



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 171

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025

No. 86

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 21, 2025.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DARIN LAHOOD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

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

BIG, BAD BILL IS CRUEL

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

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, the news today is about a bill. It is a big bill. The Republicans' big, bad bill is cruel, coldhearted, and completely unnecessary. It is not even fiscally responsible. It is actually going to add to the deficit.

This massive bill, which is more than a thousand pages, was and is being negotiated behind closed doors. The debate started at 1 o'clock in the morn-

ing, in the darkness of night. This bill is going to strip healthcare and food assistance from millions of Americans so billionaires can get trillions of dollars in tax breaks.

Mr. Speaker, who is afraid of the big, bad bill? A lot of people are, and for good reason. Make no mistake, if you rip healthcare away from millions of Americans, people will die.

Right now, this is the largest Medicaid cut in American history. In fact, a headline today summarizing the Congressional Budget Office score on this bill said: "Wealthy gain, low-income people lose from GOP megabill." They are right.

There are about 1.4 million Oregonians on Medicaid, including one in three children. I challenge my colleagues to go to a pediatric cancer wing and tell a child with leukemia and their parents that they can no longer afford lifesaving treatment. If my colleagues don't have the courage to tell them to their face, then don't support this bill.

This bill takes food from hungry children. SNAP helps more than 775,000 Oregonians, 50 percent of whom are children, put food on the table. This bill would lead to a significant reduction in food benefits for families.

I guess billionaires can eat caviar in their mansions or on their yachts while launching celebrities in rockets on vanity tours of space, but everyday Americans will be left unsure about whether they will have enough to feed their families.

The top 20 percent of income earners are going to get at least 68 percent of the benefits in the bill, while Oregonians and Americans who benefit from Medicaid and SNAP will be left to suffer.

Student loan borrowers could be in debt until they die because of this big, bad bill. Many students who get Pell grants will be harmed. The bill will raise monthly student loan payments

for working- and middle-class borrowers, affecting 15 million people across the country. That includes more than 50,000 Oregonian students and families who, with this bill, will have limited options for repayment relief. No question, unless you are from a wealthy family, this bill will close the doors of opportunity for the next generation to access affordable college.

Families will pay more for groceries, gas, insurance, and utilities, but oil companies and corporate executives will get tax breaks. This bill will hike the average household electricity bill by about 10 percent, forcing families to pay more while corporate polluters are getting a windfall. Nationwide, families would pay an extra \$6 billion.

Republicans are going to make it easier for corporate polluters to poison our water and air. We will see an increase in the number of wildfires and floods that devastate communities, and that will lead to continued skyrocketing insurance premiums and property damage.

Farmers and ranchers are collateral damage. This bill green-lights more drilling and mining that will spoil water supplies used for irrigation and livestock, poisoning the land while fossil fuel CEOs profit.

Public lands belong to all Americans, not billionaire donors, but Donald Trump and congressional Republicans are going to privatize, drill, and destroy them for profit. That will eviscerate the very spaces that make us America the beautiful.

Finally, tucked into this bill is a 10-year block on State regulation of artificial intelligence, which might make sense if we had policies at the Federal level for safety, security, and bias. We don't, so the public will face uncharted and unchecked harm.

For all these reasons and more, I oppose this misguided legislation, and I urge every one of my colleagues to vote "no."

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

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



Printed on recycled paper.

H2201

HONORING BARBARA HARPER ON HER RETIREMENT

(Mr. EMMER of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of our outstanding caseworkers, Barbara Harper.

Barbara is retiring at the end of the month after nearly two decades of public service to the people of Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District. We are lucky to have Barbara here on the floor today for this speech.

This is a bittersweet moment. As the lead caseworker in our office, Barbara repeatedly demonstrated compassion, tenacity, and dedication. These values define public service. Her career as a caseworker began over 18 years ago under Congresswoman Michele Bachmann, whom she first met when their children were in school together in Stillwater, Minnesota.

Concerned by the curriculum her kids, Ben and Libby, were exposed to in the public school system, Barbara teamed up with other parents, including Representative Bachmann, to voice their concerns. It was through this shared passion that Barbara and Michele developed a friendship. It wasn't until Barbara, her late husband, Larry, and their kids returned from a 3-year stay in Singapore for Larry's job that Barbara's career in public service began.

Barbara reconnected with Michele in the grocery store. Michele remembered Barbara's passion for school choice and concerns with the school system. Barbara went on to help Michele in her Minnesota senate campaign as a volunteer scheduler. When Michelle decided to run for Congress, Barbara helped organize and support her campaign. After her victory, Barbara joined the Bachmann staff as a caseworker. She has led casework operations for the last 18 years, starting in 2007.

Barbara is a total powerhouse. Her efforts alone returned hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars rightfully owed to our constituents. She has helped secure more than \$1 million in Federal funds for Minnesotans in the first 5 months of this year alone. Still, it is the human impact of her work that sets her apart.

Barbara helped hundreds of Minnesota families with foreign adoptions, notably reuniting 4-year-old Otra, who was in a Kenyan refugee camp, with her family in the United States. Otra was a baby when her family left for the U.S. and lacked the proper paperwork to emigrate with them. After years of work, Barbara secured authorization for Otra to enter the U.S. and coordinated with the airport to ensure a smooth arrival. It was an understandably emotional reunion for the family and one that continued to serve as motivation for Barbara as she worked to solve similar cases for other Minnesota families.

The walls of Barbara's office are covered with photos of families she has as-

sisted, thank-you cards, and drawings from young children as a token of appreciation for her help. Not only does she support families in need, but she actively fights the Federal bureaucracy on Minnesotans' behalf.

One story involves a simple display of the First Amendment. A constituent of mine had signed and filed his tax return while adding the words "under protest without prejudice." For this, the constituent received a threatening letter from the thugs at the IRS, telling him he could be fined \$5,000 for adding those words. Barbara contacted the IRS, stood up for free speech, and prevented a fine from ever being levied against him.

Barbara represents the best of all of us. She attends community events like the Senior Expo and brings casework directly to constituents. Barbara has held close to 100 hours of mobile office hours across our district.

Barbara also led our office's Congressional Art Competition, a program that actually turned into a passion for her. For years, we struggled to receive submissions, but thanks to Barbara's efforts, the program has turned into one of our most successful outreach projects. The best part is the joy it brings to Barbara when we recognize the young artists and their beautiful work.

Barbara's commitment to service is unmatched. She often stayed in our office late into the night and worked weekends to help our constituents. Barbara has left an incredible impact on our community and has touched countless lives, including my own.

Anyone who knows Barbara knows she is a devoted patriot. She frequently reminds our legislative team of the importance of our pro-liberty, America First principles, and she staunchly opposed the Big Government policy positions of the Obama and Biden administrations.

Barbara is one of a kind. My wife, Jacquie, and I will always cherish her friendship. On behalf of our staff, the Sixth District, and the Nation, I thank Barbara for everything. I wish her all the best. I urge everyone to thank Barbara for her years of service to this institution.

RECOGNIZING LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF ALCARIO "AL" CASTELLANO

(Mr. LICCARDO of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LICCARDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleague, Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN—and I know Congressman RO KHANNA also would like to be represented—to recognize the life and contributions of U.S. Army veteran and community leader Alcario "Al" Castellano for his dedication to advancing education, arts, and leadership in San Jose and the greater Silicon Valley of California. He is not simply a tremendous model of gen-

erosity but, more importantly, of purpose.

Al Castellano won the lottery. No, I am not just talking about his unique fortune of building a beautiful family with his wife, Carmen, or his three beloved children, Armando Castellano, Maria West, and Carmela Castellano-Garcia. In 2001, Al and his wife, Carmen, won a \$141 million California Lottery jackpot.

More importantly, the Castellanos were already pillars within the community, known for volunteering on committees and boards for local schools and civic organizations like San Jose GI Forum and contributing to arts and cultural organizations like Movimiento de Arte y Cultura Latino Americana and the School of Arts and Culture at Mexican Heritage Plaza.

It came as no surprise when the family turned their moment of good fortune into a lifetime of impact. It is often noted that their generosity and values didn't change after the win, only the size of their checks did.

With their winnings, Al and Carmen created the Castellano Family Foundation to uplift San Jose's Latino community. Through the years, the foundation awarded millions of dollars in grants and scholarships to over 150 Silicon Valley nonprofits. Together, the Castellano Family Foundation and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation created LatinXCEL Fund, a \$10 million effort to support Latino leaders and groups in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties.

Al and Carmen were married for 57 years before she passed away just a few years ago in 2020. In the years after her passing, the Castellano children were the driving force behind the foundation until its operations concluded in 2023. The impact of their monetary contributions is exceeded only by the change they cultivated on behalf of the Latino community by pushing for cultural preservation and more diverse representation in nonprofit leadership.

On April 26, Al Castellano passed away in his Saratoga home surrounded by loved ones. His most important role, of course, was that of a loving husband, father, and grandfather to his family.

It wasn't just Al who won the jackpot. We were the ones who hit the jackpot by having him as a wonderful friend and neighbor.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN).

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. LICCARDO for yielding.

I first met Al and Carmen in the late 1970s. When I was elected to the community college board, Carmen was the secretary for the president of City College, and Al was a hardworking guy. What really stood out was the two of them constantly volunteering their time for the community through the GI Forum and the scholarship programs.

I am not a fan of the California Lottery, but it was great to see them win because what they did with their newfound wealth was in keeping with their

commitment to the community. They made sure that their windfall was distributed to nonprofits and to the community. They lifted everyone up.

Al and Carmen won the lottery in many ways. They created a wonderful family. Their children, now adults, have the same commitment to public service that they had.

We will miss Al, just as we miss Carmen. I am so grateful to my colleague, Mr. LICCARDO, for organizing this tribute here on the floor today.

Al and Carmen left a tremendous mark for good in our community. I will miss Al tremendously.

□ 1015

PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT

(Mr. KILEY of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the important issue of public lands management.

My district is very blessed. From the iconic landscapes of Death Valley to the ski areas of the High Sierras and the wonder of Lake Tahoe, we host and steward some of the most magnificent places in the entire country.

Across millions of acres of public land, seven national forests, and countless parks, these wild places are the source of clean water and air for much of the State, while providing jobs for nearly 545,000 Californians and essential tax revenue for our communities and, of course, recreational opportunities for millions of visitors every year.

That is why it is so important that any decisions made regarding the acquisition or disposition of these lands be made only after significant and meaningful local input.

The communities most affected by our decisions must be willing partners in any plans made by the Federal Government. Local buy-in is the key to preserving these spaces and guaranteeing that our policies benefit the people that we represent.

For that reason, I urge my colleagues to oppose any plan that would supersede the will of our local communities and reject efforts to force land decisions without prior consultation.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Mr. KILEY of California. Mr. Speaker, in California, we have just learned that CARB, the California Air Resources Board, is plowing ahead with the imposition of its new so-called low-carbon fuel standard to take effect in July.

