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No. 26

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 10 a.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 8, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN JAMES to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, 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.

RECOGNIZING MANDY SCHAUMBURG UPON HER RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, this speech is bittersweet. I stand to commend a member of my committee staff, Mandy Schaumburg, on her 20 years of public service.

I thank Mandy for her years of service to this committee and this country and for being someone that I could count on to get the job done. Anyone who knows me will tell you that I have high standards, and sometimes people struggle to meet them. Not Mandy.

Mandy not only met those standards. She exceeded them. She will be missed by our team, by the committee, and by me.

Throughout her 20 years in Federal service, Mandy worked for former Representative Mark Green of Wisconsin and for the U.S. Department of Education under the leadership of Secretary Spellings.

Mandy made her mark on the Education and the Workforce Committee, as well. She served this committee under Chairs Boehner, McKeon, Miller, Kline, Scott, and me.

Throughout this time, she became highly respected on both sides of the Capitol for her expert knowledge on education and human services policy and for her ability to build coalitions.

Having great ideas in Congress gets you only so far. You also need someone who knows how to implement those ideas. This is what Mandy was best at. Mandy often came up with creative and strategic solutions that brought individuals across the policy spectrum together. As a result, she was able to see numerous pieces of legislation make it across the finish line.

Throughout the last two decades, Mandy was involved in nearly every major piece of education legislation. This includes laws that provide relief to victims of Hurricane Katrina as well as legislation that reformed child nutrition laws, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, and so many more.

Mandy has spent much of her career ensuring families have high-quality education options for their children. Fighting side by side with Mandy to spread education freedom has been an honor. She has also been a fierce advocate for maintaining student privacy, something that is increasingly under threat today.

Additionally, Mandy worked on providing practical solutions to ensure schools are able to implement the school meal programs effectively. This allowed more children to get the help they needed while also protecting taxpayers.

I have also appreciated Mandy's dedication to holding the Federal Government accountable no matter which party controls the White House.

Oversight has always been one of my top priorities, and having someone on my team who is as equally committed to slapping back the hand of Big Government whenever it overreaches was a great encouragement.

Lastly, Mandy's dedication to mentoring younger staff members strengthened her team and the committee as a

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

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



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whole. Mandy is one whose door is always open and whose creative input is always welcome.

Her legacy on this committee will last long after she leaves Capitol Hill. As a committee conservative, Mandy will further the cause of freedom wherever she goes.

I wish Mandy all the best. I thank her for her exemplary work.

RECORD-BREAKING NUMBER OF NEW JOBS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) for 5 minutes.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we heard last night at the State of the Union Address, President Biden's first 2 years delivered a record-breaking number of new jobs. In total, 12 million new jobs were created for hard-working Americans. I repeat that: 12 million new jobs.

That is as many jobs in 2 years as any President has created in a 4-year term. America also has seen the lowest unemployment rate, at 3.4 percent, since 54 years ago.

The Biden administration fought hard to deliver big results for Medicare and other programs to help seniors and working families. Democrats were able to make changes that will help millions of Americans by lowering prescription drug prices for Medicare patients.

The following improvements have also taken place.

Insulin has been capped at \$35 per month for Medicare patients. Mr. Speaker, that strikes home because we have a lot of diabetes in my own family.

Medicare can now negotiate the price of high-cost drugs, which further drops prices. We also provide additional free vaccines, including for shingles, pneumonia, and hepatitis, under the Medicare program.

On top of all this, we expanded the Affordable Care Act, which will lower premiums for 13 million Americans.

The President's economic agenda is generating investments across the country and revitalizing communities left behind.

We are giving families more breathing room and standing up for workers by banning noncompete agreements; rewarding work, not wealth; and fighting to ensure that everyone can earn a living wage.

For the next 2 years, Democrats will work together to fight for our hard-working families. The President knows that we must finish the job with affordable childcare, home care, sick leave, paid leave, and the child tax credit.

Mr. Speaker, we must put people over politics and solutions over rhetoric.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF ZACH DIDIER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Zach Didier, a beloved member of our community in Rocklin who tragically passed away from fentanyl shortly after Christmas Day a little over 2 years ago, in 2020.

I would also like to take a moment to introduce the American people to Zach's parents, Laura Didier and Chris Didier, who are with us today in the gallery. I was honored to have Laura and Chris as my guests for last night's State of the Union. They have worked tirelessly to honor Zach's life through raising awareness of the fentanyl crisis and have undoubtedly saved many lives.

This is Zach. He was 17 years old, a senior at Whitney High School. He was an Eagle Scout, soccer player, star of the high school musical, and straight-A student. He had just applied to college, and his parents had to go through the gut-wrenching experience of watching acceptance envelopes arrive from California's leading universities.

I would like to offer a moment of silence to honor the memory and life of Zach Didier.

Mr. Speaker, Zach had no history of drug use. He was the type of young man that parents hope their child would become. I know how proud of him Chris and Laura are.

His story shows that the poison of fentanyl is a risk to everyone. No community is safe from it. No family can be unaware of the danger.

Fentanyl has become the leading cause of death for Americans ages 18 to 45, more than car accidents, more than suicides, more than anything.

Over 73,000 Americans died from fentanyl this past year. That amounts to 200 deaths a day, about 1 every 7 minutes.

Though lethality of fentanyl is unlike any other drug, it is about 100 times more potent than morphine. Two milligrams, or the amount that fits on the tip of a pencil, is a deadly dose. It is now very commonly added to street pills, such that 98 percent of pills on the street are fake, and by some estimates, 60 percent have the potential to be lethal.

Many of the victims are teenagers, young people, people with no prior drug use. There are many causes connected to this, of course: mental health, teenagers who are just stressed with the stresses of school, and certainly the isolation during the whole COVID era.

They often purchase these fake pills on social media over the internet. The dealers sometimes drive and deliver them straight to the victims' homes.

What can we do? Well, the first and most important thing, perhaps, is to continue to raise awareness. Many Americans aren't aware of the severity of this crisis until it is too late.

Chris and Laura Didier have done 45 school assemblies this year alone, reaching tens of thousands of students and families, and have saved many lives, I know, in the process. Every school across the country needs to

have a strategy for making students and families aware of the dangers.

Secondly, we need to do much more to prevent fentanyl from flowing into this country. We know that the southern border is a primary source. In 2022 alone, the DEA seized 379 million lethal doses of fentanyl. That is enough to kill every single American. Securing the border would diminish the availability of fentanyl and make it more difficult to traffic into the United States.

Finally, we need to hold dealers accountable. We need appropriate criminal laws to punish those who peddle life-ending pills to unsuspecting victims. We need to have consequences that are commensurate with the gravity, the evil, of this offense to deter those who would prey on innocent Americans. This requires State and Federal governments to revisit their drug laws in many cases. It also requires prosecutors to make full use of the tools at their disposal.

I applaud Placer County District Attorney Morgan Gire, from my district, who has provided a roadmap by charging fentanyl dealers with murder because that is what it is.

The good news is we are seeing growing momentum for addressing this crisis with the seriousness that it deserves and requires. I am grateful that President Biden devoted a portion of his State of the Union Address to addressing it.

I am grateful that Chris and Laura Didier were here last night to see that because they have played such a large role in working with many other families who have lost loved ones and are raising public consciousness.

Mr. Speaker, now is the time that we need to follow words with action. I look forward to working with the President and everyone in this Congress, on a bipartisan basis, to help our country turn the corner on this crisis.

MEMBERS MOCKING GUN VIOLENCE BY WEARING ASSAULT RIFLE PINS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, last week was National Gun Violence Survivors Week, when we reflect on the toll that gun violence takes on all of us.

It is disgraceful enough that our Republican colleagues are unwilling to confront gun violence as the leading cause of death among American children, but last week, several Members of this body chose to mock the somber week by wearing assault rifle pins.

Those Members paraded through the Halls of Congress and on this floor, celebrating the weapon of choice for military combatants, mass murderers, and those who have fetishized the Second Amendment.

This shameless gesture was received loud and clear by Americans, including

a mother in my district who recently lost her son to gun violence.

She called my office after seeing those Members, distraught by their casual cruelty and their dangerous promotion of violence.

I rise today as the voice in Congress for that brokenhearted mother to make this very clear: House Democrats are united in the fight to end senseless gun violence. We want to advance real solutions, and we will always stand up to extremist behavior that threatens the safety of our communities.

□ 1015

RECOGNIZING BETSY WALLS, PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAILBLAZER

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent whose decades of public health service have made our community stronger.

Betsy Walls is being recognized by the CDC and Prevention as a public health emergency preparedness trailblazer from Pennsylvania. She is one of 48 Americans being recognized for their tireless work to protect our communities from a range of public health threats.

Betsy's distinguished career in serving her community includes serving as a flight nurse for the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, where she retired as a lieutenant colonel; she spent 30 years at Delaware County Memorial Hospital, first as a staff nurse, then a head nurse, then an evening supervisor, and, finally, as director of staff education; and she served as director of personal health at the Chester County Health Department for 18 years.

Betsy's commitment to ensuring our community is ready and able to respond to disasters has touched thousands of lives. Our community owes Betsy Walls an enormous debt of gratitude for the strong foundation she has built to keep our communities strong and healthy for years to come.

RECOGNIZING PHILADELPHIA EAGLES CHANGEMAKER AWARD WINNER, DR. RUTH ABAYA

Ms. SCANLON. The Philadelphia Eagles are headed to the Super Bowl this weekend, and I want to recognize the team's 2022 Inspire Change Changemaker Award winner, Dr. Ruth Abaya, an emergency physician at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and a scholar of the hospital's Center for Violence Prevention.

As our country works to tackle gun violence, Dr. Abaya is on the front lines, treating this issue like the public health crisis that it is.

In her role as program manager for the Injury Prevention Program at Philadelphia's Department of Health, she is helping to identify the most promising practices for violence prevention and intervention for young people in our region.

A public health approach to gun violence requires a comprehensive, multifaceted response driven by research and data. It means a focus on prevention, in addition to treatment. Dr. Abaya's work is moving us toward the solutions

we need to face this crisis head-on and give our children brighter futures.

I am grateful for Dr. Abaya's dedication to making our community a safer place for everyone and to the Philadelphia Eagles for their support for her program.

This weekend, go Birds.

A FRIEND CLOSER THAN A BROTHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SELF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SELF. Mr. Speaker, Jesus said: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

These words guided the life of the late Sam Johnson who served the great State of Texas 27 years in this House, 6 years in the Texas House, and nearly 7 years as a POW in the infamous Alcatraz annex of the Hanoi Hilton.

Mr. Speaker, if you had the honor to shake Sam's broken hand, then you felt the permanent damage that he endured for our Nation. Sam Johnson laid down his life for his friends throughout his life. It is an honor to serve in the House seat where he honorably served.

Those words of Jesus guided me through my military career and through my introduction to the 118th Congress that first week, and they will continue to guide me just as they did my friend Sam Johnson.

Our Nation is facing tremendous uncertainty. Misguided policies are causing inflation, incentivizing criminals, promoting out-of-control spending, and projecting America as weak on the world stage.

Now is the time for Congress to restore fiscal restraint, embrace family values, offer certainty to our citizens, and stand firm against tyranny that encroaches on freedom around the world.

There is a model for our Nation's leaders to follow. The Texas model provides a roadmap to guide this House in its effort to restore America's future.

The Texas economy ranked ninth of all nations by GDP, ahead of countries like Canada, Australia, and Russia. The Texas delegation in Congress has the most Republican Members because people are flocking to Texas for economic prosperity, improved quality of life, and greater opportunity. That description is the American Dream. But that dream should not be limited by geography.

Everything that is right about America can be found in Texas: from the feedlots in the panhandle where I grew up to ports along the Gulf Coast, from farms in the Rio Grande Valley to the piney woods of east Texas, and from the oil patch to military bases scattered across the State. Texas has agriculture, manufacturing, finance, defense, and tourism. Big cities and small towns—Texas has it all.

Unfortunately, we also feel the pain of what is wrong with America: a flood

of illegal immigrants crossing our border along with drugs like fentanyl and victims of human trafficking. Texas families are hurting just like other families across this great land. Crime is rising, inflation is still out of control, and children are being exploited right before our eyes.

The day after the November election, pundits called the GOP weak. Two months later, they called us crazy for working to restore the House to the way it operated for over 200 years. We worked until we achieved the rules that govern a Congress that now operates efficiently. I believe that, standing shoulder to shoulder with Speaker MCCARTHY, this Congress with these rules will help lead America back to its place as a beacon to the free world.

The GOP has not yet gained the trust of many Americans. My belief is that if we hold the line on spending, commit to defending our borders, and resolve to embrace the values of our forefathers, then we will earn America's broad support.

We—all of us right here in this Chamber—wrestled over the rules a few weeks ago. We wrestled hard—just as JIM JORDAN wrestled back in his day—and I am proud to say that this Congress is off to a pretty good start with bold leaders who are making a difference.

The days ahead are days of promise. They will be long days with hard decisions and tough votes, but if we endeavor to embrace the encouraging words of Jesus to sacrifice for our friends, then I believe that we will continue to be that shining example to the world.

Mr. Speaker, I submit to you that the struggle over ideals in this Chamber is appropriate, and it makes us stronger.

The question is: Will we hold the line, especially when attacked by those who oppose liberty?

The preamble of our Constitution speaks of securing the "Blessings of Liberty." Let's commit to holding the line and to standing together to those opposing American exceptionalism. Let our example to the American people and the world be our commitment to preserving liberty.

Will we sacrifice?

Will we lay down our lives for liberty?

I pray we will.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, Black history is American history. As Black History Month begins, all across the country we see radical, rightwing elected officials attempting to whitewash American history and ban Black history from being taught in our classrooms.

This is, Mr. Speaker, unmasked white supremacy at its core. You cannot teach the truth about American history without Black history.

This should be alarming to many of us in this Chamber, especially as we fight for a more inclusive multiracial democracy.

I am reminded of the need for Congress to pass critical legislation like Congressman BOWMAN's African American History Act.

It is now more important than ever and very timely that, again, we make sure that we teach our history accurately. The truth must always be taught and should inspire all of us to continue to march for freedom, equity, and justice for all in the spirit of our civil rights leaders and our social justice seekers who came before us.

We cannot, Mr. Speaker, rob our children of learning the role of systemic racism in our American history and how it continues to impact the lives of many of our neighbors across the country.

This is how we support our communities to gain unity, to embrace diversity. It is critical that we tell the truth about our Nation's past, and that includes reckoning with our history of racism, enslavement, segregation, and redlining in our communities, and even now with the Black Lives Matter movement in our country.

This painting, Mr. Speaker, is called Critical Race Theory by Jonathan Harris, a local artist in Detroit. It is a powerful reminder of the importance of teaching and preserving Black history. We cannot allow anyone to erase Black history and the powerful legacies of our civil rights warriors, many of which inspire me today.

We cannot learn from our past if our past is no longer being taught in our education system.

CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG YOUTH EXCHANGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the CBYX program.

This unique program has had more than 26,000 American and German participants contributing to the cultural and political exchange among the citizens of our countries, tying us ever closer together.

As co-chair of the German-American Caucus, my office is proud to host Pau Drexler. He is 23 years old and hails from the southwestern part of Germany.

On August 9 of last year, Pau and 74 other young professionals from Germany landed in Washington, D.C., to start an exchange year as part of the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange. As the word "exchange" implies, 75 young Americans landed during that same time in Frankfurt, Germany.

As part of the program, participants aged between 18 and 25 are placed from Alaska to Texas and New York City to

Los Angeles. This diversity is reflected in the great variety of jobs that they are trained in. Whether bakers, mechanics, or tailors, the CBYX program is an ideal occasion to exchange knowledge, skills, and experience on a professional level, but there are personal connections that emerge from the participants' immersion into daily life of their host communities, as well.

Many of Pau's fellows have already formed great bonds with their host families and classmates. Consequently, Clara, a participant of the 35th CBYX cohort who also interned on the Hill, visited her initial and Pau's current host family last weekend in D.C.

The CBYX program is jointly funded by the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag. It is an extraordinary chance for young minds to learn about different perspectives and create a better understanding of these in their host and their home communities.

Mr. Speaker, as the chairman of the German-American Caucus, I want to emphasize the importance of this program as it strengthens the bonds between our countries not only on a governmental but also on a civic level.

The CBYX is an unprecedented exchange program and a great example of how cultural and political exchange amongst citizens can positively impact international relations in a different, more grassroots, and hands-on way.

MOUNT JEWETT TO KINZUA BRIDGE TRAIL CLUB

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mount Jewett to Kinzua Bridge Trail Club for winning Pennsylvania Trail of the Year.

This section of the Knox and Kane Rail Trail in McKean County is a 7.8-mile-long trail. The former rail line now provides a level trail for walking, jogging, biking, and horseback riding. In winter months cross-country skiing and snowmobiling are also popular.

The Knox and Kane Rail Trail spans four counties in Northern Pennsylvania and is a source of outdoor fun for the whole family, whether you are local or, quite frankly, a visitor passing through.

The Pennsylvania Trail of the Year Award is given by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to help build enthusiasm and support for trails across the State and to raise public awareness about the value of Pennsylvania's land and water trail network.

Mr. Speaker, Pennsylvania continues its tradition of being a leader in trail development by providing its citizens and visitors with more than 12,000 miles of trails.

Congratulations to the Mount Jewett to Kinzua Bridge Trail Club for this tremendous accomplishment.

□ 1030

REMEMBERING PARKLAND TRAGEDY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MOSKOWITZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind this body of the 5-year anniversary of the shooting at my high school, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, in my hometown of Parkland on February 14, and the 17 lives we lost that day.

I remember that day like it was yesterday. My wife called. I was on the floor of the Florida legislature, and she told me that she had just passed the high school, and she had never seen that many police officers in her life.

We would soon find out that 17 people didn't make it out of the building, most of them children. I went home. I went to the school. I saw what it looks like when a mass shooting comes to your neighborhood, to your high school.

I went to the hotel where they were keeping the families of the children that were missing. I knew they weren't missing. Eight hours those families were in a hotel ballroom waiting to hear from the local police department and the FBI what floor their kid died on in the building.

I didn't hear crying. I heard screaming. It haunts me.

I brought my colleagues to the school from the Florida legislature, Republicans and Democrats. They got to see what it looks like when backpacks are piled up outside, when bullet holes are trying to go through classroom glass, what it looks like when homework is scattered in the hallway and where there is blood outside the front door where someone passed away.

These parents now have empty rooms in their homes, empty chairs at the dinner table. There is no graduation. There is no college. There is no wedding. There is no tomorrow, no future.

My 4-year-old went to school right around the corner from Marjory Stoneman Douglas, one traffic light away. He was in a writing class that day because he needed to learn how to write his name. The teacher that put him into a closet when they went into a lockdown procedure during the shooting was Jen Guttenberg, Fred Guttenberg's wife. She was protecting my son when her daughter Jaime was killed at Douglas.

Five years later, my 4-year-old is now 9, but Jaime and the other kids are forever the age they were. She is forever 14.

On February 14 of this year, the 5-year anniversary of the shooting at Parkland, parents will do what they have been doing for the last 5 years, visiting their children at a cemetery.

I remember the parents telling me that the only thing they did wrong that day was send their kid to school. That is not a statement. It is an indictment on us. Government failed those families that day.

We did respond. We did pass the Marjory Stoneman Douglas School Safety Act. We did raise the age in Florida to buy any gun to 21. We did institute red flag laws that have been used 9,000 times since we put them there. We did place more school resource officers and

mental health counselors in all of the high schools. We passed that on a bipartisan basis. We passed it with Democrats and Republicans. It was signed into law by a Republican Governor who became a Republican Senator. Not one Republican who voted for that law to make kids safe in school lost their reelection, not one.

I am going to read the names into the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, and then I am going to use the rest of my time to take a moment of silence for the victims:

Alyssa Alhadeff, Martin Duque Anguiano, Scott Beigel, Nicholas Dworet, Aaron Feis, Jaime Guttenberg, Chris Hixon, Luke Hoyer, Cara Loughran, Gina Montalto, Joaquin Oliver, Alaina Petty, Meadow Pollack, Helena Ramsay, Carmen Schentrup, Alex Schachter, and Peter Wang.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 35 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 (Mrs. KIM of California) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made Heaven and Earth. We call upon Your holy name, O God, that You would hear our prayers in Heaven and attend to our needs here on Earth.

There are wars and rumors of wars overwhelming our news feed, including the ongoing conflict in places like Ukraine and South Sudan. Nations rise up against nation and our hearts sink at the sight of the injustice and unrelenting warfare. We call upon Your righteous name, O God, that You would hear our prayers in Heaven and bring peace and justice to our world.

We are horrified by the earthquakes' merciless devastation in Turkey and Syria, and deeply saddened by the unprecedented famine in other regions across the globe. We call upon Your powerful name, O God, that You would hear our prayers in Heaven and be merciful to Your people. Rescue them from this time of tribulation and in Your grace provide for them in their dire need.

We confess that in our own families and communities and in this country, we seem to have turned from our faith in You and have betrayed one another in countless ways. Lawlessness has in-

creased and our love for You and our fellow human beings seems to have grown cold. We call upon Your merciful name, O God, that You would hear our prayers in Heaven and heal our land.

May the gospel of Your sovereignty serve as a testimony to us and to all Nations that, once again, we would call upon Your name.

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 Florida (Ms. LEE of Florida) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. LEE of Florida led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

STATE OF THE UNION RESPONSE

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

Mr. ALFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in response to the President's State of the Union Address.

While the state of the Union was the focus last night, today, I am more concerned about the state of the President.

Just hours ago, the President of the United States stood in this very room right behind me and told one of the greatest tales that I have seen in modern history, attempting to tout optimism, curbed inflation, and a secure nation.

However, this failing, flailing, incompetent chief executive ran from the fact that he welcomed more than 4 million illegal aliens into our sovereign Nation, he reversed our energy independence, he let the Chinese spy balloon float entirely over our Nation with impunity, flying over Whiteman Air Force Base, home of the B-2 Stealth bomber.

The state of our Union is strong. The state of our President is weak.

We don't need more yelling, Mr. President. We need more healing in America.

Some 40 years ago, President Ronald Reagan said, It is time for us to re-

assert our trust in God. It is time for us to realize that we need Him more than He needs us. It is time to turn to God for the healing of America. Let's get about the business of healing America.

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

AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE CHILDCARE

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

Ms. JACOBS. Madam Speaker, as a 34-year-old woman, I can tell you that affordable and accessible childcare is a top priority for my generation, but the problem isn't that millennials can't budget or that we are eating too much avocado toast; it is that the cost of childcare has skyrocketed, if you can even find it.

In San Diego, the average annual cost for childcare for one infant in a licensed center is more than \$19,000, which is out of reach for most middle- and low-income families.

And it is not any easier for providers who are in one of the lowest paid professions in the country and struggle to make ends meet and keep their doors open.

The free market hasn't fixed the childcare crisis, and small or temporary fixes just aren't good enough.

That is why I am proud to introduce the Child Care for Every Community Act today with Senator ELIZABETH WARREN and Congresswoman MIKIE SHERRILL.

Our bicameral legislation would guarantee access to childcare that is affordable for every family, and it would support childcare workers in their incredibly important work.

We need big, wholesale changes to our social safety net to support kids and families starting with the Child Care for Every Community Act.

EUGENE HENLEBEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. MILLS. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to talk about a very special constituent from Florida's Seventh Congressional District.

Eugene Henleben was born in St. Louis 100 years ago on February 7. He served our great Nation on a PT boat during the Second World War and on an aircraft carrier in the Korean war.

After the war, Eugene moved to Chicago where he met his beautiful wife. They married in 1950 and had three children they raised in Glenview, Illinois.

He spent most of his civilian career working as an engineer, and in 1992, he moved to the great city of Longwood, Florida, where he has lived ever since.

Today, I am honored to recognize Eugene's service to our country and celebrate an incredible milestone in his life.

Our Nation's veterans are the backbone of this country. To Eugene, I say thank you for your incredible service and your sacrifice in the two wars that you fought for this Nation.

I wish you many more years to come with your family, and I thank you for your time and your dedication.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE

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

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, for 1½ years now, people in Texas who are able to do so have been traveling out of State to obtain abortion care, and now that 15 other States have banned abortion, more people are traveling even farther to get the reproductive healthcare that they need.

In response to this exercise of the constitutional right to travel, lawmakers and others in Texas—and in States across the country—are threatening to take away that right, too.

These threats fail not only to reflect the will of the majority of people in this country, these threats fail to recognize the fundamental rights of Americans guaranteed in our Constitution.

Congress has the authority and the responsibility to protect people from these unconstitutional efforts to prevent, restrict, impede, or otherwise punish a person traveling to another State to obtain a legal abortion and to protect healthcare providers and others who assist that person.

Last week, I reintroduced the Ensuring Women's Right to Reproductive Freedom Act which passed this House last year with Congresswoman MARILYN STRICKLAND, Congressman JAMIE RASKIN, and more than 150 original cosponsors.

Madam Speaker, I urge the House to pass this bill, once again, to protect this fundamental right.

MAKE WASHINGTON SAFE FOR ALL AMERICANS

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

Ms. LEE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 26, Disapproving the Action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Revised Criminal Code Act of 2022.

As a former Federal prosecutor and circuit court judge, I know firsthand how important it is for criminal penalties to reflect the seriousness of a crime and to ensure the safety of our communities.

Despite surging crime rates, the D.C. Council seeks to reduce the maximum sentences for violent crimes such as carjackings and robberies and enact procedural changes that will overburden the courts.

This will undermine law enforcement, and it is contrary to the actual needs of the residents and visitors to our Nation's Capital.

Republicans are committed to data-driven criminal justice policies that will strengthen our courts and law enforcement, combat rising crime rates, and protect our communities.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this important measure to put an end to these policies and make Washington safe for all Americans.

THE PRESIDENT'S INTERPRETATION OF THE STATE OF OUR UNION

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, last night President Biden gave his interpretation of the state of our Union, but after hearing his version, one thing is clear: our President lives in an alternative reality.

We all know the problems:

Crippling inflation and soaring interest rates, making it harder to save money and do business;

An open border with nearly 5 million illegal crossings since this administration took office;

A drug and crime crisis harming our communities; and

A more dangerous world with feckless leadership out of the White House, from a botched Afghanistan withdrawal to an emboldened CCP.

The fact is that Americans know the real state of our Union every time they buy groceries, put gas in their tanks, can't find baby formula or medications, or lose a loved one to the fentanyl pouring over our border.

That is why Americans elected House Republicans last November to bring change back to Washington.

We have already got to work by passing legislation to defund 87,000 IRS agents, establishing a select committee to compete with China, halting the COVID vaccine mandate for service members, and ending the national emergency and fully reopening the Capitol to the American people.

We are just getting started. To use the words of President Biden: House Republicans plan to finish the job the right way for the American people.

PROTECTING THE SECOND AMENDMENT

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, the Biden administration continues their all-out assault on the Second Amendment as evidenced by the President's call just last night in this very Chamber for banning weapons he finds objectionable.

Madam Speaker, Democrats believe that the government should decide

your God-given constitutionally protected rights. Their new ATF rule published in the Federal Register further threatens the rights of law-abiding citizens.

It treats individuals who own pistols with stabilizing braces as if they possess illegal short-barrel rifles, and it forces them to surrender them to the Federal Government. If they don't surrender them, then they are retroactively declared criminals for what was then a lawful purchase, and they now face up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

This is just another example of the Washington-knows-best elites who are out-of-touch with everyday Americans.

So I introduced the PISTOL Act to block the ATF from redefining pistol braces as short-barreled rifles. My legislation provides a simple statutory definition of a pistol and would prevent the Biden administration from improperly classifying pistol braces or regulating them by decree or fiat.

The Second Amendment is not subject to bureaucratic interpretation, and we have got to fight to protect the God-given and constitutionally protected rights of all Americans.

SOUTH CAROLINA LEADERSHIP MEANS JOBS

(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. Madam Speaker, the wallets of South Carolinians and all Americans have been negatively affected by the destructive decisions of Biden and the Democrat-led Congress destroying jobs.

However, through the leadership of Governor Henry McMaster, with the largest Republican supermajority in South Carolina in 150 years, South Carolina has achieved a record surplus of over \$3.5 billion in unexpected revenue for the year.

Last week, in the State of the State Address by Governor McMaster, he stated that 2022 was the most successful year for economic growth in our State's history.

The Governor announced 12 projects valued at over \$10 billion creating 14,000 new jobs. Governor Jim Edwards recruited Michelin, Governor Carroll Campbell recruited BMW, Governor David Beasley promoted workfare programs, and Governor Nikki Haley saved Boeing.

South Carolina remains a shining example for America.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America.

Our support is for our appreciated ally Turkey, which has been so devastated by the earthquake.

□ 1215

REMEMBERING MAINI WOOD

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

Mr. MILLER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of a great Ohioan, Maini Wood, who recently passed away at her York Township homestead.

Maini lived an incredible life. She was born in Finland in 1930 and survived the Russo-Finnish War of 1939 and 1940.

As a young girl, she actually had to ski to school, wearing white robes to hide from the Russian bombers that flew overhead.

Maini immigrated to the United States in her early 20s, but she met her husband, Dee, aboard a ship during a visit to her native Finland. The couple eventually settled in York Township where they raised their children in what they described as—and I happen to agree with them—a beautiful, idyllic rural community.

We learned so much from Maini about survival, about taking chances, and about finding joy in life's simple pleasures.

Ohio and America are less with her loss.

My thoughts and prayers are with Maini's family as they grieve the loss of this amazing woman.

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 15 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1402

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GUTHRIE) at 2 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.

TERMINATING CDC REQUIREMENT FOR PROOF OF COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR FOREIGN TRAVELERS

GENERAL LEAVE

MR. KILEY. 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 on H.R. 185.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 97 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on

the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 185.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1402

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 185) to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes, with Mr. KILEY in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one 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 Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) to begin debate.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 185, which provides another opportunity to recognize COVID-19 as an endemic and move our country back to normal.

Last week, we had a couple of bills dealing with COVID—one vaccine mandate for healthcare workers, which is the only CMS vaccine mandated for healthcare workers—and my bill to declare the emergency over.

President Biden actually did announce that the emergency is going to be over May 11, so we have a lot of work to do moving forward.

Now we move forward to ask for support for H.R. 185, which provides another opportunity for us to move our country back to normal.

H.R. 185, introduced by Mr. MASSIE, a member of the Rules Committee and a fellow Kentuckian, would finally put an end to the CDC's requirement for international travelers to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination before entering the United States through air, through flying to this country.

The bill would also prevent the CDC from implementing any similar mandates to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination to enter into the United States through air.

This policy is out of touch with the rest of the world. The U.S. is the only country in North America with this requirement, and most other countries have no testing or vaccination requirements at all. Also, the Biden administration fails to provide exceptions for religious or moral reasons.

As with other vaccine mandates, this requirement will not end on May 11,

and thus far, the administration has not indicated any plans to change it.

It is long past due to end this mandate. Doing so will align the United States with the rest of North America's COVID-19 vaccine policy for people coming into the country and recognize COVID-19 is an endemic rather than a pandemic.

Further, this will serve as an important check and balance against President Biden's overreaching policies by requiring the President to come to Congress in order to enact similar policies in the future.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in opposition to H.R. 185, which once again prioritizes politics over science at the expense of the health of the American people.

To date, COVID-19 has killed more than 1 million of our fellow Americans. Families have been changed forever. Fortunately, today we have vaccines, tests, and treatments that have put the darkest days of the pandemic behind us, but we can't forget that COVID still kills 500 Americans every day.

Variants of concern continue to emerge, and therefore we must be vigilant and data driven in monitoring any uptick in cases. We must follow the science and the guidance of our public health experts.

We are not done with COVID; or, rather, COVID is not done with us. Ending all of our protections and public health measures without a reasoned discussion is downright dangerous. Unfortunately, that is exactly what House Republicans continue to do week after week, bringing bills to the floor that are nothing but political stunts that put politics over science. This is the latest dangerous stunt.

H.R. 185 would terminate the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's order that requires proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign air passengers entering the United States.

Vaccination is protective against severe illness and death from COVID-19. It reduces the impact of COVID-19 on our healthcare infrastructure, including hospital capacity and healthcare provider staffing. That is why the CDC order was put in place and why I continue to believe that our public health experts are best positioned to make these kinds of determinations.

This bill would permit unvaccinated individuals to freely enter the United States, even as variants continue to emerge around the world, potentially increasing the risk of circulating new variants of concern. This could potentially stretch our healthcare resources just as our hospitals, providers, and public health infrastructure try to rebuild.

