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No. 88

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 24, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY 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.

CONGRATULATING TEACHER OF THE YEAR ALEX FRANGOULIS

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is always an honor to lift

local heroes while on the House floor and to celebrate the dedication and service of our educators. Today, I get to do both.

Mr. Alex Frangoulis of the Goddard School in Collegeville, Pennsylvania, in my district was honored with the Goddard School's Teacher of the Year Award. With more than 3,200 applications, Mr. Frangoulis—or Mr. Alex as he is known to his students—shone as their national winner.

Education is one of the most powerful gifts that we can give to our younger generations, helping them to forge their own paths with the knowledge, skills, and empathy they learn throughout their schooling.

We as lawmakers have an obligation to ensure that all young students have access to the kind of high-quality early education that Mr. Frangoulis exemplifies. We have an obligation to fight for equitable funding of our schools, all of our schools, and we have an obligation to fight for universal pre-K. We know the difference that makes in a child's life and trajectory.

We have an obligation to support our teachers in every single school district.

Think of the difference a teacher in your life once made. Probably that teacher helped get you here.

We must all do everything we can to ensure every child can receive a quality education from the very beginning regardless of household income, an education that inspires them, and a foundation that helps them grow, just as Mr. Frangoulis achieves in his classroom every day.

Congratulations to Goddard School, and congratulations to Mr. Alex. He is a shining star example in my district.

HONORING BRUNSWICK COUNTY SHERIFF JOHN INGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brunswick County Sheriff John Ingram, who recently retired from his long and distinguished service in law enforcement.

A proud native of Brunswick County, Sheriff Ingram has continually dedicated his life to his community. He joined the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office in 1991, starting as a patrol deputy. He quickly rose through the ranks and served in many different capacities, including in the warrant and detective divisions, and then became lieutenant in the narcotics division and commander of the department's SWAT team.

Mr. Ingram later joined the Columbus County Sheriff's Office, where he was named chief deputy before returning to Brunswick County in the same role. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed Brunswick County sheriff and has earned reelection to the post in each and every election since.

During his tenure leading the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office, he expanded the department to accommodate the fastest growing county in the State. He increased recruitment efforts

□ 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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and brought in additional 911 telecommunicators and detention officers to increase safety.

He also offered a variety of community programs to further the sheriff's office mission to enhance public safety and education and promote community-based relationships between law enforcement and the public, including his support for establishing drug courts where those battling addiction could be better treated and find the pathway to healing, productivity, and success.

To facilitate those missions, he created the Sheriff's Citizens' Academy along with the Sheriff's Volunteer Program. He also launched the Anchor Initiative Program in 2018 to help those suffering from addiction start their recovery, providing a hopeful future to break the typical cycle of continued drug use and crime.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Ingram has been recognized for his leadership on all these fronts. He was elected to the board of directors for the National Sheriffs' Association and served as president of the North Carolina Sheriffs' Association.

Most recently, he was awarded the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine, a recognition considered North Carolina's highest civilian honor.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize a no-nonsense individual and one with such a sense of duty, integrity, and distinguished service to the people of Brunswick County, North Carolina.

On behalf of the citizens of North Carolina's Seventh District, I thank him, and I am proud to recognize him for his extraordinary service and commitment to his fellow man.

May God continue to bless him, his family, and the Brunswick County Sheriff's Office. I am proud to call him my friend.

HONORING MICHAEL OWENS

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American and Angeleno who is the definition of a public servant, Michael Owens.

I have had the honor to serve as an elected official for 27 years, and I have learned that the backbone of every office is having a team of dedicated people who work directly with our community members.

Just as it is in Congress, a Los Angeles city councilmember's district team has the biggest impact on the constituents they serve, and Michael made an impact on thousands of constituents.

Michael changed the lives of those with disabilities, LGBTQ+ youth, and all the families of the San Fernando Valley.

Michael Owens served Councilmember Bob Blumenfeld for 15 years, first as his director of constituent affairs and later as district director. In these roles, he oversaw more

than 10 staffers and the delivery of millions of dollars of city resources to their constituents.

Before getting involved in politics, he was a paralegal and director of legal affairs at the Motion Picture Association.

Michael lived in my district in the community of North Hills. He was a leader in his homeowner association, bringing the knowledge he had from the city to make his community a better place for all its residents.

He was known by Councilmember Blumenfeld as the "constituent whisperer" for his ability to hear constituents' most difficult problems and find solutions for them. No problem was too big or too small for Michael.

As district director, he ensured the district office he served was a space where students with disabilities could develop vital career skills.

We lost Michael in April. He joins his parents and late husband, Camron. My heart goes out to Michael's family, his sister Susan, Uncle Bob, and cousin Sara, and to Bob Blumenfeld and his entire staff during this difficult time.

Michael represents the Angeleno and American spirit of going above and beyond to serve the community that gave him so much.

HONORING IRMA CANTU ACOSTA

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Irma Cantu Acosta, a beloved leader, wife, mother, grandmother, and friend.

As a former small business owner and realtor, I saw firsthand the efforts of Irma to help families and young real estate agents attain the American Dream.

Irma was born in a small rural town in southwest Texas, and in the fifties, her family moved to Boyle Heights, Los Angeles.

Irma began her career in real estate, a field where she helped thousands of families navigate the real estate market. Her passion was helping working families find a house they could call home.

In 2000, she led the creation of the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals, the largest voice and champion for Latino homeownership and empowerment, which is now tens of thousands of members strong. From the local to the national level, she mentored thousands of clients and colleagues with her warm, reassuring smile and valuable insight.

Irma is survived by her high school sweetheart and husband, Ernie, and her three children, four grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

Today, I stand to celebrate and honor the incredible life of my friend, Irma Cantu Acosta, someone who believed that we can all aspire for our own piece of the American Dream.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS AND RETIREMENT OF MAUREEN "MO" BROWN

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the achievements and retirement of Maureen "Mo" Brown.

Coach Brown was recognized as the Southeast Georgia Middle School Athletic Association Athletic Director of the Year. It is a little bittersweet, as at the end of this year, she will be retiring from Pierce County Schools after 38 years of distinguished service. However, I am happy to hear that Coach Brown will be the director of the Pierce County Recreation Department.

Coach Mo was a standout athlete in her own right at Blackshear High School in the late 1970s. She has served head coaching stints as the girls' basketball, softball, and golf coach at Pierce County High School. She led the girls' golf team to two State championships while at the helm. She has been in her current role as Pierce County Middle School athletic director for 29 years.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Coach Mo for her years of success and the impact she has made on the students of Pierce County, and I look forward to what the future holds for her.

CELEBRATING DAVE REILLY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. Dave Reilly receiving the Navy's Distinguished Public Service Award.

On May 5, Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro presented Dave with this year's award for distinguished public service.

Dave served for 38 years in the United States Navy on assignments from submarines to his final post as commander of the Strategic Weapons Facility, Atlantic on Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base. He retired out of Kings Bay and decided to live his post-retirement years in St. Marys, Georgia, where he is also currently a city councilman.

In 1998, Dave became a lifetime member of the Camden-Kings Bay Navy League. He served in various local and national leadership positions before becoming national president of the Navy League of the United States in June 2021. As president, Dave has transformed the current governance structure and maintained his promise to keep the Navy League as the premier sea service support organization in the country.

His time as president may be up in June, but I have no doubt that Dave will continue to serve the Navy and his community long, long after his term is up.

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO MATT CAMPBELL, BUCK HOLLY, AND PATRICK KISGEN

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to thank Matt Campbell, Buck Holly, and Patrick Kisgen for their work on the Coastal Georgia Honor Flight. On May 13, they had the honor of being the guardians on the annual Coastal Georgia Honor Flight.

Coastal Georgia Honor Flight takes groups of veterans annually up from Glynn, Camden, McIntosh, and other

surrounding counties. They leave in the early morning hours for a whirlwind tour of the monuments for our servicemembers all day before returning that very same night.

The trip includes stops at Arlington National Cemetery, the United States Marine Corps War Memorial, and the Korean War Veterans Memorial, just to name a few.

Matt, who travels a lot for work, saw other regions' honor flight shirts in the airport and decided to look further into volunteering. After learning of his community's honor flight, he asked his two friends, Patrick and Buck, to join him. It did not take much convincing.

Reflecting on his trip, Patrick said: "Having the opportunity to experience our Nation's Capital with the multiple generations of men and women who put themselves in harm's way to protect it was something that I will cherish forever."

I thank all our veterans who have served our country, and I thank the great volunteers who make these special experiences happen.

MARKING UVALDE AND BUFFALO ANNIVERSARY

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

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago today, the American people were reeling from a white supremacist terror attack in Buffalo, New York.

Families were grieving 10 Black Americans who had been targeted by an ethno-nationalist and murdered for the color of their skin.

Loved ones were still organizing funerals for the victims of America's latest mass shooting, and then we saw the breaking news from Uvalde, Texas—another active mass murder; another crowd of desperate, panicked parents surrounding a school under siege; another statistic, 21 shot and killed.

□ 1015

One year later, I rise in mourning. I mourn the souls taken from their families in Buffalo. I mourn the children and teachers murdered in Uvalde. I mourn the thousands of Americans who have been shot to death in the year since.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to share the stories of just a few of those Americans stolen away in the last year—stories from all walks of life, from every corner of this country, stories that were all cut short by weapons of war.

Uziyah Garcia's friends said he was the fastest kid in fourth grade. He was obsessed with Fortnite. When he grew up, he wanted to be a police officer so he could help people.

At 10 years old, he was shot to death in his classroom with an AR-15.

Pearl Young was a substitute teacher for the Buffalo Public Schools. She ran

her church's food pantry. She was the grandmother of 10 and the great-grandmother of seven.

She was murdered while shopping for groceries with an AR-15.

Aiden McCarthy's parents had planned a fun Fourth of July, taking him to the annual parade at Highland Park, Illinois.

At 2 years old, both of Aiden's parents were murdered in front of him with an AR-15.

Juliana Farmer had just moved to Louisville to start a new job. On Easter Sunday, she found out that she was about to become a grandmother of a baby girl.

The next day, she went to work where she was shot to death with an AR-15.

Daniela Mendoza was on the cusp of finishing fourth grade. She loved math, and her goal was to go to Texas A&M.

Meanwhile, her sister Sofia was busy memorizing lines because she had the lead role in her class play. She wanted to go to college, too, and then her dream was to go on and win an Oscar.

Daniela and Sophia were both murdered in front of their mother while shopping in a mall with an AR-15.

This bloodshed is a choice. To my colleagues, have mercy on this country. If you care about public safety, let's vote to get these tools of carnage out of dangerous hands.

Let's turn our thoughts and prayers into actions and solutions. If you really care, let's put an end to this daily calamity.

RECOGNIZING THE PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER OF THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

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 an organization near and dear to my heart, Special Olympics.