The board has refused to even say what impact this is going to have on gas prices, but studies have shown that it could increase gas prices in California by another 85 cents per gallon.

Let's just consider where we are right now. In California, the price of gas is nearly \$5 a gallon. People get photos from their friends who are on vacation in other States, showing \$2.50 or something like that. They simply can't believe it.

By far, California already has the highest gas prices in the country. Second place is Hawaii, an island State, where gas is 39 cents cheaper.

Not only that, the current price does not account for the fact that two refineries have recently announced that they are closing, significantly reducing the refining capacity in our State.

A study out of USC estimated that this could increase the price of gas to \$8 per gallon by the end of next year, and then we layer on top of that this new so-called low carbon fuel standard. It won't be long before we are paying \$9 a gallon for gas or maybe \$10 a gallon for gas in California, which is something our constituents simply cannot afford.

It is one of the major reasons why the cost of living in our State has spiraled out of control. It is one of the major reasons why California has the highest real poverty rate of any State in the country. It is one of the major reasons why California has led the Nation in domestic out-migration for 5 years in a row, according to U-Haul's own rankings because folks simply cannot afford to live in our State.

I am calling on Governor Newsom and the legislature to stop the imposition of this latest punishment for California drivers, which could increase the cost of gas 85 cents a gallon.

I am also calling on the Governor and the legislature to revisit our State's gas tax, the highest in the Nation. I ask him to revisit onerous regulations like cap-and-trade and to revisit all of the other regulations involving the fuel mix and all of the other things that have demonstrably increased the price of gas in our State.

Mr. Speaker, Californians are ready for common sense. They are ready for some sanity to return. They simply are tired of having to pay far more for basic commodities than any place else in the country.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

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

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to sound the alarm on President Trump's reckless efforts to kneecap the agencies responsible for our Nation's emergency preparedness.

In recent weeks, deadly tornadoes have torn through Kentucky and Missouri, leaving behind devastation, heartbreak, and lives lost. My prayers continue to be with the families mourning the unimaginable and with the first responders who selflessly ran toward danger to save others.

The Federal Government should be offering more than thoughts and prayers to the families facing immense calamity. Instead, the Trump administration is dismantling the very systems designed to protect the American people when disaster strikes.

At the height of tornado season and with hurricane season fast approach-

ing, President Trump has made the unconscionable decision to weaken emergency preparedness at the Federal level.

This administration has slashed employment levels for the National Weather Service, firing researchers and forecasters who track and monitor natural disasters. At FEMA, they have gutted the workforce, canceled critical mitigation and preparedness grant programs, and initiated reckless plans to undermine critical emergency infrastructure.

President Trump even fired his own personnel in charge of FEMA for admitting that it is not in the best interests of the American people to eliminate the agency. These cuts threaten lives.

Natural disasters impact all Americans and are not bound by the political whims of Washington. Whether it is a tornado in the Midwest, a hurricane battering the Southeast, or a blizzard sweeping across western New York, preparedness saves lives.

Every early warning, every rapid deployment, and every ounce of emergency management coordination is the result of decades of investment in the public interest and science. Under this administration, diligence has been replaced with disregard.

The hard-earned trust between government and community is being shredded by this administration. As ranking member of the Emergency Management and Technology Subcommittee, I have heard firsthand from experts who are ringing the alarm. These public servants are asking for the basics: Adequate staffing, stable funding, modernized tools, and the freedom to do their jobs without political interference.

It is a disgrace that the President is undermining the very professions they have dedicated their entire lives to. This is not a partisan issue. This is an American issue.

If the Republican majority in Congress allow this administration to dismantle the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, defund the National Weather Service, and hollow out FEMA, then they are failing every family that depends on those agencies to survive the next natural disaster.

The people sent us here to protect them and to ensure their security and safety. That means investing in the systems that stand between them and disaster. We must not sit idly by while this administration gambles with American lives.

Americans deserve better, and I know I and the Democratic Caucus will continue to fight every single day to make sure that they get it.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF TIM PENNY

(Mr. FINSTAD of Minnesota was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Tim

Penny, a friend and a leader in southern Minnesota who is retiring from 18 years as president and CEO of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation.

Tim Penny first stepped into public service 49 years ago when he was elected to the Minnesota State Senate in his early twenties. From there, he would go on to serve in this very Chamber as the U.S. Representative for southeastern Minnesota, part of the district that I am honored to represent today.

Whether in or out of elected office, Tim has been a fixture in our State for decades, fiercely advocating for the region's economic growth, rural development, and community revitalization.

In his nearly 20 years leading SMIF, the organization has launched several grant projects, educational programs, and community improvement initiatives. His departure leaves behind enormous shoes to fill but also a legacy of service. It is a legacy of service that will long be remembered by all of us in southern Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Tim on his well-deserved retirement and wish him and Sandy the best in this next chapter.

PROTECTING SOUTH FLORIDA

(Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, today Republicans are jamming through a reckless bill that would wreak havoc on south Florida. In response, I introduced a series of commonsense amendments to protect American families.

Over the past few weeks, multiple hospitals, including several children's hospitals, have come into my office and pleaded with me to stop the devastating Medicaid cuts.

One children's hospital, in particular, showed me their net operating margins for 2024. They were in the negative. This bill will close them down and deprive more than 80,000 children of life-saving care.

This bill also threatens the integrity of this lifeline program, while giving tax breaks to the wealthy and well-connected and leaving our children sicker, poorer, and without healthcare.

I am offering an amendment to protect Florida's ability to fund Medicaid. I refuse to stay quiet and silent while this body attempts to rip away healthcare from our most vulnerable children who need it.

I also introduced another amendment to protect south Florida's small businesses and the workers they depend on. Immigrants are the economic engine of south Florida. Their hard work and ingenuity make the region a desirable travel destination that thousands of people flock to each year.

Unfortunately, this tax-breaks-for-billionaires bill threatens to upend the district's economy, shutter small busi-

nesses, and disrupt south Florida's tourist industry.

As it is currently written, this bill would impose excessive fees on employment authorizations sought by asylum seekers and individuals holding temporary protective status to work in the United States. At a time of unprecedented worker shortages for south Florida businesses, Congress should make it easier for companies to hire and not more difficult.

My amendment caps employment authorization fees at \$550 for asylum seekers and TPS holders. It is a commonsense change that would give south Florida businesses the flexibility they need to keep moving and to keep thriving.

I also have an amendment that strikes the visa fee for this bill. Imposing a fee on tourists at a time when U.S. tourism is experiencing instability and unprecedented lows because of reckless trade wars would be catastrophic to our economy.

Furthermore, my amendment eliminates the cruel remittance tax that will exacerbate crises in places like Haiti, Venezuela, and African countries that depend on them. Taxing this lifeline will only bring more economic instability to the Caribbean and result in increased migration to the United States.

Mr. Speaker, remittances should not be taxed but should be incentivized. I will continue to fight relentlessly to protect south Florida from this reckless bill.

□ 1030

ALS AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. FEENSTRA of Iowa was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize ALS Awareness Month, to honor those who have lost their lives to this awful disease and to share my support for our fellow Americans living with ALS.

Last year, I had the opportunity to meet with Lori Hermstad from Spencer, Iowa, who tragically lost both of her daughters to ALS.

At just 17 and 26 years old, Alex and Jaci Hermstad had their lives cut short by this horrible disease.

They sadly became the youngest twin girls in history to lose their lives to FUS-ALS, an even rarer form of this disease.

Lori's resilience in the face of unthinkable loss is inspiring, and she shared with me the positive memories that she had of her brave daughters.

Jaci and Alex embraced life with remarkable strength, fearless hearts, and endless courage. They loved their families, friends, and faith, and they shared a passion for the outdoors and horses.

Jaci and Alex's bravery in the face of overwhelming odds are helping to advance science in the ALS community today. Alex's brain tissue was donated

to advance ALS research, and Jaci personally urged lawmakers and the FDA to fast-track a new personalized drug designed specifically for her rare and aggressive form of ALS.

These sisters showed us what it means to be courageous, to live with purpose, and to never stop fighting for others.

In the darkest moments, they were beacons of light.

In honor of Alex and Jaci, and every American living with or who has lost their life to ALS, we must recommit our efforts to find new cures and therapies for ALS.

We will never forget Alex and Jaci, and we will continue to fight to find a cure for this tragic disease.

CONGRATULATING DR. WENDY WINTERSTEEN

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Dr. Wendy Wintersteen, on announcing her retirement as president of Iowa State University.

Under her leadership, President Wintersteen prioritized students, led the State in research, and advanced Iowa State's incredible reputation. I have always enjoyed working with her to advance Iowa State's priorities at the Federal level.

We also worked closely on protecting CIRAS to grow manufacturing in Iowa and to bring jobs to our rural communities. She played a pivotal role in supporting our veterinary diagnostic lab and the world-renowned Ames Laboratory. She will continue to be remembered as a phenomenal leader for our Iowa State University.

Mr. Speaker, I wish President Wintersteen and her husband, Robert, all the best in this next chapter of life.

CONGRATULATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ACROSS IOWA

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate high school seniors across Iowa who are graduating. This is an incredible milestone in their life that they will always remember. It marks the conclusion of 4 years of hard work, perseverance, and personal growth.

Whether they are off to a trade school, community college, a 4-year university, or heading straight into the workforce, their contributions to our communities are crucial, and their voices are needed.

They are the next generation of leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators who will make our State and country a better place.

I especially want to congratulate my daughter, Savannah, who graduated yesterday and will be attending Iowa State University this fall.

Savannah's mom and I are so proud of her accomplishments, and I can't wait to see her future.

I congratulate the class of 2025. Now go chase your dreams.

BUDGET CUTS WILL HARM FAMILIES

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I am here this morning to talk about what is happening here in Congress in regard to the budget proposal. I can't believe that many of my Republican colleagues, many of whom have larger numbers of folks on Medicaid, are proposing the largest cut to food assistance in the history of our country and the largest cut to Medicaid in the history of our country.

Many are actually denying that they are even cutting them. That is a slap in the face of so many people who depend on it.

Don't take it from me, Mr. Speaker, but take it from the Congressional Budget Office and many others who continue to say that nearly 14 million Americans will lose their healthcare, and thousands of people will be impacted by the proposal, the so-called reconciliation, that is going through this Chamber. We know that children and families will go hungry with this proposal.

Our residents can't simply stop being hungry or stop being sick, Mr. Speaker. For me, being on the front lines of a community that continues to get left behind with policies here in this Chamber, I know they feel very much that this budget is a betrayal to our families. If it wasn't bad enough, this all is being done to give trillions of dollars—not billions or millions, but trillions of dollars in tax breaks to the billionaire class and the largest corporations—corporations that do not need these tax breaks.