In addition, H.R. 185 would also prohibit the CDC from issuing any successor or subsequent orders to require COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers in the future as well. This is dangerous and ties the hands of our public

health experts to the political whims of the most ideologically extreme in a way that makes our Nation less safe and more vulnerable in the future.

Imagine if a dangerous new variant that was highly contagious appeared somewhere in the world. This Republican bill would prevent the CDC from restricting people from entering the Nation who are not vaccinated. This simply defies logic, but it is, unfortunately, what happens when you have an extreme Republican majority that is more interested in rushing these bills to the floor as political stunts without any consideration of the implications.

There have been no committee hearings to hear from experts on what this bill could mean for the American people, and without any input from Democratic Members, who remain willing to have reasoned discussions about moving beyond the immediate emergency of COVID-19.

This is also the second bill in just 2 weeks in which Republicans have sought to question the safety and efficacy of the COVID vaccines, despite the unequivocal scientific consensus that COVID-19 vaccination is protective against severe illness and death.

Mr. Chairman, I have now sat through two Rules Committee debates and two floor debates in the House of Representatives where some Republicans have sought to undermine vaccine confidence and contend that vaccines aren't safe and effective. This is extremely dangerous.

It is also deeply disappointing that we have to continue to have these discussions instead of coming together to encourage all Americans to get their vaccinations to protect themselves and their loved ones against severe illness.

That is why I am also disappointed that the Rules Committee and its Republican majority barred consideration of an amendment by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) which would have made clear that nothing in this bill shall be construed to cast doubt on the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines. This would have sent a strong message for us to come together on a bipartisan basis and make clear that this bill is not intended to disparage vaccines and that the House of Representatives stands in support of science and reason.

It is telling that the Rules Committee decided not to make this amendment in order. It is a sad sign that my Republican colleagues continue to cater to the most extremist members of their Conference who would rather spread COVID misinformation than come together to encourage vaccination as our best path out of this pandemic.

Mr. Chairman, Democrats understand that we are entering a new phase of our response to COVID-19 and believe it is reasonable to reconsider some of the pandemic-related policies and whether they are still necessary.

Instead of rushing partisan bills like this to the floor, we are willing to have

bipartisan conversations on a path forward. However, we will never—and I stress never—call into question the safety and efficacy of vaccines. We will not undermine the expertise of our public health officials or put politics over science.

Unfortunately, this bill does just that. For that reason, I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE), my good friend, to speak on the bill. We have the great privilege of sharing Bardstown in Nelson County in our districts.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chairman, it is interesting to hear the other side of the aisle talk about logic. What we are talking about today is whether to repeal the vaccine mandate on international travelers. Well, what is the logic of having a vaccine mandate on legal international travelers but not on the millions of people who are pouring across our border? Where is the logic in that? I don't see any logic.

It is time for us to join the rest of the free world. You want a list of countries that don't have this mandate? Australia, Japan, Mexico, Canada, Spain, Germany, France, Ukraine. I could go on and on. Am I memorizing a list of countries? No. I am telling you basically all of the countries in the world. In fact, dictatorships have already gotten rid of this vaccine mandate: Russia, Syria, China. Cuba even doesn't have this draconian xenophobic measure at the border.

Let's talk about the State of the Union Address last night. The President said: Today COVID no longer controls our lives. Gee, I wish that were true. I wish that were true.

Here is a letter I received—now, it is from a foreigner who is related to Americans: Dear sir, I am an Australian. My daughter married an American in September of 2020. My wife and I were not allowed to visit for the wedding. Subsequently, due to the U.S. ban on unvaccinated arrivals, I have not seen my daughter in over 2 years. I appreciate your attempts at overturning this harsh rule. I am sure I speak for many separated families.

Yes, he does. He speaks for tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions of people who have been separated at our border because of this ridiculous, illogical, unscientific policy.

What else did the President say in his State of the Union Address last night? "We opened our country back up." Well, we need to tell all of the tourism industry that we have opened our country back up because the U.S. Travel Association has stated this week, just this week, that it cost over \$90 billion. This one policy has cost over \$90 billion of revenue, of income to this country in tourism, and that is why they support getting rid of this ridiculous mandate.

□ 1415

What is the Democrats' argument over there? I have heard it all already.

I see they are very smug and smiling. They bleat about democracy. They bleat on and on about democracy. Is this democracy?

Their best argument—virtually their only argument—is right here in "The Whip's Daily Preview" on the Democrat side: "House Democrats have been stalwart in their defense of following the science over playing politics with COVID-19. The decision to end vaccine requirements for global travelers should be made by public health experts with real-time understanding of the situation. Hamstringing agencies from responding to ongoing or future threats that could impact the health and economic stability of America undermines our Nation."

They are arguing that they are not qualified to vote on laws that affect the most basic human rights of people in this country and people wishing to visit this country.

Imagine that. Working so hard to get elected, preaching about democracy, and then getting here and saying: Do you know what? I don't think we should be voting on this because, well, I think the bureaucrats are probably more qualified than we are. The science is hard.

Science is hard. That is basically their argument.

Let's take their argument. Let's listen to the scientists, the bureaucrats. What does the World Health Organization, what does this collection of global scientists, say about this policy? This is real-time because it was January 30, 2023. They had a meeting and said No. 6 in their recommendations: "Continue to adjust any remaining international travel-related measures, based on risk assessment, and to not require proof of vaccination against COVID-19 as a prerequisite for international travel."

They love global government. You think the science over there would appeal to the World Health Organization, but if that doesn't work, let's listen to our own CDC, which said in August of last year: If you are deciding to quarantine or mask or any of these other things, it shouldn't be done with respect to vaccination status.

In other words, there is enough natural immunity, and there was in August, for the CDC to say we shouldn't discriminate based on vaccination status when determining policy.

I will just close with this: Let's not be hypocrites. We were all in this room last night, hundreds of us, with hundreds of visitors, and none of us were under a vaccine mandate.

Repeal this vaccine mandate. Vote for H.R. 185 and support the bill.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD a report from the WHO Director-General, and a recommendation from the CDC for managing SARS-CoV-2 exposure.

Mr. Chair, I enter into the RECORD two articles:

STATEMENT ON THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS (2005) EMERGENCY COMMITTEE REGARDING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

The WHO Director-General has the pleasure of transmitting the Report of the fourteenth meeting of the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) Emergency Committee regarding the coronavirus 2019 disease (COVID-19).

Continue to adjust any remaining international travel-related measures, based on risk assessment, and to not require proof of vaccination against COVID-19 as a prerequisite for international travel.

Continue to support research for improved vaccines that reduce transmission and have broad applicability, as well as research to understand the full spectrum, incidence and impact of post COVID-19 condition, and to develop relevant integrated care pathways.

MANAGING SARS-CoV-2 EXPOSURES

CDC now recommends case investigation and contact tracing only in health care settings and certain high-risk congregate settings. In all other circumstances, public health efforts can focus on case notification and provision of information and resource to exposed persons about access to testing. Persons who have had recent confirmed or suspected exposure to an infected person should wear a mask for 10 days around others when indoors in public and should receive testing ≥ 5 days after exposure (or sooner, if they are symptomatic), irrespective of their vaccination status. In light of high population levels of anti-SARS-CoV-2 seroprevalence (7, 16), and to limit social and economic impacts, quarantine of exposed persons is no longer recommended, regardless of vaccination status.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Chair, again, I am not surprised, I guess, but when the gentleman from Kentucky talks about human rights and then he gives the lists of the countries that don't mandate vaccines that include Iran, Russia, Cuba, Syria, and China, these are not countries that care much about human rights.

As I said before in the Rules Committee, Republicans always talk about America first. We have the best healthcare and public health experts in the world, in my opinion. The CDC is so much better than any of the healthcare organizations, in my opinion, certainly better than our adversaries like Russia, Cuba, or China, but even for the other countries that are mentioned.

I understand the World Health Organization is out there, but I think we should be listening to the public health experts in our country and not worrying about some of these other countries that are adversaries.

I would be very concerned about people coming from places like Russia, China, and Cuba not being vaccinated because of the lack of attention to public health in those countries.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), my good friend.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Chair, I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 185, which will lift the CDC's burdensome mandates for international travelers into the United States.

Frankly, I can't believe the mandate is still here, but I talk to my constituents who have family that want to come to the United States, international travelers, and they can't come because they don't want to take the vaccine. That is their right.

We need to lift this. I thank my colleague, Mr. MASSIE, for his leadership on this particular piece of legislation.

This past week, my colleagues and I on the Energy and Commerce Committee have held hearings and markups focused on competitiveness versus China, ensuring American companies lead the globe.

This morning, we also held a long-overdue Oversight Committee hearing with the CDC, and I challenged them to think of the impacts their mandates are having on the travel and tourism section.

The Biden administration's onerous vaccine mandates for workers, citizens, and international travelers have been disastrous for our economy and have done very little to mitigate public health concerns, as my colleague stated.

Republicans have made it clear: We are tired of mandates and overregulation. This legislation will remove these mandates so travel can resume into the country and so we can make our Nation competitive again on the international stage.

We have the Brand USA program that advertises our Nation's hidden treasures. They are everywhere, but the travel sector hasn't been able to be fully unleashed, thanks to the CDC. We know, historically, that the industry in my home State of Florida—but it is not just my home State—has accounted for more than \$80 billion in revenue and 1½ million jobs annually.

Let's get our economy back on track. This makes so much sense, this particular bill. Let's remove this ridiculous mandate.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Chair, my friends on the other side of the aisle seem unconcerned about the threat the COVID-19 virus poses to public health. They have shown that consistently over the time of the pandemic.

They have dismissed the severity of the virus. The previous Republican Party President dismissed it, too, and tried to claim that you could just solve it with a light bulb going into your body somewhere or drinking some type of Clorox.

They have dismissed the science behind masking and social distancing. They have dismissed vaccinations. They have dismissed peer-reviewed science. They have condemned Dr. Fauci, who is an American hero who

guided us through this pandemic that cost the lives of over 1 million Americans dying of COVID over the last 3 years. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that there are over 500 Americans dying each day from COVID.

I believe in science. I believe in specialists. I believe in doctors. CDC is the specialist here.

My colleagues on the other side are very concerned about China, but now they are not concerned about China—which has one of the biggest COVID problems of any place in the globe—having visitors come to our Nation without having been vaccinated.

This is a threat to the health of the American people directly from China. They are concerned about China, but not now.

I would submit most of my colleagues on the other side are vaccinated against COVID, vaccinated against polio, vaccinated against all types of diseases, but all of a sudden, they don't want to give any authority to the CDC to protect us from countries that don't have vaccination requirements.

Science first. Dollars and sense, s-e-n-s-e. That is what we ought to have.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, before I yield, I want to point out that this doesn't do anything to undo the restrictions on people traveling from China.

As a matter of fact, the Rules Committee made an amendment in order that will pass today, and I hope my friends will support it. That will reiterate that this doesn't do anything to undo the restrictions on people traveling from China.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON), my good friend and vice chair of the Health Subcommittee.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 185.

As a physician, I do support the science, and the previous speaker is on the wrong side of it. He is ignoring the science.

It is unfortunate but not surprising that the Biden administration is failing to acknowledge the foolishness of requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination for international travelers.

We know that while the current COVID-19 vaccines are highly effective at preventing severe disease and death, they don't provide sterilizing immunity and prevent vaccinated individuals from becoming infected or from transmitting COVID-19.

I want to say that I am vaccinated. I wish everyone would be.

Thus, continuing to impose this vaccine mandate causes unnecessary harm to our Nation's tourism industry, which has already suffered for more than 3 years. Beyond that, it damages our image as a nation whose laws and policies are guided by the principles of freedom and backed by science.

President Biden's continued insistence that international visitors be vaccinated appears to be virtue signaling,

in my view, because the scientific evidence does not support the claim that vaccination prevents the spread of the virus.

Our neighbors in Canada and Mexico, our allies across the Atlantic in the U.K. and France, and many more countries around the world are declining to require proof of vaccination for international travelers.

In addition to ignoring the needs of business and communities that rely on tourism, these requirements make us look ludicrous on the world stage.

For example, last year, we blocked the number one-ranked tennis player in the world, Novak Djokovic, from entering the country to compete in the U.S. Open. Do we really think that blocking one individual from the country is going to have any real impact on the spread of COVID-19?

I strongly believe COVID-19 vaccines are safe and very effective at reducing harmful effects of the virus. Again, I recommend vaccination, but it is nonsensical that we are driving away foreign nationals who want to compete, visit loved ones, conduct business, or simply take in the amazing sites our country has to offer. That is why I support this legislation and why I believe the U.S. needs to lift this requirement now.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. SCHRIER), a member of our Energy and Commerce Committee.

Ms. SCHRIER. Mr. Chair, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Mr. Chair, our healthcare workforce is stretched to capacity after having spent now 3 years on the front lines of the pandemic, and add to that recent spikes in RSV and flu.

Our hospitals have been overpacked, with a shortage of available beds and a real worry and sometimes a reality that there won't be room in a hospital if we get sick or injured.

Due to stress and burnout, hospitals across the country are experiencing staff shortages. What healthcare workers and hospital workers really don't need right now is more stress on an already stressed system, and that is exactly what this bill will do.

As we all know, and as I can tell you, as a pediatrician, people who are not vaccinated have a significantly higher risk of being hospitalized if they contract COVID. Why in the world would we invite people from around the world to come to visit the United States without that protection and then put our hospital systems at further risk of overcrowding and collapse? Not to mention the higher risk of getting and spreading the disease around our country or even potentially bringing new variants to our shores.

Vaccination is safe. I speak as a doctor. It is effective in keeping people out of hospitals and curbing transmission. We should rightly expect that

those traveling to the United States get immunized because we should not risk further stressing an already strained healthcare system.

It was only a few months ago when hospitals in my State, in Washington State, were full. Patients with life-threatening illnesses, bleeds, life-threatening injuries had to be flown to distant cities to get care. Whatever we can do to prevent that from happening again, we should do. Making sure we get vaccinated and insisting that those visiting our country get vaccinated help do just that.

Public health decisions should be made by doctors and public health professionals based on data, not by Members of Congress for political expediency.

This bill is a political stunt. It has no basis in science. It fails to recognize the reality that our hospitals are facing right now and that any one of us might face if a loved one needs a hospital bed and that bed is not available. Please leave public health decisions to public health professionals.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the text of my amendment.

Ms. Schrier moves to recommit the bill H.R. 185 to the Committee on Energy and Commerce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

Add at the end the following new section:
SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this Act shall not take effect until the date on which the Secretary of Health and Human Services submits to Congress a certification that such provisions will not result in—

- (1) a decrease in hospital bed capacity in the United States;
- (2) a reduction in health care resources available in the United States; or
- (3) any staffing shortage for health care providers in the United States.

□ 1430

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD).

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank my friend and colleague from Kentucky for his leadership on this bill.

I just want to remind everyone here today that the year is 2023, it is not 2020, and yet, many of our COVID policies are still based on numbers from almost 3 years ago.

This vaccine requirement for international travelers is a prime example. Countries all around the world realize this and are rolling back their own border restrictions.

I also point out that this vaccine requirement is not part of the emergency declarations that are scheduled to end in May.

This means that vaccine requirements could still stay in effect for an indefinite period of time. Come May, it is possible we won't even have a public health emergency at all.

We won't have a national emergency, but our friends and family from, say, for example, Canada would still have to

show proof of vaccination when flying in to visit their relatives.

We don't even require our own citizens to be vaccinated or show a negative test, so why would we do that and create a different standard for folks that are visiting?

This only causes confusion for Americans who are told one minute they are safe and don't have to fear COVID-19, and yet, we continue these pandemic requirements.

I am here today to tell the American people that despite the mixed messages emanating from the White House, I believe we are safe, and in the words of President Biden, the pandemic is, in fact, over.

I am proud to cosponsor this commonsense bill, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 185.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Chairman, again, the previous Republican speaker said that we are confusing the public, and I think it is they that are, in fact, confusing the public.

We are hearing all kinds of anti-vaccine misinformation on the floor and in Rules, and I just think it is important to note that CDC, FDA, and nearly all health professionals are near unanimous in recommending that people get vaccinated and that vaccines are safe and effective.

I just think it is very damaging for the public to constantly hear from Members on the other side of the aisle about potential problems with vaccination because then people think that they shouldn't get vaccinated.

I know what your position is, that you don't want it to be mandated which, of course, I disagree with because of what public health experts say for foreign travelers, but please don't continue to give misinformation.

There are over 500 people that die every day from COVID. COVID is still here. COVID continues to spread. The variants could come up and spread at any moment, so we should not give the impression that people should not take vaccines.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS), a member of the Subcommittee on Health.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Chairman, I thank my colleague for yielding time.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 185 to end the international travel COVID vaccine mandate.

I am a doctor, and unlike my colleague on the other side of the aisle, I am also a former director of the Iowa Department of Public Health, so I am speaking for public health.

The vast majority of Americans are either vaccinated or have natural immunity. There is no recognition of natural immunity by continuing the COVID-19 vaccine mandate for travelers into the United States.

This is, as previously alluded, not 2020. It is 2023. This timely measure

nullifies the CDC's order that restricts noncitizen entry into the United States unless the traveler can prove they are vaccinated against COVID-19. It doesn't say to prove immunity or prove testing negative.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to move forward. Entry restrictions were necessary during the early stages and the height of the pandemic, but that was when we, as a Nation, were still learning the details of the virus and experiencing soaring death and hospitalization rates.

Now, over 95 percent of Americans have various forms of immunity, whether from vaccination or prior infection, and health professionals have deep knowledge of the coronavirus that has led to multiple vaccines and therapeutics.

People have returned to work, children to school, and Americans have resumed international travel at prepandemic rates.

Some of the countries with the most stringent lockdown and protocols, Canada, Australia, and Germany, all have eliminated their severe entry restrictions. All have suspended their vaccine requirements. It is time that we, as a Nation, do the same.

This does not mean that we do not still have circulating virus. We are aware of that, but it is time for the mandate for travelers entering the United States to end.

Republicans and Democrats should be able to agree that the pandemic is over. President Biden even said so himself.

House Republicans will continue to move our country past the pandemic, which is exactly what this bill does.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues as a public health professional to vote "yes."

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SMUCKER).

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Chair, I thank my friend, Mr. MASSIE, for introducing this bill.

I am listening to some of the arguments on the Democrat side here today, and I hear about vaccine conspiracies. I am not hearing that over here. In fact, I am vaccinated. I have the boosters. I think it was important to do that.

I am proud of what we were able to get done through Operation Warp Speed. We protected many Americans. But I don't understand the argument that this has anything to do with vaccine conspiracies.

I was contacted by a constituent, Hunter McBryde, who informed me that this particular mandate, that almost no one else in the world has in place, is keeping his family separated. This is keeping his kids from seeing their grandparents.

He is from the district that I represent in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He happened to be studying in Australia

for his Ph.D. when the pandemic started. His wife is an Australian citizen. They share three beautiful children.

Because of this shortsighted policy, Hunter and his family have been unable to move back home to Lancaster County to be with the rest of their extended family here simply because of the family's vaccination and immigration status.

I contacted the CDC on behalf of the family and was told that the agency still believes that COVID vaccines, not testing, not quarantining, are necessary to protect public safety, despite the fact that President Biden has said the pandemic is over.

Mr. Chairman, 147 countries, including Canada, U.K., Italy, France, Australia, South Korea, and many others are totally open to tourists, regardless of their vaccination status. Another 57 nations allow tourists to take a COVID test or quarantine if they are unvaccinated.

The worst of this pandemic is clearly over. There is no reason that the CDC should continue to discriminate against tourists or residents who, for health or religious reasons, do not wish to receive the COVID vaccine.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania—let me just make it clear. I have not used the word "conspiracy." I am not suggesting there is a conspiracy on the other side of the aisle.

What I just resent is the fact that I do not hear any of my colleagues on the other side, on the Republican side, get up and say that vaccines are safe and effective, and people should take them.

We had an amendment by Mr. TAKANO before the Rules Committee, which would have made it clear that nothing in this bill shall be construed to cast doubt on the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines.

This would send a strong message to us that we should come together on a bipartisan basis and make clear that this bill is not intended to disparage vaccines and that the House of Representatives stands in support of science and reason, but my colleagues refuse to say that.

It is not a question of a conspiracy. It is a question of I believe it is your obligation to tell the American people that they should be vaccinated or at least that the vaccines are safe and effective in most cases, but you don't do that.

So the misconception is out there. It is not a conspiracy, but it is a misconception that vaccines are not safe.

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

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time. Again, this is the third in a series of bills over the last 2 weeks that tries to roll back the protections that the Federal Gov-

ernment has put in place to try to stop the pandemic.

Now, granted, the pandemic—we have had a lot of success. I mean, President Biden for the last 2 years in terms of promoting vaccines and testing and all kinds of public health protections, COVID is on the wane. The number of people dying, the number of people hospitalized, all that is on the wane. He has said that he is planning on May 11 to lift the public health emergency.

But all I have been saying, and all the Democrats have been saying for the last 2 weeks on all these bills, is let's go by the science.

Let's be reasonable about this. Let's not assume that we can let foreign travelers in and them not be vaccinated.

Let's not assume that it is a good thing for public health workers to be unvaccinated. Let's not make a decision to end the public health emergency immediately.

Let's leave it up to the agencies and the experts, which again, I believe, are the best in the world. I am not interested in what Russia does or Cuba does or some of these other countries that are mentioned because we have the best experts in the world. If anybody denies that I will prove it to them that we do.

The bottom line is that as Democrats, we understand that the pandemic is on the wane, but we don't want to rush to make decisions or force decisions, if you will, on our public health experts that could be detrimental or make it difficult and tie their hands.

One of the things that is in this bill—and there are going to be a series of amendments now to deal with this—is to say that not only is this vaccine mandate eliminated but that the CDC can't even make any other types of mandates like that in the future.

That is very dangerous to tie their hands when we don't know exactly where COVID and the variants are going to be going in the next few months or the next few years. It is a mistake to do that.

So we will hear about some of these amendments that I think are really important, but the bottom line is this is a bad bill.

It continues this policy of basically eliminating the protections that we have been trying to put in place, that we have had in place, and that have helped us get beyond the COVID pandemic, for the most part.

I urge my colleagues, you know, for the sake of science, for the sake of helping people, for the sake of public health to vote "no" on this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Chair, I heard several Members that were talking, saying that they were vaccinated and encouraged people to be vaccinated.

I actually did my vaccination on Facebook to encourage people to be vaccinated.

The question is: Is it a choice or a requirement to move forward?

So I am not here to disparage the vaccine at all. I just think it should be the people's choice.

To clarify—this was brought up, and I want to reiterate again—this does not affect any of the entry requirements that have been put on people coming from China. There will be an amendment in the package to reinforce that it doesn't do anything to move forward.

We had a hearing earlier today, and for the first time, I heard there is actually a plan to try to unwind the emergency pandemic. That is the first time I heard of that. We have been asking for that for a year.

We want to move these bills forward because other countries have started opening up. Other countries have moved forward.

We heard the President say the pandemic is over. We heard the President say in this Chamber last night that COVID doesn't run our lives anymore. So we need to do our proper role of oversight.

I will point out that if there is another strain of COVID—when it says that not only does it undo the mandate, it will also undo any similar mandates, it is only for COVID. So if there is another kind of pathogen, unfortunately—hopefully not—that comes into our country, it can be addressed.

We can come together. We came together when COVID first broke in 2020. I remember flying back on an airplane that had three people on it right in the heart of COVID so we could come back and cast a vote.

We all came together and did that. We will rise to the occasion as we move forward.

The question is: Can we get back to normal?

This is a bill that brings us back to normal.

It has nothing to do with the effectiveness of the vaccine. As I said, I took mine on Facebook so people would see that I felt it was safe. I just don't want to force somebody else to do it.

This is an opportunity for us to end this mandate and continue to work because I want to work with my colleague on the Energy and Commerce Committee as we unwind this pandemic before May 11, so that we do it together, and we do it in a way that we recognize COVID is still here.

When they say it is not a pandemic, it is endemic. That doesn't mean it has gone away. It means we still have to mitigate and deal with it.

There will be opportunities for us to work in a bipartisan way and do so as we move forward out of this emergency order, which was last week's bill.

But in this bill, it is time for us to move forward like the rest of the world, as well.

Mr. Chairman, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill. There will be some amendments also to move forward on as we debate later today.

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

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition of H.R. 185.

Detroit Metropolitan Airport is a leading international hub with over 1,100 flights daily to and from four continents. Every year, the airport welcomes more than 36 million passengers from across the world.

Southeast Michigan was hit hard by the coronavirus, and orders like the COVID-19 vaccine requirement for global travelers entering the United States helped mitigate its further spread into our communities.

Our nation is entering a new phase of our recovery, but COVID-19 remains a real public health threat. The emergence of new variants globally continues to put our own nation at risk.

That's why legislation we are considering today is misguided. These decisions must be rooted in science and made by our Nation's leading public health experts, not politicians.

We know the best way to defeat this pandemic is for people within the United States and around the world to get vaccinated, and this legislation is contrary to this goal.

I urge all my colleagues to oppose this measure.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 185, to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of Covid-19 vaccination for foreign travelers.

H.R. 185 is hasty attempt to reverse the order issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention without any proper planning or preparation.

The Amended Order Implementing Presidential Proclamation on Advancing the Safe Resumption of Global Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic was first published on April 7, 2022, and was implemented to save lives.

The CDC order imposes necessary restrictions on the entry of noncitizens into the United States by air travel unless they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or otherwise attest that they will take public health measures to prevent the spread of the disease.

Similar restrictions have been implemented and enforced worldwide, and countries like Thailand have had to reimplement such restrictions after lifting them.

Now is not the time to roll back protections, only to be in a place where we will need to reimpose more onerous and unwanted lockdowns and shutdowns across the country.

Yet, H.R. 185 would nullify any successor or subsequent orders that require foreign persons traveling by air to show proof of a COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of entry, as well as prohibit the use of federal funds to administer or enforce such a requirement.

Mr. Chair, the wellbeing of the American People should hold the utmost importance and any act against their health and wellbeing should be strongly condemned.

Since March 2020, life in Houston—like most of the world—has been upended.

Houston, Texas is the 4th largest city in the country and is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse cities in the United States.

In addition to Houston being a culturally diverse city and home to international students, residents, and families from all over the world, Houston also serves as an international hub for millions of people all over the world who

travel to my city every year for both leisure and business.

According to the Houston First Corporation, a record 22.3 million people from around the world visited Houston in 2018.

Notably, the 2023 Houston Rodeo season, scheduled for Feb. 28–March 19, is the largest rodeo in the world and contributes significantly to our city's economy. In 2022, this event attracted over 2.4 million international travelers from around the world.

Despite the senseless and disingenuous politicization of the COVID-19 vaccine, it has and continues to save countless lives—particularly in my home state and internationally rich travel hub of Houston, Texas.

In Houston, specifically Harris County, there have been 1,058,476 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 7,839 active cases, 1,041,939 recovered, and 8,589 deaths. Furthermore, Texas as a state has recorded 8.24 million cases and 93,366 deaths.

In the United States, there have been 102 million confirmed case and 1.11 million deaths.

And across the globe, there have been 671 million confirmed cases and 6.83 million deaths.

These statistics serve as a harrowing reminder of the gravity of this epidemic and the caution we should be taking in ensuring preventative responses and remaining vigilant against the spread of COVID-19.

Rolling back critical vaccination policies put in place to protect Americans through hasty measures such as H.R. 185, undermines the national mission and unified efforts nationwide to prevent future cases infiltrating our communities.

While progress has certainly been made in protecting Americans from this deadly virus, we cannot stand for the erosion of such progress through ill-conceived and politicized measures.

As we continue to make strides to prevent and eradicate current and future variants plaguing our cities, states, nation, and world, let it be known that H.R. 185 would only serve to disregard the health and well-being of all Americans, foolishly jeopardizing our lives and the ongoing fight to keep everyone healthy and safe.

Instead of halting vital funding and vaccine policies for international travelers, without a plan or forethought of the disastrous impact that will inevitably result, it is imperative that we stand together in planning and preparing for smart policy shifts that will allow our country to effectively and safely ease back into some sense of normalcy.

Anything less is an abdication of our governmental duties and an insult and danger to the welfare of all those we are sworn to serve.

With strong opposition to this bill, I urge my Republican colleagues to step back and actually work with us to lay forward common sense implementations of care and safety for our fellow Americans.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

The bill is considered as read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 185

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TERMINATING CDC REQUIREMENT FOR PROOF OF COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR FOREIGN TRAVELERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the air travel vaccination requirement for foreign travelers shall have no force or effect.

(b) **PROHIBITION ON FUNDING.**—Beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, no Federal funds may be used to administer, implement, or enforce the air travel vaccination requirement for foreign travelers.

(c) **AIR TRAVEL VACCINATION REQUIREMENT FOR FOREIGN TRAVELERS.**—In this Act, the term “air travel vaccination requirement for foreign travelers” refers to the requirement specified in—

(1) the order issued by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention entitled “Amended Order Implementing Presidential Proclamation on Advancing the Safe Resumption of Global Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic” and published in the Federal Register on April 7, 2022 (87 Fed. Reg. 20405 et seq.), for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for air travelers who are covered individuals (as defined in such order); or

(2) any successor or subsequent order of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention requiring foreign persons traveling by air to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination as a condition on entering the United States.

The CHAIR. No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in House Report 118-3. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by the Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

□ 1445

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 118-3.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, after line 22, add the following:

(d) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the authority of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to mandate vaccination requirements against any other disease for noncitizens who are nonimmigrants seeking to enter the United States by air travel for the sake of public health.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 97, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chair, I know that some of my colleagues on the other side may think a degree from google.com makes them a public health expert, but the truth is it doesn't.

I am sick and tired of coming down here to the floor wasting time on anti-vaxxer junk science dug up from the

darkest corners of the internet and brought to the House floor. Once again, it should be no surprise to anybody, we are bringing this bill to the floor in which lots of questions have been raised without a single hearing, without a markup.

By the way, the Energy and Commerce Committee today is having a hearing but, unfortunately, this bill is not the subject of that hearing because here we are on the House floor.

The amendment I am offering today is simple. All we are saying is the CDC should continue to have the authority in the future to demand that visitors to the United States show proof of vaccination for diseases other than COVID. It is not complicated. It is not a radical idea.

We already require multiple vaccines for people who are immigrating or seeking refuge in this country for diseases like smallpox, polio, measles, and mumps. Why? Because they work.

My colleagues on the other side seem to think that if there is a polio or smallpox outbreak in another country, they don't want the CDC requiring proof of vaccination for people traveling from those countries to the United States. But using their logic, that is where we are headed.

We have wasted 2 weeks now on these ridiculous anti-vaxxer conspiracy theory bills. We have Members that watched a few YouTube videos, and they think they know more about all the medical research than the experts on this subject. They think they know more than all the scientists, all the doctors, and all the public health professionals. It is embarrassing and, quite frankly, it is alarming.

But what is even more disappointing is that we have doctors in Congress who, shamefully, stood in silence while anti-science and anti-safety rhetoric has run rampant.

The majority says that this bill doesn't apply to other vaccines. Well, if they believe that, they should vote for this amendment and clarify their intent.

So let's just put this out in the open. This bill isn't about COVID vaccines. It is about disinformation. It is about conspiracy theories that, quite frankly, confuse people and can pose a threat to the people of this country. This doesn't put politics over science, it puts science over politics.

I don't want anything in this bogus bill to be used to diminish the CDC's authority to respond to public health emergencies in the future. The purpose of the CDC is to prevent the spread of disease in this country, and we should let them do their job.

I urge a “yes” vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This legislation is targeted to COVID-19, and has nothing to do with other diseases.

Further, CDC does not have clear authority to mandate vaccination requirements. The order referenced in legislation is implementing a Presidential proclamation and not a standing authority that CDC has.

Further, almost every single one of CDC's overreaches in authority have been challenged. CDC is still fighting for their ability to require masks in public transit stations in court. They are still fighting that.

Why would we adopt this amendment and signal that they have authority to mandate vaccinations in the future?

I urge a “no” vote on this amendment, and I yield to the primary sponsor of the underlying legislation, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. MASSIE).

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman from Indiana for yielding.

I find it somewhat ironic that the other side is complaining about the process during the debate on the amendment that the other side gets to offer by virtue of a decision in the Rules Committee to open up this process. So this is the process.

The gentleman from Indiana is correct. It is not a given; it has not been established that the CDC has this authority. There is no need for us to legislate beyond the intent of this bill.