In April, I attended the Paterno Family Beaver Stadium Run in State College, Centre County. The 5K run/walk raises money for the Pennsylvania chapter of the Special Olympics organization.

I fueled up at a pre-race breakfast and kicked off the opening ceremonies before cheering on the participants and meeting with the Centre County Special Olympics chapter.

Mr. Speaker, Special Olympics is a global organization that unleashes the human spirit and human potential through the transformative power and joy of sport every day around the world.

Through programming in sports, health, education, and community building, they change the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

Special Olympics began in 1962 as a day camp in the back yard of Eunice and Sargent Shriver with the first international games taking place in

1968. Today, the movement thrives in more than 172 countries throughout the world.

Pennsylvania formed their own State chapter in May of 1970 when 135 brave athletes participated in a small track and field competition at West Chester University.

Today, our State chapter has nearly 13,000 athletes competing across nine local regions in more than 300 annual competitions in 22 different Olympic-type sports.

Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, providing continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendships with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

Mr. Speaker, the Special Olympics program is more than an athletic competition. The program, when offered in schools known as Unified Champion Schools, reduces bullying, teasing, and the use of offensive language to those with intellectual disabilities.

Graduation rates of high schools that implemented USC increased 1.1 percent for students without disabilities and increased 1.4 percent for students living with disabilities.

The work Special Olympics is doing results in an average of four and a half more inclusive experiences for each student who participates.

In Pennsylvania alone, there are more than 720 USC partnered schools in more than 50 counties. In fact, at St. Mary's Area High School in Elk County, Pennsylvania, PA-15, the Flying Dutchmen unified sports teams completed an undefeated inaugural season and became the 2023 Interscholastic Unified Bocce PIAA State champs at the Giant Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

The unified program truly changes lives. One of the families participating summed up the program best in saying, "Unified sports really does unify a school, a community, and most of all, gives families like myself a lot of joy and for a moment to forget about a diagnosis."

Special Olympics also focuses on the long-term health of their athletes. People with intellectual disabilities lack equitable access to health services and die, on average, 20 years earlier than the general population in the United States.

Special Olympics creates a healthier world for individuals with intellectual disabilities through initiatives that reduce health disparities and instead, works toward equitable access to quality health service for people living with intellectual disabilities.

To date, Special Olympics Health has provided more than 1 million health screenings to Special Olympic athletes to identify unmet health needs, refer them to appropriate care, and allow

them to succeed on the field and in their communities.

In fact, from 2011–2012, Special Olympics of Pennsylvania conducted more than 9,000 screenings. For some, these screenings are the first time they have seen a doctor.

The programs build on the success of the PATH program to further improve the health status and increase access to community health resources.

Mr. Speaker, Special Olympics and the Special Olympics Pennsylvania chapter wouldn't be possible without community volunteers.

The PA chapter has more than 30,000 coaches and volunteers assisting athletes during all levels of competition.

This program touches countless people in numerous ways, and its impact reaches far beyond the sphere of sports.

It was a privilege to work with the State College chapter, and I am proud to share the 2023 Paterno Family Beaver Stadium Run was the most successful run ever, that day raising more than \$448,000 for Special Olympics of Pennsylvania athletes.

DEBT CEILING CRISIS

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

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, in 1 week, on June 1, the country and the world is going to witness something that we have never seen before.

There will be an office in the United States Treasury, less than a mile from here, in which a group of people will decide: Are we going to pay the soldier deployed in Syria to combat ISIS, or are we going to send out Social Security checks?

Are we going to pay air traffic controllers, or are we going to support the Medicare program that provides healthcare for retirees?

That is tragedy in and of itself, but the world is going to see something it has never seen before. It is going to see that the United States is no longer trustworthy; that we don't pay our bills; that we don't abide by the obligations that we freely took in this Chamber.

Even worse, Putin and Xi and the leadership of North Korea and Iran are going to say, look, democracy does not work. The supposedly greatest country in the world won't pay its bills.

Now, are we in this place because we don't have the money? Of course we are not. We have the money. We are the richest, most powerful country in the world.

We are in this place because my Republican colleagues have figured out that they have a perfect hostage situation; that if this Congress—and make no mistake—it is the Congress' obligation to raise the debt ceiling.

It is not the President's obligation under the law. It is the Congress' obligation to raise the debt ceiling. They understand that if we don't raise the debt ceiling, catastrophe ensues.

They have a list of ransom demands, and we saw it because it passed in this House 2 weeks ago. It would require veterans with mental illness to work in order to receive food stamps.

It would reverse the historic measures that the Congress took to turn around the tragedy of climate change.

We know what the ransom demands are. Now, I happen to disagree with those ransom demands, and we have a mechanism by which the Republican majority could pass those.

Anybody who ever watched "Schoolhouse Rock" knows what that mechanism is. You pass it in the House, you pass it in the Senate, the President signs it, and you get your way.

Of course, they can't get their way because they understand that that list of ransom demands is deeply, deeply unpopular with the American people.

Instead, they are saying, unless you do this stuff, Mr. President, Mr. SCHUMER in the Senate, we are going to destroy the global economy and the reputation of the United States of America.

Now, am I being unfair and saying that it is a hostage situation? My colleague from Florida said yesterday: "I think my conservative colleagues for the most part support Limit, Save, Grow"—that is, by the way, the ransom list—"and they don't feel like we should negotiate with our hostage." A Republican Member of Florida: "They don't feel we should negotiate with our hostage."

Now, Democrats, because we feel some sense of obligation and responsibility to the full faith and credit and the dignity of the United States, didn't do this under Donald Trump.

Three times Democrats acceded without a ransom list to a raise in the debt ceiling when Donald Trump was President.

Donald Trump, when he was President, said this about the debt ceiling. "That is a very, very sacred thing in our country, the debt ceiling. We can never play with it."

Let me quote the Speaker of the House yesterday. The Speaker of the House says, when he is asked, What do the Democrats get in this negotiation?

You get reversing climate change. You get work requirements for Medicaid and food stamps. What do the Democrats get?

The Speaker said, "We are going to raise the debt ceiling." The quiet part is being spoken out loud. This is a hostage situation.

The implications here, and I try to make this case to my Republican friends, eventually we Democrats will learn from this level of irresponsibility.

The next time there is a Republican President, we will have a ransom list. Is this the way we want to legislate in the greatest country in the world? I don't think so.

To illustrate how corrupt this enterprise is, how corrupt the reasoning is, here is what is happening. The Repub-

licans passed the Trump tax cuts, \$2 trillion in deficit addition.

By the way, a quarter, a full quarter of the national debt was accrued under one President, Donald Trump. A quarter.

This country has a 245-year history. One quarter of the debt was accrued in the 4 years of Donald Trump. Here is what is happening.

We have a big old dinner. We order the appetizers. We order the hors d'oeuvres. We order expensive wine. We order four courses.

This is the spending and the tax cuts that this institution likes, and then we say, we are not paying the bill. My friends, that doesn't work. Let's get past this debt ceiling insanity.

□ 1030

BRONZE STAR AWARDED TO DANIEL HOLIHAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of my constituents, 100-year-old World War II veteran Daniel Lawrence Holihan of Staten Island, New York, who tomorrow will be awarded the Bronze Star from Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro for his heroic achievement.

In January, the members of the VFW Post 7172 on Staten Island, led by Captain Timothy Forsyth, contacted my office about a veteran who they believed should be recognized for his achievements on Iwo Jima in February of 1945 as a member of the Underwater Demolition Team Thirteen.

Five days before the historic battle of Iwo Jima, the USS *Barr* was ordered to the eastern side of the island where Team Thirteen was ordered to erect a navigational light on Higashi Iwa, an islet about 4,000 yards offshore.

Despite the heavy artillery fire of the enemy, 3 officers and 15 men assigned to the task, including Petty Officer Daniel Holihan, were miraculously successful in carrying out their mission without a single casualty. These men worked tirelessly for 5 days to clear the water's edge and make way for the historic battle of Iwo Jima.

Petty Officer Holihan, along with several other enlisted members of his team, was initially recommended for the award of the Bronze Star Medal; however, because Mr. Holihan was transferred to the East Coast at the end of the war, he was not able to participate in the presentation of this prestigious award.

Earlier this year, I wrote to the Secretary of the Navy highlighting Mr. Holihan's contributions and asked that his service receive the honor it deserves from our grateful nation. In response to my request, tomorrow, Secretary of the Navy Del Toro will award Mr. Holihan the Bronze Star for Valor for his heroic actions and his selflessness.

I, like those who I represent in New York's 11th Congressional District, am very proud and grateful for Mr. Holihan's service to our great nation and the bravery that he displayed nearly 80 years ago.

As we head into Memorial Day weekend to honor those who did not return from war, those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, I also want to give thanks to our servicemembers like Daniel Holihan who were willing to give their lives, but thankfully returned home.

DEADLY FENTANYL MUST BE CONTROLLED

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the HALT Fentanyl Act. This is the Drug Enforcement Administration's top legislative priority.

If we do not take action to permanently schedule fentanyl-related substances, we will see many fentanyl-related substances becoming street legal, we will see law enforcement lose their authority to seize these extremely lethal drugs, we will see drug traffickers continue to be empowered to push these deadly drugs on our children, and we will see our U.S. Customs and Border Protection lose their authority to seize these substances crossing the border.

In 2022, last year, more than 109,000 people died from fentanyl overdoses, with the majority coming from illicit fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances. It is the number one killer of young Americans aged 18–49.

In addition to that, it is important to note that the DEA has announced results of a years-long national operation, Operation Last Mile, which specifically targeted fentanyl traffickers run by the drug cartels operating right here in the United States.

According to the Department of Justice, there are two cartels who use multicounty distribution networks, violent local street gangs, and individual dealers across the U.S. to drive addiction.

The DEA's operation led to the arrest of over 3,300 individuals and the seizure of nearly 44 million fentanyl pills, more than 6,500 pounds of fentanyl powder, more than 91,000 pounds of methamphetamine, 8,500 firearms, and more than \$100 million. The fentanyl powder and pills seized alone equate to nearly 193 million deadly doses of fentanyl removed from our communities across the United States.

It is so incredibly important that we not only pass the HALT Fentanyl Act to keep DEA having the tools they need to do their job, but we also pass House Republicans' border security package. We know that the drug traffickers are raking in \$13 billion a year from human trafficking and drug trafficking over our southern border.

According to the DEA, the Mexican criminal organizations are now the most prominent wholesale-level heroin traffickers in the DEA Chicago, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and Washington field division areas of responsibility; and they have greatly expanded their presence in New York City.

We must pass our border security bill in the Senate, and we must pass the HALT Fentanyl Act here in the House and in the Senate, as well.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE PATRICK EVANS

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

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the extraordinary life and legacy of a trailblazing public servant and educator, Selma Mayor George Patrick Evans, who passed away at the age of 78 on May 15.