Don't worry, Mr. Speaker, there is a budget that got increased, which is the Pentagon and the defense budget. The war machine of the Pentagon budget can't pass an audit; seven audits in a row.

I read somewhere that in the most recent audit failure, the Pentagon could not account for one-half of its assets. One-half is hundreds of billions of dollars that are unaccounted for.

Many of my colleagues continue to talk about the deficit. I know this is a misnomer, but the Congressional Budget Office says that the deficit is being increased by \$3.8 trillion.

Why isn't there this outcry regarding that number?

It only seems to be an outcry when we are trying to, again, feed children who are hungry or to help make sure that people, again, through no fault of their own getting sick, get covered by Medicaid.

The budget would cut crucial programs for the poor and working families. That is a fact. It is not being made up. It is right there. It is going to take food away from hungry children. It will let people die from the lack of healthcare coverage. They are even cutting, again, trillions of dollars so that we can continue to fund a budget that can't pass an audit.

One of the amendments that I am offering this morning, Mr. Speaker, is one of the ones that says: If the Pentagon can't pass an audit, then we shouldn't be able to fund them.

I really believe no money for Pentagon waste. The amendment would prevent any funds, again, being allocated to this.

Mr. Speaker, when you talk about waste and when you talk about fraud, you look at the Pentagon budget.

However, instead, what did we do? We went to the most vulnerable. We went to the hungry, and we went to the sick. Why?

It is because many of my colleagues in this Chamber own stock in war manufacturing, Mr. Speaker. That is a direct conflict of interest. So every time they increase the budget for defense, many of them are benefiting personally from that increase.

There are no increases to helping the poor or helping the hungry, many of whom are in both Republican and Democratic districts.

Again, many of my colleagues have a lot more people on Medicaid than my district does. Yet, here we are gaslighting and misleading the public and saying: We are not cutting it. We are not doing this or that.

How is that possible in the Congressional Budget Office, a nonpartisan agency that many of my colleagues on the other side have quoted themselves, many of the people who are the so-called "I am concerned about the deficit" are increasing the deficit by \$3.8 trillion. Put that aside, the cruelty of it. I have an amendment in there that talks about the fact that we need to focus on reducing the rate of infant mortality.

Why can't we work on that? Infant mortality is a national crisis right now. We can do that by ensuring that Medicaid covers all prenatal and postnatal care.

Why can't we support that? Why can't we make sure prenatal and postnatal care are covered?

I know over 40 percent of births in our country are covered by Medicaid, Mr. Speaker. Again, I am trying to propose these amendments to highlight the fact that these are very critical programs no matter where an individual lives in our country.

We can also be ending child poverty and ensure that every child has the resources they need to reach their full potential. We should be talking about these critical issues, of funding these programs. It is our tax dollars going back to our neighbors who need it most.

Instead of voting to make life easier, they are supporting polluters, corporations, and billionaires who do not need it.

Please, I say to all my colleagues, they won't ask Speaker JOHNSON or the President why they voted this way.

They are going to ask you when you go back to your district. Please do the right thing.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF JAMES WOOD HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor James Wood High School in Frederick County, Virginia, as it celebrates its 75th anniversary, a proud milestone for an institution dedicated to cultivating excellence through student engagement.

James Wood High School, established in 1950 and led by Principal Paul Beable, became the sole high school serving Frederick County. Prior to its opening, the county supported five smaller high schools located in the rural communities of Stephens City, Middletown, Stonewall, Gore, and Gainesboro. Each school was named for the community it served and played a key role in educating local students. While those schools no longer exist, the communities they represent continue to grow and stand as a lasting reminder of the county's history and progress.

Named for James Wood, founder of Winchester, colonel of the Virginia Continental Militia, and friend of George Washington, the school stands on a foundation of history, leadership, and service.

Today, James Wood High School is led by Principal R. Shelly Andrews and thrives by promoting the Four Colonel C's: critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity.

Mr. Speaker, as James Woods celebrates 75 years of service to our community, we reflect with pride on its past and look forward to its continued role in shaping future generations. Congratulations to James Wood High School and all who have contributed to its remarkable journey.

CELEBRATING LORD BOTETOURT HIGH SCHOOL'S 2025 VHSL TITLE VICTORY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exceptional achievements of Lord Botetourt High School Lady Cavaliers basketball team, who were recently crowned the 2025 Class 3A State champions.

The Lady Cavaliers capped an extraordinary 26-3 season by toppling previously undefeated James Monroe, earning the program's fifth State title since 1995. Under the remarkable leadership of Head Coach Renee Favaro, now a two-time State champion with an impressive 117-29 record over six seasons, this team has continued to raise the bar.

The Lady Cavaliers also captured the Region 3D championship and saw standout players Madilyn Winterton and Maddie Caron named to the VHSL Class 3A All-State First Team.

This State championship adds to a storied program legacy, including back-to-back titles in 1995 and 1996 under Coach David Wheat, a 2018 title with Coach Chuck Pound, and a shared championship in 2020.

I would like to commend each of the dedicated student-athletes: Addison Naff, Reagan Meade, Abby Kingery, Jaiden Dann, Madilyn Winterton, Alicia Holmes, Madelyn Caron, Maggie Hoover, and Kayla Windsor, and extended heartfelt congratulations to

Coach Renee Favaro and the entire Botetourt community. They have made their school and Virginia's Sixth Congressional District extraordinarily proud.

Go Lady Cavs.

CELEBRATING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF
ROANOKE'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of First Baptist Church of Roanoke, a beacon of faith, service, and resilience, since its founding as Big Lick Baptist Church on May 16, 1875.

From just 20 charter members in a small village, this church has grown alongside the city it calls home. As Roanoke emerged as a railroad hub and flourished, so too did First Baptist, driven by a people focused on God, devoted to discipleship, missions, and the community.

From their first sanctuary in 1878 to today's impressive 300,000-square-foot campus spread over 11 acres, First Baptist Church of Roanoke has faithfully expanded its reach, and they have held onto their heritage, including the original pulpit from their 1891 sanctuary, a powerful symbol of enduring faith.

For 150 years, they have been a light in the valley, feeding the hungry, sending missionaries, broadcasting the Gospel, and transforming lives.

May God continue to bless First Baptist Church of Roanoke for generations to come.

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, on this Memorial Day, we do more than remember. We honor the men and women who gave everything for this Nation. We remember the fallen, those still missing in action, those lost at sea, and the thousands who now rest beneath our flag, having paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

These heroes answered the call to defend liberty, knowing it could cost them their lives. Because of them, we live in a country where freedom still rings and the American Dream endures.

Their sacrifice is not just a chapter in our history; it is the foundation of our Republic. We are duty-bound to remember them, to honor them, and to ensure that their service is never forgotten.

May God bless the memory of our fallen warriors, and may He continue to bless the United States of America and all who wear the uniform in its defense.

PROTECT THE AFGHANS WHO SERVED US

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

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose the Department of Homeland Security's termination of temporary protected status for Afghans. TPS has provided a lifeline to

Afghans who supported U.S. national security efforts and risked their lives to support our missions.

We offered them protection here because when allies stand with us, we have a responsibility to stand with them. This principle is a national security imperative. It helps build trust and helps build more allies. That trust gets undermined when we turn our back on those who protected us.

Now, with the termination of TPS, we are sending our Army's allies back to the Taliban. These individuals and families were given just weeks to make an impossible choice: face deportation to return to Afghanistan under Taliban control where they will likely be suffering or even die.

Many of these families live in our community here in Virginia.

Take the story of a former captain in the Afghan National Army. He worked with the U.S. military, and his brother was shot by the Taliban. His entire family now fears for their lives. Abandoning Afghans now not only turns our back on those who risked their lives to protect us but puts our current and future global partnerships on the line.

We have an incredible Afghan-American community in Virginia, and we have to stand up for them and stand up for the Afghans who have come here and who served us there.

I urge the administration to reverse course.

□ 1045

CELEBRATING RAJDHANI MANDIR

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, from celebrating holidays to hosting community events, the Rajdhani Mandir temple is a cornerstone of the Hindu community in our region.

This year, we will mark an important milestone of the temple's 25-year anniversary, years of bringing people together at events, festivals like Holi, Diwali, and Navratri, and for children's programming, too, including regular Sunday classes.

The temple also puts out programs for seniors and does incredible philanthropic work to provide food and resources to our community.

I am honored to celebrate this milestone with the temple this weekend. I congratulate the Rajdhani Mandir temple on a successful 25 years, and I am looking forward to the next 25 years of work.

CONGRATULATING STONE HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the students of Stone Hill Middle School, in Ashburn, Virginia: Avee, Neil, Vibhav, and Aarav; and their teacher, Pardeep, for placing third in the National Space Sustainability Competition.

This competition allows students to address the need for sustainable practices in space by developing an engineering solution, creating a business plan, and submitting a video pitch for consideration.

Their project, the Orbital Ecosystem Engineers, was pitched as an aerospace

technology company to manage and remove space debris, which is a big problem right now. The technology used includes satellites, drones, and AI to find the best route to locate debris and the focus of the power of the Sun's rays to destroy the debris.

I am eager to see what our students continue to do with their company in the future, and I wish them the best of luck in tackling sustainability in space.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EMS WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National EMS Week.

Since 1974, we have set time aside each year to honor the critical work of our Nation's emergency medical services professionals. These brave men and women are often the first line of defense in moments of crisis, responding to emergencies with speed, skill, and selflessness.

Whether it is an accident on a rural road or a medical emergency in a busy town center, EMS professionals are there to ensure that help arrives when it is needed most.

These individuals provide more than just medical assistance. They offer calm in chaos, hope in despair, and life-saving care under pressure. They work long hours, often in physically and emotionally demanding environments, yet continue to serve with unwavering dedication.

The job requires technical skills, physical strength, deep compassion, and a calling to serve others.

EMS providers are vital to maintaining the health and safety of the public, especially in rural communities like my district, where resources can be limited and the stakes are high.

As someone who has spent more than three decades on the front lines as a volunteer firefighter and EMT, I have seen firsthand the extraordinary courage and commitment of EMS personnel. I have been privileged to work alongside them during some of the most challenging moments a person or community can face. I can say with certainty that these professionals are heroes in every sense of the word.

Here in Pennsylvania, we are especially proud to recognize one of our own. Chief Fred Ferguson of Moshannon Valley Emergency Medical Services was recently named the recipient of the 2025 Pennsylvania EMS Educator of the Year Award. This prestigious honor is awarded to an EMS educator who has demonstrated excellence in preparing the next generation of emergency responders.

Chief Ferguson has more than 30 years of experience as a paramedic. He holds multiple instructor certifications, including basic life support, pediatric advanced life support, advanced cardiac life support, Stop the Bleed, and first aid.

Throughout his career, Chief Ferguson has trained thousands of students, instilling in them the knowledge, skill, and integrity that the profession demands.

Chief Ferguson's impact extends beyond the classroom. He was recently appointed EMS Chief at Moshannon Valley EMS, where he continues to lead with distinction.