The intent of this bill is to eliminate a Presidential order about a COVID vaccine for international travelers. There is no need for us, in this bill, to try and give the CDC additional authority. In fact, the bill is quiet on whether they have this authority, and that is a subject that is being debated in the courts right now.

I also want to point out that the order, as well as the gentleman's amendment, doesn't apply to immigrants. The order that the President has put in place on visitors doesn't apply to illegal immigrants to this United States, and neither would this gentleman's amendment.

So I think when you talk about science and logic, why is it that somebody who is coming here legally would be more of a threat than somebody who is coming here illegally?

So I urge a “no” on the amendment, and a “yes” on the bill, but mostly, certainly a “no” on this amendment.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chair, I am just asking, urging that we clarify that the anti-vax rhetoric we hear on the other side of the aisle doesn't apply to other vaccines beyond COVID. There is a trust issue here.

I will give you an example. Last night, when the President asked that the Republicans not vote to cut Social Security and Medicare, you all said you weren't going to do that.

Yet, we look today, we see statements from people like Senator MIKE LEE who said that his objective is to phase out Social Security; to pull it up by the roots and get rid of it.

The Republican Study Committee released a budget that calls for

privatizing Social Security and raising the eligibility ages for Social Security and Medicare.

We have had Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM suggest raising the age for Social Security and cutting benefits for seniors, while making them pay more. I can go on; RICK SCOTT introduced a bill that would sunset Social Security, so there is a trust issue.

Quite frankly, in order for me to agree with the gentleman, I would have to forget everything that I heard in the Rules Committee last night.

So this simply says that your anti-vax rhetoric does not apply to other health emergencies and other vaccines. This is about protecting the safety and well-being of the people of this country.

Again, if you had a hearing, and if you brought the CDC head up and asked these questions, maybe we would all feel a little bit more comfortable, but you are rushing this to the floor because you are looking for a sound bite; you are looking for a moment on Tucker Carlson or whatever, or more Twitter followers or whatever.

We are interested in responsible legislating, so we would appreciate a reinsurance that, in fact, your anti-vax rhetoric doesn't apply to other vaccines.

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

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

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

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 118-3.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, after line 22, add the following:

SEC. 2. REPORT.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shall submit a report to Congress on the number of visitors denied entry under the order specified in subsection (c)(1) during the period beginning on April 7, 2022, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 97, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in favor of my amendment which will require the CDC to produce a report to Congress on the number of visitors de-

nied entry under the Biden administration's vaccine mandate for all incoming international air travelers and visitors to the United States.

This simple, straightforward amendment will provide transparency surrounding this ludicrous and unscientific vaccine mandate put in place by Joe Biden's bureaucrats.

This unnecessary CDC rule has made everyday life so much harder for so many people; from tearing apart family reunifications and forcing loved ones to die alone, without their relatives by their side, to punishing companies overseas for doing business with America.

Just a few short stories my congressional office has come across include: The mother of a Dutch tourist who died on the Appalachian Trail, was unable to come home to the United States to collect her dead son's body; a woman's fiancé who lives in Canada has been unable to visit her on American soil for the past 3 years; a man working for a company in the United Kingdom who is unable to travel to the United States for business meetings; and a family in New Hampshire with Canadian in-laws has been unable to have Canadian family members visit for Christmas in the United States since COVID started.

My amendment will require the CDC to account for these stories and countless others who have felt the negative ramifications of this rule. It will also provide transparency and allow congressional oversight of the consequences of this vaccine mandate.

Despite Joe Biden stating the pandemic is over, he has refused to lift this mandate. Even Canada has lifted its vaccine mandate for incoming U.S. air travelers.

Other than a few countries around the world run by dictators, the United States of America is literally the only country left that is imposing this unscientific and immoral COVID vaccine mandate on our visitors. Of course, if you cross our southern border illegally, there is no such mandate; and we know of about 5 million who have done just that.

Simply put, COVID is over. It is time for us to rejoin the free world.

I thank my friend and colleague, Representative THOMAS MASSIE, for his work to end yet another vaccine mandate. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation, and I strongly support it.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment and to vote in favor of the underlying bill.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

The reason I am opposed to the amendment is because I don't think it is necessary or is even helpful to the

issue at hand. It talks about a report on the number of visitors denied entry under this policy.

The fact of the matter is that, on the Democratic side, what we are concerned about is the public health. If the gentlewoman wanted to have an amendment that said there would be a report that provides us with public health data to justify lifting the mandate, I could see something like that because the bottom line here is we are concerned about the science.

The CDC says that this mandate is necessary to protect Americans, to reduce the COVID cases, to make sure that people don't get sick and that more people are hospitalized and be taxing on our public health system. So I don't see how this amendment that talks about the number of visitors gets to any of that.

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

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

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

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

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

□ 1500

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. GOLDEN OF MAINE

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

Mr. GOLDEN of Maine. Mr. Chair, as the designee of Ms. PEREZ, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 2, line 8, strike "specified in—" and all that follows through "(1) the order" line 9 and insert "specified in the order".

Page 2, line 17, strike ";; or" and insert a period.

Page 2, strike line 18 and all that follows through line 22.

Page 2, after line 22, add the following:

(d) NONAPPLICABILITY TO SUBSEQUENT ORDERS.—Subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to any successor or subsequent order of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to that specified in subsection (c) which requires foreign persons traveling by air to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination as a condition on entering the United States.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 97, the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maine.

Mr. GOLDEN of Maine. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I rise to offer an amendment on behalf of Ms. GLUESENKAMP PEREZ of Washington to ensure that

the underlying bill does not risk the public health and safety of the American people in the future.

Like many of my colleagues across the aisle, I support ending the COVID-19 vaccine requirement for international travelers at this time but doing so in the interest of our constituents' safety in mind, first and foremost.

Today, this COVID-19 vaccine requirement for international travelers is no longer necessary. In fact, it has become an unnecessary barrier for visitors who would boost local economies and who want to visit with friends and family and reunite with loved ones. However, we should remember that at the beginning of the pandemic, this requirement served as an important protection for our constituents. It would be shortsighted to move to hamstring similar future actions, if necessary.

That is why Ms. GLUESINKAMP PEREZ and I support this amendment, which strikes the prohibition on successor or subsequent requirements for air travelers so that future administrations, whether they be Democrat or Republican, have the tools that they need to protect the American people.

We are not here to subject the health and safety of our constituents to political whims here in Washington.

Mr. Chair, I appreciate the opportunity to work with my colleague on this amendment, and I urge all of our colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, it is clear that the Biden administration has pushed its authorities past reasonable interpretation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With everything from eviction moratoriums and student loan forgiveness to vaccine and mask mandates being challenged and defeated in court, it is clear that the Biden administration needs the oversight of Congress.

The prohibition on rulemaking makes sure the CDC cannot impose a future COVID-19 vaccine requirement on international travelers and that the Biden administration would need to come to Congress for CDC to take such action in the future.

H.R. 185 is a commonsense bill. As President Biden himself has stated: The "pandemic is over." And, as he announced last week, the White House would end the current COVID-19 public health emergency effective May 11, 2023.

We are currently one of the only countries still requiring any such vaccine mandate. The CDC itself has also acknowledged the vaccine does not prevent transmission. Why then are we still requiring a vaccine to enter our borders for legal travelers? Again, reminding everyone that for illegal travelers entering across the southern border, we are not requiring it.

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

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN).

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

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. ROSE

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 4 printed in House Report 118-3.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following new section:
SEC. 2. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act may be construed to suggest that the provisions of section 1 shall effect the order issued by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention entitled "Requirements for Negative Pre-Departure COVID-19 Test Results or Documentation of Recovery from COVID-19 for Aircraft Passengers Traveling to the United States From the People's Republic of China" and published in the Federal Register on January 5, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 864) for proof of negative pre-departure COVID-19 test results or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 for aircraft passengers traveling to the United States from the People's Republic of China or departing from a designated airport if such passenger has been in the People's Republic of China within the 10 days prior to departure for the United States.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 97, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of my amendment to H.R. 185, and I thank my friend from Kentucky, Mr. MASSIE, for introducing this important piece of legislation.

We all know that the People's Republic of China has not been transparent regarding its handling of the COVID crisis.

My amendment is simple. This amendment will add language to the underlying bill to clarify that no provisions in the bill shall affect the order issued by the CDC requiring negative COVID-19 tests or proof of recovery from COVID-19 for travelers coming from the People's Republic of China.

A Bloomberg news article from last month said that: "After years of meticulously testing to find every last case of COVID-19, Chinese President Xi Jinping is now effectively looking the other way as the virus ravages the nation's 1.4 billion people."

Mr. Chair, we cannot fall asleep at the wheel when it comes to protecting

our Nation, its people, and our safety with respect to the adversarial and all-too-often nefarious actions and intentions of the People's Republic of China.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment, although I may not necessarily be opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentlewoman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, any effort to keep the existing protocols for China are appropriate, but I rise today with great concern about the underlying bill, H.R. 185, which is to terminate the requirement imposed by the director of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID-19 vaccination for foreign travelers.

It is not the CDC, based on science, that is attempting to do this, or the administration, based on the multiple levels of science, Health and Human Services, CDC, and NIH that may contribute to this decision. It is Congress, that certainly has its role of authority, but it is not authority based on science and based on knowledge.

I believe this is a hasty attempt to reverse the order issued by the Centers for Disease Control. As well, I believe it imposes important restrictions by the CDC on the entry of noncitizens into the United States by air travel unless they are fully vaccinated.

We know that there are discussions going on about ending certain protocols with COVID-19. But as the President said last night, we lost a million Americans. People are still mourning their loved ones. We understand, with that in mind, we are still seeing people die of COVID-19 and many of its, in essence, other aspects of infectious diseases, and we are seeing COVID-19 still actively exist.

People with underlying conditions suffer greatly. Restrictions have been implemented and enforced worldwide, and countries like Thailand have had to re-implement such restrictions after lifting them.

Now is not the time to go back on protections, only to be in a place where we will need to reimpose more onerous and unwanted lockdowns and shutdowns. Yet, H.R. 185 would nullify any successor or subsequent orders that require foreign persons traveling by air to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of entry, as well as prohibit the use of Federal funds to administer and enforce such a requirement.

Mr. Chair, this is not logical or sensible. This is a country of over 300 million persons. Again, this is a Nation that lost a million persons. I will say it again: People are still dying of COVID-19.

The well-being of the American people should be our first priority. Since March of 2020, I proceeded to provide

any number of testing sites and vaccination sites. We saw our hospitals teeming. We, of course, reached out to the chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee, as we were desperate to get tests and vaccines.

I spoke to New York hospitals and doctors who were telling me that their hallways were teeming, their operating rooms were nonexistent, because there were COVID patients everywhere. Many of us remember the stark look of the refrigerator cars not only in this Nation but around the world.

So I am hesitant that at this point we make a decision on the floor of the House, not a scientific report, not a hearing in a committee, to be able to suggest that we could go ahead and remove this particular health caution protection.

Again, COVID-19 cases have been 1,058,000 confirmed in our area, 7,839 active cases now, and 1 million persons recovered. There have been 8,589 deaths. Texas, as a State, has recorded 8.24 million cases and 93,366 deaths.

We are a border State, and so we have the opportunity for people to come in from foreign countries, as well as South and Central America, who come into the United States, and I am saying through legal travel. So it doesn't make sense to go to this length and to do it without further study, further science, and as well for the recognition of the importance of the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health, Health and Human Services, and the President of the United States, who is the leader of this Nation.

So in working with the executive, I believe that we should give them the opportunity to work constructively and to be able to give the right kind of guidance that will protect all of us. We should not precipitously try to overcome a disease that is evident as a major killer of Americans.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to oppose the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chair, just a few days ago, we saw the People's Republic of China send a high-altitude surveillance balloon over our airspace spanning almost the entire continental United States. No one believes the government of China's ludicrous explanation that this was simply a weather balloon that inadvertently went off course. If the Chinese Government is willing to make such a bald-faced lie to the world, then how can we possibly trust the information they are releasing regarding the current COVID crisis in China?

The easy answer is: We can't. Because we can't trust the Chinese Government to be transparent and honest about the scope of their current COVID crisis, we must take appropriate precautions. Continuing to test travelers from China is essential to our national safety. A vote for this amendment is a vote in favor of holding China account-

able and ensuring the safety of our Nation and its people.

In closing, I urge Members to vote "yes" on my amendment and the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

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

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MRS. TORRES OF CALIFORNIA

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in House Report 118-3.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following new section:
SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of section 1 shall not take effect until the date on which the Secretary of Health and Human Services submits to Congress a certification that such provisions will not result in an increase in hospitalizations due to COVID-19.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 97, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer amendment No. 5 to H.R. 185.

The decision to change COVID-19 vaccine requirements for global travelers into the United States should not be made by Members of Congress but instead by public health experts.

Colleagues, if we must continue with this reckless bill that puts politics over science by replacing guidance from our public health experts with harmful ideology at the expense of our communities, our hospitals, and our health, then I would ask for your support for my amendment.

Knowing that other countries have different health standards, have little access to vaccines for COVID, why would you risk the number of hospital beds that are currently available for yourselves, your families, your community that you represent, why would you risk that to allow visitors who are traveling into the United States to not show the bare minimum of having had a vaccine?

My amendment would require that the Secretary of Health and Human Services certify that the end of the COVID-19 vaccination requirement for foreign air travelers will not result in an increase in U.S. hospitalizations due to this deadly virus.

We do not want to threaten the progress that we have made in our fight against the COVID-19 pandemic and push hospitals, healthcare providers, and public health resources past their breaking points again.

COVID-19 is still a public health threat, with new variants of concern having emerged globally and entering the U.S. every single day.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to please, if you must move forward with this bill, vote in support of this commonsense amendment to protect our constituents, our hospitals, and our healthcare system.

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

□ 1515

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The CHAIR. The gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I want to reiterate, as a physician, I believe the vaccines are safe and effective, and I would hope that people can make the personal choice to get vaccinated. It should be just that, their personal choice, not the choice of the Federal Government.

The CDC itself has acknowledged the vaccine does not prevent transmission, so termination of this burdensome and unnecessary mandate should not play any role in the increase in hospitalizations.

Based on the current science and what we know regarding how COVID-19 spreads, any individual person should have the right to choose whether to get the vaccine or not.

Further, we have seen that President Biden and Secretary Becerra are unwilling to relinquish any power or authority from the COVID-19 pandemic, leaving in order ridiculous guidance long past the date indicated it is necessary or useful. I have no doubt Secretary Becerra would refuse to certify this, so a vote for this amendment would delay or even prevent totally the repeal of this ridiculous mandate.

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

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES).

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

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

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

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Chair, I move that the committee now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MASSIE) having assumed the chair, Mr. KILEY, Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union,

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Ms. MATSUI changed their vote from "no" to "aye."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 253, noes 168, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 111]

AYES—253

Aderholt	Edwards	Kelly (MS)
Alford	Ellzey	Kelly (PA)
Allen	Emmer	Kiggans (VA)
Amodei	Estes	Kildee
Armstrong	Evans	Kiley
Arrington	Ezell	Kim (CA)
Babin	Fallon	Kim (NJ)
Bacon	Feenstra	Krishnamoorthi
Baird	Ferguson	Kustoff
Balderson	Finstad	LaHood
Banks	Fischbach	LaLota
Barr	Fitzgerald	Lamborn
Bean (FL)	Fitzpatrick	Langworthy
Bentz	Fleischmann	Latta
Bergman	Flood	LaTurner
Bice	Foster	Lawler
Biggs	Fox	Lee (FL)
Billirakis	Franklin, C.	Lesko
Bishop (NC)	Scott	Letlow
Blunt Rochester	Fry	Loudermilk
Boebert	Fulcher	Lucas
Bost	Gaetz	Luetkemeyer
Brecheen	Garbarino	Luna
Brownley	Garcia, Mike	Luttrell
Buchanan	Gimenez	Malliotakis
Buck	Golden (ME)	Mann
Bucshon	Gonzales, Tony	Massie
Burchett	González-Colón	Mast
Burgess	Good (VA)	McCarthy
Burlison	Gooden (TX)	McClain
Calvert	Gosar	McClintock
Cammack	Gottheimer	McCormick
Caraveo	Granger	McHenry
Carey	Graves (LA)	Miller (IL)
Carl	Graves (MO)	Miller (OH)
Carson	Green (TN)	Miller (WV)
Carter (GA)	Greene (GA)	Miller-Meeks
Carter (TX)	Griffith	Mills
Case	Grothman	Molinaro
Chavez-DeRemer	Guest	Moolenaar
Ciscomani	Guthrie	Mooney
Cline	Hageman	Moore (AL)
Cloud	Harder (CA)	Moore (UT)
Clyde	Harris	Moran
Cole	Harshbarger	Moskowitz
Collins	Hayes	Moulton
Comer	Hern	Moylan
Correa	Higgins (LA)	Murphy
Courtney	Hill	Nehls
Crane	Himes	Newhouse
Crawford	Hinson	Nickel
Crenshaw	Houchin	Norman
Cuellar	Houlahan	Nunn (IA)
Curtis	Hudson	Oberholte
D'Esposito	Huizenga	Ogles
Davidson	Issa	Owens
Davis (NC)	Jackson (TX)	Palmer
De La Cruz	James	Panetta
DesJarlais	Johnson (LA)	Pappas
Diaz-Balart	Johnson (OH)	Pence
Donalds	Johnson (SD)	Perez
Duarte	Joyce (OH)	Perry
Duncan	Joyce (PA)	Peters
Dunn (FL)	Kaptur	Pfleger
	Kean (NJ)	Posey

Radewagen	Self
Reschenthaler	Sessions
Rodgers (WA)	Simpson
Rogers (AL)	Slotkin
Rogers (KY)	Smith (MO)
Rose	Smith (NJ)
Rosendale	Smucker
Rouzer	Sorensen
Roy	Spanberger
Ruppersberger	Spartz
Rutherford	Stauber
Ryan	Steel
Salazar	Stefanik
Salinas	Steil
Santos	Stewart
Scalise	Strong
Schrier	Tenney
Schweikert	Thompson (PA)
Scott (VA)	Tiffany
Scott, Austin	Timmons

NOES—168

Aguilar	Garcia, Robert	Pelosi
Alfred	Goldman (NY)	Peltola
Auchincloss	Gomez	Pettersen
Balint	Green, Al (TX)	Phillips
Barragán	Grijalva	Pingree
Beatty	Horsford	Plaskett
Bera	Hoyer	Porter
Beyer	Hoyle (OR)	Pressley
Bishop (GA)	Huffman	Quigley
Blumenauer	Ivey	Ramirez
Bonamici	Jackson (IL)	Raskin
Bowman	Jackson (NC)	Ross
Boyle (PA)	Jackson Lee	Ruiz
Brown	Jacobs	Sablan
Budzinski	Jayapal	Sánchez
Bush	Jeffries	Sarbanes
Carbajal	Johnson (GA)	Scanlon
Cárdenas	Kamlager-Dove	Schakowsky
Carter (LA)	Keating	Schiff
Cartwright	Kelly (IL)	Schneider
Casas	Khanna	Scholten
Casten	Kilmer	Scott, David
Castor (FL)	Landsman	Sewell
Castro (TX)	Larsen (WA)	Sherman
Cherfilus-	Lee (CA)	Sherrill
McCormick	Lee (NV)	Smith (WA)
Chu	Lee (PA)	Soto
Cicilline	Leger Fernandez	Stansbury
Clark (MA)	Levin	Stanton
Clarke (NY)	Lieu	Stevens
Cleaver	Lofgren	Strickland
Clyburn	Lynch	Swalwell
Cohen	Mace	Sykes
Connolly	Magaziner	Takano
Costa	Matsui	Thanedar
Craig	McBath	Thompson (CA)
Crockett	McCollum	Thompson (MS)
Crow	McGarvey	Titus
Davis (IL)	McGovern	Tlaib
Dean (PA)	Meeks	Tokuda
DeGette	Menendez	Tonko
DeLauro	Meng	Torres (CA)
DelBene	Mfume	Torres (NY)
Deluzio	Moore (WI)	Trahan
DeSaulnier	Morale	Trone
Dingell	Mrvan	Underwood
Doggett	Mullin	Vargas
Escobar	Nadler	Vasquez
Eshoo	Napolitano	Veasey
Espailat	Neal	Velázquez
Fletcher	Neguse	Wasserman
Foushee	Norcross	Schultz
Frankel, Lois	Norton	Waters
Frost	Ocasio-Cortez	Watson Coleman
Gallego	Pallone	Wild
Garamendi	Pascarell	Williams (GA)
Garcia (TX)	Payne	

NOT VOTING—19

Adams	Jordan	Omar
Gallagher	Kuster	Pocan
Garcia (IL)	LaMalfa	Smith (NE)
Gonzalez,	Larson (CT)	Steube
Vicente	Manning	Wilson (FL)
Higgins (NY)	McCauley	Wilson (SC)
Hunt	Meuser	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1628

So the amendment was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.
Stated for:

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Chair, I missed the 2 minute vote while speaking to the press. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye” on rollcall No. 111.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. GOLDEN OF MAINE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Maine (Mr. GOLDEN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 207, noes 220, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 112]

AYES—207

Adams	Fletcher	Moore (WI)
Aguilar	Foster	Morelle
Allred	Foushee	Moskowitz
Auchincloss	Frankel, Lois	Moulton
Balint	Frost	Mrvan
Barragán	Gallego	Mullin
Beatty	Garcia (TX)	Nadler
Bera	Garcia, Robert	Napolitano
Beyer	Golden (ME)	Neal
Bishop (GA)	Goldman (NY)	Neguse
Blumenauer	Gomez	Nickel
Blunt Rochester	Gonzalez,	Norcross
Bonamici	Vicente	Norton
Bowman	Gottheimer	Ocasio-Cortez
Boyle (PA)	Green, Al (TX)	Pallone
Brown	Grijalva	Panetta
Brownley	Harder (CA)	Pappas
Budzinski	Hayes	Pascarell
Bush	Higgins (NY)	Payne
Caraveo	Himes	Pelosi
Carbajal	Horsford	Peltola
Cárdenas	Houlahan	Perez
Carson	Hoyer	Peters
Carter (LA)	Hoyle (OR)	Pettersen
Cartwright	Huffman	Phillips
Casas	Ivey	Pingree
Case	Jackson (IL)	Plaskett
Casten	Jackson (NC)	Porter
Castor (FL)	Jackson Lee	Pressley
Castro (TX)	Jacobs	Quigley
Cherfilus-	Jayapal	Ramirez
McCormick	Jeffries	Raskin
Chu	Johnson (GA)	Ross
Cicilline	Kamlager-Dove	Ruiz
Clark (MA)	Kaptur	Ruppersberger
Clarke (NY)	Keating	Ryan
Cleaver	Kelly (IL)	Sablan
Clyburn	Khanna	Salinas
Cohen	Kildee	Sánchez
Connolly	Kilmer	Sarbanes
Correa	Kim (NJ)	Scanlon
Costa	Krishnamoorthi	Schakowsky
Courtney	Landsman	Schiff
Craig	Larsen (WA)	Schneider
Crockett	Lee (CA)	Scholten
Crow	Lee (NV)	Schrier
Cuellar	Lee (PA)	Scott (VA)
Davids (KS)	Leger Fernandez	Scott, David
Davis (IL)	Levin	Sewell
Davis (NC)	Lofgren	Sherman
Dean (PA)	Lynch	Sherrill
DeGette	Magaziner	Slotkin
DeLauro	Manning	Smith (WA)
DelBene	Matsui	Sorensen
Deluzio	McBath	Soto
DeSaulnier	McCollum	Spanberger
Dingell	McGarvey	Stansbury
Doggett	McGovern	Stanton
Escobar	Meeks	Stevens
Eshoo	Menendez	Strickland
Espailat	Meng	Swalwell
Evans	Mfume	Sykes

Thanedar	Torres (NY)	Wasserman
Thompson (CA)	Trahan	Schultz
Thompson (MS)	Trone	Waters
Titus	Underwood	Watson Coleman
Tlaib	Vargas	Wexton
Tokuda	Vasquez	Wild
Tonko	Veasey	Williams (GA)
Torres (CA)	Velázquez	Wilson (FL)

□ 1632

Ms. GARCIA of Texas changed her vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chair, I miscast my vote on rollcall No. 112 this evening on Amendment No. 3 offered by Representative JARED F. GOLDEN (D-ME) and MARIE GLUESENKAMP PEREZ (D-WA) to H.R. 185. My vote was recorded as “No” when I intended to vote “Aye.”

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. ROSE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 426, noes 8, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 113]

AYES—426

NOES—220

Aderholt	Garamendi	Mills
Alford	Garbarino	Molinaro
Allen	Garcia, Mike	Moolenaar
Amodei	Gimenez	Mooney
Armstrong	Gonzales, Tony	Moore (AL)
Arrington	González-Colón	Moore (UT)
Babin	Good (VA)	Moran
Bacon	Gooden (TX)	Moylan
Baird	Gosar	Murphy
Balderson	Granger	Nehls
Banks	Graves (LA)	Newhouse
Barr	Graves (MO)	Norman
Bean (FL)	Green (TN)	Nunn (IA)
Bentz	Greene (GA)	Obernoite
Bergman	Griffith	Ogles
Bice	Grothman	Owens
Bilirakis	Guest	Palmer
Bishop (NC)	Guthrie	Pence
Boebert	Hageman	Perry
Bost	Harris	Pfuger
Brecheen	Harshbarger	Posey
Buchanan	Hern	Radewagen
Buck	Hill	Reschenthaler
Bucshon	Hinson	Rodgers (WA)
Burchett	Houchin	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Hudson	Rogers (KY)
Burlison	Huizenga	Rose
Calvert	Issa	Rosendale
Cammack	Jackson (TX)	Rouzer
Carey	James	Roy
Carl	Johnson (LA)	Rutherford
Carter (GA)	Johnson (OH)	Salazar
Carter (TX)	Johnson (SD)	Santos
Chavez-DeRemer	Jordan	Scalise
Ciscomani	Joyce (OH)	Schweikert
Cline	Joyce (PA)	Scott, Austin
Cloud	Kean (NJ)	Self
Clyde	Kelly (MS)	Sessions
Cole	Kelly (PA)	Simpson
Collins	Kiggans (VA)	Smith (MO)
Comer	Kiley	Smith (NE)
Crawford	Kim (CA)	Smith (NJ)
Crenshaw	Kustoff	Smucker
Curtis	LaHood	Spartz
D'Esposito	LaLota	Staubert
Davidson	LaMalfa	Steel
De La Cruz	Lamborn	Stefanik
DesJarlais	Langworthy	Steil
Diaz-Balart	Latta	Stewart
Donalds	LaTurner	Strong
Duarte	Lawler	Tenney
Duncan	Lee (FL)	Thompson (PA)
Dunn (FL)	Lesko	Tiffany
Edwards	Letlow	Timmons
Ellzey	Lucas	Titus
Emmer	Luetkemeyer	Tokuda
Estes	Luna	Tonko
Ezell	Luttrell	Torres (CA)
Fallon	Mace	Torres (NY)
Feenstra	Malliotakis	Trahan
Ferguson	Mann	Trone
Finstad	Massie	Turner
Fischbach	Mast	Underwood
Fitzgerald	McCarthy	Valadao
Fitzpatrick	McCaul	Van Drew
Fleischmann	McClain	Van Dyne
Flood	McClintock	Van Orden
Foxx	McCormick	Vargas
Franklin, C.	McHenry	Vasquez
Scott	Meuser	Veasey
Fry	Miller (IL)	Velázquez
Fulcher	Miller (OH)	Wagner
Gaetz	Miller (WV)	Walberg
Gallagher	Miller-Meeks	Waltz

NOT VOTING—13

Biggs	Kuster	Pocan
Crane	Larson (CT)	Steube
Garcia (IL)	Lieu	Takano
Higgins (LA)	Loudermilk	
Hunt	Omar	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

Adams	Carey	Deluzio
Aderholt	Carl	DeSaulnier
Agullar	Carson	DesJarlais
Alford	Carter (GA)	Diaz-Balart
Allen	Carter (LA)	Dingell
Allred	Carter (TX)	Doggett
Amodei	Cartwright	Donalds
Armstrong	Case	Duarte
Arrington	Casten	Duncan
Auchincloss	Castor (FL)	Dunn (FL)
Babin	Castro (TX)	Edwards
Bacon	Chavez-DeRemer	Ellzey
Baird	Cherfilus-	Emmer
Balderson	McCormick	Escobar
Balint	Chu	Eshoo
Banks	Cicilline	Espallat
Barr	Estes	Kildee
Barragán	Ciscomani	Kiley
Bean (FL)	Clark (MA)	Kilmer
Beatty	Clarke (NY)	Kim (CA)
Bentz	Cleaver	Kim (NJ)
Bera	Cline	Krishnamoorthi
Bergman	Cloud	Kustoff
Beyer	Clyburn	LaHood
Bice	Clyde	Finstad
Biggs	Cohen	Fischbach
Bilirakis	Cole	Fitzgerald
Bishop (GA)	Collins	Fitzpatrick
Bishop (NC)	Comer	Fleischmann
Blumenauer	Connolly	Fletcher
Blunt Rochester	Correa	Flood
Boebert	Costa	Foster
Bonamici	Courtney	Foushee
Bost	Craig	Foxx
Boyle (PA)	Crane	Frankel, Lois
Brecheen	Crawford	Franklin, C.
Brown	Crenshaw	Scott
Brownley	Crockett	Frost
Buchanan	Crow	Fry
Buck	Cuellar	Fulcher
Bucshon	Curtis	Gaetz
Budzinski	D'Esposito	Gallagher
Burchett	Davids (KS)	Galleo
Burgess	Davidson	Garamendi
Burlison	Davis (IL)	Garbarino
Calvert	Davis (NC)	Garcia (TX)
Cammack	De La Cruz	Garcia, Mike
Caraveo	Dean (PA)	Garcia, Robert
Carbajal	DeGette	Gimenez
Cárdenas	DeLauro	Golden (ME)
	DeBene	Goldman (NY)
		Gomez

Gonzales, Tony	Luttrell	Ryan
Gonzalez,	Lynch	Sablan
Vicente	Mace	Salazar
González-Colón	Magaziner	Salinas
Good (VA)	Malliotakis	Sánchez
Gooden (TX)	Mann	Santos
Gosar	Manning	Sarbanes
Gottheimer	Massie	Scalise
Granger	Mast	Scanlon
Graves (LA)	Matsui	Schakowsky
Graves (MO)	McBath	Schiff
Green (TN)	McCarthy	Schneider
Green, Al (TX)	McCaul	Scholten
Greene (GA)	McClain	Schrier
Griffith	McClintock	Schweikert
Grijalva	McCollum	Scott (VA)
Grothman	McCormick	Scott, Austin
Guest	McGarvey	Scott, David
Guthrie	McGovern	Self
Hageman	McHenry	Sessions
Harder (CA)	Meeks	Sewell
Harris	Menendez	Sherman
Harshbarger	Meng	Sherrill
Hayes	Meuser	Slotkin
Hern	Mfume	Smith (MO)
Higgins (LA)	Miller (IL)	Smith (NE)
Higgins (NY)	Miller (OH)	Smith (NJ)
Hill	Miller (WV)	Smith (WA)
Himes	Miller-Meeks	Smucker
Hinson	Mills	Sorensen
Horsford	Molinaro	Soto
Houchin	Moolenaar	Spanberger
Houlahan	Mooney	Spartz
Hoyer	Moore (AL)	Stansbury
Hoyle (OR)	Moore (UT)	Stanton
Hudson	Moore (WI)	Staubert
Huffman	Moran	Steel
Huizenga	Morelle	Stefanik
Issa	Moskowitz	Steil
Ivey	Moulton	Stevens
Jackson (IL)	Moylan	Stewart
Jackson (NC)	Mirman	Strickland
Jackson (TX)	Mullin	Strong
Jackson Lee	Murphy	Swalwell
Jacobs	Nadler	Sykes
James	Napolitano	Takano
Jayapal	Neal	Tenney
Jeffries	Neguse	Thanedar
Johnson (GA)	Nehls	Thompson (CA)
Johnson (LA)	Newhouse	Thompson (MS)
Johnson (OH)	Nickel	Thompson (PA)
Johnson (SD)	Norcross	Tiffany
Jordan	Norman	Timmons
Joyce (OH)	Norton	Titus
Joyce (PA)	Nunn (IA)	Tokuda
Kamlager-Dove	Obernoite	Tonko
Kaptur	Ocasio-Cortez	Torres (CA)
Kean (NJ)	Ogles	Torres (NY)
Keating	Owens	Trahan
Kelly (IL)	Pallone	Trone
Kelly (MS)	Palmer	Turner
Kelly (PA)	Panetta	Underwood
Khanna	Pappas	Valadao
Kiggans (VA)	Pascrell	Van Drew
Kildee	Payne	Van Dyne
Kiley	Pelosi	Van Orden
Kilmer	Pence	Vargas
Kim (CA)	Perez	Vasquez
Kim (NJ)	Perry	Veasey
Krishnamoorthi	Peters	Velázquez
Kustoff	Pettersen	Wagner
LaHood	Pfuger	Walberg
LaLota	Phillips	Waltz
LaMalfa	Pingree	Wasserman
Lamborn	Plaskett	Schultz
Landsman	Porter	Waters
Langworthy	Posey	Watson Coleman
Larsen (WA)	Pressley	Weber (TX)
Latta	Quigley	Webster (FL)
LaTurner	Radewagen	Wenstrup
Lawler	Ramirez	Westerman
Lee (CA)	Raskin	Wexton
Lee (FL)	Reschenthaler	Wild
Lee (NV)	Rodgers (WA)	Williams (GA)
Leger Fernandez	Rogers (AL)	Williams (NY)
Lesko	Rogers (KY)	Williams (TX)
Letlow	Rose	Wilson (FL)
Levin	Rosendale	Wilson (SC)
Lieu	Ross	Wittman
Lofgren	Rouzer	Womack
Loudermilk	Roy	Yakym
Lucas	Ruiz	Zinke
Luetkemeyer	Ruppersberger	
Luna	Rutherford	

NOES—8

Bowman	Lee (PA)	Simpson
Bush	Omar	Tlaib
Casar	Peltola	

NOT VOTING—6

Garcia (IL) Kuster Pocan
Hunt Larson (CT) Steube

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1636

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Chair, I was recorded as
“no,” but I intended to vote “aye” on rollcall
No. 113.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MRS. TORRES OF
CALIFORNIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on the amendment offered by the
gentlewoman from California (Mrs.
TORRES) on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the noes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 209, noes 224,
not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 114]

AYES—209

Adams Davis (IL) Keating
Aguilar Davis (NC) Kelly (IL)
Allred Dean (PA) Khanna
Auchincloss DeGette Kildee
Balint DeLauro Kilmer
Barragán DelBene Kim (NJ)
Beatty Deluzio Krishnamoorthi
Bera DeSaulnier Landsman
Beyer Dingell Larsen (WA)
Bishop (GA) Doggett Lee (CA)
Blumenauer Escobar Lee (NV)
Blunt Rochester Eshoo Lee (PA)
Bonamici Espallat Leger Fernandez
Bowman Evans Levin
Boyle (PA) Fletcher Lieu
Brown Foster Lofgren
Brownley Foushee Lynch
Budzinski Frankel, Lois
Bush Frost
Caraveo Gallego Matsui
Carbajal Garamendi McBath
Cárdenas Garcia (TX) McCollum
Carson Garcia, Robert McGarvey
Carter (LA) Goldman (NY) McGovern
Cartwright Gomez
Casar Gonzalez, Menendez
Case Vicente Meng
Casten Gottheimer Mfume
Castor (FL) Green, Al (TX) Moore (WI)
Castro (TX) Harder (CA) Morelle
Cherfilus Hayes Moskowitz
McCormick Higgins (NY) Moulton
Chu Himes Mrvan
Cicilline Horsford Mullin
Clark (MA) Houlihan Nadler
Clarke (NY) Hoyer Napolitano
Cleave Hoyle (OR) Neal
Clyburn Huffman Neguse
Cohen Ivey Nickel
Connolly Jackson (IL) Norcross
Correa Jackson (NC) Norton
Costa Jackson Lee Ocasio-Cortez
Courtney Jacobs Omar
Craig Jayapal Pallone
Crockett Jeffries Panetta
Crow Johnson (GA) Pappas
Cuellar Kamlager-Dove Pascrell
Davids (KS) Kaptur Payne

Pelosi
Peltola
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Elizy
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher

NOES—224

Gaetz
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
González-Colón
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser

Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weston
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)

Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOT VOTING—7

Garcia (IL) Kuster Steube
Grijalva Larson (CT)
Hunt Pocan

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (Ms. LEE of Flor-
ida)(during the vote). There is 1 minute
remaining.