A native of Selma, Alabama, Mayor Evans overcame great diversity and adversity to break down barriers for generations of leaders like myself to follow.

An educator, coach, basketball referee, principal, superintendent, city council president, and mayor, Evans wore many hats; but the common thread was service. He loved our hometown of Selma, Alabama, and he served her well.

He dedicated over 40 years to the Dallas County Public School System, cultivating an impactful career molding, teaching, coaching, and mentoring the youth of Selma and Dallas County.

In 1994, he made history again as the first African-American superintendent of Dallas County Public Schools.

He began his career in electoral politics in the Selma City Council. In this role, he brought the same passion, love of people and community, making history as the first African-American president of the Selma City Council.

In 2008, he earned more distinctions, as the second African-American mayor of the city of Selma in its 192-year history. During his two terms as Selma's mayor, Evans led the Queen City through the recession of 2008, the implementation of the city's optic fiber network, and helped address the lingering impact of segregation within Selma's community. I was proud to partner with Mayor Evans to bring vital Federal resources home to Selma and Dallas County.

From his demonstrated efforts to revitalize downtown Selma to his commitment to making our community safer and stronger, Mayor Evans fought hard to improve the lives of the people he served. His foresight propelled the city of Selma forward and cemented his legacy as a trusted leader in our community.

On a personal note, I have known Mayor Evans all my life. I even served as his family's babysitter during my youth. Mayor Evans has always been a man of great character and honor whose love of God, family, and community has been his guiding principle.

Through all of his accomplishments, he has led by example through his hard work, perseverance, grit, and kindness. His public service has left an indelible imprint on the city of Selma, and we will miss him terribly.

Let us not weep, but find comfort in knowing that his incredible legacy will live on in the many people he touched.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the extraordinary life and legacy of Selma's mayor, George Patrick Evans, for his decades of service to the city of Selma, Dallas County, and the entire State of Alabama. May he rest in peace and power.

SKIN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Skin Cancer Awareness Month to raise awareness of the most common and often avoidable form of cancer, nonmelanoma skin cancer. Nationwide, 3.3 million cases are reported annually, including over 13,000 in Pima County alone.

Sun exposure on unprotected skin is the primary cause of skin cancer, and it is a year-round threat. Other risk factors include the use of tanning equipment, family history, and increasing age.

Typically, this type of cancer is treated with Mohs surgery, but today I am pleased to note a nonsurgical alternative is available in Arizona, which means those afraid of surgery can now seek treatment.

I congratulated Tucson dermatologist Marc Epstein for being the first in southern Arizona to provide this new standard of care. This method avoids all potential complications of surgery, using a low-level x-ray precisely targeted through the use of ultrasound imaging, with a rate of cure of over 99 percent.

Given that most States now offer this nonsurgical treatment, and more than 50,000 patients have been treated successfully with it, no one should avoid timely treatment for this common skin cancer.

This month and always, I hope all Arizonans will take the simple skin care precautions necessary to prevent skin cancer.

PROTECTING UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine light on yet another tragedy unfolding at our southern border.

We have all seen the surge of border crossings, fentanyl trafficking, and migrant deaths brought about by President Biden's mishandling of the border.

Recently, The New York Times investigated the treatment of migrant children by the Department of Health and Human Services. They found that the Department had lost contact with over 85,000 migrant children after placement with sponsors.

What is even worse, hundreds of these children have been found in work environments that defy child labor laws, some working 12-hour days in hazardous conditions.

In an effort to rush migrants out of government custody, HHS' lack of vetting has put vulnerable children directly in harm's way.

As an immigrant myself, and especially as a father, it is heartbreaking to imagine the neglect that these innocent children have endured, first as a casualty of the border crisis and now by the agencies tasked with rescuing them. It is a national tragedy and an embarrassment to allow this exploitation to continue.

I am proud to be a first-generation American who has benefited from the freedoms and opportunities of this country. This is not the best that America has to offer. What is happening at the border is not part of the American Dream my family pursued and thousands of other families continue to pursue.

We have seen babies abandoned in rivers, migrants dying in deserts, and high-speed car chases through our neighborhoods.

Last month, I led 75 of my colleagues in a letter to Biden administration officials demanding accountability for this terrible neglect. We carried out our constitutional duty of oversight and set a deadline for Secretary Mayorkas and Secretary Becerra to provide transparency. The deadline was 12 days ago. With the Biden administration refusing to take action to prevent another surge at the border, it is hard to see what exactly these officials are preoccupied with.

This must be a top priority. Focusing on border security isn't just about keeping Americans safe, it is about stopping an ongoing humanitarian crisis.

As we speak, lives are being put at risk, migrants are being exploited, and the only people winning are the cartels leveraging this administration's weak border policy.

I urge President Biden and his Cabinet to accept accountability for this disaster and implement the border security measures our country desperately needs. There is no time to waste.

CUBAN PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep frustration with the Biden administration, especially the State Department, and its indifference to the suffering of the Cuban people.

I was in Cuba in December. I have traveled there often over the past four decades. I have deep ties to many ordinary Cubans, small entrepreneurs, and people of faith. I have never seen the Cuban people suffer such hardship as they are at this moment.

The main drivers of Cuban migration right now are hunger and a despair for a better future. There are many rea-

sons for this desperation: The economic collapse of the tourist economy during the COVID-19 epidemic, rigid economic controls by the Cuban Government that change too slowly, a harsh crackdown on protests, and the denial of basic rights and freedoms.

However, a significant factor contributing to the suffering are the policies of the United States.

Despite promises made as a candidate, President Biden has failed to undo the economic and financial restrictions imposed by his predecessor. He has failed to remove Cuba from the State Sponsors of Terrorism list against all reason, information, and analysis that should have led to its immediate removal upon his taking office.

These restrictions have strangled ordinary people's daily activities, financial transactions, the Cuban private sector, activities by other Western governments, and even the delivery of humanitarian aid.

□ 1045

In December, young entrepreneurs were begging me to remove Cuba from the State Sponsors of Terrorism list. The Governments of Colombia and Mexico, and many others, have asked the Biden administration to remove Cuba from this list. They have received the same response as many Members of Congress: an indifferent silence.

No doubt, the Biden administration will tinker around the edges, announcing limited reforms that might allow a few small entrepreneurs to survive another year or two, but they won't thrive. Such measures will hardly alleviate the suffering of the Cuban people as a whole.

Until this administration takes a hard look in the mirror and gets serious, until it removes Cuba from the state sponsor of terrorism list and ends the economic and financial restrictions imposed during the Trump administration, the United States will continue to contribute to the suffering of the Cuban people every single day, every single hour.

The Biden administration has had nearly 2½ years to undo the Trump restrictions. It has purposely decided to keep them in place, even to embrace them, no matter the cost to the Cuban people. These policies are no longer President Trump's policies. They are Biden's.

Cuban migration is just a symptom of the suffering. It won't stop until U.S. policy changes and starts working on behalf of the Cuban people rather than sitting back and continuing the harsh policies that have driven thousands to abandon their homes.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am angry. I am frustrated. I am past making excuses for this administration on this issue. We need to change U.S. policy toward Cuba. Today couldn't be soon enough.

BIDEN'S DEBT DEFAULT

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans are the only ones that have done their job to pass legislation that raises the debt ceiling in a reasonable, responsible, and sensible way.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen tells us that the United States may run out of funds to pay our bills in just 8 days. Yet, the Democratic-controlled Senate has yet to put forward a proposal or even hold a single vote.

Unfortunately, the President has wasted valuable time refusing to negotiate. In fact, it has taken more than 100 days for him to even come to the negotiating table, despite Speaker MCCARTHY's repeated calls to the White House to just have a meeting—President Biden declined at each and every turn until recently—inching our Nation toward a Democrat-induced default.

With only 8 days left until our Nation potentially drives off the fiscal cliff, thanks to Democrats' wasteful and out-of-control spending, you would expect the President would be at the negotiating table each and every day, around the clock, until we get a deal done to avoid the disastrous default. Instead, he spent the weekend traveling overseas.

To me and many of the Tennesseans I represent, the President seems to be neglecting his duties during these most critical moments. Republicans have done everything we can to avoid this scenario. Like I mentioned, the House is the only body to pass legislation that responsibly raises the debt ceiling and does so while also saving American taxpayers trillions of dollars.

President Biden's actions remind me of a child who doesn't get their way. Unfortunately, the President's temper tantrum will have much more dire consequences than that of a toddler.

There is an easy solution to this problem. If the President were serious about avoiding default, he could instruct his counterparts in the Senate to pass our bill, the House-passed Limit, Save, Grow Act, which raises the debt ceiling in a reasonable, responsible, and sensible manner.

Sure, maybe the President and Senate Democrats didn't get their homework done by the due date, but they are more than welcome to copy ours and turn it in for full credit.

Mr. Speaker, if a Democrat President delays negotiations, and if a Democrat-controlled Senate doesn't pass anything, what do you get? You get the United States' first-ever default that will lie squarely on Democrats' shoulders—a Democrat default.

It is a shame that after all of these years the President spent in the Senate, a body known for its bipartisanship and ability to compromise, the President has brought us this close to default.

Mr. Speaker, make no mistake, the Democrats' default will have catastrophic impacts on the U.S. economy. Let's hope it doesn't come to that and that we can come together to save our country from fiscal insanity by limiting Washington's out-of-control spending.

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

RECOGNIZING KALANI LAWSON

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the amazing accomplishments, once again, from the Fort Worth Independent School District. I will start off talking about Kalani Lawson, who is a sophomore at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Fort Worth.

Kalani recently broke a 27-year-old State record at the UIL State track meet in Austin this year. Kalani finished the Class 4A 100-meter hurdles in 13.98 seconds, breaking the previous record of 14.04 seconds, earning the accomplishment of having the first sub-14-second time in the event's history.

In amazing Texas sportsmanship fashion, the record holder who owned the record from 1998 in Groesbeck went on Facebook and congratulated her for breaking her record.

By finishing in this time, Kalani also broke Dunbar's record for the girls' 100-meter hurdles by beating the previous record set by her track coach, Leah Matthews.

Madam Speaker, I want to highlight Kalani's dedication to track and field, and her achievements as a young student athlete. This is an incredible family. They have a long history in Fort Worth in the business community and teaching endeavors, and lots of amazing athletes have come out of this family, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I am looking forward to Kalani's junior and senior seasons at Dunbar High School as she continues to do amazing things.

RECOGNIZING MALIK FRANKLIN

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend another Fort Worth ISD athlete, an accomplished young student athlete by the name of Malik Franklin, at Oscar Dean Wyatt High School in Fort Worth.

Malik is a junior and a two-time All-American track and field athlete. He is the captain of the varsity football team, and he is carrying a 4.1 GPA.

Malik competed in the 2023 track meet in Austin, and he brought home the top prize for the boys' 5A 400-meter sprint event, winning in 47.58 seconds, almost a full second ahead of any of his competitors. To qualify for the event, he had to race across all four regions in Texas. That is 254 counties. This young man is going places.