In 2019, he was also honored with the Pennsylvania Office of Rural Health Community Star Award, recognizing his contributions to improving rural healthcare.

Chief Ferguson holds a bachelor's of science in microbiology from Penn State University and multiple degrees in emergency medicine, underscoring his deep commitment to both science and service.

Mr. Speaker, National EMS Week is about more than recognition. It is about gratitude. It is about coming together as a nation to thank the EMTs, paramedics, dispatchers, trainers, and supervisors who stand ready every day and every night and in every corner of this country.

I congratulate Chief Ferguson and thank every EMS professional for their courage, care, and commitment to saving lives. America is stronger, safer, and more resilient because of them.

EARTHQUAKER DEVICES SOUNDS THE ALARM

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to lift up the voice of Julie Robbins, a small business owner from Akron, Ohio, who is sounding the alarm on behalf of hardworking Americans across the country.

EarthQuaker Devices is a homegrown success story in downtown Akron, located in Ohio's 13th Congressional District. They manufacture guitar effect pedals, which are sold across the world, and everything from design to assembly is done right here in the United States.

EarthQuaker Devices employs 34 workers and offers premium health insurance, paid sick leave, a 401(k) match, and competitive wages.

In 2019, they were recognized as the SBA Exporter of the Year. In 2022, after decades of success, they invested in a state-of-the-art automated production line.

This is what American manufacturing should look like, and it is the kind of manufacturing that helped build the middle class in Ohio and across the heartland.

When we talk about supporting American businesses, EarthQuaker is who we should be talking about, and that is why I am talking about them today.

Today, they are facing devastating consequences. Mr. Speaker, you may ask why. It is because of reckless tariff policies.

EarthQuaker Devices imports raw materials because there are no domes-

tic suppliers for the specialized electronic components that they need, but they export even more than they import. That means they bring in more money to our economy. They create jobs right here at home and in my district.

The President's tariffs have increased their cost of goods by \$500,000. Let me be more specific. The cost per pedal that currently costs \$0.02 would increase to \$12.80 by the end of the year, according to an article in the Akron Beacon Journal. That is a 640 percent increase in costs.

With no relief in sight, they are being forced to raise prices, cut staff, and halt domestic innovation, all because of a policy that was supposed to help American manufacturing.

Julie wrote to me earlier this year, and she said: "Our effective tax rate has skyrocketed, with no explanation or benefit to us. . . . Where is the relief for businesses? Does the government truly not understand the impact of their actions, or is it their goal to destroy us?"

She goes on to say: "For the first time, I am considering offshoring our manufacturing. This had never been an option for me, but these changes imposed on American businesses make it extremely difficult to manufacture here."

Mr. Speaker, think about that for a moment. The President's tariff policy, which he alleges is meant to drive domestic innovation and manufacturing, is causing a small but mighty business in Akron to consider offshoring their manufacturing.

This doesn't help Ohio's 13th District and the State of Ohio, and it does not help the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, let's be very clear. Tariffs are a useful tool to level the playing field, and, when properly implemented, they can create jobs and spur manufacturing. As someone from northeast Ohio, I have seen the consequences of bad trade deals and the impact of NAFTA. We are also home to President William McKinley, who the President often quotes and references in his trade policy, but it is 2025, and it is not making America great again to push American manufacturing offshore.

Ohio exports more to Canada than its next six largest foreign markets combined. This country slapped tariffs on our allies. They retaliated, and it is our workers, businesses, and communities who pay the price. Foreign governments are not paying for these taxes, as the President has claimed.

In 2023, Ohio exported over \$58 billion of goods and services. That is not just trade. It is opportunity, jobs, and growth, and it is all being put at risk because of impulsive executive orders and a Congress that refuses to check and balance the administration.

If our goal is to stop offshoring and revitalize American manufacturing, why are we punishing the companies that are driving innovation, the ones who are footing the bill?

EarthQuaker Devices isn't some multinational conglomerate dodging taxes and hiding profits offshore. They are a small business that turned a passion for music and creativity into a business. They are our neighbors. They care about our community, and they give back. We should make it easier for them, not harder.

To lower costs, let's go after the price-gouging billionaires and corporate monopolies, not small business owners keeping our communities alive.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to listen to the voices of our constituents like Julie. Julie closed her letter to me with a plea not just for her business but for future generations and for the future of manufacturing in this country.

Let us not fail them. Let us not fail Americans.

RECOGNIZING ALHAMBRA THEATER & DINING

(Mr. BEAN of Florida was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, they say all the world is a stage, but in Jacksonville, Florida, the best seat in the house comes with dinner and a standing ovation.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great excitement that I rise today to recognize the Alhambra Theater & Dining in Jacksonville, Florida—are you ready for this, Mr. Speaker?—for being named the Best Dinner Theater in America by USA Today's Readers' Choice Awards.

Since opening its doors in 1967, the Alhambra has brought Broadway to Florida's First Coast, hosting a wide variety of shows, musicals, comedies, and tribute acts.

Under the visionary leadership of my good friend, Managing Partner Craig Smith, the Alhambra has evolved into a unique destination where art, entertainment, and culinary excellence converge to create an unparalleled experience.

Mr. Speaker, the Alhambra isn't just a destination. It is a source of community pride, a cultural beacon, and a testament to the power of community and the arts.

As we celebrate this incredible honor, I look forward to more captivating performances, more incredible meals, and more nights filled with the joy that only the Alhambra can provide.

When Craig is there, and he is most nights, he personally welcomes each audience. When you step through the doors, Mr. Speaker, you are not just attending a show. You are stepping into a legacy, one that continues to shine brighter with each curtain call.

Earning this recognition is no small feat. I congratulate Craig and the entire Alhambra team on this well-deserved honor, and here's to many more standing ovations.

HONORING SERGEANT BILLY O'LEARY

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we are all in a hurry. We rush through life, and sometimes, we don't know the impact we have on others.

One of my favorite books is by Mitch Albom, "The Five People You Meet in Heaven." The book says that when you get to Heaven, you get to see other people's lives, the impact you had on their lives, and how it unfolded.

On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, we know the people who have very much impacted our own lives, such as Sergeant Billy O'Leary, who was, indeed, a giant of a man in northeast Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Sergeant Billy O'Leary, of Fernandina Beach, Florida, a man who dedicated himself to service, leadership, and community that few people can match.

Billy's passing was tragic and sudden. It hurts. It leaves an undeniable void. His legacy, one built on honor and commitment, will live on in the hearts of those whom he had an impact on.

Billy will be missed by his sister, Robin; his children, Skylar, Caitlin, and Emery; three beautiful grandchildren; and scores of friends and co-workers.

Billy, first and foremost, was a man of service. He answered the call to defend his country as a United States marine, proudly serving 4 years with discipline and courage. Afterward, he made the transition to law enforcement, serving with the Fernandina Beach Police Department and continuing with a 25-year tenure with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office. As a sergeant, he led with integrity, mentoring officers and strengthening public safety to ensure that his community remained safe.

Billy's impact, Mr. Speaker, stretched far beyond the badge. He played football for the Fernandina Beach Pirates and went on to play for Newberry College. When he returned home, he constantly coached for Babe Ruth baseball and Pop Warner football, and he poured his heart into Pirate Athletics. He was the voice of the Pirates. At every football game, Mr. Speaker, you would hear Billy-O with the call.

□ 1100

He was president of the Quarterback Club, which is the fundraising arm for the football team. Our kid was on the football team. Like so many others, our kid graduated—sorry, Mr. Speaker. He was just a big deal.

So many others that are a part of this Quarterback Club where their kids had already graduated years ago are part of a group that could not say no to Billy O. We keep working for the football team because nobody wants to tell this guy no. He would say: Help us out. It is for the kids.

Mr. Speaker, Billy was a marine, a protector, a coach, a voice, a leader. He was just a friend. He was my friend. I am—it hurts. I think, Mr. Speaker, why it hurts so much is because the impact he made was so great.

God speed to Billy. He will be missed but not forgotten.

GLOBAL REPORT ON FOOD CRISIS

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

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the 13th time to call for the Trump administration to restore funding for lifesaving food aid for malnourished children across the world.

Every 7 seconds a child in this world dies of malnutrition, of starvation, needlessly and unnecessarily. For decades, the United States has saved lives, particularly by providing funding for ready-to-use therapeutic food, also known as Plumpy'Nut. This is a miracle treatment. This is a peanut-based paste that treats malnutrition, doesn't need to be refrigerated, and can be shipped around the world. You don't need to add water, and it saves the lives of children.

Edesia Nutrition in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, is one of the factories that produces Plumpy'Nut. From that factory alone, over the last decade, 25 million children have been saved with this treatment.

Funding was cut off at the beginning of the Trump administration under the so-called DOGE initiative, and every day that this product sits in warehouses in Rhode Island is a day that children around the world are unnecessarily dying.

Now, the good news is that Elon Musk, Marco Rubio, and others have said that this funding will be restored. In fact, just yesterday, at his Senate hearing, Secretary Rubio said again that essential humanitarian aid, he meant food aid, will be continued. So do it already.

It is good that the administration is saying that they intend to continue providing this aid around the world, but they need to do it. Again, there are thousands of boxes of this ready-to-use food sitting in warehouses here in the United States that should be getting to the children who need it.

Every day that the United States fails to provide this aid is a day that China and our other adversaries have an opportunity to step into the void and earn goodwill around the world.

As the Secretary pointed out yesterday—and Secretary Rubio said this—China's generosity is not free. China's generosity comes with a price. It comes with a price of subservience and dependency on the Chinese Communist Party. That is not what we want.

We want the developing world to be allied with the United States, for our own reasons: so that we can have access to critical minerals, so that we can have access to intelligence, and so that we can beat back terrorist organizations that would otherwise threaten U.S. interests.

We want the goodwill of the developing world, and we can maintain that goodwill by continuing our commitment to doing our part to end global hunger with U.S.-produced products, sourced from U.S. farmers, manufactured in U.S. factories that help build U.S. goodwill around the world.

That is what we want to continue. We do not want to give an opportunity to China or anybody else to fill the void that is being created right now.

The Global Report on Food Crises published last Friday by the U.N. confirms what we have been warning. The number of people facing famine has more than doubled in the last year. Malnutrition globally is on the rise. This is a global emergency, one that the United States has the greatest capacity to help solve.

The burden should not and cannot fall entirely on us, but leadership comes with a responsibility. We have the responsibility to continue to do our part. The moment is calling us.

Once again, I will rise in this Chamber every single day until the administration does what it says it is going to do and continues funding ready-to-use therapeutic food.

I am not asking the administration to change their policy. We are asking them to just execute on their stated policy, and do what they said they were going to do, which is: Continue the funding. Resume the flow of aid. Save the lives of malnourished children around the world, and strengthen America in the process.