□ 1641

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR. There being no
further amendments, the Committee
rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose;
and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr.
BACON) having assumed the chair, Ms.
LEE of Florida, Acting Chair of the
Committee of the Whole House on the
state of the Union, reported that that
Committee, having had under consider-
ation the bill (H.R. 185) to terminate
the requirement imposed by the Direc-
tor of the Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention for proof of COVID-19
vaccination for foreign travelers, and
for other purposes and, pursuant to
House Resolution 97, she reported the
bill back to the House with sundry
amendments adopted in the Committee
of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under
the rule, the previous question is or-
dered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any
amendment reported from the Com-
mittee of the Whole? If not, the Chair
will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The
question is on the engrossment and
third reading of the bill.

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

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Ms. SCHRIER. Mr. Speaker, I have a
motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The
Clerk will report the motion to recom-
mit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Schrier moves to recommit the bill
H.R. 185 to the Committee on Energy and
Commerce.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursu-
ant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the pre-
vious question is ordered on the motion
to recommit.

The question is on the motion to re-
commit.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. SCHRIER. Mr. Speaker, I de-
mand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursu-
ant to clause 9 of rule XX, this is a 5-
minute vote on the motion to recom-
mit and it will be followed by a 5-
minute vote on passage of the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 208, noes 220,
not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 115]

AYES—208

Adams	Golden (ME)	Pappas
Aguilar	Goldman (NY)	Pascarell
Allred	Gomez	Payne
Auchincloss	Gonzalez,	Pelosi
Balint	Vicente	Peltola
Barragán	Gottheimer	Perez
Beatty	Green, Al (TX)	Peters
Bera	Grijalva	Pettersen
Beyer	Harder (CA)	Phillips
Bishop (GA)	Hayes	Pingree
Blumenauer	Higgins (NY)	Porter
Blunt Rochester	Himes	Pressley
Bonamici	Horsford	Quigley
Bowman	Houlahan	Ramirez
Boyle (PA)	Hoyer	Raskin
Brown	Hoyle (OR)	Ross
Brownley	Huffman	Ruiz
Budzinski	Ivey	Ruppersberger
Bush	Jackson (IL)	Ryan
Caraveo	Jackson (NC)	Salinas
Carbajal	Jackson Lee	Sánchez
Cárdenas	Jacobs	Sarbanes
Carson	Jayapal	Scanlon
Carter (LA)	Jeffries	Schakowsky
Cartwright	Johnson (GA)	Schiff
Casar	Kamlager-Dove	Schneider
Case	Kaptur	Scholten
Casten	Keating	Schrier
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Scott (VA)
Castro (TX)	Khanna	Scott, David
Cherfilus-	Kildee	Sewell
McCormick	Kilmer	Sherman
Chu	Kim (NJ)	Sherrill
Cicilline	Krishnamoorthi	Slotkin
Clark (MA)	Landsman	Smith (WA)
Clarke (NY)	Larsen (WA)	Sorensen
Cleaver	Lee (CA)	Soto
Clyburn	Lee (NV)	Spanberger
Cohen	Lee (PA)	Stansbury
Connolly	Leger Fernandez	Stanton
Correa	Levin	Stevens
Costa	Lieu	Strickland
Courtney	Lofgren	Swalwell
Craig	Lynch	Sykes
Crockett	Magaziner	Takano
Crow	Manning	Thamedar
Cuellar	Matsui	Thompson (CA)
Davids (KS)	McBath	Thompson (MS)
Davis (IL)	McCollum	Titus
Davis (NC)	McGarvey	Tlaib
Dean (PA)	McGovern	Tokuda
DeGette	Meeks	Tonko
DeLauro	Menendez	Torres (CA)
DelBene	Meng	Torres (NY)
Deluzio	Mfume	Trahan
DeSaulnier	Moore (WI)	Trone
Dingell	Morelle	Underwood
Doggett	Moskowitz	Vargas
Escobar	Moulton	Vasquez
Eshoo	Mrvan	Veasey
Espallat	Mullin	Velázquez
Evans	Nadler	Wasserman
Fletcher	Napolitano	Schultz
Foster	Neal	Waters
Foushee	Neguse	Watson Coleman
Frankel, Lois	Nickel	Wexton
Frost	Norcross	Wild
Galleo	Ocasio-Cortez	Williams (GA)
Garamendi	Omar	Wilson (FL)
Garcia (TX)	Pallone	
Garcia, Robert	Panetta	

NOES—220

Aderholt	Buck	D'Esposito
Alford	Bucshon	Davidson
Allen	Burchett	De La Cruz
Amodei	Burgess	DesJarlais
Armstrong	Burlison	Diaz-Balart
Arrington	Calvert	Donalds
Babin	Cammack	Duarte
Bacon	Carey	Duncan
Baird	Carl	Dunn (FL)
Balderson	Carter (GA)	Edwards
Banks	Carter (TX)	Ellzey
Barr	Chavez-DeRemer	Emmer
Bean (FL)	Ciscomani	Estes
Bentz	Cline	Ezell
Bergman	Cloud	Fallon
Bice	Clyde	Feenstra
Biggs	Cole	Ferguson
Billirakis	Collins	Finstad
Bishop (NC)	Comer	Fischbach
Boebert	Crane	Fitzgerald
Bost	Crawford	Fitzpatrick
Brecheen	Crenshaw	Fleischmann
Buchanan	Curtis	Flood

Foxx	LaMalfa	Rodgers (WA)
Franklin, C.	Lamborn	Rogers (AL)
Scott	Langworthy	Rogers (KY)
Fry	Latta	Rose
Fulcher	LaTurner	Rosendale
Gaetz	Lawler	Rouzer
Gallagher	Lee (FL)	Roy
Garbarino	Lesko	Rutherford
Garcia, Mike	Letlow	Salazar
Gimenez	Loudermilk	Santos
Gonzales, Tony	Lucas	Scalise
Good (VA)	Luetkemeyer	Schweikert
Gooden (TX)	Luna	Scott, Austin
Gosar	Luttrell	Self
Granger	Mace	Sessions
Graves (LA)	Malliotakis	Simpson
Graves (MO)	Mann	Smith (MO)
Green (TN)	Massie	Smith (NE)
Greene (GA)	Mast	Smith (NJ)
Griffith	McCarthy	Smucker
Grothman	McCaul	Spartz
Guest	McClain	Staubert
Guthrie	McClintock	Steel
Hageman	McCormick	Stefanik
Harris	McHenry	Steil
Harshbarger	Meuser	Stewart
Hern	Miller (IL)	Strong
Higgins (LA)	Miller (OH)	Tenney
Hill	Miller (WV)	Thompson (PA)
Hinson	Miller-Meeks	Tiffany
Houchin	Mills	Timmons
Hudson	Molinaro	Turner
Huizenga	Mooleenaar	Valadao
Issa	Mooney	Van Drew
Jackson (TX)	Moore (AL)	Van Dwyne
James	Moore (UT)	Van Orden
Johnson (LA)	Moran	Wagner
Johnson (OH)	Murphy	Walberg
Johnson (SD)	Nehls	Waltz
Jordan	Newhouse	Weber (TX)
Joyce (OH)	Norman	Webster (FL)
Joyce (PA)	Nunn (IA)	Wenstrup
Kean (NJ)	Obernolte	Westerman
Kelly (MS)	Ogles	Williams (NY)
Kelly (PA)	Owens	Williams (TX)
Kiggin (VA)	Palmer	Wilson (SC)
Kiley	Pence	Wittman
Kim (CA)	Perry	Womack
Kustoff	Pfuger	Yakym
LaHood	Posey	Zinke
LaLota	Reschenthaler	

NOT VOTING—6

Garcia (IL)	Kuster	Pocan
Hunt	Larson (CT)	Steube

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1649

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 227, nays 201, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 116]

YEAS—227

Aderholt	Bean (FL)	Bucshon
Alford	Bentz	Burchett
Allen	Bergman	Burgess
Amodei	Bice	Burlison
Armstrong	Biggs	Calvert
Arrington	Billirakis	Cammack
Babin	Bishop (NC)	Carey
Bacon	Boebert	Carl
Baird	Bost	Carter (GA)
Balderson	Brecheen	Carter (TX)
Banks	Buchanan	Chavez-DeRemer
Barr	Buck	Ciscomani

Cline	Hill	Newhouse
Cloud	Hinson	Norman
Clyde	Horsford	Nunn (IA)
Cole	Houchin	Obernolte
Collins	Hudson	Ogles
Comer	Huizenga	Owens
Craig	Issa	Palmer
Crane	Jackson (TX)	Pappas
Crawford	James	Pence
Crenshaw	Johnson (LA)	Perry
Curtis	Johnson (OH)	Pfuger
D'Esposito	Johnson (SD)	Posey
Davidson	Jordan	Reschenthaler
Davis (NC)	Joyce (OH)	Rodgers (WA)
De La Cruz	Joyce (PA)	Rogers (AL)
DesJarlais	Kean (NJ)	Rogers (KY)
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (MS)	Rose
Donalds	Kelly (PA)	Rosendale
Duarte	Kiggans (VA)	Rouzer
Duncan	Kiley	Roy
Dunn (FL)	Kim (CA)	Rutherford
Edwards	Kustoff	Salazar
Ellzey	LaHood	Santos
Emmer	LaLota	Scalise
Estes	LaMalfa	Schweikert
Ezell	Lamborn	Scott, Austin
Fallon	Langworthy	Self
Feenstra	Latta	Sessions
Ferguson	LaTurner	Simpson
Finstad	Lawler	Smith (MO)
Fischbach	Lee (FL)	Smith (NE)
Fitzgerald	Lee (NV)	Smith (NJ)
Fitzpatrick	Lesko	Smucker
Fleischmann	Letlow	Staubert
Flood	Loudermilk	Steel
Foxx	Lucas	Stefanik
Franklin, C.	Luetkemeyer	Steil
Scott	Luna	Stewart
Fry	Luttrell	Strong
Fulcher	Mace	Tenney
Gaetz	Malliotakis	Thompson (PA)
Gallagher	Mann	Tiffany
Garbarino	Massie	Timmons
Garcia, Mike	Mast	Titus
Gimenez	McCarthy	Turner
Gonzales, Tony	McCaul	Valadao
Good (VA)	McClain	Van Drew
Gooden (TX)	McClintock	Van Dwyne
Gosar	McCormick	Van Orden
Granger	McHenry	Wagner
Graves (LA)	Meuser	Walberg
Graves (MO)	Miller (IL)	Walsh
Green (TN)	Miller (OH)	Weber (TX)
Greene (GA)	Miller (WV)	Webster (FL)
Griffith	Miller-Meeks	Wenstrup
Grothman	Mills	Westerman
Guest	Molinaro	Williams (NY)
Guthrie	Mooleenaar	Williams (TX)
Hageman	Mooney	Wilson (SC)
Harris	Moore (AL)	Wittman
Harshbarger	Moore (UT)	Womack
Hern	Moran	Yakym
Higgins (LA)	Murphy	Zinke
Higgins (NY)	Nehls	

NAYS—201

Adams	Cicilline	Garamendi
Aguilar	Clark (MA)	Garcia (TX)
Allred	Clarke (NY)	Garcia, Robert
Auchincloss	Cleaver	Golden (ME)
Balint	Clyburn	Goldman (NY)
Barragán	Cohen	Gomez
Beatty	Connolly	Gonzalez,
Bera	Correa	Vicente
Beyer	Costa	Gottheimer
Bishop (GA)	Courtney	Green, Al (TX)
Blumenauer	Crockett	Grijalva
Blunt Rochester	Crow	Harder (CA)
Bonamici	Cuellar	Hayes
Bowman	Davids (KS)	Himes
Boyle (PA)	Davis (IL)	Houlahan
Brown	Dean (PA)	Hoyer
Brownley	DeGette	Hoyle (OR)
Budzinski	DeLauro	Huffman
Bush	DelBene	Ivey
Caraveo	Deluzio	Jackson (IL)
Carbajal	DeSaulnier	Jackson (NC)
Cárdenas	Dingell	Jackson Lee
Carson	Doggett	Jacobs
Carter (LA)	Escobar	Jayapal
Cartwright	Eshoo	Jeffries
Casar	Espallat	Johnson (GA)
Case	Evans	Kamlager-Dove
Casten	Fletcher	Kaptur
Castor (FL)	Foster	Keating
Castro (TX)	Foushee	Kelly (IL)
Cherfilus-	Frankel, Lois	Khanna
McCormick	Frost	Kildee
Chu	Gallego	Kilmer

Kim (NJ)	Omar	Slotkin
Krishnamoorthi	Pallone	Smith (WA)
Landsman	Panetta	Sorensen
Larsen (WA)	Pascrell	Soto
Lee (CA)	Payne	Spanberger
Lee (PA)	Pelosi	Stansbury
Leger Fernandez	Peltola	Stanton
Levin	Perez	Stevens
Lieu	Peters	Strickland
Lofgren	Petterson	Swalwell
Lynch	Phillips	Sykes
Magaziner	Pingree	Takano
Manning	Porter	Thanedar
Matsui	Pressley	Thompson (CA)
McBath	Quigley	Thompson (MS)
McCollum	Ramirez	Tlaib
McGarvey	Raskin	Tokuda
McGovern	Ross	Tonko
Meeks	Ruiz	Torres (CA)
Menendez	Ruppersberger	Torres (NY)
Meng	Ryan	Trahan
Mfume	Salinas	Trone
Moore (WI)	Sánchez	Underwood
Morelle	Sarbanes	Vargas
Moskowitz	Scanlon	Vasquez
Moulton	Schakowsky	Veasey
Mrvan	Schiff	Velázquez
Mullin	Schneider	Wasserman
Nadler	Scholten	Schultz
Napolitano	Schrier	Waters
Neal	Scott (VA)	Watson Coleman
Neguse	Scott, David	Wexton
Nickel	Sewell	Wild
Norcross	Sherman	Williams (GA)
Ocasio-Cortez	Sherrill	Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—6

Garcia (IL)	Kuster	Pocan
Hunt	Larson (CT)	Steube

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1655

Ms. JACKSON LEE changed her vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 8, 2023.

TO SPEAKER KEVIN MCCARTHY: With my appointment with the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I must regretfully withdraw from the House Foreign Affairs Committee for the 118th Congress. It is my intent to return to this Committee at the next opportunity. This is effective immediately.

Sincerely,

Rep. CHRISSY HOULAHAN.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY:

Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER MCCARTHY, Following my appointment to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, I hereby resign from the House Foreign Affairs Committee, effective today.

Sincerely,

ABIGAIL D. SPANBERGER,
Member of Congress, VA-07.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

□ 1700

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 102

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House:

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET: Mr. Higgins of New York, Ms. Schakowsky, Mr. Blumenauer, Mr. Kildee, Mr. Peters, Ms. Lee of California, Mr. Doggett, Ms. Wexton, Ms. Jackson Lee, Ms. Omar, Mr. Trone, Ms. Balint, Mr. Scott of Virginia, Mr. Panetta.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Mr. Costa, Mr. Crow.

Mr. AGUILAR (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, by the direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 103

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committee of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET: Mr. Norman, Mr. McClintock, Mr. Grothman, Mr. Smucker, Mr. Burgess, Mr. Carter of Georgia, Mr. Cline, Mr. Good of Virginia, Mr. Bergman, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Roy, Mr. Moore of Utah, Mr. Valadao, Mr. Estes, Mrs. Bice, Mrs. McClain, Mrs. Fischbach, Mr. Yakym, Mr. Brecheen, Mr. Edwards.

Ms. STEFANIK (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, February 9, 2023.

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

There was no objection.

DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE LOCAL RESIDENT VOTING RIGHTS AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 97, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 24) disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLOOD). Pursuant to House Resolution 97, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 24

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress disapproves of the action of the District of Columbia Council described as follows: The Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022 (D.C. Act 24-640), enacted by the Council of the District of Columbia on November 21, 2022, and transmitted to Congress pursuant to section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act on January 10, 2023.

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

The gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 24, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022, introduced by the chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability, JAMES COMER of Kentucky.

Our Nation's Capital City is in crisis. Crime is rampant. Students in D.C. Public Schools suffered historic learning loss because Democrats kept schools closed. Buildings are sitting empty while Federal workers continue to work from home.

The D.C. Council has prioritized a bill to allow noncitizens, including illegal immigrants and foreign employees at embassies openly hostile to the United States to vote in local elections.

This move by the D.C. Council dilutes the votes of American citizens, including the many residents of the District who struggled and sacrificed to obtain legal citizenship the right way.

Voting is a pillar of American democracy and a constitutional right that must be protected and preserved for citizens of our country. Voting is how Americans exert their will upon their government.

Voting ultimately determines how laws are written and enforced so that citizens can shape the rules under which they can earn a living and be protected from harm.

Voting is an essential privilege and responsibility established at great cost throughout our Nation's history.

To quote one of our Founding Fathers, Samuel Adams: "Let each citizen remember at the moment he is offering his vote . . . that he is executing one of the most solemn trusts in human society."

On November 21, 2022, the D.C. Council chose to trash this solemn trust by granting this sacred right of voting to anyone residing in the District, including those here illegally and other non-citizens.

Just think about the immediate implications of this law. Our Nation's Capital City plays host to virtually hundreds of foreign organizations and embassies. Many of these foreign nationals have interests directly opposed to those of the United States, and they make no claim otherwise.

D.C.'s law makes zero exceptions for such individuals whose role may be to disrupt or destroy the American way of life and principles our Nation stands upon.

For years, Democrats in Washington decried potential foreign influence in our electoral process, but D.C.'s new law potentially allows foreign agents from China, Russia, and other adversaries to participate in local elections held within this Nation's Capital City.

It is no secret that President Biden's policies have created the worst border

crisis in American history, bar none. Just this week, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability heard from the U.S. Border Patrol about how the Biden administration's policies are undermining their ability to secure our southern border. Now, D.C. Democrats are providing another magnet for illegal immigration.

This law is so bad that the D.C. Council even lost the support of The Washington Post's editorial board. In October of last year, The Washington Post editorial board announced it opposed the bill declaring that "voting is a foundational right of citizenship."

The Post went on to note that allowing an estimated 50,000 noncitizen D.C. residents to vote is just simply a bridge too far. I think most of us can agree on that, and I think most of the American people would certainly agree with that.

Even D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser agrees with us. She chose to withhold her own signature from this legislation. While the bill was ultimately enacted without her support, it is shocking that even the progressive Democrat Mayor of D.C. does not support the actions of this out-of-control D.C. Council. If a bill goes too far for Mayor Bowser, then the alarm bells should be ringing in every State and locality across the Nation.

Our free and fair elections are the hallmark of a healthy democracy, and we must protect them. The D.C. Council's law intends to do the opposite.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I urge you to support the resolution of disapproval to stop this radical reform in its tracks.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res. 24, which seeks to nullify the duly enacted laws of the District of Columbia and violates the principle of local, democratic self-government, which is at the heart of the home rule charter for Washington, D.C., and also violates the equal protection and democratic principles that animate our Constitution.

I would like to begin just by observing a striking juxtaposition in contrast between the address we heard last night, the State of the Union Address from the President, and the lecture that we just received now from the floor leader.

President Biden appeared here with a message of unity under the powerful economic growth that we are experiencing as a country—12 million new jobs added, record progress that we are making on climate change, massive investment in the American people in the Inflation Reduction Act and the Infrastructure Act, the \$1.2 trillion investment in the roads, highways, bridges, ports, and airports.

We are dramatically reducing healthcare costs for people in the Medicare program, reducing to \$35 a month what diabetics have to pay for their insulin shots.

We are making progress for America. So, what do our good friends across the aisle come back with today, the day after this great statement of national purpose and progress? They want us to become the supercouncil for the District of Columbia and begin to micro-manage the bills that are being passed by the representatives locally of 713,000 people.

With no national agenda, with no plans for getting on board with American progress, what do they have? Well, they are going to bring us a whole series of these disapproval resolutions for the people of Washington, D.C.

They don't want to vote in Washington, D.C. They don't want to live in D.C. They can move to D.C. and run for D.C. Council if that is their interest, but no, they just want to lord it over the people of Washington.

They don't like the District of Columbia's voting rules, and they don't like the criminal justice reform they just engaged in for a period of a decade with judges and lawyers, the D.C. Bar, and the people participating. They don't have a hearing on any of it. They just want to decree that they are going to strike it down.

Just you wait, they will be coming back with gun safety laws that will appear in Congress from the people in D.C. because there is that part of the home rule charter that gives us this opportunity if we want to micro-manage their policies.

We will see gun safety laws; we will see abortion legislation; we will see equal rights for the LGBTQ population—all of these things the Republican minority used to do a long time ago. They have brought back the worst possible instincts.

They don't want to have a hearing on it. We didn't have a single hearing in the Oversight and Accountability Committee about any of this legislation. None of it.

Did they go to the D.C. Council when it was debated? No, they didn't do that.

Did they invite the Mayor or the D.C. Council to come here? No, they didn't do that.

They just decided they are going to slap around the local population. None of us would accept it for the localities that we represent.

Now, it so happens that people in Washington, D.C., are not just a locality and municipality. The people in Washington are involved right now in a petition for statehood admission to the Union.

In fact, in the 116th Congress and the 117th Congress, this body voted to approve their petition for statehood, but our friends across the aisle opposed that.

It passed the House. If the Senate had approved it, well, then the people of D.C., or whatever their local system is, would be able to decide these things on their own, just like the people in New York City or Albany or any other town in New York would be able to decide for themselves.

I thought that our friends over there were interested in local self-government. I thought they supported home rule, but apparently not when it comes to the people of Washington, D.C.

We reject this throwback attempt at micromanaging the affairs of the people of Washington. They don't need lectures about voting rights. They need voting rights. They are the only population of taxpaying, draftable American citizens in the country who don't have equal voting rights in Congress.

When January 6 came and people stormed this Chamber and waged violence against the Capitol Police, against the Metropolitan Police Department, against hundreds of people who live in Washington, as well as in Maryland and Virginia, the people of Washington stood with democracy. They stood with Congress.

They have a legitimate grievance, not a phony, counterfeit grievance. They are not claiming to have won an election they didn't win. All they are asking for is equal rights.

Let's grant them their statehood. If you can't stomach the idea that they would be a State, at least allow them their home rule rights to decide for themselves who is going to vote in Washington, D.C., what their criminal laws are going to be, what their laws on abortion are going to be, and what their civil rights and civil liberties practices are going to be in the District of Columbia.

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Chairman COMER's resolution disapproving of the D.C. Council's recent action to allow noncitizens, including illegal immigrants, to vote in local elections. The council's actions undermine voter confidence, faith in our elections, and, ultimately, the sovereignty of the United States.

Voting is a sacred right reserved only for American citizens. That is why Federal law and the Constitution prohibit noncitizens from voting in Federal elections.

In order to further promote integrity in our elections, many States have also prohibited noncitizens from voting in their State and local elections. Our Nation's Capital should be a model for the rest of the country, but for years, the District has run poor elections. Now, the council wants to take it even further by allowing noncitizens to vote.

At a time when communities across our Nation are dealing with the consequences of an unprecedented number of criminals, human smugglers, and deadly fentanyl pouring across our borders, it is unthinkable that the D.C. Council wants to reward those who have broken the law.

Further, this would let diplomats vote in D.C. elections, some of whom can be agents of our adversaries, like

China and Russia. That is why several of my colleagues on the House Administration and Oversight and Accountability Committees last Congress, including Chairman STEIL and Mr. COMER, sent a letter to D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser, criticizing the measure and calling on her to reject it.

Congress can and should exercise its constitutional responsibility over D.C. and stop this law with this joint resolution of disapproval.

I commend Chairman COMER for leading this commonsense measure and taking steps to restore voter confidence.

We have seen that in States like Georgia and Florida, when you implement key election integrity tools that make it easier to vote and harder to cheat, we can boost voter confidence, which in turn boosts voter turnout.

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we need more election integrity, not less. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to make a couple of corrections.

First of all, the D.C. legislation that would be disapproved by this resolution allows only for voting in local elections—school board elections, Advisory Neighborhood Commission elections, council elections. It does not allow voting in Federal elections for noncitizens.

□ 1715

The Constitution, contrary to what the gentlewoman said, permits noncitizen voting at the local level, and there are a number of jurisdictions that do that.

Mr. Speaker, yield 5 minutes to the very distinguished gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

I strongly oppose this undemocratic, paternalistic resolution. There is only one question before this House. The question is: Do you believe in democracy?

More specifically: Should the District of Columbia's local legislature, whose members are elected by D.C. residents, make the laws for D.C., or should Congress, whose voting Members are elected by the residents of the several States, make laws for D.C.?

What is democracy?

The dictionary defines it as a "government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections."

Perhaps President Lincoln described democracy best in the Gettysburg Address when he said that it is govern-

ment of the people, by the people, for the people.

D.C.'s local legislature, the D.C. Council, has 13 members. The members are elected by D.C. residents. Eight members are elected by geographical area, and five members are elected at-large. If D.C. residents do not like how the members vote, then they can vote them out of office.

Congress has 535 voting Members. The Members are elected by residents of the several States. None are elected by D.C. residents. If D.C. residents do not like how the Members vote, even on legislation that applies only to D.C., they can only ask politely for the residents of the several States to vote them out of office.

The Revolutionary War was fought to give consent to the governed and to end taxation without representation. Yet, the nearly 700,000 D.C. residents cannot consent to any action taken by Congress, whether on national or D.C. matters, and they pay full Federal taxes. Indeed, D.C. residents pay more Federal taxes per capita than any State in the Union and more total Federal taxes than 23 States.

The legislative history and merits of this legislation enacted by the D.C. Council that is the subject matter of this resolution are irrelevant to the question before the House, but I do want to set the record straight.

The D.C. Council passed the legislation on two separate occasions, as required by Congress, by votes of 12-1 and 12-0 after holding a hearing. The legislation is not unprecedented. Indeed, there is a long history in the United States of noncitizens being allowed to vote in local, State, territorial, and Federal elections.

I will close with two final thoughts. D.C. residents, a majority of whom are Black and Brown, are worthy and capable of governing themselves. It is true Congress has absolute power over D.C., but might does not make right.

Mr. Speaker, if you believe in democracy, you will vote "no" on this resolution.

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

Mr. Speaker, there is talk about how people are accountable to different levels of government.

But how are you accountable when there is no protection articulated in this legislation for the voters on keeping two sets of voter lists?

D.C. residents are entitled to vote for the Presidency and for Federal offices.

I need to ask the question out loud: Are Members of Congress okay with members of the CCP who work at the Chinese Embassy voting in U.S. elections?

Are you comfortable with employees and members of Putin's regime who work at the Russian Federation Embassy voting in D.C. elections?

These are questions that this body must ask itself when considering this legislation. And make no mistake, Mr.

Speaker, two sets of books aren't going to work in any board of elections in America. You are entitled to vote in this election but not that. There is going to be commingling, and the volunteers who work the polls are not going to have all of the tools necessary to stop people from intermingling in those elections.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Chairman COMER's resolution.

If free flights, free phones, free healthcare, free education, free lawyers, and other freebies being offered to illegal aliens weren't already enough, the D.C. Council decided to now give illegal aliens the right to vote—a right that more than 1.1 million American military servicemembers have given their lives for.

Giving this right to illegal aliens is as if our government were "The Oprah Winfrey Show." You get a vote, you get a vote, you get a vote.

It makes a mockery of our constitutional Republic that our brave heroes have fought for and died to defend.

The right to vote is the most sacred right in our constitutional Republic. Giving the right to vote to noncitizens cheapens this sacred right by discounting the value of citizens' votes. It also cheapens the value of American citizenship and cheapens our standing around the world as we incentivize the invasion of our own country.

Under Biden's watch, over 4.6 million illegal aliens—and those are just the ones whom we know of—have already crossed our wide-open southern border that Secretary Mayorkas and Joe Biden refused to secure, and about which Democrats could have done something for the past 2 years when they held all levels of power and refused to do so.

By the end of the year, Biden will have let in more illegal aliens than the entire population of my State of Colorado.

Instead of trying to secure the border, Democrats are more focused on giving illegal aliens more handouts and privileges, including giving them the right—the sacred right—to vote. These illegal aliens are even treated often-times better than our veterans who are struggling to have their healthcare needs met and to get the services that we promised them for their great service, but it is immediately given to those who come across our southern border illegally.