Malik is following in his father's footsteps. In 1998, Michael Franklin

was a part of the winning O.D. Wyatt track team that set a national high school record in the 4x100 relay, a record that still stands to this day.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate these amazing student athletes on their future and what they are doing on the field today.

HONORING BREWSTER VETERANS

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor two young men who gave their lives in Vietnam 55 years ago.

Marvin E. Galbraith and John Timothy Lane were friends who grew up in Brewster, Washington, as the Vietnam war broke out. Both graduated from Brewster High School, and at the age of 20, in the spring of 1968, each found themselves in combat in Vietnam.

Lance Corporal Galbraith served with K Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines in the I Corps region of South Vietnam. On March 27, he was killed by a landmine while on patrol in Quang Nam province. Marvin was laid to rest in Bridgeport Cemetery with five generations of his family.

Private First Class Lane deployed in the Mekong Delta with B Company of the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry "Manchus" of the 25th Infantry Division. On May 4, he was killed in a night battle near Duc Hoa when he threw himself on an enemy hand grenade in a brave act to save his fellow soldiers.

In recognition of Tim Lane's courage, he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Nation's second highest award for valor. He was buried at Locust Grove.

As Memorial Day approaches, I honor the lives of these two young men from Brewster who heroically sacrificed their lives for our Nation.

RECOGNIZING WSU MASTER GARDENERS PROGRAM

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Washington State University celebrating 50 years of their flagship Extension Master Gardeners Program.

Founded in 1973 by WSU extension agents from King and Pierce Counties, their very first training session had 200 applicants. The master gardener concept has been replicated across the United States and internationally. Today, there are over 85,000 certified extension master gardeners.

With a mission to engage university-trained volunteers to empower and sustain diverse communities with relevant, unbiased, research-based horticulture and environmental stewardship education, they have made quite the impact not only in my State of Washington but around the world.

This program makes me proud to be an alumnus of Washington State University. I thank the hardworking visionaries and volunteers who believe in

the impact that education and engagement can have on the health of our communities and our neighbors.

DEBT CEILING, BUDGET, AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to warn of the risk of U.S. default. Its ripple effects will hurt countless people across our Nation and the Buckeye State.

Default will reverse the Biden recovery and historic job growth, heading our Nation into deep recession. Default will make it almost impossible to pay down the bills America owes, as economic growth will be stalled out.

Extremists in Congress don't seem to care. Their dawdling and irresponsible threats to not pay America's bills risk throwing a wrench in the heart of the U.S. economy. Stock market crashes and the unemployment they trigger hurt everyone.

Extremists heedlessness will trigger a recession, tank our stock market, kill off businesses, lead to mass layoffs, and reduce earnings on everything from retirement funds to new investments.

Extremist recklessness will cause America's economy great harm. We cannot allow this to happen. Only a growing economy can generate the momentum to pay our bills.

Following the worst pandemic in modern history and the market collapse of 2008, our Nation has just begun to stabilize our institutions, create record economic and job growth, and build forward again to pay our bills. More economic turmoil drives America backward.

Let me remind folks, America's debt, which has to be paid, didn't begin to accumulate in the last 2 years. The last time our Nation balanced a budget was during the Clinton Presidency. That was largely possible because of budgetary defense savings made possible by the peace dividend following the fall of the Soviet Union.

Since then, our Nation has fought an extended war on terrorism at a cost of \$8 trillion and 900,000 lost lives. Further, our communities are still digging out of the horrible Wall Street-induced housing crash of 2008. We have been turning the corner on recovery from the massive pandemic that killed over 1 million of our friends and family members, and our health system is still struggling to recover from that.

In this hand, I hold up the President's budget, a 132-page document given to us over 2 months ago. This document outlines a real plan to continue to grow our economy from the bottom up and middle out in order to pay our bills.

The chart I brought to the floor today shows the rising debt of our country as a percent of GDP, which is how you have to measure it, and from

the Biden administration the first time that we begin to move that line down.

□ 1100

On the other hand, we have extremists backpedaling, which aims to take a flamethrower to the programs that help Americans nationwide by making 22 percent cuts to all nondefense spending. This would hurt working families, stifle job growth, and impact millions of Americans who need care in our hospitals and depend on secure retirement income.

Our Nation is now in the midst of historic job growth, with nearly 13 million jobs added under President Biden in just 28 months. Think about it and think about those who would hold our economy hostage.

They would reverse economic growth. Our economy would shrink, eliminating millions of jobs, while reducing retirement earnings or tanking their accounts altogether.

Default would lead to a huge decline in consumer spending that would cripple economic growth, forcing cuts in critical Federal programs that put oxygen into the economy: Meals on Wheels, which bring food and company to homebound seniors and those in need.

Cuts will impact programs like LIHEAP that help people pay monthly bills for home energy costs. Extremist cuts will raise costs of childcare, pre-K and kindergarten spots for millions of children nationwide, forcing working parents to choose between expensive childcare costs or staying home and losing wages, deflating economic growth.

Balancing the budget requires economic growth not economic reversal. Our Nation came out of the pandemic as the strongest economy in the world. Let's build on this success, not take a wrecking ball to it.

Here is an idea to balance the budget. What if megacorporations and billionaires begin to pay their fair share of taxes?

Some pay nothing and because of their tax lawyers, many get a tax refund. Everybody has to help pull this boat called America.

So extremists in this Chamber want America to default on our obligations and stifle our economy. Responsible Americans know growing our economy will achieve new revenues necessary to pay the bills.

We need steady economic growth, economic progress, not default. I will choose economic progress every time.

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY TO CONGRESSWOMAN MADELEINE BORDALLO

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with distinct honor and respect that I rise to recognize the Honorable Madeleine Bordallo who is celebrating her 90th

birthday this month. An eight-term Member of the House of Representatives, Congresswoman Bordallo stood in these very sacred Halls and under this historic dome for 16 years representing Guam and ensuring our community needs were always prioritized on a Federal level.

A two-term Lieutenant Governor, a senator for several terms in the Guam legislature, and an iconic first lady for 8 years, Congresswoman Bordallo's record with public service is vast and endless.

As a pioneer for education and advocate for our youth and one who has always prioritized the beautification of our island, there are many achievements in Guam which are credited to the work of the Congresswoman. I would need several hours just to name a handful of her accomplishments over the decades.

On behalf of a thankful Nation and island, I thank Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo for her decades of work for the people.

Mr. Speaker, I request this august body to join me in these sacred and historic Halls of Congress to wish Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo a happy birthday and blessings for many, many more.

LIFTING THE DEBT CEILING

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the serious issue of raising our debt limit before we wreak havoc on America's economy and the impact to the world's economy. What I want to talk about is common sense. It is common sense in terms of how we move forward with regards to our fiscal needs.

Since 1960, Congress has raised the debt limit 78 times. It is Congress's responsibility to do this. It was done 49 times under Republican Presidents, 29 times under Democratic Presidents.

There is a degree of hypocrisy that has filtered through this House in recent months regarding the debt ceiling. In the last administration, we voted to increase the debt limit three times, to lift the debt ceiling, under the Trump administration, while at the same time the debt was being increased by 25 percent. I even remember President Trump saying that he was the king of debt. I guess he is—or was.

The fact is if that hadn't been increased by 25 percent, we wouldn't be here today with the dilemma of how we should raise the debt ceiling. We should raise it the way we have previously: cleanly, and in a bipartisan fashion. That is what we have done historically.

As Sergeant Joe Friday used to say, "Just the facts, ma'am." The debt ceiling has no impact on our spending, which is a reasonable issue to debate, how we spend America's tax dollars, and that is what the Congress ought to do.

The debt ceiling simply commits us to paying the bills that we have already incurred. That is what this is about.

That is why since 1960, Congress, under Republican and Democratic administrations, has raised the debt ceiling 78 times: 49 times under Republican Presidents, 29 times under Democratic Presidents.

Yesterday's announcement by Treasury Secretary Yellen makes it clear there is no time to waste. June 1 is looming closely, and the havoc that would occur if we don't lift the debt ceiling is significant. We can and should avoid this economic catastrophe.

Mr. Speaker, during the 19 years that I have been in Congress, I have voted to raise the debt ceiling 16 times, 3 times under the Trump administration. It is the responsible thing to do.

Mr. Speaker, if we default on our debt, nearly 8 million jobs will disappear soon after in June.

If we default on our debt, Social Security payments will be jeopardized.

If we default on our debt, payments to veterans will be impacted.

If we default on our debt, health benefits will be at risk for millions of Americans.

In California, if we default on our debt as a result of the proposal that the Republicans are making and the measure that they pass, we will eliminate preschool and childcare for over 35,000 children. It will strip food assistance from over 1.3 million Californians.

It would make college more expensive for over 874,000 students, and it would increase housing costs for 83,000 people in California. These numbers are being updated.

So where are we?

There is a commonsense agreement, based upon past history, that we must lift the debt ceiling. Republicans have acknowledged that.

As a Blue Dog, I believe in fiscal responsibility, and I want to continue to work with my colleagues on both sides in a bipartisan effort to lower our debt because we must ensure that Social Security and Medicare remains solvent over the long term.

We must do those things, but there is a way to do it. We can lift the debt ceiling cleanly, as we have in the past, and we can agree to a serious bipartisan commission to look at our debt and how we reduce our debt, as occurred under the Clinton administration.

That is common sense. That is what this is all about. Partisan attempts to score political points should not be at the expense of the full faith and credit of the United States. Not only are Americans' economic recovery at threat here, but the U.S. dollar is the currency of the global economy.

America is not a deadbeat Nation. We need to pay our bills and we need to meet the needs of American people.

Mr. Speaker, let's lift our debt ceiling by June 1.

REFORM THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, the Endangered Species Act was put into law over 50 years ago. Of course, its purpose was to protect and recover vulnerable species to save them from population decline and extinction. That act has, to date, only recovered a couple dozen species, as there are over 1,300 listed species in the United States. The ratio of recovery indeed is a failure.

The ESA must be reformed to refocus the efforts of the Federal Government to recover animal species in a timely manner without also making it difficult for people to coexist in their habitat, as well.

We have the law now that is more likely to be used as a back door to regulate economic activity than a conservation piece of legislation.

There are numerous examples of activist groups weaponizing the ESA to use it as a business model. Indeed, they make money from the lawsuits.

For example, in my part of the State in the Central Valley, the valley elderberry longhorn beetle has had a very negative effect on the ability of Central Valley residents to maintain flood controls in the form of levees.

The residents cannot upgrade and improve the levees in this area because the ESA prevents them from doing so without very costly long-held permits. This is despite the fact that it has been recommended by Fish and Wildlife that the longhorn beetle be delisted for many years now. However, the environmental groups keep litigating on that and the Fish and Wildlife organization has pulled back from delisting the beetle.

So why do they do this? It is obvious.

