of the roads had safeguards put in place to restrict the damage that off-road vehicles had caused. This was a narrowly focused rule to target protections in sensitive areas for the cultural sites, native wildlife, and other natural resources that the Park contains.

H.J. Res. 87, H.J. Res. 88, and H.J. Res. 89 all attempt to misuse the Congressional Review Act (CRA) process to overturn decisions at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reduce air pollution. Under the Clean Air Act (CAA), California can apply for waivers to set its own vehicle emissions standards, and other states can adopt California's exact regulations under certain circumstances. The law explicitly grants these states the ability to protect their citizens from air pollution and address climate change with stronger standards, and in doing so they are saving Americans \$89 billion in fuel costs through 2040.

These Republican resolutions would make the air dirtier, raise costs for drivers, and also violate the law. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Senate Parliamentarian have already made it clear that CAA waivers do not qualify as a target for a CRA. These decisions are not rules subject to review, but House Republicans are ignoring the law to try to set a precedent for drastically expanding what other protections for the American people they can undermine with a CRA.

As if all this wasn't enough, Republicans wrapped up the week with an attack on an endangered species of smelt in the San Francisco Bay-Delta. Delisting a fish won't solve the water shortage problems of the West; it is a distraction from the real issues of climate change, outdated infrastructure, and competing water allocations. Furthermore, this smelt is a critical part of the foodweb in an ecosystem on the verge of collapse. H.J. Res. 78 would not only overturn the current listing of the longfin smelt but prevent it from ever being listed in the future, no matter how much the threat to this species and its estuary increased.

I voted against all five of the Congressional Review Act resolutions that were brought to the floor this week, and I urge the Republican House Majority to stop bringing these harmful and nonsensical attacks on our public health and the environment to the House floor. Stripping away protections for our wildlife, for our national parks, and for the very air in our lungs doesn't improve Americans' lives.

RECOGNIZING JAYDEN SAXTON ON
HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO
ATTEND THE UNITED STATES
NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Jayden Saxton of Fort Jennings, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United

States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Jayden's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Jayden brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Ottoville High School, he participated in student government, FCCLA, National Honor Society, and was on the honor role. Throughout

high school, Jayden was involved in soccer, earning his varsity letter and becoming team captain. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jayden Saxton on his offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Jayden will excel during his career at the Naval Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2723–S2741

Measures Introduced: Forty-one bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1546–1586, and S. Res. 195–199. **Pages S2736–38**

Measures Passed:

Energy Conservation Program: By 52 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 228), Senate passed 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”. **Pages S2726–27**

Clean Air Act: By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 229), Senate passed 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”. **Pages S2723–26, S2727**

Congratulating University of Oklahoma women’s gymnastics team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 196, congratulating the University of Oklahoma women’s gymnastics team for winning the 2025 National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship, the seventh national title in program history. **Page S2741**

Congratulating University of Connecticut’s women’s basketball team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 197, commending and congratulating the University of Connecticut’s women’s basketball team for winning the 2025 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women’s Basketball National Championship. **Page S2741**

Bisignano Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Frank Bisignano, of New Jersey, to be Commissioner of Social Security Administration for the term expiring January 19, 2031. **Pages S2727–32**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 230), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S2732**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all post-cloture time on the nomination be expired and Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader, on Tuesday, May 6, 2025. **Page S2741**

Measures Read the First Time: **Page S2735**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S2735–36**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page S2738**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2738–41**

Additional Statements: **Page S2735**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S2741**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S2741**

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—230) **Pages S2727, S2732**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 3:23 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2025. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2741.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing 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 Secretary, who was introduced by Senator Hagerty, all of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Earl Matthews, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense, Dale Marks, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense, Bradley Hansell, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, Brandon Williams, of New York, to be Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, and 853 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

INSURANCE MARKETS AND MITIGATION POLICIES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine insurance markets and the role of mitigation policies, including S. 1545, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to ensure community accountability for areas repeatedly damaged by floods, after receiving testimony from Jessica Pyska, Lake County Supervisor, County of Lake, California; Robert M.

Gordon, American Property Casualty Insurance Association, Washington, D.C.; Alex Epstein, Center for Industrial Progress, Laguna Beach, California; and Michael Newman, Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety, Richburg, South Carolina.