Let's put American citizens first and not cheapen their votes. Let's pass this legislation and ensure the voice of the American people is heard without interference from foreign nationals.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of the underlying bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I was just reviewing some materials that showed that both the States that the gentlewoman from Colorado and the gentleman from New York represent had noncitizen voting in the 18th, 19th, and, in the case of Colorado, up to the 20th century. So I think if they are talking about giving away the sacred right to vote, their States have done that before.

It has got a kind of interesting history to it. To me, it is basically irrelevant because it is not our decision to be making. It is up to the people of D.C., just like it is up to the voters of Colorado and it is up to the voters in New York.

But the history of it is intriguing because when the country started—as I am sure the gentlewoman is aware—there were race qualifications for voting and there were gender qualifications for voting. It was only through social struggle that these were removed. But at the beginning of the Republic, all that mattered was the property qualification—the wealth and property qualification—for White men. If you were a White man, regardless of your citizenship status, you had the right to vote.

That lasted basically up to the Civil War. But it became a bone of contention between the North and the South because the Northern States were continuing to defend alien suffrage and the Southern States opposed it. In fact, Mr. Speaker, if you look at Article I of the Confederate Constitution, the very first thing it does, it says that you must be a citizen of the Confederacy in order to vote there.

They didn't want noncitizens voting. Why?

Because the immigrants were overwhelmingly antislavery.

It was very clear in the debates in Congress about this that the Southern States wanted to get rid of it, which is why the Confederacy banned it. After the Civil War, noncitizen voting spread around the country.

But the point is that when we are talking about local noncitizen voting—who is going to vote in your school board or town council elections—that should be decided locally.

My colleagues who are the ones determined not to make the District of Columbia a State should be the first ones to say that if it is just a local government, then let them decide on who is going to vote on matters of garbage collection and who their teachers are going to be. The jurisdictions that have done this, like Los Angeles, have wanted to make sure that parents in local public schools get the right to vote regardless of their citizenship status.

Most of the noncitizens, of course, are lawful residents, people with green cards, and permanent residents, and they want them to be engaged and involved.

In any event, if my friends really support home rule and local self-determination, they will allow the people of Washington, D.C., to decide.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ).

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member and my colleague from Maryland for yielding.

It is so rich to hear the other side discuss the sacred right of voting, discuss what our veterans and our servicemembers fought for, and the sacred right of voting while defending and continuing to defend the disenfranchisement of American citizens in D.C. for their right to vote.

They don't believe in statehood. They don't believe in the actual enfranchisement and voting rights for D.C. residents who are U.S. citizens.

Yet, they have the audacity and the gall to not just continue in that position and claim they believe in the sacred right to vote while denying that right to vote to an overwhelmingly Black city, but then expanding their position—expanding their position—so that, in direct contradiction of their "conservative" values of small government and defending freedom, they have decided to expand the jurisdiction of this body to meddle into the business of D.C. residents.

□ 1730

The D.C. Council has the right to determine its policies for D.C. residents. If any Member of this body does not like that, they can feel free to change their registration, resign their post, and run for D.C. Council.

For those who are residents here of Washington, D.C., they could have gone, as the ranking member stated, to any one of the many hearings on this issue.

I understand that there may be disagreement. I understand that Republicans may not be happy with what the D.C. Council is doing, but when cities in Vermont pass the same provisions, when San Francisco, when nine Maryland cities brought up this provision, did the Republican Party corral all of Congress and bring this issue down to the floor for a vote?

No, they did not.

They are singling out the residents of the District of Columbia and expanding in the history of disenfranchisement that goes all the way back to the legacy of slavery, and they are bringing it right here to this floor. Because why? They don't have any real bills to debate. We are not here to talk about healthcare; we are not here to talk about abortion; we are not here to talk about voting rights. We are here to talk about the expansion and the continued subjugation and disenfranchisement of the people of the District of Columbia. Let them govern themselves.

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Chairman COMER's resolution. The radical D.C. Council is literally putting the integrity of our election system at risk.

They have passed a bill to allow illegal immigrants, Chinese and Russian agents, foreign exchange students, and quite literally anyone else who finds themselves on the streets of D.C. in our Nation's Capital for longer than 30 days the ability to vote in elections.

This should not be a partisan issue, and you don't have to be a Republican to understand why this is wrong.

Voting is a sacred right, regardless of what was just said. Voting is a sacred right. This ridiculous measure disenfranchises millions of legal American citizens and opens up our election system to a host of security issues. In fact, the Mayor of D.C. didn't even sign this.

Congress must pass this resolution today, but we should also move to pass my bill, H.R. 192, to make it clear to D.C. that they cannot ever allow noncitizens to influence our Nation's Capital. We are putting every single Member, both Republican and Democrat, on the record about whether they support noncitizens voting.

Of course, I urge my colleagues in the House and the Senate and President Biden to pass our bill, to pass this measure, to sign it into law immediately.

Let me just say one thing in response to my colleague on the other side of the aisle who a few moments ago said, "We brought back our worst possible instincts," I think when referencing the Republican Party. This tells you everything you need to know. It tells you everything you need to know about Americans. Please listen up, this tells you everything you need to know, that the radicals want you to think that this is normal, and it is not.

Americans deserve confidence in our election system and confidence in knowing that only legal American citizens are casting their vote in elections here in this country.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Maryland has 14½ minutes remaining.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume just to respond to the gentleman before he goes, perhaps.

When I said that they were returning to their worst possible instincts, that was actually a bipartisan comment because in the old days it was Democrats, racist Dixiecrats on the House District Committee who lorded over the District of Columbia and denied the people of Washington their rights. They are returning us to those days where Congress will micromanage the affairs of Washington, D.C., and not allow the people their own self-government.

He said you don't need to be a Republican or a Democrat to understand the issue. It would actually help to know

your Abraham Lincoln because, of course, Lincoln was a major defender of noncitizen voting to the extent you guys want to act like a super D.C. Council and get into the merits of it.

In fact, when he was elected, his Southern opponents said he was elected on the strength of the noncitizen vote in New York, as a matter of fact, and in Illinois and other States where they had so-called declarant alien suffrage, which means if you are on the pathway to citizenship you are allowed to vote, which is a policy that makes a lot of sense, but different jurisdictions have different policies according to home rule and self-government.

When Lincoln was here, his major legislative initiative, interestingly enough, was to abolish the slave traffic in the District of Columbia because he felt that freedom and democracy should obtain in the Nation's Capital. That is something that our colleagues should also think about in terms of defining an agenda of their party. I know they are careening from this issue to that issue, but if you are thinking about D.C., think about what Abraham Lincoln did.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for his leadership and of course Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON for her continued consistency in refuting and rebutting wrongheaded and misdirected policies that seem to come year after year.

Let me read breaking news from one of the historic newspapers in this month that we begin to focus on Black history. From "The Washington Informer," the headline says, "D.C. Council Blasts House GOP Interference in City Law."

"D.C. Council members have lashed out at Republicans on Capitol Hill for seeking to meddle in city affairs."

For some reason, Ranking Member RASKIN, there was some thought that our friends were riding in on a white horse because there was some disagreement on the Council. That disagreement, as you have so effectively said, with the Congresswoman as well, is that they want to handle their own matters.

Let the record be clear: The United States Constitution does not forbid noncitizens from casting a vote in local, State, and other elections. At least 15 cities currently allow noncitizens to cast ballots in local elections, and particularly noncitizens were occasionally permitted to cast ballots in local, State, and Federal elections in 40 States from the time of the Nation's inception until 1926.

We have had a history of local decisions being made by local voters. In this instance, local voters voted and made a decision. Whatever modifications they desire to make, they are not asking this place to implode their work.

As we begin to think about voting rights, I would ask my colleagues to help join us in supporting the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act that Democrats have tried to pass here in this Congress for a long, long time.

I would ask them to help us in the redistricting that skewed and denied Democrats in Texas two districts that were legitimately, based upon the Census, in fact, created by Hispanics and African Americans.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. In redistricting across the Nation, North Carolina, Georgia, Texas were States in which voting rights were directly undermined. Some of the restrictive legislation that was passed in Georgia and Texas is evidence of the oppression of many in the party of my friends across the aisle's States to deny people of color their right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, it looks as if we have an opportunity here. For champions of voting rights that seem to be evidenced across the aisle, join me in the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. At this time in this month, we ask that you allow the citizens of Washington, D.C., one, at some point to have statehood, but, more importantly, in this instance to stay out of home rule decisions or to stay out of decisions granted to them. Those decisions are granted to them.

For that reason, I am enthusiastically in opposition to H.J. Res. 24 because this legislation goes beyond the boundaries of the responsibilities, duties, and rights of this body. Leave the Government of Washington, D.C., to the people of Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.J. Res. 24—Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022.

H.J. Res. 24 will overturn the Local Resident Voting Act of 2022, a measure passed by will of the people in the District of Columbia Council.

This overreaching resolution seeks to overturn the will of Washington, D.C. people, who voted to support the rights of noncitizens who fulfill residency and other requirements to vote in district local elections under the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022.

Let the record be clear, Mr. Speaker, the United States Constitution does not forbid noncitizens from casting their vote in local, state, or federal elections.

At least 15 cities currently allow non-citizens to cast ballots in local elections.

While voting in federal elections was made illegal for noncitizens in 1996, the legal voting of noncitizens in American elections has a long history in this nation.

Noncitizens were occasionally permitted to cast ballots in local, state, and federal elections in 40 states from the time of the nation's inception until 1926.

During the early years, the District of Columbia Organic Act of 1801 granted Congress

sole power over the district's boundaries, depriving its citizens of the voting privileges they had previously enjoyed as residents of Maryland and Virginia.

Due to its treatment as a U.S. territory rather than a state, the District of Columbia has no voting representation in Congress and is certainly not given its fair amount of federal funding—despite the fact that Washington, D.C. residents pay more federal taxes per person than citizens of any other state, and more than residents of 22 states combined.

It is no secret that when politicians seek to suppress voting rights, the feared component of increased racial political power rears its ugly head in driving and motivating shifts in laws that will eliminate or stunt the political growth of minority populations in America.

As we stand here today, marking the first week of Black History Month, we must acknowledge that we are standing in a building built by the hands of slaves, and we are standing in a city that is not only one of the most diverse cities in the country, but is also home to one of the largest Black populations—yes, Washington DC—our nation's capital.

The underrepresentation of Blacks and minorities in our nation's capital and in our national democratic systems is a shameful stain on our morals and values as Americans.

We must put an end to current and historical voter suppression and we must stop pushing oppressive and systemically racist policies if we are ever to truly be a nation united by our democratic pillars and principles.

The nearly 700,000 D.C. residents, a majority of whom are Black and Brown, are worthy and capable of self-government.

And Congress, which is not accountable to D.C. residents, should not interfere with legislation duly enacted by the duly elected D.C. government.

Members of Congress should not substitute their policy judgment for the judgment of D.C.'s elected officials.

Quite simply, Congress should keep its hands off D.C.

The legislative history and merits of the two bills enacted by D.C. that are the subject of the disapproval resolutions—the Revised Criminal Code Act and the Local Resident Voting Amendment Act—should be irrelevant to the consideration of these disapproval resolutions, since there is never justification for Congress nullifying legislation enacted by D.C.

That being said, we need to set the record straight on these two bills enacted by D.C.

Under the D.C. Home Rule Act, which was passed by Congress, D.C.'s legislature, the 13-member D.C. Council, is required to pass legislation twice, with at least 13 intervening days between each vote, to enact legislation.

Legislation passed by the Council and signed by the D.C. mayor—or with a veto override or without the mayor's signatures—is transmitted to Congress for a review period.

The legislation takes effect at the expiration of a review period, unless a resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during the review period.

And yet, the House did not hold a hearing or markup on either disapproval resolution.

This resolution cannot stand as a serious policy measure to be respected on the floors of this chamber, and must be opposed.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 18 minutes remaining.

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak in response to some of the opposition that I have heard to this legislation.

First of all, we have heard about slave trade multiple times this evening. If we are concerned about slave trade, then let's secure the southern border because that is where the human trafficking is taking place. Millions of people are being trafficked, and women and children are being sexually assaulted and abused. Young girls are taking Plan B pills at the start of their journey because they anticipate being sexually assaulted on their journey.

If this is something that you are that concerned about, then let's work together to secure the southern border and stop the human trafficking and the slave trade that is happening there.

There is slavery that is taking place in China in the cobalt mines that these climate extremists are pushing. There is child enslaved labor there. That is where we are extracting our rare earth minerals, from China-owned mines in the Congo. So let's talk together about American energy.

You say that this is just for local elections. Are there two registries? How is that going to work if there are two registries? I don't think it is going to stop there because every time we give in and give an inch, well, they take 7 miles.

The gentleman on the other side of the aisle mentioned that in Colorado illegal aliens are voting. Well, illegal aliens are voting, but no State has actually allowed that since 1926 in America. There are loopholes that are allowing illegals to vote in our elections. This is election interference, allowing noncitizens to vote in our elections.

In fact, this is why the crime rate is up in Colorado. We are encouraging illegal aliens to come to Colorado. We are number one in the Nation for bank robberies, number one in the Nation for auto thefts, number two in the Nation for fentanyl poisoning. We have a Department of New Americans. If you go to the Colorado State website, it says, well, what is a new American? A new American is a Coloradan.

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. What is a new American? A new American is a Coloradan, an immigrant seeking asylum, a refugee, asylee, a DACA recipient, an SIV holder, and all other forms of immigrants seeking safety, opportunity, reunification of family. Chain migration is being encouraged in my State where noncitizens are voting and making a difference in our elections.

Now, if there is a better way to do so, then let's let the D.C. Council reevalu-

ate this. That is why we are sending it back to them. I would say that statehood is a matter that Congress has to consider on behalf of the entire Nation and pursue a constitutional amendment if so desired. Congress dealt with this issue in both the 116th and 117th Congresses and rejected the idea.

Congress has jurisdiction over D.C., and we need to ensure a vibrant capital city. This act does the opposite. I would again encourage opposition to this bill.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, the distinguished gentlewoman from Colorado boasts that her State is number one in auto thefts, number one in bank robberies, and number two in fentanyl, as I understand it. It sounds like they have got their hands full with their own problems, and I don't know that they should be spending their time dictating to the people of Washington, D.C., what their voting rights policy is going to be.

Now both the gentlewoman from Colorado and the gentleman from New York invite the question of would it actually be administratively possible for a jurisdiction to have two separate voting lists for those who are eligible to vote just in local elections and those who are eligible to vote in both local and Federal elections?

Well, that is a great question that you could have posed at a hearing within the Oversight Committee if we had one, but we didn't have it. I actually happen to have researched this question, and there are a number of jurisdictions around the country which permit noncitizen voting at the local level, and they have one list for that. If you are a noncitizen when you enter, your name is checked off that list, and you get one ballot which is just for your school board elections and the local elections. Then if you are a citizen, you get a complete ballot that includes local, State, and Federal elections, so there actually is an answer, and it is working in multiple jurisdictions around the country, including several in my home State of Maryland. I think the same thing used to be able to work in New York State as well; so that is something that would be easily researchable, and it is something also that we could have answered if we had followed regular order and actually had so much as one hearing on this subject before deciding to jump in like King Kong and squash the people of Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, (Ms. NORTON), the distinguished nonvoting Delegate.

□ 1745

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding the time because I have something important to say and to put into the RECORD.

Forty States have permitted noncitizens to vote at various points. One of them is the State of the gentlewoman who has just spoken, Colorado. The

other States are: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington State, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

At least 14 municipalities permit noncitizens to vote today. Eleven in Maryland: Barnesville, Cheverly, Chevy Chase section 3, Garrett Park, Glen Echo, Hyattsville, Martin's Additions, Mount Rainier, Riverdale Park, Somerset, and Takoma Park.

Two in Vermont: Montpelier and Winooski.

One in California. San Francisco allows voting for noncitizens who are a parent or legal guardian of a child living in San Francisco to vote in local school board elections.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I should say that none of those jurisdictions have been overrun with fentanyl or illegal aliens. All of those jurisdictions are functioning democratic self-governmental units, just as the jurisdictions in New York and Colorado that had the same practice were.

This really isn't about noncitizen voting, Mr. Speaker. This is about democratic self-government and allowing local jurisdictions to make home rule decisions for themselves because this isn't the end of it. It is just the beginning.

Tomorrow, I think we are going to be considering a resolution of disapproval for the District of Columbia's criminal justice reform that they have engaged in over the last 9 or 10 years involving Federal judges, local judges, council members, the D.C. Bar, and so on. We didn't know anything about that. We didn't have a hearing. Yet, someone is going to pick something out.

What the good chairman of our committee talked about in the Rules Committee was a carjacking law where I guess the minimum sentence changed. Well, we looked up Kentucky. Kentucky doesn't even have a carjacking law. You would have to use armed robbery, which can only get you 20 years. The District of Columbia would treat carjacking with up to a 24-year sentence.

These are the kinds of measurements we are going to have to go through with everybody's State and everybody's jurisdiction if we are really going to turn ourselves into the super-D.C. Council and try to get to know the people of Washington and what their concerns are and what they are into.

The whole reason we went to home rule in 1973 was so that Congress could spend its time on national policy issues, the kind that President Biden

was talking about last night. We just added 12 million new jobs to the American economy. We passed a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure plan to invest in the ports, airports, bridges, roads, and highways all across America, not just in the District of Columbia, no insult intended. That is a very tiny part of the jurisdiction of Congress, and they want to turn us basically into an appellate legislative division over the District of Columbia.

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I also have no further speakers. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

This legislation promises to be the first of many. I think tomorrow criminal justice reform comes up. I know that the MAGA wing of the Republican Party doesn't like Medicaid-funded abortions in Washington, D.C. They don't like the stricter gun safety laws that the people of Washington, D.C., have passed. They don't like their progressive legislation protective of the LGBTQ community and so on.

We are headed now for a mini culture war between the dominant MAGA wing of the Republican Conference today and the people of the District of Columbia, who find themselves in an odd situation because they want to be admitted to the Union the way 37 States have been admitted to the Union after the original 13 were.

That means, by the way, that three-quarters of the States, nearly 75 percent of the States, came in after the original 13. They appealed to Congress to use our powers under Article IV of the Constitution to admit new States. They had exercised their powers under the First Amendment, under the Ninth Amendment, and under the 10th Amendment to organize a new statehood constitution and to petition for admission to the Union.

Our muscle memory is weak here because it hasn't happened since Hawaii and Alaska, but Thomas Jefferson thought that this was the destiny of communities under the United States of America. We would not be a colonial power that would continue to lord over people perpetually. On the contrary, when he talked about the Northwest Ordinance, he said as sufficient population formed and as commitment to democratic principles were realized, these new communities would be admitted as States.

I think, as a matter of basic civic respect and self-respect, we owe the people of Washington our attention when they are asking for admission to the Union. These are people who pay more per capita in Federal taxes than anybody in the country, more in hard dollars, I believe, than the people of 18 or 20 States. They have served in every war that America has ever fought. They are subject to the military draft.

It is just that when ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, the distinguished professor of

constitutional law from Georgetown University, comes to this floor, she comes as a nonvoting Delegate. There is no representation and no voice over in the Senate. That is an offense to basic democratic principles that we teach children in second grade.

We should be passing statehood again in the 118th Congress the way we passed it in the 117th, the way we passed it in the 116th, and we should get the Senate to focus on it. Short of that, the very last thing we should be doing is rolling back the limited rights the people of Washington have to exercise home rule powers.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The D.C. Council has once again put its radical agenda ahead of the American people. This time, the District's progressive D.C. Council is directly disenfranchising American citizens.

In this day and age, it is often the case that the only factor differentiating the privileges of American citizens from noncitizens is the right to vote. The D.C. Council wants to erase that distinction.

The United States Congress must exercise its constitutional oversight role over the District of Columbia, the seat of our Nation's Capital, and reject this offensive local legislation.

In a time when our democratic institutions must be protected more than ever, it is imperative that the United States House of Representatives, the people's House, unite in opposition to the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act. We must reject the D.C. Council's misguided efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the sacred rights of the American citizenry by voting for Representative JAMES COMER of Kentucky's resolution of disapproval.

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

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

Pursuant to House Resolution 97, the previous question is ordered on the joint resolution.

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

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

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

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

Mr. RASKIN. 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.

SPEAKING OUT AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak out against the ongoing epidemic of gun violence in our cities and towns.

There is no gun violence without guns. From the countless calls I receive from my constituents to the majority of Americans who have voiced their support for gun control reform, something must be done by Congress.

So many Americans are haunted by the gun violence that has taken their loved ones, and that is why we should all be in favor of stronger gun laws to keep these weapons out of dangerous hands.

Too many lives have been stolen. Too many children have been killed.

For this reason, I will be introducing the Safer Neighborhoods Gun Buyback Act of 2023. My bill would provide Federal grants to States, local governments, and gun dealers to conduct gun buyback programs across the country.

We need a national program to give all towns and cities the funds to get guns off our streets. This is common-sense legislation, and if made into public law, it would benefit our Nation greatly.

RESPONDING TO STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

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

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in response to Biden's State of the Union Address.

As a reminder, I do not wish failure upon any sitting President. Whether it is a Republican or Democrat, their success is our success, and when we wish for their failure, then the Nation fails.

We have had 2 years of one-party rule in the White House, in the Senate, and in the House. In those 2 very short years, we watched our thriving economy steer in the opposite direction.

American households cannot afford food and gas. Our wages are failing to keep up with inflation that continues to increase.

Since the President took office, we as a Nation watched the average gas price go from \$2.39 to our current average of \$3.45. However, on day one of Biden's Presidency, he killed the Keystone XL pipeline, which could have been supplying 830,000 barrels per day from Canada to U.S. refineries, and depleted our Strategic Petroleum Reserve to its lowest level since 1984.

Another item that President Biden failed to address was the catastrophic withdrawal from Afghanistan. As a result, 13 brave servicemembers lost their lives, and the Taliban have now taken back control of Afghanistan.

RECOGNIZING SUE DAUGHERTY'S LIFETIME OF WORK

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during this week of the State of the Union Address, I rise today to recognize the lifetime of work of Sue Daugherty, a champion for seniors across Ohio.

Sue and I are cheering the 8.7 percent cost of living increase for seniors under Social Security and a cap on insulin costs for seniors at \$35 per month.

Sue serves as the founding executive director of Serving Our Seniors, a non-profit organization located in Sandusky, Ohio, that supports Erie County seniors as they progress in life.

Ms. Daugherty's passion for gerontology was born out of her experience as a nursing assistant in the summer following her freshman year at Ohio University. She went on to receive her bachelor's degree from Ohio University and earned her master of public administration from Cleveland State University.

Sue has utilized her knowledge and experience to create an excellent and friendly network for aging Ohioans to receive better treatment and resources as they age. She helped establish a system for seniors to seek proactive care instead of reactive care.

Ms. Daugherty has received nearly a dozen community service awards of excellence throughout her career, including the 2002 Acts of Caring Award from the National Association of Counties.

I am honored to honor her lifetime of achievement and her work. Today, all of America salutes Ohioan Sue Daugherty. I thank her so much for her service to America.

□ 1800

DANGERS OF E-CIGARETTES

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

Ms. BROWN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to emphasize the importance of closing the disposable e-cigarette loophole to continue our progress in reducing youth e-cigarette use.

The danger disposable e-cigarettes pose to our young people cannot be underestimated. Currently, it is estimated that more than 700,000 middle and high school students vape on a daily basis—more than 700,000.

Use of disposable e-cigarettes by our youth has increased by more than 2,000 percent since 2019. Although disguised with flavors like apple and strawberry, the truth is that a single e-cigarette can have the same amount of nicotine as an entire pack of cigarettes.

A loophole left by the previous administration excludes e-cigarettes and disposable e-cigarette products from the tobacco flavoring guidelines, which are at the heart of this epidemic.

Closing the Trump-era loophole will ensure the flavor ban applies to disposable e-cigarettes. Keeping America's youth safe and healthy depends on it.

IMPERIAL SUGAR REFINERY EXPLOSION OF 2008

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the Imperial Sugar Refinery explosion in my hometown of Port Wentworth, Georgia, in 2008.

Mr. Speaker, 15 years ago, 14 lives were tragically taken, and several others were severely injured. I want to honor the victims of this tragedy, as well as the first responders and doctors who worked bravely to save lives.

After the explosion, emergency vehicles quickly lined the access road leading out to the refinery. In total, there were around 60 first responders on the scene after the accident, working around the clock.

After survivors were transferred to the Burn Center in Augusta, doctors worked diligently to save lives. Some patients were covered with burns on upwards of 90 percent of their bodies.

If it had not been for the heroic work of everyone involved, the death toll could have been much higher. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the families of those whom we lost and with those who were injured.

Thank you to our first responders and medical experts for this lifesaving care they gave to all of those involved.

HONORING LEBRON JAMES

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

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate a philanthropist, a community activist, a constituent of Ohio's 13th Congressional District, the birthplace of champions, and the greatest basketball player of all time, LeBron James, but we know him as just a kid from Akron, the GOAT, or King James.

Yesterday, LeBron broke the NBA's scoring record previously set by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar with 38,390 points. It was a feat that once seemed almost impossible for anyone except for LeBron, but James has become known for making the improbable part of his routine, including four NBA championships and numerous MVP titles.

Mr. Speaker, LeBron James has scored 38,390 points in his career, making history on the 38th day of the year of his 38th year of life with 38 points.

LeBron, we celebrate you and all of your accomplishments. You have, indeed, earned the title of greatest of all time and cemented Ohio's 13th Congressional District as the birthplace of champions.

From one kid from Akron to another, LeBron, we are proud of you.

A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EDWARDS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, last night, the President had a real opportunity to put partisanship aside and speak to all Americans, not just Democrats or Republicans, but to all Americans.

Instead of sending a unifying message, we heard even more divisive rhetoric from the President. There were a lot of people who were here willing to work with him across the aisle to get good things done for our people and our constituents all across the country, and I consider myself one of them.

But the President makes it very difficult to do this when he continues to push lies about Republicans and our policies.

My constituents in the Central Valley are struggling to put food on their table and gas in their tanks because of this administration.

Unfortunately, the President failed to take accountability for many problems Americans across the country are experiencing under his failed leadership, from the rising cost of energy to the fentanyl coming across our open border.

One issue that hits home for me in particular was what President Biden said last night about energy. During his address, the President told the Nation that under his watch, energy bills and gas prices are going down.

This is not true for my constituents. Over the last few years, my office has received countless calls from people whose natural gas bills have tripled due to the high price of natural gas in California.

These are the same people who over the summer were paying over \$6 a gallon to drive to work or to take their kids to school. These energy prices are crushing working-class families in my community and across the country.

In my district, the oil and gas industry is critical, not just for energy production but for the entire community.

The industry is responsible for billions of dollars in State and local tax revenue that funds vital community services like public schools, hospitals, and law enforcement.

Kern County is the leading energy provider for the State of California and the number seven oil-producing county in the Nation.

Yesterday, my guest to the President's address was Chad Hathaway. Chad owns and operates an independent oil company in Bakersfield and knows firsthand just how disastrous the energy policies of this administration have been.

Energy producers like Chad not only provide resources to California but the entire country. We have the resources right here in our own back yard, and we can and should be using them.

While we as a country should continue to develop and pursue other sources of energy, we cannot abandon traditional energy sources like the President made clear last night that he wants to do.

The Biden administration's energy policies are destroying affordable energy, high-paying jobs, and energy security for our Central Valley families.

There are a lot more stories to share about the impacts of this administration's policies, and tonight, House Republicans have reserved some time to respond to the President's address last night in this Chamber and to discuss some of the problems currently facing our country and the Republican vision for addressing them.

I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON), my good friend.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. VALADAO) for handling this Special Order tonight and bringing our colleagues here to talk about the reality of this State of the Union Address that we experienced here less than 24 hours ago.

I appreciate what you said, and I thought it was appropriate that you brought as your guest a constituent who is in the energy industry because you explained how domestic energy production has been decimated by this President and his administration and how it is having an untold cost on the American people.

But I wanted to begin with a quote, and I want to encourage my colleagues to listen carefully to these words of warning. This is really important.

"The tsunami of debt created by the policies of this administration has to go somewhere. . . .

"But as the rest of the world copes with the waves of U.S. debt, we are now all in the same leaky boat. There is just so much of our debt other nations want to hold. The more of it they accumulate, the closer we are to the day when they will not want any more.

"When that happens, slowly or rapidly, our interest rates will go up, the value of their U.S. bonds will drop, and we will all have big problems. We need both more awareness and more understanding of this fundamental threat to our economic well-being and the global economy.

"But the roots of that threat lie in the disastrous policies of this administration.

"Because this massive accumulation of debt was predicted, because it was foreseeable, because it was unnecessary, because it was the result of willful and reckless disregard for the warnings that were given and for the fundamentals of economic management, I am voting against the debt limit increase."

Now, do you want to guess who said that? It was not Speaker MCCARTHY. It was not Leader MCCONNELL. In fact, it wasn't any Republican.

That quote that I just read to you is from Joe Biden himself when he was a Senator in 2006. If he was honest, he would have used that same language right up here last night, but he didn't. Of course, he wasn't honest.

By the way, in addition to his vocal opposition when he was a Senator in 2003 and 2006, Senator Joe Biden joined Senate Democrats in opposing clean debt limit increases.

In 2004, he missed the vote, but he said publicly he would have opposed it there, as well. So three times as a Senator he opposed the debt limit increase.

Well, he is singing a completely different tune now. Everybody heard it.

Mr. Speaker, President Biden's address to the Nation last night was a missed opportunity. Our country is mired in crisis after crisis of the President's own making: at home, at our border, abroad.

Simply put, the President's rhetoric last night didn't match the reality that most Americans have been experiencing since he took office 2 years ago.

John Adams said, "Facts are stubborn things," and the actual state of our Union is more accurately summed up by one word: decline.

Let's talk about just a couple of those facts very quickly. Just a snapshot. When President Joe Biden took office, we had peace through strength.

We had American energy independence—actually, dominance. We had lower consumer prices, and we had inflation at about 1.4 percent.

But since he took over 2 years ago, now we have war through weakness, we have foreign energy dependence, we have sky-high consumer prices, and the inflation rate in December was 6.5 percent.

Now, you tell me. Are you better off today than you were 2 years ago?

No. And that is what the polls indicate.

Most Americans say and respond to the polls that they are doing worse off financially, and in many other respects, since this President took over.

Right now, prices are still rising, crime is rising, drug overdoses are rising, illegal immigration is rising, and our country's leadership looks embarrassed and weak on the world stage.

Republicans urged President Biden to take advantage of the state of the Union to chart a new direction, to get us out of this mess, to reverse the policies that have gotten us into this, to accept responsibility for the declining state of our country, and pledge to do better.

But you know what? He didn't do that.

He wouldn't have been the first American President to seek a reset. Presidential resets are common. They are often necessary, but he wouldn't acknowledge that last night. He did the opposite.

The reality is that families right now across this country, in my district and in all of our districts—everybody knows this—are still paying more for just about everything, including food and gasoline and electricity and rent, in every category.

According to all the polls, they can feel it, regardless of what this President wants to say from this podium in this Chamber.

Here is what we need to do. We need to curb the wasteful government spending that is raising the price of groceries and gas and cars and housing and growing our national debt, and we need to increase take-home pay.

We need to create good-paying jobs and bring stability to the economy through pro-growth policies that will enliven our economy and broaden the pathway out of poverty for more people, but that is not what this President is suggesting.

You know what their solution was last night and every day here?

More government growth and more spending.

Does anybody really think that our national debt continuing to climb unchecked is an acceptable outcome in this year's debt ceiling talks?

Joe Biden himself didn't think that. At least he didn't when he was a Senator. If no one thinks that, then let's start doing something about it.

President Biden could have started last night, but he didn't. It was a missed opportunity. I think it was shameful, and I think the American people know better.

I am grateful to my friend from California for yielding the time, and I will turn it back over to him.

□ 1815

One of the things that the President said last night was that he wants to source materials from the U.S.; and as we have talked a little bit about energy, we have seen pictures of parts of the Amazon rainforest demolished so they can continue to drill wells over there.

So we are importing, we are damaging environments, and we are not doing it here in the U.S., creating American jobs doing it in the best way we possibly can in the world, delivering clean energy for our American people. It is totally frustrating, so I appreciate the comments from Mr. JOHNSON.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

Mr. NORMAN. I thank the gentleman for hosting this all important subject, really, on our entire country and the state of it.

Last night, Americans tuned in to the State of the Union. The State of

the Union is a very important address for the American people for a lot of different reasons. One, the history of it.

Since 1790, 233 years that the President has addressed a body that has all three branches of government, the executive branch, the House, the Supreme Court, the cabinet, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, all were here last night.