If the beetle is delisted, it loses the ESA protections that make levee upgrades so difficult, expensive, and time-consuming in order to obtain the permits. The beetle has been delisted in some areas of California, such as the southern parts, but in my district, it is still listed as endangered, making it difficult to do needed flood-control projects.

Another example that has devastated the forest industry, in the West especially, is the spotted owl. It was listed many years ago. We find that the ESA has made that a weapon against forest management, and we have seen the results of that with million-acre fires. Year after year, hundreds of thousands of acres of fire have been wreaking havoc on so much of the West because we can't manage the lands because they believe there might be a spotted owl nearby, even though it isn't really the management of forests that is the problem. It is another larger owl nearby that actually devastates the spotted owl, known as the barred owl.

Also the spotted owl seems to like foresting a little closer to human ac-

tivity because it is seen as a protection from the barred owl, which devastates their population.

What is the end result?

Over 100 sawmills in California have shut down due to these protections that indeed make timber supply unavailable to the sawmills, so they go away, and instead, we have to import timber.

Now the activists themselves that sue over this, they don't live in these conditions. They live in cities far away. They don't have to live with the conditions of their economy being devastated in a small town in northern California or Oregon or other western States. So it is really easy to regulate other people somewhere else and say they have an idea about what a forest should look like when their own homes aren't subject to the threat of fire; indeed, places like Greenville, California, Canyon Dam, California, and a few years ago, a lot of us around the country heard about Paradise, California, as well. If they don't have to experience it, it is really easy for urban legislators to make regulations that continue to devastate these areas.

It is actually the local people that know best how to fight fires, how to manage the lands, and how to generate an economy that helps those communities take care of themselves and keep the people supplied with paper products and wood products that the country still wants.

So why in the world are we the number two importer of wood in the United States? We have so much that we could be utilizing. We could have managed forests that have the right ratio of trees per acre that is actually sustainable, instead of this horrific overpopulation of trees that really creates its own drought and creates a situation where they become tinderboxes, million-acre fires, ruining the habitat and killing the wildlife. Indeed, the opposite of what the Endangered Species Act is trying to do.

Also, why do we have such high food prices in this country?

Why do we even encounter food shortages in the United States of America?

Because it is hard to have a water supply in California that is a steady, stable supply.

They take away the ability to build dams and enhance our water storage, and all the water flows down the river and out to the sea. The Endangered Species Act needs to be restored to put things back on track for human needs.

□ 1115

ONE YEAR SINCE UVALDE

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

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the 19 children and 2 teachers murdered in Uvalde, Texas, 1 year ago today.

One excruciating year has passed for the families of those we lost at Robb Elementary that day. A year of empty childhood bedrooms and vacant desks where a child should be. One full year, and what do we have to show for it? What has this legislative body done to answer the pain of these parents with policy?

I ask myself this: Have we passed any measures on this floor that will stop the next Uvalde? The answer to that is an obvious no, we have not, because in the year since the second worst school shooting in American history, there has been 39 more.

My district is about 355 miles north of Uvalde, but the horror of that day haunts every Texan as if it happened right next door; maybe that is because it is happening next door, in a wave of gun violence that has touched every corner of Texas, in every public space we once saw as safe.

Just this month, my home of north Texas has grieved the deaths of eight Texans in a hateful act of violence at a shopping mall. That was the ninth mass shooting in Texas in 14 years. Fourteen years that lawmakers in Texas and Washington have used to loosen gun regulations.

Mr. Speaker, I will tell you something: As a Texan and as an American, I am tired. I am tired of being traumatized. Texas is tired of the terror. It is time to do our jobs and legislate instead of pontificate.

The 21 Texans ripped from their families last year deserve more. The people of Uvalde who have grieved and cried and demanded change deserve more. I hope we don't come back here in a year with the same amount of nothing to show for these grieving families. I hope we can show up having passed universal background checks and a ban on the weapon of war that stole those children's lives, but if history—history that many Republicans don't believe we should have taught in schools—if history is any indication, then yet another year will pass, more lives will be lost, and politicians will put on their pastoral hats and issue prayers instead of practicing what they preach, which is to be tough on crime and to keep these weapons of war out of the hands of the many domestic terrorists that have, frankly, been radicalized by the rightwing extreme rhetoric.

Regardless of what the Republicans do or don't do, regardless of their lack of courage, I will continue doing what I do best, which is standing for commonsense solutions that will save lives.

To my colleagues, I challenge you. Let's not fail these parents and children again. The number one killer of children in this country is guns right now. It is time that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle practice what they preach and be pro-life.

Mr. Speaker, let's save some lives.

HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the protection of freedom.

While the circumstances that brought our heroes to combat vary, their sacrifice is the same. They died protecting their fellow soldiers in the foxhole, the skies, and the seas. We can never fully grasp the unique story of each of our fallen, but let us never forget the patriotic lesson that our Nation's bravest remind us.

Among them, we do not pursue freedom in support of the United States, we pursue the United States in support of freedom.

On this Memorial Day as the Nation collectively pauses to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, let us also contemplate what their sacrifice teaches us. The United States and its Constitution are more than a mutually beneficial agreement between the States. The final cause of our union is the universal principle of freedom.

Many of our heroes lost their lives protecting the freedom of their friends, family, and neighbors. Others died in defense of freedom belonging to those they had never met. The sacrifice of our fallen servicemen and -women, including thousands from the Third District of New York, reminds us of this.

Today and every day, Mr. Speaker, let us honor the lives of our fallen military personnel and let their lessons guide our every decision as we move toward a free world. Let that be what we talk about on this Memorial Day.

NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

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

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today during National Military Appreciation Month to recognize some of Virginia's many Active-Duty servicemembers, veterans, fallen heroes, and military families.

Earlier this month, I reached out to families across Virginia's Seventh District to gather their stories of service, detailing the courage and the unwavering commitment of Virginians who have answered the call to serve our country.

As the daughter, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter of veterans, I am humbled to read some of the stories I received.

Rick Pullen of Fredericksburg shared the story of his wife, Air Force Colonel Cherie Zadlo, whom he described as the "first woman" in nearly every job she had in her 27-year career. Colonel Zadlo built an airfield, saw missiles come right at her while she was a passenger

in a military cargo plane, and was almost killed by a roadside bomb. A symbol of dedicated service to our country, her maternity uniform is a part of the Women's Military Museum collection.

Marie Atkins from Prince William shared the story of her late husband, Michael Atkins, who joined the U.S. Army when he was 17 years old. He served two tours in Vietnam, joined the Army Reserves, and served in the Gulf war. Upon returning home, Mr. Atkins married Mrs. Atkins, they had two daughters, and he enjoyed spending time with his three grandchildren. Committed to honoring his brothers in arms, he was a member of two motorcycle clubs, Rolling Thunder and Patriot Guard, which escorted fallen servicemembers to burials in military cemeteries. Mr. Atkins is now buried with military honors at Quantico National Cemetery.

Annette Wiahner from Orange shared the story of her late father, U.S. Army Air Corps fighter pilot Walter Kozial. Of her father's service in World War II, she writes: "Few people know that he was among a few brave volunteers to be the first to try shooting projectile rockets off the P-51 Mustang. They were told that it was uncertain when the rockets would detonate and that they could light up while still on the wing. Dad said to himself, 'Well, somebody has got to do it.' He had guts, and he loved his country."

I also heard from Clayton Hill from Stafford who shared the story of his great uncle Wibb Cooper, a U.S. Army veteran and doctor in the Pacific theater during World War II where my own grandfather served.

Mr. Cooper was captured by Japanese forces and survived the horrific Bataan Death March. In Clayton's words: "During that time, he stood up to his captors on behalf of other prisoners. He was decorated for his valor."

Michele from Stafford, who was born and raised in Germany, emigrated to the United States in 1980, and she shares that she always felt that service to country is the responsibility and duty of all citizens. She wrote: "When I joined the Army, it was my way of giving back to a country that was to become my new home." She served for 8 years before transitioning into civilian service working for the U.S. Government, and she retired after 35 years of total service to our country.

Alexa Rice from Prince William wrote to honor many of her loved ones; her husband serving in the U.S. Army currently on Active Duty, as well as her brother who serves in the U.S. Marine Corps. Her husband has been deployed for the past 8 months and Alexa's father served for more than 20 years in the Marine Corps. Her oldest brother served in the Marines, and her grandfather served with both the Marine Corps and the U.S. Navy.

She writes: "It is with such gratitude that these special individuals, not just in my own family, but men and women all over get the recognition and appreciation they surely earn and earned."

Virginians who are serving, have served, or love someone who is serving or has served know the true meaning of sacrifice.

We as Americans owe a debt of gratitude to every servicemember past and present who put on the uniform and defended our Nation. I will continue working in Congress to pass legislation to connect Virginia's veterans and veterans across the country with the benefits and support they deserved and have earned, and I will encourage all Americans to give thanks for the men and women in your life, in our life, in our communities who took up arms. We must all remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our great country.

Mr. Speaker, we as Americans enjoy the promise of freedom because so many brave Virginians answered the call.

WE MUST GET CONTROL OF OUR SPENDING

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, we are at a precipice as we face a debt ceiling crisis coming down in a few short days. The President doesn't seem to have a sense of urgency in the negotiations that is required to meet the moment.

Over the past 2 years, costs have gone up over 15 percent. Inflation is eating away at American paychecks. American families are finding it harder to get by. Our Nation's debt now surpasses \$31 trillion, and Washington continues to spend more. It is time to get our spending under control.

This House passed a reasonable, sensible bill to raise the debt ceiling. The Limit, Save, Grow Act moves our debt ceiling up by eliminating the growth of government, saving taxpayers' money, and growing the economy. The plan will claw back unspent COVID funds, making sure we are protecting taxpayers. It calls for able-bodied, childless adults to work a minimum of 20 hours a week in order to receive benefits. Bringing people back into the workforce will actually grow our economy and help address poverty.

We can limit government growth and spending, we can save taxpayers' money, and we can grow the economy all at the same time.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful the President of the United States understands the urgency of the moment and comes together to save taxpayers' money.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO MRS. VERNETTA JORDAN GLASS

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

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of the United States, and I am pleased to add that she is a member of my family, the Glass family.

Before my mother married my father, her maiden name was Glass. The lady that we celebrate today and acknowledge as she celebrates her 100th birthday is Mrs. Vernetta Jordan Glass.

□ 1130

I am pleased to wish her a happy birthday and to wish all of my Glass relatives well as we celebrate a family reunion in Detroit, Michigan.

Vernetta Jordan Glass was born on May 27, 1923, in the historic town of Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Mound Bayou traces its origin to the 1820s to a White planter, Joseph Davis, the older brother of Jefferson Davis, who was President of the Confederate States, which left the Union and formed the Confederacy, which led to the Civil War.

After the war, Joseph Davis sold his land to a former slave, Benjamin Montgomery, and it was Isaiah T. Montgomery who led the founding of Mound Bayou in 1887.