ONE BIG, BEAUTIFUL BILL

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

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, this past November, the country voted overwhelmingly to send Republican majorities to the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate and put President Donald Trump back in the White House. That mandate made it clear that the American people were ready to get the country back on track. We wanted less government spending, more secure borders, and we wanted to see the 2017 tax cuts made permanent to prevent tax hikes on every American. The majority cannot take that mandate for granted, and this week we have the opportunity to give the country what they voted for.

Our one big, beautiful bill is exactly what voters want. It delivers the largest tax cut for middle- and working-class families in decades. It cuts taxes on tips and overtime, allowing American workers to keep more of their hard-earned money. It increases the child tax credit, which helps offset some of the costs of raising a family. It extends and expands the 199A business tax deduction, which will help incentivize investment across the country and spur economic growth. Our bill is the most proworker, profamily legislation Congress has seen in a generation.

The one big, beautiful bill will secure the border once and for all and make America safe again. The border was the number one issue on the campaign trail, and President Trump and his administration have made historic efforts to remove bad actors here illegally and make our country safe again. Illegal

border crossings have plummeted, but Congress needs to act to ensure the proven policies of President Trump are codified and continued for generations to come. Our bill makes historic investments in our border security by ensuring we can finish the border wall, stop the trafficking of fentanyl, and give our Border Patrol agents the resources that they need.

Our bill invests in our national security by ensuring our defense systems are prepared to handle 21st century threats. It invests in cutting-edge technology that our warfighters and our military needs for its readiness. This package invests in modernizing our Nation's air traffic control systems and cuts wasteful spending in the Green New Deal pet projects that only benefit far-left activists, all while strengthening the safety net for those who are the most vulnerable Americans and our Nation's agriculture community at the same time. It cuts wasteful, fraudulent, and abusive spending and gets able-bodied adults back on the ladder of opportunity while giving them a fair shot at the American Dream.

I am pleased with all we have been able to accomplish in this one big, beautiful bill, and now it is time to get it over the finish line. It is frustrating that some of my Democratic colleagues hate President Trump so much that they refuse to work with him even when it means securing a more prosperous future for America. Instead, they have chosen to lie again.

The lie that they tell us is that by making tax cuts permanent, Congress is taking money from working-class and low-income families to give tax cuts to the rich. The facts show that this is the farthest thing from the truth. President Biden's own Treasury Department reported that the average person would see a 2.2 percent tax cut if the Trump tax cuts were extended. According to the Tax Foundation, the bottom 50 percent of earners in the country saw their average Federal tax rate fall by 15 percent when the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act took effect. On the other hand, the top 1 percent of earners only saw a decrease of about 5 percent during that same period. Some of my colleagues across the aisle may want to force a tax hike on the vast majority of American families next January, but, please, let's just be honest about it.

Some of my Democrat colleagues have been clear that they are anti-Trump. I would like to ask, then what are they for? The truth is they are here to fight for future tax hikes, foreign energy reliance, wasteful spending, government dependence, and a future of America last.

On the other hand, Kansans from the Big First sent me here to fight for working families, tax cuts, energy dominance, the military, American agriculture, and the American Dream, a future of America first. That is what I am focused on doing, along with President Trump, and that is what the one big, beautiful bill is all about.

I am looking forward to supporting our bill when it comes to the floor for a full vote and delivering on the mandate the country gave us on November 5, 2024. We can't afford to miss out on this once in a lifetime opportunity, Mr. Speaker.

TAX CUTS

(Mr. KHANNA of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the fiscally irresponsible one big, beautiful bill that simply gives tax breaks for the richest Americans and takes away services for working- and middle-class families.

Here are the facts: We currently have about a \$36 trillion debt, and we are spending right now \$2 trillion more every year than we take in. The Republican budget would add \$3.8 trillion to that deficit. It will do that over 10 years.

How are they going to get those \$3.8 trillion of tax breaks? Let me just outline who those tax breaks are going to go to: \$96 billion a year are going to go to people who make over a million dollars a year. If you are a millionaire in America, you are going to get about \$82,000 a year in tax breaks. If you are making under \$100,000, you get about \$750 in tax breaks. That is \$82,000 of tax breaks for the millionaires, and \$750 to working- and middle-class families. That is not a fair deal.

Democrats believe that we need to raise taxes on people who are making over a million dollars, not give them \$82,000 a year in tax breaks.

By the way, the tax breaks for those millionaires and billionaires are permanent over 10 years. The tax breaks the Democrats support for working-class families, like no tax on tips, they only want them for 4 years. Democrats have been fighting to get the no tax on tips for 10 years. Republicans say: No, for working families, we only want 4 years. Tax breaks for the billionaires in my district in Silicon Valley, for those we want 10 years.

Then what are they cutting? They are cutting \$750 billion in Medicaid benefits. That is just a fact. Go Google it. You will see the cuts. They claim that people aren't going to lose their healthcare, but the independent CBO says that up to 14 million Americans may lose their healthcare. Up to a million of American children, kids born in the United States, may lose their healthcare. It is the largest cut to Medicaid in the history of this country, all to finance \$96 billion a year of tax breaks to the millionaires and billionaires. Those are the facts.

Look, CBO did an analysis, and they said that the top 10 percent in America are going to benefit enormously from this bill. If you are in the top 10 percent, if you make over a million dollars, over a half a million dollars, you should applaud.

The bottom 10 percent, the folks who are working hard, struggling to make

ends meet, the truck drivers, people who work at Walmart, nurses, HVAC technicians are going to lose 4 percent.

This bill benefits those who are already doing well and ignores those who are working hard and struggling the most. It is the exact opposite of what we should be doing.

Even Donald Trump challenged the Congress to say: Raise taxes a bit on the rich. I am fine with it. Did the Republicans do that? No. They cut them further for the wealthy.

People ask what do Democrats believe? Democrats believe that the tax breaks and the tax cuts should be going to the working and middle class in this country. Democrats believe we should be taxing more the people who are making a million and a billion dollars a year. We believe we should not be cutting Medicaid, essential healthcare services that help families, that support hospitals, and that support the health of so many seniors in this country.

□ 1115

This debate is about whose side are Members on. Are my colleagues for those who already benefited from the income divide, or for the working and middle class? I hope enough Republicans on the other side will say "no" to these cuts of working-class benefits.

I hope enough Republicans will say "no" to the tax breaks for the millionaires and billionaires, and will say "no" to piling on more debt which will raise interest rates, hurting our economic growth, exploding our trade deficit because of our reliance on foreign firms and foreign investment, and crippling ordinary Americans' ability to get loans.

It is bad economics. We need a new approach.

STOP THE START-STOP TECHNOLOGY

(Mr. LAMALFA of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, many regulations are being enacted so often in California due to CARB, California Air Resources Board, or even federally with previous iterations of the EPA.

One of those features is the start-stop feature on newer automobiles, which is when you stop your car and the engine shuts off.

This is a design, in theory, to save gasoline or diesel, whatever your vehicle is powered by. Yet, most drivers or the vast majority of drivers you talk to and survey are really annoyed by this feature because they pull up to a stoplight, a stop sign, or just merely wish to stop somewhere for a moment, and their engine shuts off.

Mr. Speaker, you can point to this button bypass that many of the cars have—some don't—that you can bypass and shut off the feature that shuts off your car. Yet, a lot of people will forget to turn it off. They get in their car,

pull up to the stoplight, and the darned thing shuts off.

They are really annoyed that their government treats them that way and that they can't decide on their own how to operate their vehicle. What you see is that the vehicles also have to build in extra technology and extra heavy-duty equipment in order to accommodate this.

For example, when you stop and start your car all the time, you are going to wear out your battery more, so they have to have a battery with an extra-heavy-duty build to it, as well as the starter itself, in order to accommodate many, many more frequent starts using these systems.

One of the things mechanics will talk to you about is that when you shut an engine off, your oil pressure goes back down to zero. Each time you start your engine without the oil pressure, you gain a little extra wear on your bearings—your crank bearings, your connecting rod bearings, and even in the cylinders—because the oil has settled back down between starts. There is a lot of extra wear involved with the engine wear and engine component wear.

Then, reading up on how the factory has to accommodate this so that it lasts 100,000 miles and doesn't become a warranty problem, they have to build in extra-heavy-duty wiring harnesses so that the extra load from the starter, from the battery, and all of that can be accommodated over a longer period of time so the car will last longer.

When you have these systems in place, this adds to the cost of a new car by having to make heavier batteries, heavier starters, and heavier wiring harnesses on that, all for the concept that you might be saving a little bit of gasoline.

Mr. Speaker, it is interesting when you ride around here in D.C., for example, when you have to take an Uber downtown to go to some meet-up or what have you, by the time you get through all of the blankety-blank stoplights in this town—and they are all on timers instead of even on sensors like some of them are at home—that you are riding with somebody and you hear the car shut off, then it starts up again 2 seconds later, if the light happens to change.

For me, who is mechanically inclined, it kind of drives me crazy listening to that because it is such abuse on the car and the engine system, all because somebody dreamed up the idea, if we shut off the engine at stoplights all the time, it might save a little bit of gas.

On some engines, it actually takes a little bit of extra gas to restart it versus just letting it run a few extra seconds. What is seen is that statistics have shown that, maybe over the lifetime of the car, you have saved a few gallons of fuel. Yet, in that process, you have had to buy more batteries, replace starters more often, and build a lot heavier components which are more costly and require more resources, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I am really pleased that EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin has called for changes to this feature. Since it may be perceived as a mandate, I know the auto dealers are afraid to shut it off. If you take it in and say: Would you just disable this thing for me. They say: Well, it is an emissions thing.

If you don't like the gong going off on your seatbelt all the time, they can't shut that off because it is a safety thing. You don't really have the choice of how you are going to operate your vehicle.

For those of us who drive around in a rural area or on our own, if you are a farmer on your fields and such, you have to listen to the gonging of the seatbelt all the time or have it shut off every time you need to stop to irrigate in your field, for example, or if you remember to shut it off with the silly button. Yet, I understand there are bypass systems you can get for that if you want to bootleg it a little bit.

I understand that if you open the hood on certain vehicles, it disables that, so they have a little hood bypass mechanism you can get to bypass that. Mr. Speaker, maybe they just don't need to put the stuff on to begin with and let people decide for themselves if they want to shut their car off at the stoplight every time.

Mr. Speaker, what do you get? When you stop at the light, you get a hesitancy to go again. You can read anecdotes of how people are getting ready to pull out into traffic but the car stopped on them, so they lose their opportunity. They lose their moment to pull out and they have to wait longer.

These silly mandates that come along, people generally don't like them, such as the auto start-stop feature on automobiles. I am pleased and will continue to work with Administrator Lee Zeldin on things like that to give people more car choice on what they want.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 21 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or the

world was brought forth, from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

In light of Your eternity, we apprehend all too quickly our finitude. We realize how quickly our days pass, even more so when one of our own friends or loved ones come rapidly to the end of the life You have given them.