Now, what is the purpose of the State of the Union? The State of the Union is where the leader of the free world gives a vision for America. They give their solutions to problems facing America. They give answers to questions that have been asked by the American people.

What we saw last night from President Biden was a total embarrassment. What we saw last night was a President who was more eager to criticize this great Nation than he was to heal our wounds.

Here are my questions: Mr. Biden, why did you not offer solutions to these problems?

Why did you not offer solutions to the invasion of our border to the tune of five million illegals that are crossing our border every day?

Why do you not believe that a nation is not a nation unless it has borders?

Mr. Biden, why did you not address the drugs as a result of the invasion at the border, the drugs, fentanyl, primarily coming from China to Mexico, back into our Nation that are killing thousands of people, 100,000 last year?

Why do you not care about that?

Mr. Biden, why did you not address our gas and oil problems?

Why did you shut the Keystone pipeline?

Why do you like foreign oil of OPEC nations, many who don't like us, example, Venezuela, Iraq, Iran? Why do you like their oil better than American oil?

Mr. President, why did you not address our national debt?

Why did you not have solutions to what you are going to propose in a budget that you should have already produced that you have not done?

Mr. President, why have you not addressed our crime problem? You cannot turn on any TV station without seeing the blue sirens, the deaths of many innocent people, the rampant crime that is up double digits in every city of America. Instead, you chose to criticize our great police force.

Why did you not address the problem that we are all having with the police shortages that exist in this very Capitol?

Why did you not address, Mr. President, our national security threat from China?

Why did you not address the balloon that was allowed to go over our great country for 8 days?

Why did you shoot it over the Atlantic Ocean and not the Pacific?

Why did you not shoot it over Alaska?

Why did you not shoot it down or allow it to be shot down over Montana, which the worst that could have hap-

pened would be a deer and an antelope that may have been hurt from a falling balloon?

Mr. President, why did you not answer why you left \$80 billion of our finest military equipment in Afghanistan? Why did you turn that over to our enemies?

Why did you close Bagram, the Bagram base, our military base, which is strategically located?

Why did you not make sure every American was out before you pulled the military out?

Mr. President, these are just a few of the questions that you are directly responsible for, and the reason you did not answer them is because your position is you are causing them and it matters not to you.

Last night, it became apparent we have a President who not only refuses to acknowledge the realities that we face today, but you are doubling down on it. The spending that you are now placing on the American taxpayer will bankrupt this country, and you are perfectly content to move along with this insane spending that this country cannot take.

We are at the end of the runway with the spending that you are putting on the American people. The taxpayers deserve better. The American people deserve better.

Now I am happy to join my Republican colleagues; we are going to come up with a budget. We are going to put this country back on a path of financial security. Financial security is national security, and I am happy to say that we are finally willing to address it.

No longer can we turn a blind eye, and no longer can we allow the leader of the free world to inflict the pain that he is inflicting on America.

I am proud of my Republican colleagues to address this; and I will say this. I will say one good thing this President did in his speech. He united all true conservatives to fight the policies that are destroying this Nation and that he is willing to happen on his watch.

I thank the gentleman for doing this.

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments. The gentleman from South Carolina made a great point. We know that history has happened in this building over the years, and this floor has been used since 1848.

I don't know if I have ever seen a crowd respond like they did last night, but I think it was an appropriate response, being that the President, for the first time in I think in my ninth or tenth time attending one of these said something that he knew was false about an entire party. It was unfortunate to see.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding.

I also want to thank my sister, Crystal, and my other sister, April, for being with me here today.

Mr. Speaker, last night, we heard President Biden's fairy tale version of the state of our union.

I will tell you, Americans know he just doesn't line up with what they are seeing and feeling out there. They know our economy is in shambles, and they also know that the only thing higher than food and energy prices out there right now are Chinese spy balloons.

Our border is in a mess, and the whole time, our government is over trying to secure Ukraine's border.

The bottom line is that our country is suffering under the weight of the Biden administration's America-last policies and, unfortunately, last night, yeah, he is doubling down. He is doubling down on the failed agenda that brought us here.

The only answers that he offers are bigger government and more control over our lives.

I wish I could say I was surprised, but these are always the solutions offered by the other side of the aisle, the same ones that got us in this mess.

So let's set the record straight.

Mr. Speaker, reopening the economy after his party shut it down, that is not creating jobs. More taxes and regulations on small businesses will not promote growth. Bringing business back to America from overseas just to tax and regulate them will not return jobs to our shores.

More spending and debt, that definitely will not lower inflation. Telling Americans to kick back, put your feet up, depend on the government, wait on a check, and hope for a better life, doesn't empower them to reach their potential because, as we know, no successful person built a career or provided for their family by hanging around and waiting for the government to redistribute other people's income.

It is time to let Americans run with the ball by letting them keep more of their hard-earned money, getting government off their backs, paying down our national debt, and promoting self-reliance and personal responsibility again in this country.

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for his comments.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), who I had the honor of doing a little shooting with in the last few weeks down there; had a great time.

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from California for this Special Order. I appreciate it very much.

Predictably, the President spent 72 minutes trying to sell us another bill of goods last night. He is so out of touch with reality that he thinks Americans are actually buying what he said.

But his time would have been much better spent apologizing to the country for being one of the weakest, if not the weakest, Commander in Chief in the history of our country.

From his botched withdrawal from Afghanistan, to his mismanagement of

the economy, to his horrific border crisis, Joe Biden is a President of failure.

In just 2 years, he has successfully made us less on all fronts, less profitable, less sustainable, less safe, less prosperous, less free. His consistent weakness on the world stage has emboldened our adversaries and sent our allies running. I don't say this lightly.

You don't have to look hard for examples. The Chinese surveillance balloon that he allowed to fly across country, our entire country, last week, comes to mind. It took him 4 days to shoot it down and, yet he wants us to believe that he is being tough on China.

Give me a break.

The world is full of wolves. They know America is being led by a sheep.

President Biden spoke for over an hour, and yet he failed to thank our Border Patrol agents, mention border security, or take responsibility for the thousands of Americans dying from fentanyl that is being smuggled across our open and erased southern border.

Instead, he called for mass amnesty for millions of illegal aliens.

Nearly 300 Americans die of an overdose every single day. That is almost as many as our daily casualties during World War II. Think about that.

But if we are being honest, we all expected nothing more than a speech that left truth waiting on the sidelines. That is exactly what we got.

House Republicans have done more to restore and strengthen America in our first month in power than the Democrats have done in the last 2 years because where the left prioritizes authoritarian-style control, Republicans believe in the freedom that our forebears fought and died for.

As Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders so eloquently said last night, "America is the greatest country the world has ever known because we are the freest country that the world has ever known."

We don't bend to a woke mob pushing insanity or insane policies over common sense.

Republicans serving in this esteemed Chamber stand united and will be the hammer that shatters the Democrats' radical agenda. We are committed to ensuring America is secure and is strong, and is free. This is a promise that we will keep.

We will not leave you in the lurch. We are fighting for you and the American Dream that we all love.

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, we have run out of speakers, but just closing comments here.

I have been here for a few years, and I have had the opportunity to watch a lot of Presidents speak. In those years that I have been here, I have had some tough votes, I have watched some—I have made some tough comments.

But what I saw yesterday was a disappointment in my view. To see a President get up and say some of the things he said, to attack an entire

party when he knows there are people in this group here that are willing to work with him to actually help the American people, try to solve the problems that our folks need us to solve for them; it was frustrating. That was why I took the opportunity to be here today.

I am always looking for those opportunities to work with whichever President it may be; if it was President Obama or President Trump or now President Biden. There are always places we can work together. We have got a lot of things that need to be resolved for the American people.

What I saw last night was an opportunity that was missed by this President and, hopefully, he will be able to make that up, and we can get to work for the American people.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President. Members are further reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair and not to a perceived viewing audience.

□ 1830

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I am very honored to be a Member in this Chamber of the House of Representatives, very proud to have been blessed to be born an American citizen, and very proud to be raised by my immigrant parents in this great country in a community called Pacoima.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Black History Month.

My neighborhood of Pacoima has a long and rich history of wonderful, beautiful, amazing Black Americans, untold stories and uncelebrated heroes who have shaped the San Fernando Valley and my neighborhood of Pacoima, the community I call home, the community in which my immigrant parents raised my 10 brothers and sisters and me.

This is the community that gave us our first Latino United States Senator to represent the great State of California, Senator ALEX PADILLA.

A little-known fact is that the first Congressmember from Pacoima and San Fernando High School is my esteemed colleague, the Honorable BARBARA LEE. As a teenager, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE began her activism when she refused to accept the segregation of her high school cheerleading squad.

Rather than accept this injustice, she challenged the White majority school and turned to the local chapter of the

NAACP to advocate to allow minorities the opportunity to be cheerleaders.

Congresswoman LEE was victorious and won the right to cheer for her school. She was the first African-American cheerleader in the history of our high school, San Fernando High School. She is now a champion for justice as a United States Congresswoman.

The history of Black Americans in Pacoima dates back to World War II. Following the war, due to racist redline policies, African-American families were only able to purchase homes in communities such as Compton in South Los Angeles, Sun Village in the high desert, and Pacoima in the San Fernando Valley.

By 1960, almost all of the 10,000 African Americans in the San Fernando Valley lived in Pacoima. This community became the center of African-American life in the San Fernando Valley. Pacoima was known as California's first Black suburb.

One of the examples was the development of the Joe Louis Homes. These homes were the only hope and opportunity for African Americans to have home ownership. These homes were named after the former heavyweight boxing champion whose name was used as a ruse to steer Black buyers to Pacoima. Joe Louis had little or nothing to do with these real estate developments. But from this, African Americans living in Pacoima set the foundation of the beautiful community that I call home.

It is a history filled with heartbreak and tragedy, hope and inspiration. Pacoima's Black history is a thread that keeps our community together.

I will use this opportunity to spotlight community leaders that are the cornerstone of our history of Pacoima, religious leaders like the Broadous family.

The Broadous name is embedded in Pacoima history through the countless contributions made by Reverend Broadous and his family.

Reverend Hillery T. Broadous was the founder of Pacoima's Calvary Baptist Church and served the community faithfully. He helped organize the San Fernando Valley chapter of the NAACP and led efforts to build the Hubert H. Humphrey Memorial Recreation Center.

Reverend Broadous was a World War II veteran. He owned and operated a successful barbershop before he turned to the ministry in 1952. In May of 1955, he founded Calvary Baptist Church of Pacoima.

Through Calvary Baptist Church, he played a fundamental role in bringing healthcare, educational, and recreational opportunities to our community.

The former Filmore Street School is now named in honor of Reverend Hillery T. Broadous.

In 2022, Hillery T. Broadous Elementary School administration, parents, and students, along with local artist

Juan Reyes, painted the largest mural in the Los Angeles Unified School District in honor of the contributions he and his family made to the Pacoima community.

Mother Rosa Lee Broadous co-founded Calvary Baptist Church with her husband Hillery in 1955 and served as vice president of the first board of directors of the Pacoima NAACP.

Her legendary involvement in community organizations included Church Women United, Braille Institute, Fair Housing Council, Pacoima Coordinating Council, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, PTA, Los Angeles Public Library, and the YWCA.

She was also the first to organize Negro History Week programs in the San Fernando Valley. She served as a board member of Valley Interfaith Council, charged with overseeing local senior citizen centers.

Reverend Hillery and Mother Rosa Lee Broadous raised 10 amazing children, six of them pursuing religious and community causes. Unfortunately, three of the Broadouses are no longer with us.

The Broadous children include Reverend Alicia Broadous-Duncan, the oldest of 10 children. In the late 1970s, she became a minister. She was a fierce advocate for seniors and served as the executive director of the Northeast Valley Multipurpose Senior Center. In 1990, she was tapped to head the merger of what had been two senior centers into one large facility, serving the diverse northeast San Fernando Valley with a team of over 80 staffers.

The services provided at the senior centers are critical to the thousands of seniors living in our community. They provide instrumental resources on nutrition programs, arts programming, socializing activities, and transportation.

After her unfortunate passing, the center was renamed in honor of her, the Alicia Broadous-Duncan Multipurpose Senior Center. The center continues to serve as a community hub for our entire neighborhood.

Apostle William T. Broadous was the leader of Calvary Baptist following his father's legacy, where he established the Children's Church at Calvary, the Calvary Baptist Church Social Service Ministry, and the Calvary Baptist Koinonia Bookstore.

Apostle Broadous led ministry trips to Africa, campaigned against street violence, set up a Latino ministry, and advocated for formerly incarcerated individuals and for economic development in the northeast Valley.

The city of Los Angeles dedicated the intersection of Vaughn Street and Dronfield Avenue in honor of Apostle William T. Broadous.

Reverend Arthur Lee Broadous. Reverend Arthur was the musical soul of the Broadous family. He was the choir leader and former director of the Pacoima Community Youth Cultural Center Choir. Reverend Arthur served as the San Fernando Valley field rep-

resentative for Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley.

During the 1992 riots, in an effort to calm any potential violence, he dispatched ministers to hotspots throughout the Valley. He was a mover and a shaker of the community and always looked to unify the neighborhood.

All the Broadous children including, Marie Broadous Neloms, Rosita Furaha Broadous, Hillery L. "Abdullah" Broadous, Reverend Zedar E. Broadous, Reverend Pamela J. Broadous, Reverend M. Cecilia Broadous, and Francine Broadous Oputa are the definition of community service, and their work is seen every day in the streets of Pacoima and beyond.

When it comes to empowerment, Marie Harris, community activist and honorary mayor of Pacoima, was born on October 10, 1922, in Houston, Texas. She attended schools in Pittsburgh and married Alvin Harris soon after her high school graduation.

She led efforts to develop the first new major shopping center, called Pacoima Plaza for the Stars.

Marie, a Pacoima resident since 1960, was a devoted mother of three children and known for organizing local fashion show fundraisers.

Marie was an amazing fashion designer. She spurred the Pacoima Property Owners Association to produce the Back to Pacoima Expo, a long-running reunion for expatriate residents of Pacoima at Hansen Dam.

She was a fierce advocate for the San Fernando Valley and was one of the three original signatories to begin the process for the San Fernando Valley to secede from the city of Los Angeles. She did this to spark debate and ensure that San Fernando Valley residents received their fair share of city services.

She was a true community leader advocating to get streets paved, sidewalks cleaned, trees trimmed, and much more.

Harris is survived by her three children: Sidney, Rolene, and Alton; five grandchildren; and many, many great-grandchildren.

In honor of Pacoima's late honorary mayor, Marie Harris, the city of Los Angeles proclaimed the center of Glenoaks Boulevard and Van Nuys Boulevard "Marie Harris Square."

When it comes to civic duty, Jose DeSosa, former president of the San Fernando Valley NAACP and active civic rights leader, is the epitome of civic duty.

In 1988, he was elected as the first statewide president of the NAACP. He was born in Panama City, Republic of Panama, and later migrated to New York City. He enlisted in the United States Air Force and served our country for nearly 10 years.

DeSosa worked for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company. Soon after the company merged with AT&T, he and his wife Juanita moved to Pacoima.

As president of the NAACP, he used his Black and Latino heritage to build

working relationships between both cultures.

He was a passionate critic of the tactics and procedures of the Los Angeles Police Department and led the effort to ban the use of the battering ram and the choke hold by LAPD. He led peaceful efforts to unite hundreds of community members demanding change.

He was a former board member of Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, and to this day their community room at Pacoima is named in honor of him.

We have many legendary sports heroes that emanate from our community of Pacoima, especially at our great San Fernando High School.

The San Fernando High School Tigers football team, during the 1960s and 1970s, the home of the Mighty Tigers, was the training ground of future USC Trojans and NFL stars, an A-list of players such as Charles White, Anthony Davis, Kevin Williams, and Manfred Moore.

Charles White, who recently passed away, was a track and football star at San Fernando High School. He was a star running back and won back-to-back city football championships at our high school. He then went on to USC, where Charles White was an All-American and the 1979 Heisman Trophy winner. He played in the NFL and led the NFL in rushing yards and was selected to the Pro Bowl in 1987.

After his retirement, Charles worked for USC. Despite his struggles with addiction and mental health throughout his career, he was a true star.

Unfortunately, we recently lost Charles White on January 11, 2023.

Anthony Davis was another football star. He was also an All-American in 1974 who played for the USC Trojans. At San Fernando High School, he was a running back during their city championship run.

He was known by "Sports Illustrated" as the "Notre Dame Killer" when he infamously led USC to a comeback victory. Notre Dame had a 24-0 lead, but before the end of the first quarter, Anthony Davis scored a touchdown which kicked off a 55-point comeback. He scored six touchdowns, ran and caught for 368 total yard performance in one game versus the Fighting Irish.

Anthony Davis helped lead the Trojans to three Rose Bowl games, including victories in 1973 and 1975, and two national championships during his three seasons.

During his Trojan career, Davis won five national championships, two in football and three in baseball. He played his professional career in the NFL, the USFL, and the CFL.

Another great star is Kevin Williams, who was also a USC football and track star and part of the tremendous trio with White and Moore at San Fernando High School.

Known by his family as "Little Man" and nicknamed the "Bug," he was known for his speed and elusiveness on

the field. He played for USC and was drafted to the NFL.

After his athletic career, he worked as a brakeman for the Santa Fe trains.

We unfortunately lost him in 1996 in a devastating accident.

□ 1845

Before Charles, Anthony, and Kevin were there, Manfred Moore was the running back for the 1967 San Fernando High School city champions. He was a State wrestling champion, as well. As a USC Trojan, he was part of the 1972 national championship team that had one of the most dominant college seasons ever.

These four Mighty Tigers set the bar of athletic excellence for all of us in the San Fernando Valley. They are all true champions.

Andrae Crouch's musical career began at home. He was a son of a minister, where he found his love and passion for gospel music. His father, Reverend Benjamin Crouch, founded the New Christ Memorial Church.

Andrae bridged the gap between gospel and mainstream music, working with major stars such as Michael Jackson, Madonna, and Quincy Jones. Songs like Michael Jackson's "Man in the Mirror" and Madonna's "Like a Prayer" became pop hits because of Andrae's musical genius.

He also received Oscar nominations for musical arrangements for movies such as "The Color Purple" and Disney's "The Lion King."

His popularity laid the foundation of R&B influence in gospel music to this day. His eight Grammys were instrumental in the merging of pop, contemporary gospel, and soul.

When it comes to educating the children of our community, there is no one like Leroy Chase. For more than 50 years, the San Fernando Valley Boys and Girls Club president was the tenacious Leroy Chase, running one of the oldest not-for-profits in Pacoima.

In 1968, he was hired and ended up expanding the small storefront into the large facility that it is today.

Leroy provided resources to over 75,000 youth. One of those youth was me. He gave me my first job.

After school, this was a place where boys and girls could study and do their homework. It served as a safe space to stay out of trouble. I would not be here if it wasn't for Leroy Chase.

In honor of Leroy, the city of Los Angeles will be dedicating the intersection of Glenoaks Boulevard and Pierce Street in his honor, in his name.

The legacy of the San Fernando Valley Boys and Girls Club carries on through the work of his daughter, Nicole Chase, who currently serves as the president and CEO of the San Fernando Valley Boys and Girls Club and continues the legacy of being a center for kids to learn and play.

This is all done so that kids like me could reach their full potential, and we are so blessed to have Leroy Chase and his family in our lives.

I close by thanking the Pacoima Historical Society and their president, Crystal Jackson, for ensuring that this history, the history of my community, our community, is being shared with future generations. The great work and legacy created by these leaders will always be remembered and always be in our hearts.

I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to take some of the time afforded me as a Member of the House of Representatives to comment on the amazing, wonderful work that our President, President Biden, is doing in his administration.

As I said earlier, I am blessed to be a Member of the Chamber, of the House of Representatives, to be able to speak on this floor, to be able to address my fellow Americans about the issues that face us, the challenges that we have had, and the hope and challenges that we will tackle in the future.

President Biden's administration is one of the most successful administrations, accomplishing in just these 2 short years more than most administrations accomplished in 4 or 8 years. I am excited for the next 2 years to come.

People say our government is divided, but at the end of the day, I truly believe in my heart that by working together, by hearing each other, we will be able to accomplish what we were sent to accomplish for the people of this great Nation and, more importantly, to make sure that we restore the confidence that the world has in the reputation of the United States of America.

Just recently, one of the most devastating earthquakes, which has taken thousands and thousands of lives, occurred in Turkey and Syria. Immediately, the Biden administration, along with communities around the country, rallied together to send help and rescue teams to the people in need.

That is the United States of America that I have always known. That is the United States of America that we all can and should be proud of. That is the United States of America, and we have some work to do to restore our reputation around the world because not every Presidency is the same, Mr. Speaker.

Some Presidencies have torn down our image, but I am so proud of the fact that President Biden and his administration are doing the work that we all deserve as Americans for our President to do. That is to restore our position and the faith that people have in what good it is to know that the United States of America is here, here to help, and here to be assisting.

More importantly, in any time of need, we are ready to help any nation that needs our support and our help, especially those nations who aspire to be a democracy, especially those nations who need us to be there to make sure that we can help human beings live a dignified life.

I am here to say, Mr. Speaker, that we have done it time and time again

for generation after generation to help as a world leader without compromising the commitment and the dedication that we have to the people of our great Nation.

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

ECONOMIC FORECAST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, when I first got here, there was sort of a joke that there were two ways to get in trouble around here. One was to say something stupid, and one was to tell everyone the truth they don't want to hear. I am going to see if I can get myself in trouble tonight.

I have come behind this microphone repeatedly over the last few years trying to do the math. If you are one of the people around this campus, because we are probably right now on a thousand televisions around this campus, and you care about the math, please give me a little bit of your time.

I have never done a set of presentations that has made my stomach turn more than this. We have spent the last couple of weeks with my Joint Economic Committee economists. I am blessed to be on the Ways and Means Committee. I chair the Oversight Subcommittee. I also am the senior Republican on the Joint Economic Committee, meaning I have some freaky smart people who work for me, and we have been trying to figure out what the math looks like for this Nation a decade from now.

Remember, we have lots of people who ran this last election cycle saying we are going to balance the budget in 10 years. Wonderful. Do you understand the math?

We sat down and broke apart every document we could find, every projection from CBO, and I care a lot about this. I accept that I am an older dad. My wife and I spent years trying to adopt. We were able to adopt an amazing little girl. She is 7, and we are in the process of finishing up adopting her brother, who is 7 months old.

So, my wife and I are 60 years old, and we have a 7-month-old. We are pathologically optimistic about this country, but please look at the math I am about to show you and then tell me what you are willing to advocate to save my little boy's and my daughter's future, your kids' future, your own retirement.

CBO baseline, Congressional Budget Office baseline, if we just keep doing what we are doing and there is no recession, no war, no more pandemic, in 2034, that is 10 budget cycles from right now, the baseline number is we will be borrowing \$2.6 trillion that single year. It gets worse from there because the next year, the Social Security trust fund is gone.

We always made the assumption that when it blows up, you are not going to double senior poverty in this country. This is not a non sequitur. I was just so angry at the President's speech last night on the comments about promising him we are not going to cut Social Security or Medicare. We are not going to cut Social Security and Medicare, but are you promising you are going to work with us to save it?

Where was the discussion saying all the data says that, in 10 years, the trust fund is gone, and there is a 23 percent cut out there? I am going to show you at the end of this slide deck that the pandering from my brothers and sisters on the left just raises the taxes. It doesn't fix the problem. It doesn't even come close.

Instead of having a moral discussion from this podium over here saying we are going to not let doubling of senior poverty happen in this country, that we are going to work together—it was used for a campaign kickoff.

This number here is the baseline. For all of us running around saying we are going to balance it in 10 years, great. You have a structural \$2.6 trillion in 2034. That is 10 budget years from now. Where are you going to get it?

Let's walk through the math even more. To understand where we are at in the fragility, let's say, over the next 10 years, there is 1 percent more interest on what CBO was projecting last year. What would 1 percent do to us? It basically means on that 2034, that 10-year budget from now, you are sitting at a \$3.1 trillion structural deficit. That is every year. That is the baseline deficit with just 1 point change in interest rates.

You are going to balance in 10 years. I want to balance in 10 years. Find me \$3.1 trillion that will be gone in 10 years. Do you understand how bad the math is?

We are going to talk about the shiny objects around here. There is a balloon. The balloon is a problem. There is this; it is a problem.

This is what will take down the Republic, and it is hard to talk about. It is math, and I don't know how to make math necessarily interesting, but it always wins.

We produced this chart, and I know this one is geeky. We basically took all the CBO projections and partially stole this from others. Our economic team can't take all the credit for it.

What it is basically telling you is that most of the projections, almost all the projections, from CBO have been far too optimistic. When I am showing you numbers, I am basing them on the CBO numbers, and by the way, historically, they have been far too optimistic.

Do you get the punch line?

□ 1900

Now, the only other caveat I need to give you on the math is, because it is going to take 10 days or so to calculate it, we haven't done the interest adjust-

ment. So I am going to show you in some of these what happens if we get rid of this portion of discretionary, get rid of all the discretionary, get rid of defense, and did this, you have interest savings. I have not done that calculation yet.

There is a whole other concept I talked about here that if we could convince the debt markets here and around the world that buy all this U.S. sovereign debt that we might get lower interest rates because they realize we are starting to be serious about what the future looks like and that we are really serious that we are going to have the capacity to manage our future debt and that we are going to suppress it and over time the growth.

Remember, there are two sides to this ledger. We need to find a way to grow like crazy, and we are going to have to discuss things that are uncomfortable. We are going to have to discuss how to fix the immigration system, how to fix the cost of healthcare, how to do a tax system that is all about growth, a trade system that is about growth, and blowing up the bureaucracy in this country using technology. Much of the regulatory state could be done through technology instead of armies of unionized employees. But we need to almost just be fixated on economic growth. Then we have to tell the truth about our demographics and what drives this debt.

So, Mr. Speaker, remember my two things, my two caveats here. It is still going to take me a couple of weeks to do all the interest calculations, but these numbers are pretty darn accurate.

So let's sort of walk through it. Let's do some of the budget discussions we are all having.

What would happen if I came to you tomorrow, Mr. Speaker, and said: Hey, right now we are doing the 2024 budget, but we adopted the 2021 baseline. So this means for all discretionary spending, the FBI, the Park Service, and the Defense Department—everything that is government, other than the earned entitlements, the entitlements, and the mandatory spending—we adopt a 2021 baseline, and we go from there and held constant—constant—the 2021 level.

That basically means no inflation.

So, Mr. Speaker, if you had two to three percent inflation, then at the end of a decade the purchasing power of that is 25, 28, 30 percent less.

But if you held a constant, Mr. Speaker, there is no growth, you adopt a 2021 budget in this 2024 we are building on right now and saying that we are holding the discretionary, no defense increased spending, nothing, in 10 budget years you still have \$1.9 trillion of borrowing.

How many Members understand how ugly this is?

Mr. Speaker, I will get people who will start emailing, texting me, and calling into our website: I don't like what he says.

It is math. If you don't believe me, then go online. All of the congressional

CBO reports are there, the OMB reports are there, and the Social Security actuarial report is there. That one is a little harder to read, but the CBO just did one a few days ago that is a really easy read.

But, Mr. Speaker, you don't get to just look at the executive summary. You have to read the whole damn thing, not just the executive summary. Take out your highlighter, go through it, and then tell me what your ideas are.

I came here from the last couple of weeks and said: Let's walk through some of the suggestions.

Hey, we will get rid of all foreign aid.

This coming year it takes care of a couple of weeks of borrowing.

Get rid of congressional salaries.

That took care of 28 minutes of borrowing for a whole year.

The numbers actually get worse.

So let's have a little fun here. So let's say that instead of using the 2021 baseline budget for discretionary—that is defense and that is everything that is not a mandatory spend—so we are only going to use 2019, and we are not going to let it grow a dime. So every year due to inflation that purchasing power goes down. But we are not going to do it. We are going to hold defense, so the purchasing power of defense a decade from now is 28 to 30 percent less because of inflation.

Mr. Speaker, you still have a \$1.6 trillion borrow 10 years from now.

How many Members are ready to vote for that because you promised, oh, we are going to balance in 10 years?

But it is the math. I am going to say it over and over, Mr. Speaker. Unless you have a revolution in the costs of healthcare, we won't do it by cutting. We do it by cures, by innovation, and by competition. We have got to have a revolution, and then we will have that type of competition and disruption all through government. Unless there is a revolution in growth, then this is our future. This is my children's future.

So let's go to the flip side.

How bad is the number really?

So 10 budget years from now, which is 2034, no discretionary. No discretionary spending on defense. We basically say, hey, we trust everyone. We cuddle everyone in the world. We are all buddies.

Mr. Speaker, we just wiped out the Defense Department. We still have almost \$1 trillion of borrowing in the 2034 budget.

So let's do the opposite. If you actually look at the numbers where you had no discretionary at all, Mr. Speaker, no discretionary, government as you know it is gone. There is no defense, so all the constitutional obligations we have to provide for are just gone. We walk away from the Constitution.

Now, my caveat again is that we still haven't done the interest savings calculation on the savings and would the bond markets treat us more kindly because we are taking debt more seri-

ously because they will know we will have plenty of money to pay our obligations, but if you just do the straight-line number a decade from now you are still borrowing \$300 billion.

That is how big the mandatory spending is.

Understand that most of the debt, three-quarters of it, comes from the growth in Medicare.

We had President Biden in that podium last night, did he talk about the morality of us keeping our promises and the fact we are going to have to work together and do really hard things to make this economy grow and to actually add competitions in these things so we crash the price because we are going to keep our promises?

Instead, it almost sounded like pandering for the next election.

Does this place have a soul?

You start to look at the reality of different scenarios. So, once again, Mr. Speaker, what we just did, CBO baseline, \$2.6 trillion of borrowing in 10 years. If we have discretionary, we used the 2019 discretionary and just held it. No growth. No growth. You are still borrowing \$1.6 trillion in 10 years.

If you come and say, oh, let's use the 2021 budget, and we will just take that discretionary budget on defense and everything else and we freeze it, then we are still borrowing \$1.9 trillion in 10 years.

How about we do this: there is no defense. We are still borrowing 0.9, so almost \$1 trillion.

What if we had no defense so we do this and say, we will pay for defense, but we will get rid of all of the rest of government? Then we are still borrowing \$1.4 trillion in 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, if you get rid of all discretionary, with my caveat we haven't done the interest calculations, all the interest savings calculations, but if you do it in a straight line, we are still borrowing \$300 billion.

I have come here dozens and dozens of different times and have shown the little pie charts saying: Understand that 71 percent of all spending was mandatory, and much of these are earned benefits, da, da, da, da, and look at the shrinking part that is discretionary.

Maybe doing it in reverse is how people will understand.

If you are heading toward retirement, Mr. Speaker, do you understand what this means to you?

If you are crazy like I am, Mr. Speaker—and I have a 7-month-old—this is the moral question of our time.

Instead, how many speeches were given behind any of these microphones today giving a damn about the country's future?

Yes, but we were looking for a good political edge that will look good on my next campaign thing.

To the people who keep trolling our attempts to find a way to save the Social Security Trust Fund, so we don't have Grandma having to have a 23 percent cut in 10 years, I have one that

keeps—maybe it is a bot—sending in things to our office saying: Just increase the taxes.

So take all income and make it subject to the Social Security tax.

Okay, fine. Guess what, Mr. Speaker?

We found it in the Social Security actuarial report. Go read the damn thing. If we take every dime of income in the country and do the original Social Security formula, so I am taking 90 percent of all income—and what is it? Forgive me. I am going to get this wrong. Last year it was \$142,000 was subject to the Social Security 12.4 percent, and I know that is going up and it is taking a good pop because of inflation. But if we basically take every dime—every dime—of earnings, if you make \$1 million a year, every dime of your earnings is subject to the 12.4 percent Social Security tax, then I only cover 31 percent of the shortfall.

For my brothers and sisters on the left, read the actuarial reports, not the political highlight talking points. If we are going to save it, then you have to actually buy a calculator, put batteries in it, and start sitting down with people like me who are passionate about protecting seniors. We are going to protect our promise, but I can't do it without you.

I have a divided government here. I have a President who got up there and said things that were mathematically absurd.

The family motto is: The Math Will Always Win.

And it always does.

Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Arizona has 12 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I have done this chart. There is an update on this chart coming in a couple of weeks, and I am told it is going to look substantially uglier. But this is the reality.

Remember, this chart was built 2 years ago. Every dime of the \$114 trillion of borrowing in today's dollars that we expect to have 30 years from now, 75 percent of it is functionally Medicare, 25 percent is if we actually reach into the general fund and backfill the collapse of the Social Security Trust Fund which happens in 10 years, oh, and the rest of the budget is actually calculated to be about \$1.9 positive.