Vernetta was born on May 27, 1923, in Mound Bayou, Mississippi, and grew up in this all-Black town. She went to school and church, participated in community activities, and was taught values by her parents that have guided her life to this day.

She married Winston L. Glass, and she and her late husband migrated from Mississippi to Detroit, Michigan, in 1947, where they created for themselves very productive lives and raised seven highly educated and accomplished children.

After retiring from her nursing career, Vernetta increased her volunteer activities at her church, the community center, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, senior citizens centers, and other community places of interest.

Understanding the value of electoral politics and the civil rights movement, for many years, Vernetta worked as a judge of elections.

She is grandmother to more than 50 grandchildren and great-grandchildren and enjoys visits from friends and family. She also loves music and gardening and is a superb Scrabble player.

As she reaches the ripe age of 100, I am pleased to wish this dynamic lady, who has accomplished so much, a happy birthday. By the way, I am extraordinarily pleased that she is my cousin.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 31 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

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

Give ear to our prayers, O God. Do not hide Yourself from our supplication, but hear us and answer us, as there is so much this day that troubles us.

We look to one side of the world, and we see the extensive damage visited upon Guam by Typhoon Mawar. Its three-pronged attack of high winds, torrential rains, and life-threatening storm surge have wreaked havoc upon Your people.

Lord, grant them respite from storm and tempest. As they flee the destruction around them and huddle in emergency shelters, grant them Your comfort and hope. Wrap Your hedge of protection around those who bear the responsibility of guiding people to safety, tending to the wounds of the injured, or providing solace to the grieving.

So, too, do we find ourselves praying as we look to the other side of the globe where we are still witnessing the terrible devastation inflicted upon Ukraine at the hands of their aggressors. Their raging assault upon Ukrainian sovereignty, the leveling of whole cities, and the inhumane hostilities against innocents have caused unnecessary death and ruin. God, these, too, are Your children.

Lord, grant them respite from war's storm and tempest. As they continue to flee the destruction around them and huddle in emergency shelters, grant them, too, Your comfort and hope. Wrap Your hedge of protection around those who bear the responsibility of guiding people to safety, tending to the wounds of the injured, and providing solace to the grieving.

From the violence of nature's wrath to the vitriol of war, in the West and the East and around the world, Your people cry to You.

Give ear to our prayers, O God, and do not hide Yourself from our supplication. We trust in the strength of Your name as we call upon You this day.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD)

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. WILD 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

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

AMERICAN FAMILIES AT RISK

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the irresponsible policies of Biden have caused the most threatening border crisis in American history.

This illegal alien invasion exposes families to potential terrorists, human trafficking, and dangerous drugs.

Since Biden took office in January 2021, there have been over 5.2 million illegal crossings. Mr. Speaker, 10,300 illegal aliens came over the border on May 9 this year, the highest ever.

Gruesomely, another 1.5 million illegal aliens have crossed without being detained. That includes over 200 on the terrorist watch list, putting every American family everywhere at risk of mass murder.

Drug cartels are destabilizing Mexico and killing over 107,000 Americans annually, mostly due to fentanyl.

I am grateful House Republicans, led by Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY, have passed the Secure the Border Act, stopping illegal aliens.

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

MANUFACTURED CRISIS

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, on Memorial Day, we honor veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect our country.

Many veterans return home with lasting effects on their health and well-being. This Congress should honor their service by making sure they have access to quality healthcare, food, and housing.

The default on America act undermines this commitment. To preserve tax cuts for billionaires, their plan would cut veterans' benefits and programs by 22 percent.

We are told that if they don't get everything they want, they will force a default, sending our economy into a spiral.

Under President Trump, the debt ceiling was raised three times. Now, by holding veterans' and other American priorities hostage, they are putting politics over people.

I urge my colleagues to honor our commitment to those who have served and end this manufactured crisis.

PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the legislation efforts that we have had recently to define fentanyl as poison and to address a very serious problem in the United States where we had 110,000 people die last year alone.

As an emergency medicine physician, to see anywhere from one to five overdoses per night, to see four patients come in that I could not revive and that are no longer with us is a serious problem.

I caution everybody in Congress—from my conservative roots and the conservative values that made this Nation what it is—not to turn to legislation to solve this problem. We need to understand that this is a people problem.

Ultimately, you can spend a trillion dollars overseas, you can fight wars, you can secure your border, but until we get our hearts straight, we will not solve this very real problem.

Until we understand that when our children are taught that they are supporting murderers and rapists and child traffickers, people who would do harm to all of us, then they will stop the incentive of creating the demand, and the problem will go away.

This is a problem of our house but not this House, the house of our family.

ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, particularly as it pertains to the struggles young people face in our Nation today.

Mental health is an issue close to my heart, and ensuring that everyone has access to the mental health care they need is one of my top priorities in Congress.

In a recent national survey, 71 percent of college students reported experiencing mental health issues such as stress, anxiety, and depression.

That is why I will soon be reintroducing my bill, Enhancing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Through Campus Planning Act, which promotes positive mental health among college students and encourages

more comprehensive planning on college campuses to prevent suicide and other mental health crises.

Schools and college campuses do not have the counselors or services needed to ensure that every one of our young people has a bright future, and it is our job to make sure they do.

A STUDY IN CONTRASTS

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, the debt limit debate is a study in contrasts between responsible Republicans and dysfunctional Democrats.

On one side, you have responsible Republicans who have been working from the beginning to avoid default and reduce out-of-control spending.

Speaker MCCARTHY called on President Biden to negotiate on January 12. When President Biden ignored him for nearly 100 days, House Republicans passed the Limit, Save, Grow Act, the only plan that avoids default, lowers spending, protects Medicare and Social Security, and reduces our dependence on China.

By contrast, dysfunctional Democrats have ignored the exploding national debt, even though it was their reckless spending that brought us here in the first place.

President Biden knew the debt limit deadline was coming, but for months, he did nothing. Now, with only 8 days until Secretary Yellen's June 1 default deadline, he continues to act irresponsibly.

Mr. Speaker, my message to President Biden is simple: Get serious. Act urgently. Listen to the American people, not the far left in your party.

HEALTHCARE FAILURE

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, our profit-driven healthcare system is killing us. It is outrageous that the wealthiest country in the history of the world cannot guarantee healthcare for its people.

Our for-profit healthcare system, fueled by corporate greed, has failed us while enriching Big Pharma at the direct expense of everyday Americans.

Currently, more than 30 million Americans don't have health insurance, and many live in constant fear of losing their jobs, and along with it, their healthcare.

Every human being—every single one—has a basic fundamental right to healthcare. That doesn't change if you are rich or if you are poor. Healthcare, again, is a human right, not a privilege.

In the richest country on Earth, no family should ever face financial ruin because they got sick. No one should be forced to choose between putting food on the table or receiving lifesaving

treatment. No one should have to die because they are unable to afford care.

Congress must take bold action to transform our dysfunctional, broken healthcare system from one based on exploitation to one that prioritizes human dignity.

I am proud to join my colleagues in fighting to pass Medicare for All.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BERNARD BERNSTEIN

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a good friend of mine and an even better lawyer that recently passed away in Knoxville, Bernie Bernstein.

My friend Jerry Becker delivered the bad news last week. Bernie and my father were good friends, and they served on a draft board together.

Bernie served in the United States Air Force and was a respected lawyer and leader not only in the Jewish community but in every community he was in, especially in Knoxville.

My dad had two compliments he would give people. He would say: "You would make a good marine," or he would say: "He is solid."

He always told me that if negotiations were ever going south, just let Bernie speak because he was solid. Mr. Speaker, he was that.

There is a Holocaust memorial that we built in the West Hills Park when I was in the State legislature with the help of some folks, and Bernie was one of those.

He gave the words that are on the stone that stands there today. I remember we were supposed to have the dedication at the memorial, but dadgummit, it was raining cats and dogs, so we ended up having it at West Hills Baptist Church.

Oddly enough, Bernie was dear friends with Pastor Prince who has since passed away. His son is now the pastor there, and he is my good friend.

I walked up thinking no one would be there. The doors opened, and it was completely jam-packed. It was packed because he was not only a leader in the Jewish community, he was a good friend to everyone he met.

My dad was right. Bernie was solid, and when he spoke, people listened. Thank you for being such a dear friend. You will truly be missed, Bernie.

He leaves his wife and two children. I wish him shalom.

REMEMBERING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE UVALDE MASS SHOOTING

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with the heaviest of hearts to offer my sympathy and recognition to my fellow Texans and fellow Americans.

On this day, the unspeakable happened in Uvalde, Texas. It happened on the 24th. That weekend, I immediately went to Uvalde, simply wanting to embrace and to be able to understand what the parents could not speak.

We worshipped in a church. We walked amongst the flowers. We hugged children. We saw 9-year-olds crying in utter pain because they lost their playmates.

I remember the viciousness of the scene. The loved ones of these children and teachers have never gotten justice. There have been no answers. They have gone day after day asking what happened.

They watched as children scrambled out of windows, looking to see if their child would come. No one helped in the midst of that crisis.

I want us to look at those faces today. Let us mourn and seek justice for these families. I mourn them. I will take my moment of silence in honor of these beautiful children and teachers who died viciously on May 24.

□ 1215

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER CHRISTOPHER ERAMO

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

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Eramo, an Army officer from Oneonta, New York, who tragically lost his life in a helicopter crash in Alaska.

Chief Eramo exemplified the bravery and selflessness that is required of our men and women in uniform. He knew the dangers that came with his service, and he dedicated his life to protecting our country and safeguarding our freedoms.

As we mourn his passing, we also recognize the sacrifices all of our servicemembers make every day. They put their lives on the line every day to protect us, and we are forever grateful for their service.

May we always honor the bravery and sacrifice of Chief Eramo and all those who have given their last full measure of devotion to a grateful Nation.

DEFAULT IS NOT AN OPTION

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

Mrs. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, our Nation is just 8 days away from a potential debt default, while House Republicans continue to hold the American economy hostage.

As one of less than 7 percent of the Members of Congress who have children under the age of 18, I am particularly concerned about the impact that

a default would have on our children, as Federal funding for crucial government programs that impact them runs out.

In the Commonwealth of Virginia, 1 in 12 rely on SNAP benefits to put food on the table, and a default would jeopardize those payments, as well as access to free and reduced lunch programs.

Default is not an option, but the Republicans' extreme ransom note is not a viable alternative, either. It would slash funding for our school systems and leave 200,000 children without access to Head Start slots and 100,000 without access to childcare programs.

In the Commonwealth, almost 6,000 children would be impacted. This would severely undermine our children's education and make it more difficult for parents to join the workforce and contribute to our economy.

We must raise the debt ceiling now.

FENTANYL DEATHS IN OREGON TRIPLED SINCE 2019

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

Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act.