Such is this day for us as we grieve our friend and colleague, Representative Gerry Connolly, for his was a life that kept on giving. With his unquenchable passion, his unfading whimsical spirit, Gerry Connolly exuded a sense of perpetual persistence to get things done.

Thank You for his unwavering testimony of justice and mercy, equity and compassion. May his legacy of geniality and gentle gibing spark in us the desire to pay forward his lust for life and his love for Your people.

While we may miss the green ties, the Boston brogue, his blarney, and his bluster, we know that his family and friends will want for that much more. Give them comfort in their sorrow and solace in Your steadfast and abiding love in their grief.

Teach us all to number our days. But even as the grass withers and the flowers fade, may we find strength knowing that the word of the Lord endures forever.

In Your eternal name, we offer our prayers this day.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HOULAHAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the passing of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), the whole number of the House is 432.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

DOROTHY DRAPER AND COMPANY

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

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dorothy Draper & Company for 100 years of business.

Founded in 1925, it is the oldest continually operating interior design firm in America. Its founder and namesake, Dorothy Draper, was a trailblazer. Her vision, love of color, chintz, and the tendency toward the dramatic solidified her iconic style dubbed the Draper Touch.

Her protege, Carleton Varney, championed her work throughout his career, and the company flourished under his leadership. His creative genius led the firm for 60 years. Mr. Varney decorated the West Virginia Governor's mansion in the 1980s, further solidifying the Draper Touch into our State's history.

Dorothy Draper & Company's work is especially important to my home State of West Virginia where their most famous design is showcased at The Greenbrier Resort, affectionately called America's Resort.

Located in White Sulphur Springs, The Greenbrier is a unique and bold getaway nestled in the hills. The Greenbrier has hosted Presidents, royalty, celebrities, and countless West Virginians in America since 1778.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize Sebastian Varney and design director Rudy Saunders, and I am delighted they were able to be with us today.

HONORING ANDREW KASSOY

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with profound admiration for Andrew Kassoy and his life well lived.

Very few people on this Earth can know that they have truly changed the planet, but Andrew knows that he has. He has forever established that business is a force for good and that our global economy can be about all of us.

He has also lived those values locally, teaching us and our next generations that our voice and our vote matters and that we matter.

To that end, he has knocked on thousands of doors and had thousands of conversations with so many across this country in an effort to hear all of us and to unite all of us. He has done all of this with humor and a sparkling intellect.

We will miss Andrew deeply, but he will never be far. For whenever we hear that doorbell ring or a knock on our door, we will know that he is with us. Godspeed, Andrew.

AMERICAN RED CROSS FOUNDING DAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of American Red Cross Founder's Day. Today, we recognize an institution that has been a pillar of compassion and service for over 140 years.

Founded by Clara Barton in 1881, the American Red Cross has answered the call to serve on battlefields, after natural disasters, and in our local communities. From its earliest days, it has brought comfort and relief to those facing life's most difficult moments.

Today, the Red Cross continues that legacy by delivering disaster relief, supporting military families, and offering health and safety training. They run one of the world's largest blood donation networks, supplying more than 40 percent of our Nation's blood products.

Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. Yet only a small percentage of eligible donors give. That is why on this founder's day, I encourage every eligible American to consider donating blood or plasma. That generosity could mean a second chance at life for someone.

Mr. Speaker, we honor the Red Cross' enduring mission today and every day.

HONORING AANHPI HERITAGE MONTH

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

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, as chair emerita of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I rise to honor Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, a celebration of the rich history, immense contributions, and vibrant cultures of our community.

I am proud to represent California's 28th District and the San Gabriel Valley, home to the fourth largest AANHPI population in the country.

AANHPIs are the fastest growing racial or ethnic group nationwide. With 23.5 million people and over 70 different ethnicities and hundreds of languages, we are also one of the most diverse groups in the Nation.

America has always been made stronger by the contributions of our communities whose histories and cultures are deeply woven into the fabric of our Nation.

This month and every month, we must highlight how AANHPI history truly is American history.

I wish everyone a happy AANHPI heritage month.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATEHOOD

(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, I send my sympathies to the

people of Virginia on the passing of Congressman GERRY CONNOLLY.

Mr. Speaker, 237 years ago, on May 23, South Carolina became the eighth State to enter the Union. With the first permanent English settlement at Charleston in 1670, the Palmetto State has grown into a prosperous, wonderful home to 5.5 million people and 138,000 businesses.

During his 2025 State of the State address in January, Governor Henry McMaster recognized the success of South Carolina achieving a historic year with \$8 billion in capital investments and 5,500 new jobs created.

A leader in manufacturing, South Carolina is number one in America for exporting vehicles and number one in the manufacture and export of tires, along with Boeing Dreamliners, which President Trump promoted last week in Qatar.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Trump is reinstituting existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength, revealing war criminal Putin's lies, insulting Trump. Putin responded to the ceasefire with 400 armed drones last weekend, murdering Ukrainian civilians, the largest drone attack on a city in world history.

BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA WILDERNESS

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

Ms. MORRISON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to a provision tucked away in the Republican's budget proposal that will open up the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness to toxic sulfide-ore copper mining.

My husband and I take our kids camping and paddling in the Boundary Waters every year, and we are not alone. The Boundary Waters is the most visited wilderness area in the country. There is literally no other place like it on Earth. It is a major driver of the nearly \$13.5 billion outdoor recreation economy in Minnesota.

All that is at risk if sulfide-ore copper mining is allowed in the watershed of the Boundary Waters. It is known as the most toxic industry in America, and it has never been done in Minnesota before.

The Republican majority is prioritizing the interests of an international Chilean mining conglomerate that has no interest or stake in the economy or well-being of Minnesotans.

They will extract our resources. They will pollute our air, land, and water. They will permanently damage our pristine Boundary Waters and leave Minnesotans to foot the bill for the cleanup.

Mr. Speaker, we should protect Minnesota's crown jewel and not destroy it.

REPUBLICAN TAX CUTS

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

Mr. HARIDOPOLOS. Mr. Speaker, every day I hear this big story about how we are making big tax cuts for the rich.

Let's be abundantly clear once again, today, that the current tax rate on the wealthiest Americans is 37 percent. Under the new law we will be passing soon enough, it will stay at 37 percent.

The people who will get the true tax cuts in this bill are people who have earned Social Security, people who have earned tips, and have earned overtime pay. That is the message we need to make clear. It is 37 percent now, and it will be in the future.

We are not cutting taxes for the rich. We are looking out for the folks that make America work every day and who have been hardest hit in the last 4 years by high inflation and failed government policies.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS

(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, this afternoon, the House may be voting on America's worst budget ever. It includes cuts to SNAP and Medicaid funding that will hurt those who can least afford it and provide tax breaks for those who don't need them.

Also among these tax changes are rollbacks to critical clean energy taxes and credits that were part of the Inflation Reduction Act. These include phasing out clean energy production and investment tax credits and ending longstanding home energy efficiency tax credits.

If these aren't bad enough, they also add provisions to require the accelerated sale of public lands for oil and gas drilling and to rescind funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund that protects America from pollution and lowers the cost of energy bills.

Climate change is real, and it is happening now. We must act. These were commonsense initiatives to move us away from complete reliance on fossil fuels and move toward a clean energy future.

Mr. Speaker, try to spin it any way you want. Americans will suffer. Our world will continue to burn.

VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY

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

Mr. MOORE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a deeply troubling breach of trust by one of our closest trading partners.

What happened to the Vulcan Materials Company is nothing short of a

hostile act by the Mexican Government. This American company has operated legally in Mexico for decades, supporting critical construction projects across the Southeast.

Yet in 2022, the Mexican military invaded their site, shut it down, and seized control of their operations, including a strategic deepwater port only a few hundred miles from Florida.

Why? Vulcan refused to turn over their land to President Lopez Obrador for his own benefit.

This is an unlawful expropriation of American property by a foreign government, and it is a clear assault on our American economic interests and a threat to our national security.

Congress must stand united against this kind of aggression. I am committed to working with my colleagues and President Trump to ensure there are real consequences for this. We cannot allow a trading partner to seize American assets with impunity. Mexico must reverse course now.

□ 1215

HONORING FEDERAL GLOVER,
FORMER CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
SUPERVISOR

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

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend and a great political and community leader in my community and in the bay area in San Francisco, California, former Contra Costa County Supervisor Federal Glover, who passed away on Sunday after a distinguished life of service to his community and his country.

Born in Pittsburg, California, Federal served as a city council member and mayor of the city of Pittsburg before becoming the first African American to serve on the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors in the east bay.

I was lucky to serve alongside Federal on the county board for 6 of his 20 years. He supported efforts to expand job opportunities, create the board of supervisors' public protection committee, and he was an instrumental leader on regional transportation in a transformative period of time in northern California and the bay area.

Federal was a good man, a good friend, and I will miss him very, very much.

I wish Federal good luck, and I hope I will see him again in the future.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN
INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE
CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOP-
MENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4412,

and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development:

Mr. COLE, Oklahoma

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, New Mexico

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GAL-
LAUDET UNIVERSITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4303, and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University:

Mr. OWENS, Utah

Ms. MCCOLLUM, Minnesota

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL
DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE
SUBMITTED BY THE ENVIRON-
MENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
RELATING TO "REVIEW OF
FINAL RULE RECLASSIFICATION
OF MAJOR SOURCES AS AREA
SOURCES UNDER SECTION 112 OF
THE CLEAN AIR ACT"

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Pursuant to House Resolution 426, I call up the 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", 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 426, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is 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.

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

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to insert extraneous material in the RECORD on S.J. Res. 31.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S.J. Res. 31, a resolution that pushes back on yet another outrageous overreach by the Biden-Harris EPA which spent the last 4 years tying the hands of America's energy producers and undermining our position as a global energy leader.

The latest example is this joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to Review of Final Rule Reclassification of Major Sources as Area Sources Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act.

This commonsense resolution, led by my good friend, Senator CURTIS of Utah, and carried in the House by my good friend, Representative FEDORCHAK, along with support from Representatives BALDERSON and ALLEN, pushes back on a deeply flawed EPA rule that is yet another blow to American energy producers and manufacturers, as well as small businesses.

What does this rule do? This rule shackles businesses with burdensome red tape under what is called the "once in, always in" policy. That means once a facility is deemed a major source of emissions, even if it invests heavily in modern equipment and successfully lowers its emissions, it is still locked into that stricter classification forever, period. They are not given credit for cleaning up their act. There are no incentives given to improve. There is just more bureaucracy.

Mr. Speaker, let's be clear. This rule is anti-innovation, anti-investment, and anti-American.

Mr. Speaker, repealing this misguided rule would do what we should have done all along: encourage facilities to reduce emissions by giving them a path to reclassify as area sources once they meet that threshold. That is not only good for industry, it is good for our environment. It is a true win-win, Mr. Speaker.