We got old. I am a baby boomer. I am a crazy baby boomer. I have a 7-month-old. He is the greatest little boy you ever met, Mr. Speaker. I wanted to bring a big picture of him. He is so cute. I will do whatever is necessary to protect my kids.

This is the truth: unless this is part of every conversation around here we are not telling the truth because this is going to drive every discussion on policy.

I want to spend more on defense.

Have you figured out this?

I want to spend more on the environment.

Have you figured out this?

I want to help other countries.

Have you figured out this?

Mr. Speaker, unless you are willing to work on the reality of here is what is about to happen to us because these are our demographics, are you going to adopt policies from immigration to the Tax Code to technology, everything that grows like crazy in this Nation and then are you going to take on the cartels that cost us so much money?

Are you going to actually build a world where we crash the price of healthcare because we use technology and we cured diseases?

Some of that maybe you tell him that we don't have a choice.

For everyone else who says: I just want my money back, if you are someone out there who will say to Social Security and Medicare: Just give me my money back, then we will take that deal in a second.

Now, people forget Social Security is progressive. If you are a lower-income worker and you work your 40 quarters, then you get actually quite a spiff on the taxes you paid.

If you are a higher-income worker on Social Security and you had your 40 quarters, then you actually get less than what you actually paid in.

If you do the mean of the average couple on Social Security, you will have paid in about \$625,000 in taxes over your 40 quarters, and you are going to get back \$698,000.

Mr. Speaker, you would have made a hell of a lot more money if you had been allowed to take a portion of that and put it in the markets. President Bush tried doing that. He got the crap kicked out of him by the left.

So fine. You are poorer today, but for the average American you get your money back. You get a little spiff on Social Security.

The primary driver of those debt numbers is this right here. That average couple would have put \$161,000 over that lifetime of work into Medicare.

Understand, the Medicare taxes you pay, Mr. Speaker, the Medicare Trust Fund is the part A. Three-quarters of Medicare actually comes right out of the general fund. We expect that number to go up fairly dramatically in the next set of calculations. It is this gap right here that is the primary driver of U.S. sovereign debt.

Mr. Speaker, at some point here we find out that just telling the truth actually gets you in trouble because I can tell you, my brothers and sisters here are really smart. They are truly experts in different things. And I swear they run away from me in the hallway when they see me carrying my charts saying, DAVID, I don't want to know, because if I tell my constituents that, then they get mad at me for telling them the truth.

□ 1915

Every day we wait, these numbers get worse; and yet, at the State of the Union they were saying, oh, everything

is fine, we are doing great. At one level, that is immoral because this is coming. Remember, 10 years from now is not long. These are lifetime charts. It is fixable.

For people to say, well, just get rid of all that other stuff of mandatory spending except for my earned benefits. Okay, maybe we should. But the chart, this is Social Security, this is the other mandatory, this is mostly healthcare, parts of this is actually Medicaid.

You start looking at, this is nutrition support, EITC, Social Security supplemental income, but you start to see everything else that is in mandatory is pretty darn small. Now, it doesn't mean some of these shouldn't be looked at and reformed or be put back on budget, but you see, it is these two programs. It is Social Security and healthcare that are almost everything.

I am absolutely committed. I am going to keep my promises. I am going to have this country keep its promises; but the only way we will do that is this body, this campus, every smart staffer around here, every lobbyist who walks in our doors who has a soul, bathe in the math. Let's get creative, let's promote economic growth in every lever we can. Let's legalize technology, let's legalize disruption and disrupt the price of delivering healthcare. It can be done.

Dear God, I have a 7-month-old. Doesn't he deserve a future?

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

AMERICA NEEDS SOLUTIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Arizona being down here talking about the trajectory this Nation finds itself on with respect to all spending, but in particular mandatory spending as we call it, and the need for all of us to get serious about doing something about it.

We sat here in this Chamber last night. The President of the United States did what you do in a campaign speech, not in the State of the Union. He did what you do when you have a failed agenda and you want to try to scare the American people rather than inspire the American people: Accuse your opponents of being against Social Security and Medicare with no real backing, but offering no solutions himself to the very problems articulated by the gentleman from Arizona.

Did anybody hear the President of the United States last night address at all the reality that Social Security and Medicare are on a path to bankruptcy in terms of their funding relative to the demands to pay benefits? Of course not. Of course not. Because the President of the United States, Joe Biden, has zero solutions to the problems facing this country. Not one.

Not one solution last night was offered. Standing at the well where the Speaker currently sits, not one solution was offered. Instead, it was a campaign speech.

The fact is, the American people, I think, saw through it because in the same speech that the President attacked Republicans for not having a solution for Social Security and Medicare, accusing Republicans of saying we were going to walk away from the obligations for Social Security and Medicare, the President offered no solutions on the border. None.

The President said not a word about our men and women in uniform. The President referenced Ukraine but didn't provide an actual strategy or desired outcome besides "Putin bad, Ukraine good."

Look, the fact of the matter is, the entire Nation is tired of exactly what we saw last night. Tired of it. The President came in and tried to offer populist rhetoric. Frankly, stealing some of the rhetoric almost directly from President Trump.

He tried to offer some old school Democrat rhetoric, saying, we have got a program for everybody in America. Don't worry, we are going to pay for it. I gave a speech on the floor of the House about a year ago entitled the United States House of free stuff about this body. A number of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle came down and talked about all of the student loans that would be forgiven, all of the spending that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would offer with no indication of how it would be paid for because why would you do that?

Look, the fact of the matter is, this body, the people's House, is never going to be serious about representing the people until we stop spending money we don't have, stop allowing for the printing of money to carry out the very things the American people sent us here to stop doing, stop funding the very bureaucracy that are carrying out the actions that we decry in our own campaigns. We are never going to get this country on track until we stop printing money, borrowing money, and spending money we don't have.

I would defy any one of my colleagues, anyone this side of the aisle or the other side of the aisle to come prove that statement wrong.

When we are \$32 trillion in debt, or almost, and we keep having a debate about who is going to spend more money on which program of our choice, how is that going to save the country?

With all due respect to colleagues on my side of the aisle, I have heard numerous Republicans say, "We are not going to touch defense spending." Okay. Good for you. Maybe I agree. Maybe we shouldn't touch defense spending. Maybe we need more defense spending to beat China.

But then what, pray tell, is your solution to fund it? I promise you—look, I request all my Republican colleagues

out there, come on down. If you are the one saying you will not touch defense spending, you come down here and you give me a solution. Don't hide behind the men and women in uniform. Don't go, oh, no, we are not going to touch defense spending, we need more defense spending, we need to beat China.

I might agree with you, but I am not going to sell printing and borrowing money that undermines the very national security that you are going out and talking about.

To my Democrat colleagues, you come down here, don't say a word about how you are going to pay for any of the spending, any of the programs that you stood up and applauded last night when the President of the United States was talking about it.

You say you want to have nondefense spending; you want to have more funding for HUD, more funding for HHS, more funding for programs, more funding for some cop grants or whatever it is. It wouldn't be for cop grants. You want more funding.

How are you going to pay for it? The answer is, no one is going to come down here and give an answer to that with the possible exception of two things. My Democratic colleagues will come down and say taxes. Okay. Come down, let's have a conversation about taxes. Come down and show me what taxes you want to raise that will not cause economic impact such that our revenues actually go down. Come show that to me. Let's have a debate about that.

My colleagues on this side of the aisle will tend to say, well, it is the mandatory spending, don't you understand? Don't worry about discretionary spending, that is small ball. Well, a third of our budget is discretionary spending still, so I am not sure that is small ball. I mean, it is, after all, \$1.6 trillion. I don't consider that small ball.

My colleagues aren't incorrect that we have got to deal with mandatory spending, but you can't hide behind mandatory spending, say that is the problem, while you then say, whoa, we have got to increase defense spending, and, well, I don't know that I would increase all that other nondefense spending, all those agencies, but you know what? That is what my Democrat colleagues want, so the only way I can get my defense spending is to agree to what they want, and one day we will deal with mandatory spending. What the hell, \$32 trillion of debt and counting.

That is exactly what happens. And, again, to any of my colleagues, come down here and prove me wrong. Come on down. I am here. Come debate me. The American people actually want to have a debate. Maybe we should have that debate every day, all day, until we come to some conclusion about how we are going to stop doing the same thing over and over again. Stop spending money we don't have.

Now, I will tell you my solution. I actually believe you should come to the

floor and come here to debate and have solutions. I believe that the bureaucracy of the Federal Government is plenty big. I don't believe it needs to get any bigger.

Call me crazy, but I think maybe returning the bureaucratic state, the administrative state, the bureaucracy, the Federal Government bureaucracy, returning it to preCOVID levels—I am not asking for that much. I am just saying, let's go back to the size of the bureaucracy before COVID spending blew the spending out of the water. That would be 2019 spending levels. Are you with me? Let's just take the bureaucracy, take it back to preCOVID spending levels.

Now, do that. Hold defense spending at 2023 levels that were just passed, that all the hawks were running around going, all right, we got more money for defense, we got a 10 percent increase in defense. Okay. Let's hold that spending. If you do what I just said, freeze the bureaucracy at 2019 levels, freeze defense spending at 2023 levels, the one we just passed, if you do that and you do that for 10 years, freeze that number for 10 years, you will save \$3.6 trillion and reduce our deficit spending. You will get about, I don't know, probably about a third of the way toward balancing the budget in 10 years. I think that is a pretty good start.

□ 1930

Does anybody in America want to raise their hand and say that the Federal bureaucracy in 2019 was too small? Does anybody want to come down and say: The size of the nondefense Federal Government in 2019, man, that government, oh, my gosh, it was so small. There were no bureaucrats interfering with my life. There were no regulations cutting off economic activity.

Again, come on down. Tell me how that government of 2019 just a few years ago was so efficient, so great, such a good size; that you think that is the right size and that we need it to be bigger; that it is not the right size and that we need it to be bigger.

I don't know many Americans—if I go to my district that I represent, 750,000 Texans, I don't know many of them that would raise their hand and go: Oh, please, I need that bureaucracy to be bigger. Hire more Federal workers into all of those programs. Fill up more buildings in Washington, D.C. We need more of that.

Defense spending, we just got defense spending increased a bit here in 2023. Well, you say, do we need more spending for defense? There are a lot of people who might say we might. Why? Well, is our Navy what it needs to be to beat China? Do we have all the latest technology that we need to be able to beat China or another world foe? Do we have all the latest and greatest intel? Do we have all the personnel trained properly at the levels we need to ensure that we can be the finest fighting force in the world and that we can kill

people and blow things up when necessary? That is what our military is supposed to do.

We might need more spending. I will grant that.

I will tell you what, take my plan of freezing the Federal bureaucracy, non-defense. Take last year's defense levels at 2023, and now increase it 2½ percent for the next 10 years. Instead of saving \$3.6 trillion, we would save \$3 trillion. It is still a pretty good step toward a 10-year balance.

That is one idea. I think it is the right idea. I will tell you why I think it is the right idea. I don't know why I want to give more money to an EPA that puts Joe Robertson in jail because he had water on his land and somehow that violated the waters of the United States laws.

I don't want to give more money to the bureaucrats at the Federal Bureau of Investigation to build a new \$400 million facility in Maryland like we just voted through in December, to hire more FBI agents to put more people like Scott Smith, a dad in Loudoun County, on a list to be a domestic terrorist because he dared to go to a school board and challenge a school board for not doing enough to protect his daughter.

Scott Smith joined me in this Chamber last night and sat right up there listening to the bloviating nonsense we heard coming from the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue sitting here last night.

I don't want to give more money to those bureaucrats. I don't. I don't mind saying it.

I was a Federal prosecutor for a couple of years. The Department of Justice has plenty that it can cut. All I am talking about is going back to 2019 levels.

Do we want to fund NIH or FDA or CDC further to carry out more gain-of-function research? Anybody? Raise your hand. Raise your hand if you want more gain-of-function research coming out of your Federal labs, maybe even working with China to do it. Anybody sign up and say: Yes, that is a great idea. Good use of money. Well done. Does anybody want more of that, more of those programs, again, with borrowed printed money?

Do you want more money to go to the Department of Labor to shut down, for example, Rhea Lana Riner's children's clothing consignment company because she violated some standards, according to the Department of Labor?

How about more money for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to issue by regulation—not a law that we passed—a barring of pistol stabilizing braces that potentially make felons out of, I don't know, 10 million or more Americans? Does anybody want to give the ATF more money to go after and target the American people? That is what we do here.

With all due respect to my Republican colleagues who like to go take shots at my Democratic colleagues for

a lot of good reasons, by the way, it is not enough to campaign against this stuff and then come here and fund it. That is what we do. We campaign against these terrible regulations and these terrible actions by bureaucrats.

The IRS is going after nonprofits and faith-based organizations because of their beliefs. The FBI is targeting Mark Houck, a dad. The FBI showed up at 7 a.m. in the morning with a SWAT team to go after his family in Philadelphia because he dared to defend his son when they were outside of an abortion clinic engaging in their First Amendment right to stand up in defense of life. Oh, but let's go give some more money to them.

That is what we will do. Let's give more money to that bureaucracy, the woke, weaponized, wasteful bureaucracy at war with the American people, targeting the American people.

The truth is, we have an obligation to reduce Federal spending even if it were filled with nothing but angels doing nothing but angelic things because we are spending money we don't have. The truth is that bureaucracy is doing anything but those angelic things.

Why do we continue to fund it? The funding that we continue to provide for a bureaucracy that not only is at odds with and targeting the American people, targeting the Scott Smiths, targeting the Mark Houcks, targeting the Joe Robertsons for having water on his land, targeting Marvin Horne for his raisin crop, fining him \$685,000 because he didn't comply with certain New Deal-era restrictions that the Department of Agriculture put on him—think about that.

I am not saying that I can say every single thing that every example you bring up that someone didn't violate some reg or some rule because who the hell knows how many there are? I have asked. No one can tell me. How many Federal laws are there? Again, if any of my colleagues can come down here to the floor and bring me a footnoted cite and say this is how many Federal laws there are, I would love to see it. Come tell me how many regulations there are with laws and crimes attached.

According to one report I saw, there are an estimated 4,500 Federal laws, statutes, criminal statutes—sorry, not laws, criminal statutes—and some 300,000 crimes attached to regulations. That is just one report that I saw. The Department of Justice apparently tried to calculate this in the early 1980s, and they gave up. They came up with a certain number, and they just kind of stopped.

How can any American engage in activity and not essentially be violating something somewhere where some eager bureaucrat is just able to go: Nope. You are in violation. You are shut down.

We were sitting up in the Rules Committee the other day talking about vaccine mandates, and one of the witnesses testified. One of my colleagues

said: Well, why aren't you taking this end to the public health emergency or this end of the vaccine mandate through regular order?

Look, I am a big supporter of regular order. I think we should take things through committees and bring them to the floor and offer amendments. Let's keep in mind that is a one-page bill that is pretty straightforward, and I will just say this: What was the regular order carried out by the executive branch in just unilaterally executing an order to force vaccines upon private citizens through OSHA requirements—shut down by the courts, by the way. Where was the regular order? Where was the sort of equivalent to due process for the American people where we can at least go through and make some good decisions for the executive branch when they said: Yes, you military guys, you have to get this COVID vaccine.

Based on what? Well, Anthony Fauci said so. Rochelle Walensky said so.

Wait, but didn't CDC Director Walensky say that the vaccines don't do anything for transmission? Well, don't mind that. We will just keep mandating needles get stuck in the arms of our men and women in uniform, notwithstanding some of the concerns of myocarditis among the young, healthy population that predominantly make up our military, by the way.

Last night, my friend Senator CRUZ was sitting right over here during the State of the Union. He brought a young man, a member of our military who has been kicked off the career track. They are coming after him to get \$75,000 of money from schooling. They are coming after him. He has to write that check or they are going to keep coming after him. They have not fired him because of the bill that we passed in December saying we are not going to allow you to remove members of the military if they don't want to take the vaccine, but he is still being punished.

Right now, a patriot who signed up to serve his country has his government going after him for money that he has gotten for his family after his sacrifices to serve the country. They are going after him. His government is going after him when all he wanted to do was serve his country and not stick a needle in his arm because some bureaucrat said so.

Let me be perfectly clear to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle: This is going to change. We are not going to do this. We are not going to allow the government to do this to the American people. I mean that.

When we fund the government this year, things better change, Mr. President. You come down here and make threats to us about what you think is going to happen with respect to default. You come down here and lecture us in the people's House. Well, let me tell you, Mr. President, we are a co-equal branch of government. We are not going to allow the American people to continue to be targeted by the very government that is supposed to protect

them, that is supposed to do their constitutional duty, that is supposed to secure the border of the United States, that is supposed to stop fentanyl from coming in, that is supposed to have operational control of the border so that neither Americans nor migrants are dying, that it is supposed to stop dangerous cartels, that is supposed to stand up to China, that is supposed to have a strong military sparingly used but not woke.

We are not supposed to spend money we don't have. We are supposed to balance our budget. We are supposed to defend the American people.

I am not going to agree, sitting in the Rules Committee or on this floor, to continue the process of spending money we don't have, of not changing the status quo, and not demanding that the President of the United States act like it, act like he is the President, defend this country, secure our border.

He doesn't get to come down here and lecture us. The people's House decides how dollars get spent. The people's House represents the people.

We need a reckoning. We need to stand up and fight, to stand up and be counted. I am not going to go around in the circles that we constantly go around in this place, having another meeting about another meeting about another meeting.

How about we just stand up for something? How about people be on the floor of this body debating? Get another hour of Special Orders, another half-hour of Special Orders.

□ 1945

I am sick and tired of watching my fellow Texans in the State legislature debating right now spending more Texas taxpayer money to do the job the Federal Government is supposed to do and secure the border.

I am sick and tired of walking around on eggshells around a body comprised of Members on both sides of the aisle that refuse to do their job to stop spending money we don't have and say, oh, well, what political poll-tested 80-percent-issue can we put out there and go to the American people with so that we can sound reasonable in our demands?

How about you just demand what is right?

Why don't we just stand up and say, you know what? We are going to balance our budget. Giddyup.

That is what every American does. It is what every business has to do. But no, no, no. We will keep going around in circles, each side going to their pet projects.

Meanwhile, the Federal bureaucracy is going to continue to be at war with the American people like my friend, Scott Smith, who was here last night. Not one single mention by the President, hasn't apologized a lick for putting him through that, domestic terrorist.

Hasn't apologized a lick for the fact that his Secretary of Homeland Security, who was here last night, stood up

at a lectern and said that his own border patrol employees that work for him whipped Haitian migrants when he knew full well—both from the video evidence that we all saw with our eyes and a memo from his own people in the Department of Homeland Security—that was not true.

He knew it. And then he blamed it on systemic racism.

Has he apologized? No.

And the reason he hasn't apologized is because he is at war with the people of the United States and the fact that his job is supposed to be to secure the border.

And the President knows it.

The President goes down and does a photo op with a preset visit in El Paso where they literally go out and clean out the streets of the migrants who are piling up in El Paso and sets up a photo op, and then last night dares to come down here, lecture us, lie to the American people that we are trying to go after their Social Security and Medicare, and offer nothing about his constitutional duty as President of the United States to secure the border.

Mr. Speaker, I will yield back here in a minute. I assume my time is running short.

I will just close by saying this: The American people expect more out of the people's House.

They expect more out of the President of the United States than what we saw last night. It was not a State of the Union. It was a state of confusion.

We have an obligation to do our job and stop spending money we don't have, secure the border of the United States, and actually represent the people.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair and not to a perceived viewing audience. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 9 a.m.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 866. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to achieve parity between the cost-of-living adjustment with respect to an annuity under the Federal Employees Retirement System and an annuity under the Civil Service Retirement System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 867. A bill to establish a commission to redesignate the J. Edgar Hoover F.B.I. Building, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 868. A bill to shorten the review period for the Congressional review of termination of certain national emergencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas):

H.R. 869. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to review whether certain Iranian officials are eligible for entry into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOEBERT (for herself, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. BURLISON, Mr. DONALDS, and Mr. CLYDE):

H.R. 870. A bill to submit to Congress a report on payments made by the Department of Justice to certain companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BROWNLEY (for herself and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 871. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide for the eligibility of Transportation Security Administration employees to receive public safety officers death benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CALVERT (for himself, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. SIMPSON, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. COSTA, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 872. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to vest in the Secretary of the Interior functions under that Act with respect to species of fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and migrate to ocean waters and species of fish that spawn in ocean waters and migrate to fresh or estuarine waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself and Mr. GOTTHEIMER):

H.R. 873. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to award grants and contracts for projects that use emerging technologies to address threats to water quality, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 874. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to allow the Administrator of the Maritime Administration to finance vessel retrofit, repair, or similar work required for the vessel to be a vessel of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. JAMES:

H.R. 875. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to issue obligations to make Medicare and Social Security payments, despite the debt limit being reached; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. BABIN, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 876. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform certain asylum procedures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 877. A bill to change the treatment of certain Federal programs with respect to susceptibility to significant improper payments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. NEHLS:

H.R. 878. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to appoint an Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety Technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. CARSON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 879. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to remove the Andrew Jackson statue and marble base in Lafayette Square in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. SHERRILL:

H.R. 880. A bill to establish a program to provide for women's heart health continuing medical education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 881. A bill to establish certain protections for a member of the Armed Forces, or a cadet or midshipman at a Federal service academy, who refuses to receive a vaccination against COVID-19; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. DELAURIO, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. SYKES, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. BROWN, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. WILD, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LIEU):

H.R. 882. A bill to provide grants to State educational agencies to support State efforts to increase teacher salaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H. Res. 102. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H. Res. 103. A resolution electing Members to a certain standing committee of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. McCAUL (for himself, Mr. FRY, and Mr. ZINKE):

H. Res. 104. A resolution condemning the Chinese Communist Party's use of a high-altitude surveillance balloon over United States territory as a brazen violation of United States sovereignty; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BACON (for himself, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. SPARTZ, and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H. Res. 105. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933, known as the Holodomor, is recognized as a genocide and should serve as a reminder of repressive Soviet policies against the people of Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. WILD, Ms. TITUS, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois):

H. Res. 106. A resolution condemning the undemocratic attacks on Brazil's Government institutions and supporting the free will of the Brazilian people as expressed in Brazil's recent Presidential election; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mrs. PELTOLA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. GALLEGU, and Mr. STAUBER):

H. Res. 107. A resolution recognizing the importance of Tribal colleges and universities to the United States and expressing support for designating the week beginning February 5, 2023, as "National Tribal Colleges and Universities Week"; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. PORTER, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COSTA, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SWALWELL, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LIEU, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. CHU, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. MENG, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. WILD, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. TRONE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. KEAN of New Jersey):

H. Res. 108. A resolution condemning Azerbaijan's blockade of the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh) and ongoing human rights violations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. SALAZAR,

Mr. CAREY, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. LALOTA, and Mr. SMUCKER):

H. Res. 109. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Social Security should be preserved and protected for current beneficiaries, and for future generations to come; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BLUNT ROCHSTER, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DE-REMER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COMER, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CROW, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JAMES, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Ms. LETLOW, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MANN, Ms. MANNING, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. MENG, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mr. EMMER):

H. Res. 110. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "Career and Technical Education Month"; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia):

H. Res. 111. A resolution supporting the designation of a "Boy Scouts of America Day" in celebration of its 113th anniversary; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 866.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Federal retirement benefits

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 867.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish a commission to redesignate the J. Edgar Hoover F.B.I. Building.

By Mr. GIMENEZ:

H.R. 868.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 202(b) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622 (b))

The single subject of this legislation is:

The National Emergency Declaration statute

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 869.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of State to review whether certain Iranian officials are eligible for entry into the United States.

By Mrs. BOEBERT:

H.R. 870.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

The single subject of this legislation is:

Provide transparency regarding government collusion with big tech.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H.R. 871.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
law enforcement benefits

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 872.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 and clause 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill gives the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) the sole authority to protect endangered or threatened species that are anadromous species or catadromous species. Currently, the FWS shares this authority with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 873.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Environmental Innovation

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 874.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Transportation and Public Works

By Mr. JAMES:

H.R. 875.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Protecting Social Security and Medicare

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 876.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Border Security

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 877.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18 allows Congress to make all laws “which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution” any of Congress’s enumerated powers, including Congress’s powers over appropriations.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Preventing large new federal programs from being unnecessarily susceptible to improper payments.

By Mr. NEHLS:

H.R. 878.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

FAA Reorganization

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 879.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

to require the Secretary of the Interior to remove the Andrew Jackson statue and marble base in Lafayette Square in the District of Columbia.

By Ms. SHERRILL:

H.R. 880.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States of America.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Establish grant funding for the creation of Continuing Medical Education programming specific to cardiovascular disease and health in women.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 881.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish certain protections for a member of the Armed Forces, or a cadet or midshipman at a Federal service academy, who refuses to receive a vaccination against COVID-19.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida:

H.R. 882.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

K-12 Education; Teacher Salaries

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 40: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 51: Mr. SORESENSEN.

H.R. 53: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana and Mr. BURCHETT.

H.R. 82: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. IVEY.

H.R. 191: Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California.

H.R. 192: Mr. TIMMONS.

H.R. 214: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 243: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 283: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 293: Mr. SORESENSEN.

H.R. 304: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 396: Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 441: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.

H.R. 467: Mr. WOMACK, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 491: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.

H.R. 506: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.

H.R. 508: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 532: Mr. LOUDERMILK.

H.R. 539: Mr. OGLES.

H.R. 542: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 547: Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BLUNT ROCHETER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 560: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MOYLAN, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.

H.R. 564: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

H.R. 584: Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 589: Mr. HIMES, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 621: Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 625: Mr. GALLEG0 and Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 639: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 640: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 644: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 645: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 660: Mr. CLYBURN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. HOYER, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mr. SORESENSEN.

H.R. 662: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.

H.R. 679: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 683: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 684: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 686: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 697: Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 712: Mr. CARTER of Texas.

H.R. 715: Mr. CLYBURN and Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 725: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 757: Mr. SANTOS and Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 765: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 782: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 790: Mr. FEENSTRA.

H.R. 806: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 807: Mr. SANTOS and Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.

H.R. 812: Mr. GAETZ and Mr. SANTOS.

H.R. 813: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 828: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. MANN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. FALLON, and Mr. SELF.

H.R. 856: Mr. SARBANES, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 862: Mr. BOST.

H.J. Res. 24: Mr. GUEST.

H.J. Res. 27: Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. SELF, Mr. BUCK, and Mr. TIFFANY.

H.J. Res. 31: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.

H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. CLINE, Mr. FALLON, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.

H. Con. Res. 12: Mr. FINSTAD.

H. Res. 74: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. CASE.

H. Res. 86: Mr. LIEU, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Res. 89: Mr. BRECHEEN.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2023 CONGRESS-BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT EXCHANGE

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress (House and Senate) and the German Bundestag and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and engage in discussion regarding mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany from Friday, June 30–Sunday, July 9, 2023. During this exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic and media agencies.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States from Saturday, October 21–Monday, October 30, 2023. They will attend similar meetings in Washington organized by the members of the U.S. delegation.

The Congress-Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation shall consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to the United States and Germany such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year's delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

Please note that there is a significant time commitment aspect for those selected for the program. In addition, U.S. participants are expected to plan and implement the meetings and programs for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States.

Members of the House and Senate who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter

in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated.

The completion of two vaccinations and proof of vaccination may be required with the traveler's passport dependent on the destination country's COVID protocols.

Applications should be sent to the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, HC-4, the Capitol, by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 10, 2023. Please submit the application and any questions to interparliamentary.affairs@mail.house.gov.

REMOVING A CERTAIN MEMBER FROM A CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 2, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H. Res. 76—Removing a certain Member from a certain standing committee of the House.

H. Res. 76 is a brazen, hypocritical and offensive effort to oust Rep. OMAR from the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Once again, Speaker MCCARTHY and House Republicans are putting extreme political stunts over solving the actual problems facing the American people.

In modern American history, the punishment of stripping Members of Congress of their committee assignments has been reserved for only the most egregious wrongdoers: those convicted or indicted on corruption, bribery, sexual misconduct, encouraging violence, and other grave charges.

This pure partisan move to strip ILHAN OMAR from her committee is not only a political stunt, but also a blow to the integrity of our democratic institutions and a threat to national security.

We're thankful to Leader JEFFRIES for taking up this fight—if Republicans want to degrade the integrity of the House and its committees, Democrats will always stand up against those efforts.

These antics are meant to suppress the work of OMAR—simply because Republicans in Congress don't like her and her views, all while claiming that they respect and welcome differing opinions.

Questioning someone's objective decision making is the most illegitimate litmus test for serving on a committee.

We know this is true because the Speaker has admitted in a fundraising appeal that he was "firing" her because of her "antics."

Ultimately, this is just the latest chapter in the Speaker's bargain with extreme MAGA Republicans.

The Speaker could not become Speaker without the support of extremist members and removing OMAR from the House Foreign Af-

fairs committee is the price he was all-too-eager to pay.

This is political vengeance for investigating and speaking truth about the twice-impeached former president.

The ramifications for the American public, our national security, and foreign relations are real.

OMAR is an experienced, knowledgeable legislator, who has served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Education and Labor Committee for the past two terms, committees and has lived experience and expertise in.

OMAR is a child survivor of war who lived in a refugee camp. OMAR is the first African-born member to serve as a Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, and brings a wealth of lived experiences to the panel.

Rep. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE and Rep. PAUL GOSAR were removed from their committees last session on a bipartisan basis for encouraging violence against their colleagues, even after a deadly insurrection.

In February 2021, just a month after she was sworn into Congress, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to censure and remove GREENE from her committee assignments for her many extreme, bigoted, and threatening statements—including her past embrace of conspiracy theories and social media interactions encouraging violence against Democratic officials.

In November 2021, the House voted to censure GOSAR and strip him from his committee assignments after he posted an edited anime video on Twitter that depicted him swinging swords at President Biden and killing Rep. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ (D-NY). GOSAR said on the House floor that he does not "espouse violence towards anyone," and voluntarily took the video down "out of compassion for those who genuinely felt offense."

GREENE and GOSAR went on to appear at a conference hosted by white nationalist Nick Fuentes in early 2022, prompting widespread condemnation from leaders in both parties.

Sen. TOMMY TUBERVILLE and Rep. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE are coming under fire for making racist comments during separate Donald Trump rallies over the weekend.

The remarks come on the heels of Trump himself using an anti-Asian slur to refer to Elaine Chao—his former transportation secretary and the wife of Senate Minority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL—and raise questions about whether some Republicans are growing more comfortable using overtly racist rhetoric.

During a rally Saturday night in Minden, Nevada, TUBERVILLE, R-AL, Democrats "want reparations because they think the people that do the crime are owed that," drawing a direct line between crime and African Americans.

On Sunday in Mesa, Arizona, GREENE, R-GA, espoused rhetoric that echoed the "Great Replacement" conspiracy theory long promoted by white nationalists that nonwhite immigrants could eventually displace native-born white Americans.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

There is simply no comparison here. Doing the right thing should never be a precedent for doing wrong.

And yet, both Reps. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREEN (R-GA) and PAUL GOSAR (R-AZ) have since been reassigned to House committees after being stripped off their panel roles in the Democratic-controlled Congress in 2021.

The House GOP Steering Committee assigned GREENE (R-GA) to the House Homeland Security and Oversight Committees and GOSAR (R-AZ) to the House Natural Resources and Oversight Committees, according to multiple reports, received committee assignments back after being stripped from their assignments in the Democratic-controlled Congress in 2021.

Let's be very clear here: Rep. OMAR immediately apologized when she was told by the Jewish community that her words were hurtful and sought out Members of the Jewish community to learn how she could be an ally in the fight against antisemitism.

Other members of this body however regularly spread antisemitic conspiracy theories, talks about Jewish space lasers, and threatens violence against their colleagues.

While the Republican Party leader and former President dine with open neo-Nazis like Nick Fuentes and vile antisemites like Kanye West.

Trump dined also with Nazis, and said "Jews have to get their act together," and also said to a group of Jewish leaders, "You're brutal killers. Not nice people at all. But you have to vote for me; you have no choice." He never apologized.

We must continue to support Representative OMAR. Her goal is to work for her constituents, and they reelected her to do just that.

Republicans cannot continue with these stunts. We must work on legislation that actually impacts the American people instead of these political stunts that do no good.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ANDREW JACKSON STATUE REMOVAL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the Andrew Jackson Statue Removal Act, which would remove the Andrew Jackson statue from Lafayette Park, a federal park in the District of Columbia, and require the Secretary of the Interior to donate the statue to a museum or similar entity. This bill is part of a series of statue and memorial removal bills I am introducing during Black History Month.