Oregon teenagers are dying from drug overdoses at a faster rate than any other State. In fact, adolescent overdose deaths have more than tripled in Oregon since 2019. It is because dangerous amounts of fentanyl and fentanyl-laced pills are flooding our streets.

Last year in my district, law enforcement seized enough fentanyl powder to kill the entire population of Oregon in just one single drug bust.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we must take a two-pronged approach to tackling the fentanyl crisis: Support law enforcement and enact tough-on-crime policies.

That is why I am proud to cosponsor the HALT Fentanyl Act, which accomplishes both of these goals by permanently classifying fentanyl-related substances as schedule I drugs.

I urge my colleagues to support this lifesaving legislation.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE MUST CHANGE COURSE

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

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, the United States Postal Service is the only agency specifically mentioned in the Constitution.

It is essential for delivering everything from medicine, tax documents, and in Oregon, where we proudly vote by mail, ballots. USPS is a pillar for rural communities and communities without high-speed internet.

Under Postmaster General Louis DeJoy's leadership, workplace and revenue

challenges at the Postal Service have caused a drastic decline in public trust.

One of the most significant issues facing the USPS is staff shortages. Issues like branch closures are forcing seniors and families in rural communities to travel further for postal services.

DeJoy's 10-year plan will only make things at the U.S. Postal Service worse. His plan includes downgrading service standards, reducing person-to-person interactions, cutting air delivery, and slowing mail. Unfortunately, efficiency and quality are being sacrificed.

The U.S. Postal Service must change course. Slashing services and raising prices harms their mission and diminishes the United States Postal Service popularity.

CLARION COUNTY 911 CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National EMS Week to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Clarion County 911 and recognize its founder, Jim Cumberland.

Clarion County's 911 was the very first 911 center in Pennsylvania when it opened in 1973. Founded as the Clarion County Communications Center, the 911 center was housed in the historic Clarion County Jail, built in 1875. Jim Cumberland established the center following his experience as the East Brady Police Chief and the Clarion County Sheriff. He also served honorably in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Fifty years later, Clarion County 911 remains one of the most advanced 911 centers in the State and is one of ten northern tier 911 centers using Next Generation 911.

In April, Mr. Cumberland's contributions were celebrated at an anniversary event at the new Clarion County complex, which houses state-of-the-art public safety and emergency management departments.

As a former healthcare worker and firefighter, I understand the critical importance of the 911 system. For this reason, I congratulate and thank Jim Cumberland and the Clarion County 911 on this special 50th anniversary.

FENTANYL CRISIS DEEPENS

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

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act. Every day an average of 14 Pennsylvanians die as a result of drug overdose.

In 2021, Pennsylvania recorded 5,449 overdose deaths, which is the fourth

largest amount in the Nation. Preliminary data shows that in 2022, roughly 110,000 Americans died from drug overdoses in the U.S., which is a new record, as the fentanyl crisis deepens across this country.

Just for perspective, fentanyl kills more Americans under age 50 than any other cause of death, including heart disease, cancer, homicide, and suicide.

We must ensure law enforcement has all the tools necessary to prosecute and seize all dangerous addictive and deadly forms of fentanyl substances. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DESMOND T. DOSS

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

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, as we prepare to honor the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives for our freedom this coming Memorial Day, I rise to honor the life of Lynchburg, Virginia, native Private First Class Desmond T. Doss.

Doss served the United States Army as a medic, becoming the first conscientious objector to be awarded the Medal of Honor in 1945 after fearlessly saving 75 wounded men under fire at the Battle of Okinawa in World War II.

The popular movie "Hacksaw Ridge" was based on Doss' story and accurately captures the valor and heroism he displayed during that deadly battle. Desmond Doss demonstrated true sacrifice and conviction, standing firm in his faith and for his love of country.

This week I plan to introduce legislation to rename the Lynchburg VA clinic after Private First Class Desmond T. Doss, to memorialize his outstanding legacy for generations to come.

We are forever grateful as a Nation for the sacrifices made by those who fight and have fought to keep our country free.

QUALITY-OF-LIFE ISSUES IMPORTANT

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

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, over the past 2 years, our Hampton Roads and Navy communities have been devastated by multiple sailor suicides, in particular aboard the USS *George Washington* and at MARMAC.

As a former Navy helicopter pilot and nurse practitioner, it frustrates me that the number of sailors who die by suicide continues to rise. It is clear for anyone to see we have to do better to serve those serving our great country.

That is why last week I introduced the Sailor Standard of Care Act. This important bipartisan legislation would increase mental health resources and require mental health screenings for

sailors assigned to limited duty, address challenges servicemembers and their families face accessing quality mental health care through TRICARE, implement a system to track quality-of-life programs and their success rate, and expedite the Navy's medical separation process that impacts limited-duty sailors.

It is imperative that we address the mental health and other quality-of-life challenges facing Active Duty servicemembers and veterans. This is exactly why I came to Congress. We speak so much about providing our military men and women with the necessary equipment, technology, training, et cetera, to be ready to fight tonight, and rightfully so, but we must take care of our people, too.

It is time for Congress to focus on quality-of-life issues for our men and women in uniform and their families—not only mental health care, but housing, childcare, and spouse employment support. There is so much work to do.

By doing so, we will not only do right by the men and women who make up our world's finest fleet, but we will also keep our Navy the best in the world.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RELATING TO "WAIVERS AND MODIFICATIONS OF FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS"

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 429, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 45) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans," and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCCORMICK). Pursuant to House Resolution 429, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 45

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans" (including the website announcement entitled "One-Time Federal Student Loan Debt Relief" and the Federal Register document entitled "Federal Student Aid Programs (Federal Perkins Loan Program, Federal Family Education Loan Program, and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program)" 87 Fed. Reg. 61512 (Oct. 12, 2022)), and printed in the Congressional Record on March 22, 2023, on pages S903-S906, along with a letter of opinion from the Government Accountability Office dated March 17, 2023, that the Waivers and Modifications are a rule under the Congressional Review Act, and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The joint resolution shall be debatable for

one hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, or their respective designees.

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FOXX. 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 resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 45, which would block the Biden administration's debt transfer scheme and prevent any further extension of the student loan repayment pause.

For Democrats, there is a specter looming over this debate, an incontrovertible truth that disproves all their supposed principles and contradicts all their virtue signaling.

Student loan cancellation is regressive. Let me repeat that for the Progressive Caucus. Student loan cancellation is regressive.

Two-thirds of this debt transfer plan would go to the top half of earners. It takes from those in the lower half and gives to the upper half. It redistributes wealth, but from the bottom of our socioeconomic ladder to the top.

For example, the repayment pause has provided \$65,000 in de facto loan cancellation for the average lawyer. This is a professional-class bailout. More specifically, it is a professional-class, graduate-degree holder bailout. Of the loans that will be disbursed in 2024, 70 percent will be borrowed for graduate school. Nearly 40 percent of those people will go on to make over \$100,000 annually in their careers. Those are the data absent partisan spin provided directly from the Department of Education.

The spin comes from the left when they use words like "forgiveness." There is no such thing as forgiveness. The Biden administration is simply transferring the debt from borrowers who willingly took out student loans to hardworking taxpayers who did not. The 87 percent of Americans who hold no Federal student debt are paying for the 13 percent who do.

□ 1230

On top of that, the bailout is inflationary, which is always and everywhere a regressive working-class tax.

According to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, inflation could rise by as much as 27 basis points if mass student debt cancellation is implemented. Enacting mass student loan

cancellation could also lead to an additional two rate hikes by the Federal Reserve.

Billionaires don't feel the effect of inflation. They don't notice when eggs cost \$5.99 a dozen. They don't need to take out a mortgage to pay for their house, but working Americans do.

Inflation already has a vise grip on blue-collar America. In fact, The Hill reported yesterday that "a record share of Americans in a new survey from the Federal Reserve Board say they are worse off financially than they were a year earlier."

That is troubling and should be enough evidence alone to pass H.J. Res. 45 and nullify the Biden administration's deficit-increasing inflationary plan, but in typical limousine liberal fashion, Democrats want future taxpayers and hardworking Americans to foot the bill. Americans shouldn't buy it.

America also shouldn't buy accusations from the left that H.J. Res. 45 would charge borrowers backpay on interest payments. It couldn't be further from the truth.

Nowhere in this resolution does it mandate backpay. It is prospective, not retroactive. If anything, it would be Secretary Cardona's decision to enact backpay.

We know who will pay for the loans if the administration's plan is allowed to go forward. Those who will pay are those without degrees and those who paid off their debt, and those who can't afford to put gas in their cars or food on their table. The rest is just political noise.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Congress to cut through that noise and stop this administration from enacting the biggest transfer of wealth from blue-collar workers to white-collar professionals in our Nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.J. Res. 45, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 45.

Forty-three million Americans are eligible for President Biden's student loan relief. That is an average of almost 100,000 people in each of our districts.

Nearly 26 million borrowers in congressional districts all over the country have already applied for relief, including 16 million who have already been approved prior to litigation stopping the process. H.J. Res. 45 seeks to deny these borrowers the relief they were promised.

To be clear, the people who would be impacted the most are not the wealthy and well-connected. Ninety percent of the relief would go to borrowers earning less than \$75,000 a year. You are not even eligible if you are making over \$125,000 a year. That is in stark contrast, of course, to the Trump tax scam, where 80 percent of the benefits

went to the top 1 percent and corporations.

Moreover, my Republican colleagues refuse to acknowledge the serious questions that have been raised about how the resolution would actually be implemented because, under the Congressional Review Act resolution, you don't get to pick and choose which parts of a rule you are overturning. You have to overturn the whole rule, including the pause in student loan payments and the deferral of interest.

How do you unpause a payment that you were supposed to make many months ago? What is going to happen to all those interest payments that now have to be added back to the loans? That is about \$233 per month in interest and principal.

What happens to the credits that participants in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program were promised during those months? Are these firefighters, teachers, police officers, and other public servants who may have had their loans forgiven now on the hook for four additional payments?

The reality is that H.J. Res. 45 would trigger a wave of delinquencies and defaults for our most vulnerable borrowers. Intentionally or not, this resolution would create chaos for borrowers and their families, as well as loan servicers.

The Congressional Research Service has confirmed that this chaos would be triggered by the retroactive application of this rule.

Mr. Speaker, anyone in the country who wants to take advantage of the benefits of a college education should be able to do so, not just the wealthy few. That is the way it used to be just several decades ago. Pell grants covered 80 percent of the cost of attending a State college. Now, it is less than 30 percent. When adjusted for inflation, States are paying less for State colleges than they used to.

Mr. Speaker, this proposal does nothing to help students pay for their college education, so I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose the resolution.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD), the author of this resolution and the chair of the Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chair Foxx for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be the sponsor of this resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act to hold President Biden accountable for his reckless, unfair, unlawful, unconstitutional student loan transfer scheme.

President Biden simply does not have the authority to "forgive" loans and thereby spend, unilaterally, more than \$300 billion.