Now, here is some background. Under section 112 of the Clean Air Act, facilities that emit over 10 tons of a single hazardous pollutant, or 25 tons of a combination, are considered major sources and hit with the strictest regulations and nonstop monitoring. What about those below that threshold? They are area sources with more reasonable requirements.

However, the "once in, always in" rule, cooked up during the Clinton ad-

ministration, locked companies into major source status forever, even if they had dramatically reduced their emissions. That is just plain wrong.

Thankfully, in 2020, the Trump administration corrected this nonsense. They rightly said that the Clean Air Act doesn't prohibit facilities from reclassifying if and when they reduce emissions below the legal threshold.

Do you know what, Mr. Speaker? That rule actually worked. It encouraged improvements, and businesses responded.

Under the Biden-Harris rule, companies have absolutely no incentive to decrease their emissions.

We should encourage industries, Mr. Speaker, to lower their emissions and allow them the possibility of reclassifying as an area source if they can successfully reduce their emissions.

U.S. emissions have already decreased over the past two decades, even as our energy production has hit record highs. That is not government regulation, that is American innovation.

American industry relied on the Trump rule to make progress in reducing emissions. Yet, under this new EPA rule, companies that did the right thing under the Trump-era guidance, those that cut emissions, are actually being punished. That is not environmentalism; that is government overreach plain and simple.

Let me be clear, Mr. Speaker. This resolution does not strip the EPA of its authority to regulate air pollutants. It doesn't. It simply returns us to the commonsense, pro-growth, pro-clean-air policy of the Trump administration. If a business steps up and reduces its emissions, it ought to be rewarded, not handcuffed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand with the American worker, stand with American innovation, and vote "yes" on S.J. Res. 31. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to S.J. Res. 31. On the day that House Republicans have been planning to actively strip healthcare away from 13.7 million Americans, they are also seeking to make Americans sicker by giving some of the worst industrial polluters a free pass to pump dangerous chemicals into communities across the Nation. With this resolution, Republicans are repealing critical Clean Air Act safeguards that have been in place for decades.

The regulatory rule Republicans are trying to repeal today is first and foremost a public health protection measure. It requires facilities that emit the worst of the worst hazardous air pollutants to monitor, report, and cut those emissions to the maximum degree of reduction achievable, even eliminating them entirely if possible.

The rule also prevents any backsliding by major sources of the seven most dangerous hazardous air pollutants, including mercury and PCBs. By

repealing this rule, Republicans are going to allow large facilities to increase their toxic emissions up to just below the legal limit, endangering the health of American communities.

The cruelty of the Republican majority cannot be overstated. Let me be clear. The dangerous air pollution this rule protects us from can cause cancer, birth defects, developmental disorders, and neurological problems, even at small levels of exposure.

Unfortunately, Republicans want to make it easier for large industrial polluters to increase their emissions of these chemicals, regardless of the harms. They want to make Americans sicker at the same time they are looking to strip away their health coverage.

Allowing nearly 2,000 large industrial facilities to escape from their Clean Air Act compliance obligations, as this resolution allows, will not magically push them to invest in new technologies to clean up. There is zero evidence that giving facilities a free pass leads to less pollution. In fact, the opposite is certainly true.

Passing this resolution will be a race to the bottom, giving these facilities the green light to permanently abandon their long-installed pollution control equipment that are currently saving lives. This Republican resolution will allow these facilities to spew hazardous air pollution into the air with reckless abandon, and increase cancer-causing pollutants without consequence.

It will also allow these facilities to stop monitoring and reporting to the EPA which would end any chance of accountability for surrounding communities. The Trump EPA has been clear that enforcement of environmental laws is not a priority, so American families will be at the mercy of large corporate polluters.

This resolution proves, once again, that Republicans are completely out of touch. Americans are struggling to make ends meet and facing the reality that Republicans may soon strip them and their families of healthcare, but their focus is on repealing commonsense protections that make the air safer to breathe.

In the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments, Congress recognized the clear and present danger caused by hazardous air pollution coming from large industrial sources across the country. It is because of the requirements put in place to address that danger that we have seen such sharp emission reductions and cleaner air over the past one-half century. To turn back now because of a CRA vote would be catastrophic, especially for anyone who lives near an industrial facility.

It is not enough to gut the healthcare of millions of Americans. Republicans first want to make sure the air we all breathe will do us harm. S.J. Res. 31 is cynical, dangerous, and deeply irresponsible. Congress should be trying to protect Americans, not trying to make them sick.

Mr. Speaker, for the health and safety of all Americans and for the sake of clean air, I urge all my colleagues to vote “no” on this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend from Texas for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S.J. Res. 31 to overturn the Biden administration’s “once in, always in” rule. This is an egregious and burdensome rule, and it was just one of many actions taken by the previous administration on their way out the door to further hamstring our domestic energy producers.

By permanently classifying certain industrial facilities as major sources of hazardous air pollutants, even if they successfully reduce emissions, the Biden administration was seemingly punishing job creators for being good stewards of the environment.

As an original cosponsor of S.J. Res. 31, I am proud that House Republicans are taking a stand and defending our energy producers, manufacturers, and small businesses against unfair and costly environmental rules.

In overturning the “once in, always in” rule, we are returning to common-sense policy implemented during President Trump’s first administration. If businesses reduce their emissions below the major source threshold, then they should reap the reward of more cost-effective and flexible requirements under the Clean Air Act, period.

Repealing this backward rule is part of House Republicans’ work to unleash American energy and ensure that government red tape does not stand in the way of creating jobs and growing our economy here at home.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to join us in supporting S.J. Res. 31.

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution. S.J. Res. 31 is irresponsible, especially as we wait to see whether Republicans will bring forward their budget bill to strip healthcare from millions of Americans to give tax breaks to billionaires.

However, this resolution would allow 1,800 facilities that emit the worst of the worst cancer-causing toxic air pollutants to avoid Clean Air Act requirements that protect the air that we breathe.

It would eliminate a 2024 EPA rule that ensures large industrial facilities like chemical plants and oil refineries control their hazardous air pollution. Hazardous air pollutants are known or suspected to cause cancer, birth de-

fects, developmental disorders, and neurological problems, even at extremely low levels of exposure.

It has been suggested that the 2024 rule eliminates the incentive for facilities to deploy new technologies to reduce pollution. However, we have some real-world data on this, and there is zero evidence that polluters will go above and beyond what is legally required of them by installing new technologies once they have avoided the major source requirements of the Clean Air Act.

□ 1230

The first Trump administration initially undid the “once in, always in” policy in 2020, and over 200 facilities were able to escape those given requirements. As far as I know, none of these sites has taken additional steps to install new pollution controls.

On the other hand, many of these facilities have been free to run their existing, previously installed pollution controls less. When they were categorized as a major source, they needed to take steps to drastically reduce their emissions as much as possible, based on demonstrated, cost-effective technologies.

In many cases, that resulted in emission levels dropping far below the major source thresholds, but the Clean Air Act’s intent was never to bring pollution levels right below some arbitrary major source threshold. It is about reducing emissions and potentially even eliminating emissions as much as it is cost-effectively possible.

Rescinding this rule would give another 1,800 facilities the green light to shut off their long-installed pollution control equipment, spew hazardous air pollution right up to the major source trigger, and increase cancer-causing pollution without consequence.

The Clean Air Act is an incredible public health success story, and we are at risk of writing a new, dark chapter in this law’s history. There have been five decades of strong, bipartisan support in Congress for the law, which has allowed us to make steady progress to reduce air pollution in our country.

Yes, in many places we are breathing cleaner air today than we were in the 1970s or 1990s, but that improvement is not guaranteed to be maintained if we start to chip away and backslide.

This resolution puts our previous progress in serious jeopardy, and the people who live along the fence lines of these 1,800 industrial facilities are at risk of facing the worst consequences.

These communities tend to be low income. I would venture that many rely on Medicaid. The one-two punch of this resolution with a budget bill to strip healthcare from nearly 14 million people is wrong. It will leave people with unhealthier air, fewer protections, and less access to healthcare to deal with the consequences—cancer, birth defects, and developmental disorders—of allowing these facilities to pollute more.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to oppose this resolution.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON).

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. WEBER for yielding me time.

I rise today in strong support of S.J. Res. 31. This resolution would disapprove of the Biden-era EPA’s “once in, always in” rule, which was finalized in the final months of the previous administration.

Simply put, the “once in, always in” policy hurts America’s manufacturing and energy sectors while doing nothing to actually improve air pollution.

In 2020, the Trump administration first reversed this policy, which encouraged businesses to lower their emissions and reduce pollution.

My home State of Ohio ranks third in the Nation with almost 700,000 manufacturing jobs. The manufacturing sector is responsible for over 17 percent of Ohio’s gross domestic product and has an annual payroll of \$48 billion in the Buckeye State alone.

It is critical that we support this resolution today and send it to the President’s desk to deliver on our promise to unleash American manufacturing and energy.

I am proud to have introduced the House companion to this CRA with the gentlewoman from North Dakota (Mrs. Fedorchak), my good friend, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this commonsense resolution.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), the ranking member of the Energy Subcommittee.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member PALLONE for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, this is a dirty, pro-polluter resolution, so I rise in strong opposition to S.J. Res. 31. It is going to increase hazardous air pollution across America. It is going to expose more Americans to cancer-causing toxins.

What is worse, it comes at a time when Republicans are ripping healthcare away from at least 13.7 million Americans in their billionaire boondoggle bill. In fact, Mr. Speaker, if you talk to folks back home or in your townhalls, what they are talking about is the cost of living.

It is amazing that this is the priority of the GOP at a time when people are really being squeezed back home. Republicans have not brought one bill to the floor to lower the cost of living and tackle the everyday challenges of our neighbors back home. Instead, they are consumed by this tax giveaway for billionaires.

This is the priority, to gut the Clean Air Act, to give polluting industrial plants the right to pollute more, to pollute our air with toxins that cause cancer, neurological damage, and death.

As a result of this Republican bill, we will see about 1,800 industrial facilities able to increase their pollution output.

Back home in Florida, we anticipate that will apply to 72 more polluting facilities that will be allowed to escape regulation and emit cancer-causing air pollution.

These are the major sources of hazardous air pollution, the large industrial facilities like chemical plants, refineries, and pesticide manufacturers. It is especially troubling because—and I think Mr. PALLONE would agree that this hasn't gotten a lot of play—in that billionaire boondoggle bill, the big tax giveaway package that is ruminating here in the Rules Committee right now, the American people need to know what else was included in that bill.

The Energy and Commerce Committee Republicans included a pay-to-play scheme to sell out the most vulnerable communities to the highest bidder. This is in addition to gutting Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act.

What they put in relating to their pay-to-play scheme would allow Big Oil polluters to pay a one-time \$1 million fee to the Department of Energy to grease the skids to get polluting gas plants online faster.