The land that comprises Lafayette Park has been used as a racetrack, a showplace for caged animals, a graveyard, a market where enslaved people were sold, an encampment for soldiers and for political protests and celebrations. Jackson was an enslaver and signed a law that forced Native Americans to move west of the Mississippi River. During this forced expulsion by the federal government, roughly 4,000 Cherokee died in what is now known as the Trail of Tears.

The statue, the first in Lafayette Park, was dedicated on January 8, 1853, on the 38th anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, which the statue depicts. This prominent location in the Nation's capital, right outside of the White House, should never have honored a man who was an unabashed racist, owned enslaved people and authorized the genocide of Native Americans. Jackson's entire tenure is a shameful part of our history and should not be honored with a statue in Lafayette Park.

This bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior to ensure the removal of the statue from Lafayette Park and to donate the statue and marble base to a museum or similar entity so that the statue can be accompanied by the appropriate historical context. The next generation can learn from this painful chapter in our history without celebrating it.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL SHIP FINANCING IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I re-introduced my "Federal Ship Financing Improvement Act," expanding the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) federal ship financing program—commonly referred to as "Title XI" of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936—to include re-flagging, repair, or conversions of U.S.-flagged civilian vessels for commercial and military purposes.

Currently, MARAD's Title XI program only provides federal loans and loan guarantees for the construction of new civilian vessels in U.S.-based commercial shipyards or facility and equipment upgrades at those shipyards. My bill would allow MARAD to also provide loan guarantees for corrective or preventative maintenance or re-flagging work at U.S.-based shipyards, including to convert a commercial vessel to a more useful military configuration to carry out federal contracts. The bill would also require that all shipyard improvement projects with loans or loan guarantees from MARAD use construction materials produced or manufactured in the United States. In the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), U.S. Senator TAMMY BALDWIN (D-WI) and I implemented these "Buy America" requirements for MARAD's small shipyard grant program.

As chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and the former ranking member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, I have long supported our domestic shipbuilding and U.S.-flagged international fleet. The bill I reintroduced today builds upon my work in the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283), in which I helped to secure Congressional authorization for the new tanker security fleet and strengthened the military's US-flagged preference for seaborne cargo

contracts. In the 117th Congress, my "Federal Ship Financing Improvement Act" was partially incorporated as Section 307 of the Chairman's mark of the House's "Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022" (H.R. 6865) but removed from the final law.

Mr. Speaker, American shipyards are ready, willing, and able to take on this additional work. Expanding MARAD's Title XI loan guarantee program to support that work means more well-paying jobs for American workers and better maintained vessels flagged in the United States, useful for military and commercial purposes. I urge all members of the House to cosponsor the "Federal Ship Financing Improvement Act."

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MANUEL PIHAKIS

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and accomplishments of Manuel Pihakis of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Pihakis was a man devoted to his faith and community, where he served as a teacher, athletic director, wrestling coach, mayor, and school board member for many years. In and around Canonsburg, he was renowned for his caring nature and generosity.

Born the son of Michael and Sophie Pantely Pihakis in 1933, Manuel graduated from Canonsburg High School in 1952. He starred as a three-time PIAA wrestling champion, finishing high school with an impressive record of 99-1. Upon graduation, he attended Indiana University, earning a degree in 1956. His wrestling success led him to participate in the final Olympic tryouts in 1952 and 1956. Manuel's prowess as a competitor and a coach has cemented his place in the Pittsburgh Sports Hall of Fame, Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame, Washington-Greene Chapter of Pennsylvania's Hall of Fame, and the Canon-McMillan Hall of Honor.

The years Manuel devoted to his fellow Pennsylvanians have immortalized him among the Canonsburg community. He served on many committees, including the School Board, the Zoning Board, and the Frank Sarris Public Library, among others. Ultimately, he was elected to serve his community as Mayor of Canonsburg. Many looked up to him as an academic, athletic, and spiritual mentor.

In 2013, Manuel retired from coaching to spend more time with his wife, Evelyn Mahramas Pihakis, and his sons, Michael and George. He was strongly devoted to his faith as an active member of the All-Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Canonsburg and was awarded the highest honor a layman of the church may receive—the Archon of the Order of St. Andrew.

Mr. Speaker, Manuel Pihakis is a hometown hero to Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, whose legacy of service to family, faith, and community should inspire all Americans. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I extend my condolences to Mr. Pihakis's family and wish them healing during this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING KAREN CLIFFORD,
UNICAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Karen A. Clifford who will be named the UNICAN of the Year by the UNICO National Scranton Chapter at their annual gathering on Saturday, February 25, 2023. As UNICO National celebrates its 100th anniversary this year, the Scranton Chapter has determined that Karen truly embodies the organization's motto of "service above self."

Karen was raised in Scranton, Pennsylvania by her parents, Jane and Philip Clifford, and her godparents, Margaret and Stanley Sienkiewicz. A graduate of Keystone College, Karen spent 33 years of her professional career at Verizon, working in engineering, marketing and the business office. After retiring from Verizon, she continued working with TR Associates as the Vice President of Development.

Karen has dedicated her life to uplifting her fellow citizens and contributing to community service organizations, often holding leadership roles on their boards. She has proudly served as board member and past chairperson for the NET Credit Union and secretary, treasurer and vice chairperson of the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce. She continues to serve on Skills in Scranton for the Chamber. Currently, Karen serves on the boards of Scranton Counseling Center, La Festa Italiana and St. Francis Kitchen. She is also a past president of Saint Joseph's Foundation and co-president of Saint Joseph's Center Auxiliary.

Karen has been an instrumental force for good through her service with the UNICO National Scranton Chapter. She currently sits on the board of directors for the organization and recently joined the Ladies Auxiliary. She was the first woman to serve as the chair of the UNICO National Convention in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Under her direction, the Hershey convention was the largest in UNICO history.

Karen's commitment to her community does not end with her service on leadership boards. She uses her unparalleled knowledge of local issue and organizations as well as her vast network of Facebook friends to connect people and highlight local small business, fundraisers and good news from the community.

It is an honor to join with the Scranton Chapter of UNICO National to recognize Karen for her contributions to their organization and our community at large. May she continue to find fulfillment and purpose in serving others.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL
ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUT
TROOP 27

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Boy Scout Troop 27 in Fort

Benning, Georgia on the occasion of their centennial celebration. Chartered in January of 1923, Troop 27 is the oldest Boy Scout troop in the Chattahoochee Council and the second oldest in the state of Georgia. They will celebrate 100 years of scouting at their centennial banquet on February 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Fort Benning.

Chartered on January 2, 1923, Troop 27 began as a group of 14 boys who conducted their meetings in a dugout on the side of a hill. The Troop was very active, and in addition to working on merit badges, they also volunteered around post selling tickets for the Infantry School Glee Club's winter concert and serving as ushers at the Georgia-Alabama game and at the Post Christmas tree celebration.

Over the last century, Troop 27 has produced outstanding leaders who went on to fight for our country during wartime. In January of 1925, Troop 27 awarded its first Eagle Scout rank to Charles "Tick" Bonesteel III, who would later go on to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy, serve in the U.S. Army during World War II and the Korean War, eventually reaching the rank of four-star General. Three more Scouts in Troop 27 would go on to earn the rank of Eagle in 1925, including Joseph "Cider Joe" Stillwell, Jr. who trained as a Green Beret and served during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

Truly, service to each other drives the engine that creates a better community, and world, and Boy Scout Troop 27 has a storied legacy of community service in the Chattahoochee Valley. Over the last 100 years, the Troop has produced over 200 Eagle Scouts who have collectively completed thousands of community service hours in support of the greater Columbus community. They collected more than 10 tons of scrap metal around Columbus, Georgia to be repurposed for the war effort during World War II. In the 1960's the Troop continued to serve by manning a holiday roadside rest area, providing refreshments, litter bags, road maps and safety pamphlets to weary travelers. In 1976, Troop 27 hosted the "Slide for Life" at the annual Scout-O-Rama, which was attended by thousands of scouts and Governor Jimmy Carter, who would be elected our Nation's 39th President in November of that year. During the 1990s, Troop 27 conducted numerous service projects, such as collecting food for the hungry, planting trees, collecting clothing for the Salvation Army, and bringing more than 200 dogs to the veterinarian for rabies vaccinations. And last December, the Troop volunteered for National Wreaths Across America, placing hundreds of holiday wreaths at the headstones of veterans at Fort Benning Main Post Cemetery. And I am proud to say that this year, Troop 27 will honor two more Scouts with the Eagle Scout rank.

Scouting has shaped my life and the lives of millions of youth across America by instilling foundational principles of moral character, self reliance, responsibility, leadership, human dignity and service to others. As an Eagle Scout, it brings me great pride to see Troop 27 representing the Boy Scouts of America with such dedication to the values we hold so dear.

For 100 years, the boys and men of Boy Scout Troop 27 have gathered and declared: "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep

myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight." It is my sincere hope that Troop 27 Scouts will continue to do so for 100 more.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me; and the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second District in recognizing Boy Scout Troop 27 of Fort Benning, Georgia for their dedication to scouting and outstanding service to others for over 100 years.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH MILE-
STONE OF MRS. YOLANDA
KELLY HENRY

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding, cherished public servant from my home State of Louisiana who is celebrating her 90th birthday. Mrs. Yolanda Kelly Henry was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on February 4, 1933. She was raised in Cincinnati, Ohio and later moved to Los Angeles, California. Mrs. Henry eventually returned to New Orleans to make this her home where she and her husband, Clarence "Chink" Henry, Jr. raised their 4 children: Rodney E. Henry, Clarence "Chink" Henry, III, Sherlyn Henry Lambert, and Marvin A. Henry.

Mrs. Henry has been a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated for more than 40 years. She was initiated into the Zeta Theta Chapter in the mid-1970s, at Southern University New Orleans, where she was a full-time student and mother of 4. She was active in the chapter until graduation. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from SUNO. She immediately enrolled into a master's program at Xavier University of Louisiana, where she received a Master Degree in Counseling.

She counseled many families throughout the Greater New Orleans area during her career at the Office of Community Services, an office of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families. At her precious age, Mrs. Henry has remained an active member of the Pontchartrain Park Neighborhood Association for the past 65 years. Her love of serving her City, the community and others does not stop there. She is a member of the National Black Social Workers Association, the SUNO Alumni Association, and Bethany United Methodist Church Women's Association.

I am humbled to pay tribute to such a great culture community leader and fighter for all, who has done so much to improve the lives of countless residents across my district. So many people's lives are enriched because of the love and passion she expresses daily in touching them along the way. I pray that she remains in good health and continue to spread joy and love to her family, friends and our beloved District. Happy 90th birthday to Mrs. Yolanda Kelly Henry, and may she live to see many more.

RECOGNIZING THE LIMA NOON OPTIMIST CLUB'S ANNUAL YOUTH APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I always appreciate the opportunity to share positive news about young people from Ohio's Fourth Congressional District. Today, I am pleased to commend to the House 12 high school students who are being honored for their outstanding leadership skills and volunteerism.

On Wednesday, the Noon Optimist Club of Lima will recognize Emma Core, Gabi Croft, Brady Shea, Lauren Cunningham, Elena Oliver, Grant Hardeman, McKenna Bader, Jordane Dues, Jacquelyne Lynch, Alora Patel, Ryan Kaverman, and Sabrina Heffner at its annual youth appreciation luncheon. These students were each nominated by their schools for being good role models for their peers.

I thank the Optimists for their efforts to celebrate the many achievements of these students and am proud to join in the accolades to them. They have my very best wishes for continued success in their lives in the years to come.

CELEBRATING THE MARVIN GROUP'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a significant anniversary for a company that is important to my District and our great country. On February 10, 2023, the Marvin Engineering Company will celebrate 60 years as one of our Nation's leading manufacturers of armament equipment.

What started as a small, modest machine shop in Inglewood, California, has grown into one of the most successful defense contracting companies in the world. The Marvin Group supports all branches of our military and major prime contractors, and it sells products in more than 30 countries worldwide. Thanks to the gifted leadership of founder Marvin Gussman, his wife Madeline, their partner Jerry Friedman, current CEO Howard Gussman, and President David Gussman, Marvin Engineering and its parent company, The Marvin Group, are major employers in California's 43rd Congressional District and Southern California in general.

The Marvin Group's business philosophy, its extensive capabilities, and Jerry Friedman investing a significant amount of time in Washington, DC, allowed The Marvin Group to launch Marvin Land Systems in 1995, Marvin Test Solutions in 1997, and Clean Water Technologies in 2002, all of which have expanded their customer base. In addition to the manufacturing of large aero structures, The Marvin Group produces ejector racks, missile launchers, aircraft pylons and other auxiliary equipment. It has also successfully developed its own proprietary state-of-the-art systems for advanced aircraft. With its expansion into land

and sea-based platforms, including the Flyer tactical strike vehicle, The Marvin Group has won competitions and contracts from the defense departments of many of our Nation's allies around the world. I have a decades-long relationship with the management of The Marvin Group and am proud to note that they are a great corporate citizen with extensive community service involvement in Inglewood and Los Angeles. They are particularly supportive of the Hirschberg Foundation's pancreatic cancer research in honor of Marvin Gussman. The future is most definitely bright for this innovative and responsible company.

As the leadership and more than 1,000 employees of The Marvin Group gather to acknowledge this major milestone, I am proud to bring their accomplishments to the attention of the American people.

HONORING LERLEANE PAYNE CHAVIS'S SERVICE TO MADISON COUNTY

HON. NIKKI BUDZINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lerleane Payne Chavis, of Madison, Illinois, for 60 years of dedicated service to the Treasurer's office in Madison County.

Lerleane was born on June 17, 1942, in Madison, Illinois. Continuing to be raised in the city, she would graduate from Madison High School in 1960.

Not long after, Lerleane would make history in Madison County. On January 7, 1963, eager to break the color barrier, County Treasurer, George Musso, would hire Lerleane into her office. Lerleane would be the first African American office worker employed in Madison County and the first African American woman to work for Madison County government. At 20 years old, Lerleane proved herself to be a diligent worker and create a welcoming space for her fellow employees.

Her diligence to her craft would lead to numerous promotions, eventually being promoted to Deputy Treasurer for the county. Lerleane would retire from her full-time employment in 1998, but continues to serve on a part-time basis.

January 7, 2023 marked Lerleane's 60th year of service in the Madison County's Treasurer's Office, making her the longest serving employee in Madison County Government history. During her time, she has served under nine county treasurers, making her the unofficial matriarch of the Treasurer's Office.

Throughout her service, Lerleane maintained being a pillar in her community. She would marry LeRoy Chavis in 1968 and spend 49 years together until his passing in 2017. She is the mother of four children, grandmother to nine, and great-grandmother to five. She is a longtime member of Mt. Joy Baptist Church, and volunteers her time taking care of several elderly friends in the area.

Lerleane is a unsung hero who deserves her flowers and appreciation. She is a trailblazer in the fight for equality and it is an honor to recognize her today.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF MRS. CLAIRE BARTLETT

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Mrs. Claire Bartlett, a stalwart in Georgia's conservative movement, and a valued member of my Congressional staff for over 8 years. Mrs. Bartlett has been a valuable and dedicated member of my office since I was first sworn into Congress on January 6, 2015. Prior to joining my district staff, Claire was a conservative leader in the state of Georgia. Her leadership at the grassroots level demonstrated her commitment to restoring freedom and liberty and made her uniquely qualified to serve as my first District Field Director, and then as our Director of Business and Community Engagement. In these positions, Claire worked to exemplify our mission of representing and serving the people of the 11th Congressional District with integrity, respect, attentiveness, and vigilance. Throughout her tenure, Claire diligently served the people of the district.

Claire's passion for the American ideals and our founding principals has remained her number one priority. Over the course of her time in service, from 2015 through 2023, Claire engaged with and assisted constituents and stakeholders from all walks of life and across the political spectrum. During this time, I received innumerable compliments and accolades regarding the value Claire brought to our mission. Claire will surely be a valuable asset wherever she is in the future; and I congratulate her on her new role, as she continues to work to ensure we have a community, state, and Nation that is free, safe and full of opportunity. She will be missed as a part of our team but will always remain a member of our office family, and I thank Claire for her years of service. God Speed.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JOSEPH A. HARDY III

HON. GUY RESCENTIALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. RESCENTIALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Joseph Hardy, a pioneer in the building materials industry from Fayette County, Pennsylvania, who passed away on his 100th birthday on January 7, 2023.

During his final year attending Lehigh University, Mr. Hardy answered the call of duty, enlisting in the United States Army at the outbreak of World War II. After serving his nation as a radioman for the Army Air Corps in the Pacific, he returned home to pursue an industrial engineering degree at the University of Pittsburgh.

After working part-time for his family's farm and jewelry store, Mr. Hardy founded Green Hills Lumber. After several successful years, he purchased land in Eighty-Four, Pennsylvania, and opened a "cash and carry" lumber yard, the 84 Lumber Company, which would

become the nation's largest privately-held building materials supplier.

In 1987, Mr. Hardy began purchasing 400 acres of land in Fayette County. This mountainous landscape became home to what is now the Nemacolin Woodlands Resort. Today, Nemacolin is one of North America's premier resort destinations and a shining example of Mr. Hardy's vision in the Keystone State.

In addition to the job creation in southwestern Pennsylvania, he generously invested in the redevelopment of the resort's surrounding area. Mr. Hardy was famously quoted as saying, "I want to die broke. For the remainder of my life, I want to enjoy and participate in the giving of money to help improve people's lives." This selfless spirit nourished in his roles as Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County and the Board of Trustees at the University of Pittsburgh and Washington & Jefferson College.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph A. Hardy III's entrepreneurial spirit, commitment, and generosity to southwestern Pennsylvania, in addition to his service to our Nation, exemplify a well-lived life. On behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I extend my condolences to Mr. Hardy's family and wish them healing during this difficult time.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF AMELIA LITYNSKI

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Amelia Litynski and her service to Virginia's First District and the Nation.

Amelia earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she triple-majored in Economics, History, and Political Science. She is currently working on her Master's degree in Military Operational Art and Science at the USAF Air Command and Staff College.

During her undergraduate studies, she interned for the Congressional Research Service, the U.S. Department of Defense, debra of America, and the Wisconsin State Legislature. After graduating and prior to joining my office, she scheduled for Congressman BRYAN STEIL of Wisconsin.

Amelia joined my office in October 2021 as my Staff Assistant. She then worked her way up to Legislative Correspondent, and subsequently to Legislative Aide. She contributed tremendously to providing the best constituent service and running one of the best mail programs in the Commonwealth and the Nation. She was also an important member of my defense and legislative team, and a great mentor to both interns and staff.

I would like to thank Amelia for her contributions and dedicated service over the last year and a half. She's been an invaluable member of my team, and I wish her the best as she continues her journey here at the Capitol working for Congressman TOM EMMER in his Republican House Majority Whip office.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Amelia Litynski for her service to Virginia's First District and the Nation. May God bless Amelia as she continues her career in public service.

CELEBRATING THE COMMUNITY HOUSE OF BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, UPON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate The Community House in Birmingham, Michigan, upon its 100th year serving the region. Over the last century, Birmingham has distinguished itself as a destination for families who are seeking a welcoming, tight-knit community. The Community House has been instrumental in cultivating the City's reputation of excellence, and it is an honor to join with friends and neighbors in celebrating 100 years in Birmingham.

Since 1923, The Community House has evolved to fit the needs of the growing region. This nonprofit organization has brought together tens of thousands of residents, been home to dozens of charities, and hosted hundreds of classes since its formation. The Community House has welcomed folks of all ages, backgrounds, and interests, holding a special place in the hearts of many individuals who have found it to be a second home.

Despite the rapid changes that have shaped our society over the past century, The Community House's role in the community has remained unchanged as "the official center of charitable endeavors . . . to promulgate the social, educational, civic and philanthropic life of the village." Its mission as "home to those seeking continuity between personal, professional, philanthropic, and recreational pursuits" showcases the admirable values that guide the organization and reveals an important vision for its future. Our community is better because of The Community House's work over the past century, and it is an exciting opportunity to extend best wishes as the organization embarks upon its next exciting chapter.

Mr. Speaker, the work done by this local nonprofit has shaped the lives of countless individuals, and its efforts certainly extend beyond the bounds of Southeast Michigan and into the larger region and Nation. It is an honor to recognize The Community House of Birmingham upon its 100 years of contributions to the community, and I ask my colleagues to join me and the people of Michigan's 11th Congressional District in celebrating this remarkable organization.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BETH HOGAN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of an outstanding public servant and community leader from the Town of East Lyme, Connecticut located in Southeastern Connecticut, Beth Hogan. An inspiring trailblazer for women in the legal profession, politics and town government, Beth departed this world too soon on January 28, 2023, after a three-year battle with cancer, with her devoted husband and law partner Conrad

Seifert, and her daughter Emily, at her side. The news of her passing brought forth an outpouring of sadness and praise from the entire region of Southeastern Connecticut and speaks volumes of her impact upon the lives of so many who she helped in countless ways.

Born in Meriden and raised in Stamford, Connecticut to Bill and Rita Hogan, Beth knew from a young age that she was destined to uplift the lives of others. Upon graduating from Boston University and Quinnipiac Law School, Beth met Conrad and they began a journey in a two-person law firm—Seifert and Hogan, representing individuals with both compassion and the highest degree of ethics and professionalism. Throughout her time at the firm, Beth practiced in the areas of criminal defense litigation, civil practice, and juvenile and family law. As I know from my own experience as a small-town general practitioner, this type of law can be stressful. Despite the challenging nature of this work, she handled her clients with calmness and poise. She most recently focused on the cause of fair sentencing for juveniles, which in recent years has been reformed in Connecticut due in part by lawyers who advocated for this change.

Her view of the law was not just about individual cases. As a political candidate, office holder and political organizer she was outspoken believer in progressive policy. This was not just an intellectual exercise for her—she was dedicated to getting real results in her region that were an expression of her beliefs. In 2008, for example, she joined The Connection, Inc., where she focused on expanding affordable housing opportunities. As director of government and community partnerships, Beth fought hard for years to successfully convert a former school into St. Mary Place of New London, Connecticut—a 20-unit affordable housing complex.

Beth also had a knack for recruiting other selfless individuals into local politics. She never missed an opportunity in this regard and was the driving force behind adding members to her town's Democratic party. Her proficiency in finding new advocates, candidates, and volunteers across all ages is exactly why Beth served as the chair of the local party's committee for a total of nearly two decades. Because of Beth, there is an army of visionaries and changemakers who will now march forward in their own relentless pursuit towards a better town and region. In fact, her love of community saw Beth in her final days delegating projects to her trusted friends and colleagues in local politics.

Beth's works are far too numerous to even begin counting. She served on many boards and commissions within East Lyme's municipal government. Beyond the various charities to which she also belonged; Beth notably once served as the first-ever First Selectwoman of East Lyme.

Mr. Speaker, Beth Hogan was the archetypal citizen and public servant. She was a compassionate confidant, a cultivator of community, a public servant, a champion of policy, a connector and mentor of people. Beth Hogan was a force multiplier for good. To say that we mourn the loss of this unwavering positive character could not be more of an understatement. And yet, Beth's dynamic legacy will continue to pay dividends far into the future—it is a garden where the flowers will never die. She is survived by her husband of 31 years, Conrad, her daughter Emily, and the

infinite number of individuals in whom she instilled hope. I can assure my colleagues that she would not wish for these words of praise, which is exactly why we must commit her to our Nation's memory. To that end, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the giving nature of Beth's story.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 9, 2023.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 866–882; and 10 resolutions, H. Res. 102–111, were introduced. **Pages H780–81**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H782**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative James to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H741**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:35 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H745**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 2:02 p.m. **Page H747**

Recess: The House recessed at 3:18 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. **Page H757**

Terminating the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID–19 vaccination for foreign travelers: The House passed H.R. 185, to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID–19 vaccination for foreign travelers, by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 201 nays, Roll No. 116. **Pages H747–57, H757–62**

Rejected the Schrier motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Energy and Commerce by a recorded vote of 208 ayes to 220 noes, Roll No. 115. **Pages H760–61**

Agreed to:

Boebert amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 118–3) that requires the CDC to produce a report

to Congress on the number of visitors denied entry under this policy (by a recorded vote of 253 ayes to 168 noes, Roll No. 111); and **Pages H754, H758**

Rose amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 118–3) that clarifies that nothing in the underlying bill impacts the CDC order requiring a pre-departure COVID–19 test for people traveling from the People’s Republic of China (by a recorded vote of 426 ayes to 8 noes, Roll No. 113). **Pages H755–56, H759–60**

Rejected:

McGovern amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 118–3) that sought to clarify that this legislation will not affect the authority of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to mandate vaccination requirements against any other disease in the future for noncitizens who are nonimmigrants entering the U.S. (by a recorded vote of 210 ayes to 222 noes, Roll No. 110); **Pages H753–54, H757–58**

Golden (ME) amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 118–3) that sought to eliminate the prohibition on future rulemaking (by a recorded vote of 207 ayes to 220 noes, Roll No. 112); and

Pages H754–55, H758–59

Torres (CA) amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 118–3) that sought to require the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to certify that such provision will not result in an increase in hospitalizations due to COVID–19 prior to the provisions of section 1 taking effect (by a recorded vote of 209 ayes to 224 noes, Roll No. 114). **Pages H756–57, H760–61**

H. Res. 97, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 185), and the joint resolutions

(H.J. Res. 24) and (H.J. Res. 26) was agreed to yesterday, February 7th.

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Houlahan wherein she resigned from the Committee on Foreign Affairs. **Page H762**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Spanberger wherein she resigned from the Committee on Foreign Affairs. **Page H762**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 102, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H762**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 103, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H762**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, February 9th. **Page H762**

Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022: The House considered H.J. Res. 24, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, February 9th. **Pages H762–68**

Quorum Calls Votes: One yea-and-nay vote and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H757–58, H758, H758–59, H759–60, H760, H761, and H761–62.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Committee Meetings

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its rules for the 118th Congress. The Committee Staff List, and the Authorization and Oversight plan were adopted.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its rules for the 118th Congress, and confirmed its subcommittee jurisdictions.

STATE OF THE DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “State of the Defense Industrial Base”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE ROLE OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES IN GREAT POWER COMPETITION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations held a hearing entitled “The Role of Special Operations Forces in Great Power Competition”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AMERICAN EDUCATION IN CRISIS

Committee on Education and Workforce: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “American Education in Crisis”. Testimony was heard from Jared Polis, Governor, Colorado; and public witnesses.

THE FEDERAL RESPONSE TO COVID–19

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health; and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a joint hearing entitled “The Federal Response to COVID–19”. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Health and Human Services officials: Lawrence A. Tabak, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Director, National Institutes of Health; Robert Califf, M.D., Commissioner of Food and Drugs, U.S. Food and Drug Administration; and Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

LIFTOFF: UNLEASHING INNOVATION IN SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a hearing entitled “Liftoff: Unleashing Innovation in Satellite Communications Technologies”. Testimony was heard from William Richardson, Deputy Associate General Counsel for Agenda Review, Federal Communications Commission; Charles Glass, Chief, International Spectrum Policy Division, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

SOPHISTICATION OR DISCRIMINATION: HOW THE ACCREDITED INVESTOR DEFINITION UNFAIRLY LIMITS INVESTMENT ACCESS FOR THE NON-WEALTHY AND THE NEED FOR REFORM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets held a hearing entitled “Sophistication or Discrimination: How the Accredited Investor Definition Unfairly Limits Investment Access for the Non-wealthy and the Need for Reform”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REVAMPING AND REVITALIZING BANKING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Monetary Policy held a hearing entitled “Revamping and Revitalizing Banking in the 21st Century”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS: REMOVING BARRIERS TO CAPITAL ACCESS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets held a hearing entitled “Empowering Entrepreneurs: Removing Barriers to Capital Access for Small Businesses”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its rules for the 118th Congress. The Committee Staff List, and the Authorization and Oversight plan were adopted.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its rules for the 118th Congress. The Committee Hiring Resolution was agreed to.

UNLEASHING AMERICA’S ENERGY AND MINERAL POTENTIAL

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Unleashing America’s Energy and Mineral Potential”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PROTECTING SPEECH FROM GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA BIAS, PART 1: TWITTER’S ROLE IN SUPPRESSING THE BIDEN LAPTOP STORY

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Protecting Speech from Government Interference and Social Media Bias, Part 1: Twitter’s Role in Suppressing the Biden Laptop Story”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its rules for the 118th Congress. The Authorization and Oversight plan was adopted, without amendment.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its

rules for the 118th Congress. Chairs, Ranking Members, and the Authorization and Oversight Plan were adopted.

STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES ON THE IMPACTS OF THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S WATER OF THE UNITED STATES (WOTUS) RULE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled “Stakeholder Perspectives on the Impacts of the Biden Administration’s Water of the United States (WOTUS) Rule”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held an organizational meeting. The Committee adopted its rules for the 118th Congress. Chairs, Ranking Members, Assignments and Ratios, and Committee Staff List were approved.

THE GREATEST THEFT OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS: UNCHECKED UNEMPLOYMENT FRAUD

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Greatest Theft of Taxpayer Dollars: Unchecked Unemployment Fraud”. Testimony was heard from Gene Dodaro, Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; Larry Turner, Inspector General, Department of Labor; and Michael Horowitz, Chair, Pandemic Response Accountability Committee, Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine the 2023 Farm Bill, focusing on commodity programs, crop insurance, and credit, 9:30 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings to examine the People’s Republic of China’s high altitude surveillance efforts against the United States, 10:15 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: business meeting to consider committee rules, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, and the nominations of Radha Iyengar Plumb, of New York, to be a Deputy Under Secretary, and Laura Taylor-

Kale, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Defense, 11 a.m., SVC-208/209.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, and subcommittee assignments; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the state of housing in 2023, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, and subcommittee assignments; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine strengthening airline operations and consumer protections, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the state of the U.S. Territories, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine U.S.-China policy in the era of strategic competition, 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, 11 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: organizational business meeting to consider the selection of Chairman and Vice Chairman, committee rules, and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, 11 a.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider committee rules, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress, S. 79, to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish an interagency task force between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Food and Drug Administration for purposes of sharing information and providing technical assistance with respect to patents, S. 113, to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, S. 142, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, and to prohibit biological product manufacturers from compensating biosimilar and interchangeable companies to delay the entry of biosimilar biological products and interchangeable biological products, S. 148, to enable to Federal Trade Commission to deter filing of sham citizen petitions to cover an attempt to interfere with approval of a competing generic drug or biosimilar, to foster competition, and facilitate the efficient review of petitions

filed in good faith to raise legitimate public health concerns, S. 150, to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit product hopping, and the nominations of Nancy G. Abudu, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Rachel Bloomekatz, of Ohio, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Anthony Devos Johnstone, of Montana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Robert Stewart Ballou, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Virginia, Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, Natasha C. Merle, and Ramon Ernest Reyes, Jr., each to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Jessica G. L. Clarke, Dale E. Ho, and Arun Subramanian, each to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Todd E. Edelman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Kymberly Kathryn Evanson, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, Gordon P. Gallagher, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, Jonathan James Canada Grey, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Myong J. Joun, and Julia E. Kobick, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Kenly Kiya Kato, and Hernan D. Vera, both to be a United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Colleen R. Lawless, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois, Rita F. Lin, and P. Casey Pitts, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Andrew G. Schopler, and James Edward Simmons, Jr., both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Amy Lefkowitz Solomon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Kate E. Brubacher, to be United States Attorney for the District of Kansas, Ismail J. Ramsey, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of California, and Jill E. Steinberg, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, all of the Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SH-216.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters, 11:30 a.m., S-216, Capitol.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Cyber, Information Technologies, and Innovation, hearing entitled "The Future of War: Is the Pentagon Prepared to Deter and Defeat America's Adversaries?", 8:30 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, organizational meeting, 9:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, business meeting on the Committee Authorization and Oversight Plan for the 118th Congress, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Looking Ahead Series: The Architect of the Capitol’s Strategic Plan for the 118th Congress”, 9 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government, hearing enti-

tled “Hearing on the Weaponization of the Federal Government”, 12 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Dependence on Foreign Adversaries: America’s Critical Minerals Crisis”, 9 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, February 9

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of DeAndrea Gist Benjamin, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11 a.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of DeAndrea Gist Benjamin, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 1:45 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, February 9

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.J. Res. 24—Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2022.

Consideration of H.J. Res. 26—Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Revised Criminal Code Act of 2022.

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