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Paul Dabbar, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Leah Campos, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, who was introduced by Representative Ciscomani, 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, who was introduced by Senator Hagerty, Edward Walsh, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to Ireland, who was introduced by Senator Graham, and Joseph Popolo, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, who was introduced by Senators Cornyn and Cruz, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of John Andrew Eisenberg, of Virginia, and Brett Shumate, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 45 public bills, H.R. 3130–3174; 1 private bill, H.R. 3175; and 10 resolutions, H. Res. 367–376, were introduced.

Pages H1808–10

Additional Cosponsors:

Page H1812

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Eli Lara, New Life Family Church, McAllen, TX.

Page H1779

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”: The House passed 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” by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 216 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 113.

Pages H1781–86

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 Tuesday, 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 Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision”: The House passed 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”, by a ye-a-and-nay vote of 246 yeas to 164 nays, Roll No. 114. Consideration began yesterday, April 30th.

Page H1786

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 Tuesday, April 29th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, May 4, 2025 for morning-hour debate.

Pages H1786–87

Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation—Appointment: Read a letter from Representative Jeffries, Minority Leader, in which he appointed the following Member to the Board of Trustees of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation: Representative Larson (CT).

Page H1790

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two ye-a-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1785–86 and H1786.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SMALL UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS AND COUNTER-SMALL UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS: GAPS, REQUIREMENTS, AND PROJECTED CAPABILITIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Force held a hearing entitled “Small UAS and Counter-Small UAS: Gaps, Requirements, and Projected Capabilities”. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Eric Austin, U.S. Marine Corps, Deputy Commandant of the Marine Corps for Capabilities Development and Integration, and Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command; Doug Beck, Director, Defense Innovation Unit, Department of Defense; Lieutenant General Robert Collins, U.S. Army, Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology) and Director, Army Acquisition Corps, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army; and Major General David Stewart, U.S. Army, Director, Joint Counter-Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Office.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, MAY 5, 2025

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 276, the “Gulf of America Act of 2025”; and H.R. 881, the “DHS Restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese Entities of Concern Act”, 4 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, hearing entitled “Improving Access to External VA Care through Enhanced Scheduling Technology”, 3 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House.

The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through April 30, 2025

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in session	70	58	..
Time in session	494 hrs., 31'	201 hrs., 3'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	2,721	1,777	..
Extensions of Remarks .....	..	372	..
Public bills enacted into law	4	3	..
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference .....	..	..	..
Measures passed, total	115	175	290
Senate bills	11	2	..
House bills	1	105	..
Senate joint resolutions	5	3	..
House joint resolutions	5	10	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	4	3	..
House concurrent resolutions	5	6	..
Simple resolutions	84	46	..
Measures reported, total	*55	84	139
Senate bills	32	..	..
House bills .....	..	56	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	2	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	1	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	2	..
Simple resolutions	22	24	..
Special reports	8	2	..
Conference reports .....	..	..	..
Measures pending on calendar	52	44	..
Measures introduced, total	1,783	3,603	5,386
Bills	1,528	3,114	..
Joint resolutions	50	94	..
Concurrent resolutions	11	29	..
Simple resolutions	194	366	..
Quorum calls	3	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	227	96	..
Recorded votes .....	..	15	..
Bills vetoed .....	..	..	..
Veto overridden .....	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through April 30, 2025

Civilian nominees, totaling 324, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	57
Unconfirmed	255
Withdrawn	12
Other Civilian nominees, totaling 269, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1
Unconfirmed	268
Air Force nominees, totaling 1,660, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	3
Unconfirmed	1,657
Army nominees, totaling 2,005, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	5
Unconfirmed	2,000
Navy nominees, totaling 96, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1
Unconfirmed	95
Marine Corps nominees, totaling 91, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	26
Unconfirmed	65
Space Force nominees, totaling 1, disposed of as follows:	
Unconfirmed	1
<i>Summary</i>	
Total nominees carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominees received this Session	4,446
Total confirmed	93
Total unconfirmed	4,341
Total withdrawn	12
Total returned to the White House	0

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 17 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 86 reports have been filed in the House.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, May 5

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, May 5

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will be in a period of morning business. Senators should expect a vote on the motion to proceed to consideration of H.J. Res. 61, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, at 5:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Buchanan, Vern, Fla., E374
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 Davidson, Warren, Ohio, E376
 DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E380
 Gomez, Jimmy, Calif., E378
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