Yes, we need more energy, but this comes at a time when they are, in doing so, going to raise electric bills across the country because they say it is only oil and gas. Forget about solar, wind, storage, all the energy that is ready to come onto the grid.

It is another example of sacrificing the people's interests for the special interests'. The special interests here are the chemical plants, refineries, and pesticide manufacturers.

This is especially troubling, too, because, for decades, Congress has recognized the clear health dangers of hazardous air pollutants from these large-scale industrial polluting plants. We know they cause cancer. We know they cause birth defects, developmental disorders, and neurological problems, even at low levels of exposure.

While Americans struggle with the high cost of living and watch this billionaire boondoggle bill try to get through the House, just know what else is going on at the same time.

They are gutting the Clean Air Act, the bipartisan piece of legislation that has stood us well for years and years. No Congress has ever stripped away protections against toxic air pollution, and we shouldn't start now.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from North Dakota (Mrs. FEDORCHAK).

Mrs. FEDORCHAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my resolution to repeal the Biden administration's eleventh hour reinstatement of the "once in, always in" rule and to counter some of the misinformation being shared on this rule by my colleagues on the other side.

I am a mom of three. When my kids were growing up, they woke up every Saturday morning to a job list, and they couldn't get their allowance until

they completed the jobs on the list. They were motivated to get their jobs done by that allowance, and I would have had very little luck incentivizing them to do their jobs if they never received their promised reward.

This is a law of human nature. People respond to incentives and rewards, which underscores the main problem with the "once in, always in" rule. There is no incentive to invest.

This misguided regulation permanently classifies certain industrial facilities as major sources, major sources of hazardous air pollutants even after they have made significant investments to reduce the emissions below the Federal threshold.

Mr. Speaker, think about that for a minute. They invest millions of dollars to modernize their operations, improve efficiency, and reduce emissions only for the Federal Government to permanently classify their business as a major source, stuck with the same costly regulations.

That is not smart policy. That is counterproductive. By refusing to let businesses reclassify after making progress, after meeting the standards, this rule removes any real incentive to invest in cleaner technologies.

Our energy producers in North Dakota have invested \$2 billion in emissions control technology. They have done this because they care about our communities and environment. In fact, North Dakota exports thousands of megawatts of electricity every year.

We are the third largest oil- and gas-producing State in the Nation, and we are one of only four States in the Nation that has never violated Federal air quality standards. That is not an accident. That is the result of smart investments, cutting-edge technology, and a commitment to responsible energy production.

North Dakota is proof that we can grow the economy, power the country, and protect the environment at the same time.

This bureaucratic rule ignores these successful efforts. It removes the incentive to innovate and locks facilities into restrictive regulations, even when they are trying to reduce emissions and operate more efficiently.

It is not just a problem for North Dakota. This rule affects manufacturers, energy producers, and small businesses all over the country. This approach raises costs, discourages innovation, and forces companies to think twice before making long-term investments in cleaner technologies.

This is not how to build a stronger economy or a cleaner future, and it is not how to make things more affordable for Americans.

Our Nation's energy future should be driven by innovation. American technological innovation have allowed us to reduce emissions more than any other Nation since 2005, all while achieving record energy production.

We need a regulatory framework that incentivizes innovation and rewards it

when it happens. That means eliminating one-size-fits-all regulations like the "once in, always in" rule.

Supporting this resolution means supporting American energy jobs, lower prices, and fostering a regulatory environment where businesses can thrive while safeguarding the environment.

I want to underscore that this resolution is not about allowing facilities to maintain high pollutant levels. It is about incentivizing them to reduce emissions and rewarding them when they do. That is how we both expand energy production and protect our environment.

I thank Senator JOHN CURTIS of Utah for his leadership on this resolution in the Senate, and I urge my colleagues in the House to support this resolution.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks, and I want to highlight one line she said: American technology and innovation has allowed us to reduce emissions more than any other country since 2005. That is important.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. SCHRIER).

Ms. SCHRIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding me time.

Today, I rise just flabbergasted and outraged by the latest attempts to undermine protections that keep our air clean, safe, and healthy. Do we really disagree about that?

Today's bill would allow an unnecessary, dangerous increase in some of the worst toxic chemicals back into the air that we and our children breathe, even when these facilities have abided by these standards for decades and proven that they have the technologies to do so. Let me repeat that: They have the technologies. They have the equipment already.

As a pediatrician, I know how damaging these toxins can be. Mercury and lead can lead to severe developmental delays, birth defects, and brain damage for children. Dioxins are known human carcinogens. The list goes on.

As a Member of Congress who strives always to find pragmatic, bipartisan solutions for us and for our children, I simply fail to understand when my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are choosing to relax these standards for clean air, all while stripping healthcare away from more than 13 million Americans.

□ 1245

I mean, they are jeopardizing our health and taking away our healthcare. I urge my colleagues to strongly oppose this bill. It is a corporate giveaway that hurts our constituents once again.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this is amazing to me, quite frankly. I served 4 years in the Texas legislature, and we were busy with catalytic scrubbers on all the industry that we had

making sure that Texans had clean energy. We care about the environment. We care about people's health. We care about the future. We care about the economy.

It is a little bit curious to me to hear our friends across the aisle say that we don't care about any of that stuff. In Texas, we have a saying, Mr. Speaker: It just ain't so.

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

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

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in opposition to S.J. Res. 31.

Once again, Republicans are gutting our most fundamental pollution regulations.

This bill overturns air quality regulations for the most polluting industrial facilities in the country, giving a green light for polluters to pump more cancer-causing pollutants into the air we breathe.

Without these safeguards, nearly 2,000 of the Nation's largest polluters would get a free pass. Oil refineries, chemical manufacturers, pesticide producers, they would all be allowed to shut off their pollution controls and start spewing some of the most dangerous chemicals directly into our air: lead, mercury, arsenic, benzene. When inhaled, these pollutants are known to have significant health impacts, including cancer, birth defects, infertility, organ failure, and developmental disorders in children.

The science is clear. Pollution kills. Study after study has shown that air pollution is linked to higher rates of hospitalizations and death.

Every year, air pollution kills over 100,000 Americans, and nearly half of Americans now live in areas with harmful levels of pollution, up 20 percent from just last year.

This is a health crisis in the making. Republicans aren't cutting red tape. They are sentencing thousands of Americans to die in communities across our country. This isn't a partisan issue. This affects everybody. Red States and blue States, Republican and Democrat, every American deserves clean air.

Yet, my Republican colleagues would rather prioritize their donors in the oil and chemical business instead of protecting the health of their own constituents.

Let's not forget, while Republicans are attacking Americans' access to clean air, they are also ramming through their big, ugly reconciliation bill, which slashes funding for pollution reduction and prevention programs, ends clean energy and climate programs, and strips away healthcare from almost 14 million Americans.

The Republicans' agenda will make Americans sicker and poorer, sending

more Americans to the hospital, and ensuring fewer Americans can afford the healthcare they need.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for clean air. Vote "no" on S.J. Res. 31.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), the distinguished chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us today addresses a key issue created in the Biden-Harris administration that harms American businesses and actually disincentivizes investment to reduce pollution.

This was originally created during the Clinton administration. It was the "once in, always in" rule that penalized job creators and energy producers who took steps to invest in new technologies that lowered pollution.

If your emissions are at such a level you become a major source, once in under this rule that we are overturning today, you are always a major source, no matter what you do with your businesses. If you lower emissions, if you lower standards, you put in new equipment, you do operating hours differently, you do whatever you can to lower your emissions, you can't go back to being an area source and regulated with a level of emissions. Once you cross the threshold, no matter what you do, you stay listed as a major source pollutant.

We believe it disincentivizes companies from trying to lower their standard, and that is what we want to do. It is a disincentive. It is counterintuitive for what is trying to be done with the rule. We want lowered emissions, and we want to incentivize businesses to get there.

In the last Congress, I was proud to lead the legislation to overturn this burdensome regulation, which is a one-way ratchet that creates a disincentive for businesses to take steps to reduce their emissions.

By passing this resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act, we are working to unleash American energy and ensuring that every dollar that is invested in our economy is focused on jobs, growth, and innovation, not siphoned off for unworkable compliance created by government red tape.

I thank Congresswoman FEDORCHAK for leading this resolution, and I thank my friend from Texas for yielding.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk about the seven hazardous air pollutants that Republicans are apparently fine with pumping into the air we breathe.

First is mercury. Mercury is quickly absorbed into the body through inhala-

tion and skin contact. It moves quickly across the placenta and into a human fetus and can also cross the blood-brain barrier and remain in blood cells for decades.

This is why it is linked to developmental deficits in children. It can impact the heart, lungs, central nervous system, reproduction, kidneys, and GI tract. It is also linked to cancer and autoimmune diseases. The Republicans want children to breathe more of this toxin.

Next is alkylated lead. Alkylated lead is a combination of toxic lead and hydrocarbons from fossil fuels. It affects nearly every organ in the human body and reduces cognitive function in children. It is a known carcinogen, and as far as we know, there is no safe level of lead.

Then we have dioxins, furans, polycyclic organic matter, hexachlorobenzene, and PCBs. Also, all of these would be increased because of this CRA. These are all known carcinogens. All are bioaccumulative, persistent, and toxic, even in amounts in fractions of a gram.

It is really a shame to frame this rule simply as a so-called regulatory burden or a simple cost of doing business. EPA's rule is a public health rule, and we need to uphold it to protect the health and safety of our constituents, both adults and children.

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, big polluters are the only people who will benefit from the rescission of this rule, not the American people.

If this rule is blocked, industrial facilities would once again be allowed to escape the regulations of the Clean Air Act that are meant to curb the release of harmful and cancer-causing pollutants.

Once they have escaped, most of these facilities would not be required to conduct monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting of what pollutants they are releasing into our communities.

They certainly will not have any incentive to implement any type of reporting on their own, especially when over half of the States prohibit regulators from being more stringent than EPA regulations.

This is all while the American people will bear the burdens of the rule's repeal, facing even higher risks of cancer, asthma, and other severe health conditions.

Not once—and I will repeat that—not once in the history of the Clean Air Act has Congress rolled back its protections. I find it extraordinary that Republicans are attempting to do this at a time when they are also trying to gut Medicaid.

We should be protecting this rule to defend the health of our constituents

and to make sure that polluters are held accountable, not just trying to rescind this rule entirely.

I think it is time that we stand up to big polluters and billionaires and recenter the health and needs of the American people.

Mr. Speaker, for all of these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am kind of amused listening to our friends from the other side, all of the facts and the things that they are bringing up. You know, it is not, Mr. Speaker, that they are ignorant, it is just that so much of what they know ain't so.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote “yes” on S.J. Res. 31, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the previous question is ordered on the joint resolution.

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

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

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

NOTICE

Incomplete record of House proceedings.

Today's House proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.