In fact, he even admitted that to CNN host Anderson Cooper in February 2021, saying: "I don't think I have the

authority to do it by signing with a pen."

Democrats, in fact, knew he didn't have the power to do it and advised him not to.

Former Speaker NANCY PELOSI, on July 28, 2021, said: "People think that the President of the United States has the power for debt forgiveness. He does not. He can postpone. He can delay. But he does not have that power. That has to be an act of Congress."

My friends and colleagues on the other side of the aisle piled on.

Representative JARED GOLDEN of Maine said: "This decision by the President is out of touch with what the majority of the American people want from the White House, which is leadership to address the most immediate challenges the country is facing."

Representative CHRIS PAPPAS of New Hampshire said: "This announcement by President Biden is no way to make policy and sidesteps Congress and our oversight and fiscal responsibilities. Any plan to address student debt should go through the legislative process, and it should be more targeted and paid for so it doesn't add to the deficit."

Representative SHARICE DAVIDS of Kansas said: "It is not how I would have addressed this issue."

Yet, the President decided yet again to act unconstitutionally. Like the timing of the depletion of our Strategic Petroleum Reserve, this so-called student loan transfer scheme—interesting timing—was just before the election.

Despite his better judgment, a barrage of legal challenges, and this current effort by this Congress to nullify his actions, President Biden has preemptively announced that he will veto my resolution. I invite the President to reconsider his position.

Federal involvement in higher education, as a matter of fact, has done nothing to bring down the cost of college. In fact, for every \$1 increase in student loan subsidies, colleges have increased their tuition by 60 cents. All across the country, more than 92 percent of all student loan debt comes from Federal loans, totaling over \$1.6 trillion.

This debt is held by just 13 percent of the population—in fact, the most elite 13 percent. It is estimated that two-thirds of the student loan transfer scheme would go to the top half of earners, not to mention that 70 percent of the debt is owed by students who went to graduate school.

Mr. Speaker, 60 percent of the constituents in my district don't even have a college degree. Yet, the Biden administration wants them to have to pay for the education of others who will have a significantly higher lifetime earning potential.

Student loan cancellation doesn't make the debt actually go away. It simply shifts the costs from the student loan borrower and transfers it to hardworking American taxpayers.

It is also worth mentioning the key role this policy plays in the fiscal health of our Nation as we address our debt ceiling. The principle of this resolution, nullifying President Biden's student loan transfer scheme, was one of the key provisions of the Limit, Save, Grow Act. Saving \$315 billion by simply asking Americans to honor their commitment to pay back their own student loans will help us get our country's spending under control.

Student loan borrowers are responsible for the debt they incurred, and Congress is responsible for the \$32 trillion that we have spent.

House Republicans take that seriously, which is why, a month ago, we passed a plan to responsibly raise the debt limit while providing historic savings for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I invite Representative PELOSI and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stand by their word and vote with me today in favor of this resolution to nullify President Biden's student loan transfer scheme. Congress must reclaim its power and act today to stop the unilateral action of President Biden that is exacerbating the higher education financial crisis.

Additionally, my resolution will do what should have been done a long time ago: End the student loan repayment pause that has already cost taxpayers \$195 billion.

In short, this bill is needed to help steer our government spending in a more responsible direction, and I urge all of my colleagues on both sides to support this commonsense legislation and vote in favor of this resolution.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleague from Virginia that over 90,000 borrowers in his district will be denied relief if this resolution is enacted.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the assistant Democratic leader for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because my colleagues across the aisle are once again seeking to put politics over people and inflict undue economic harm, this time by denying much-needed student loan debt relief.

President Biden's targeted student loan debt relief plan is designed to help low- and middle-income borrowers, with 90 percent of the relief going to those earning less than \$75,000 per year.

In my home State of South Carolina, over 680,000 borrowers are eligible, of which over 67 percent are Pell grant recipients. Over 48,000 borrowers in my district alone have been fully approved for relief.

If enacted, H.J. Res. 45 will rescind life-changing relief for hardworking

borrowers, renege on the payment pause by forcing them to pay several months of installments with interest, and claw back earned credit from public servants toward the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. For many, this will mean thousands of dollars in payments with little to no notice. Cruelty seems to be the point.

Mr. Speaker, President Biden's student loan debt relief plan will help alleviate the yoke of student loan debt for millions of Americans. Challenges to the program, both in court and posed by those in Congress, are meritless.

Higher education shouldn't be a luxury for a privileged few. Borrowers deserve our help, and I urge my colleagues to vote down this resolution.

□ 1245

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 45, introduced by my colleague, Mr. GOOD.

This resolution will block President Biden's illegal debt transfer scheme.

Forcing those who either did not attend college, saved and sacrificed to pay their way through school, or those who paid off their loans to pay for someone else's debt is simply unfair.

Estimates show 570,000 of my constituents, nearly three-quarters of my district, will not benefit from this giveaway. Yet, as taxpayers, they will still be on the hook for over \$3,500.

It will further fuel inflation but does nothing to address the rising cost of college. Simply put, the President's illegal debt transfer is a slap in the face to those who paid their bills or did not go to college.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleague from Michigan that over 90,000 borrowers in his district will be denied relief if this resolution is enacted.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI).

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this misinformed attempt by our Republican colleagues to deny some needed financial relief to about 43 million Americans.

Education is the best investment we can make to give everyone the opportunity to be successful in school and in life. In this Congress, we have repeatedly seen how willing our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are to put politics over people and special interests over students. This CRA is no different.

Facts matter. Let's set the record straight. President Biden's loan for-

givenness plan helps a lot of borrowers with debt but no degree. Many were borrowers who were defrauded by their schools or who had to take on other responsibilities and couldn't complete their education.

The President's plan directs 90 percent—let me repeat—90 percent of relief to borrowers earning less than \$75,000 per year. This may be news to my colleagues who continue to misrepresent that student debt relief will be a bailout for the rich. It is not.

Another fact. Because of interest capitalization and negative amortization, many student loan borrowers who are current on their payments still have loan balances that are the same as or even greater than when they first took out their loan. That is unfair.

Beyond the numbers, we must humanize who will be hurt the most if we allow this CRA to pass:

Our Nation's teachers in red and blue districts who work with students every day; healthcare workers and first responders in red and blue districts who keep our communities safe and healthy; caregivers in red and blue districts who support the work of raising and sustaining families; and our Nation's small business owners in red and blue districts who make communities vibrant and unique.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to show some humanity, compassion, and empathy. Let's pass good-faith policies that make college more affordable and recognize the intrinsic value of opportunity and possibility in every American.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote "no" on this regressive resolution that will harm people in Oregon and across the country.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate my colleague's comments, but we are showing compassion to the 87 percent of the people in this country who played by the rules and paid their bills or didn't go to college. The 13 percent who did take out debt who haven't paid it back should show some similar compassion to their fellow human beings and not ask them to pay their bills.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN), a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.J. Res. 45, which would overturn President Biden's egregious student loan transfer scheme.

Our Nation is \$31 trillion in debt. We are staring down a debt ceiling deadline due to the President's inaction. Yet, this administration is dead set on enacting costly programs like a massive student loan bailout that will increase the financial burden on those who did not take out a loan themselves.

Hardworking taxpayers will be stuck with a tab of over \$300 billion, and \$1.4 billion in the 12th District alone, my district. Broken down further, the residents of Georgia's 12th District would

each have to pay the Federal Government an additional \$3,527.

To my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, student loan cancellation doesn't make the debt go away. It shifts the cost from the student loan borrowers who made a financial commitment and transfers it to the U.S. taxpayers.

Forcing hardworking taxpayers to foot the bill for student loans they didn't borrow is simply unconstitutional, period.

Democrats would also have you believe that canceling student loan debt would reduce the cost of college tuition.

We can all agree that addressing ballooning college costs is paramount, but studies show increasing subsidies to colleges and universities causes the cost of college to increase. This overreaching plan is going to make the financial burden of pursuing a college degree even more severe.

Overall, the student loan transfer scheme is unfair to hardworking Americans and unfair to future students.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this resolution to overturn the Biden administration's radical student loan bailout.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleague from Georgia that over 110,000 borrowers from his district would be denied relief if this resolution is enacted.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO), the ranking member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution to nullify the Biden administration's Federal student loan forgiveness rule. At a time when students need relief the most, Republicans are working to upend student loan forgiveness that started under Trump and now continues under President Biden for more than 40 million borrowers.

There was broad recognition during the pandemic that relief was desperately needed for businesses, families, and students. That is why Congress, and Republicans under Trump, voted to pass both the CARES Act and The HEROES Act, which provided not only student loan relief, but also loans to protect businesses from shuttering and direct support to families. These were forgivable loans that we gave the businesses.

We helped workers and small businesses alike during the height of the pandemic. Again, both President Trump and President Biden paused student loan payments. Under this CRA we are debating today, we would see a rollback on the loan payment pause through September 2022. This is unimaginable.

Do not be fooled by the faux populism of Republicans. They raised the debt ceiling three times to pay for their tax cuts for the wealthiest 1 percent in America. By contrast, President Biden's targeted student loan re-

lief plan helps Americans earning less than \$75,000 a year.

When Democrats were in the majority and on the hook for providing assistance, we rose to the occasion to help small businesses and employees alike. We did not renege on our support for businesses through the PPP loans. I see no reason why Republicans now insist on reneging on their support for students.

Why, for the love of God, do Republicans want to continue to punch down on American students and divide our country?

The Biden administration's student debt relief plan is not a bailout. It is a lifeline.

I implore my Republican colleagues in Congress to speak with borrowers in their own districts about this very issue. College debt has been weighing on borrowers across all demographics across the country, including in their own districts.

Mr. Speaker, this should not be a partisan issue, and I oppose the resolution.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN), chair of the Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, you get \$3,527. You get \$3,527. You get \$3,527.

Mr. Speaker, whether you like it or not, you have just acquired \$3,527 in new student loan debt. That is right. Thanks to this crazy student loan bailout, every man, woman, and child in America will owe \$3,527 to foot the bill for someone else's debt.

Mr. Speaker, aren't we already in a debt crisis?

Yes, we are.

We already have a whopping \$32 trillion in debt. We are struggling right now to come to an agreement on how we are going to pay our bills. This administration's student loan bailout will just throw gasoline on the inflation fire, making it even harder for our families to put food on the table. It is the last thing our economy needs.

Mr. Speaker, is this fair?

Of course it is not fair.

This bailout sounds like a Houdini-type escape from the responsibility of student loan debt. Instead, 87 percent of Americans without student loan debt will end up paying for the 13 percent of Americans who do.

How do you tell someone who has worked their way through college or joined the military to get through school, like my son, that they will now be saddled with paying off a Harvard graduate's underwater fire safety degree?

This whacky student loan bailout is unfair to taxpayers and unfair to future generations of students.

Mr. Speaker, the whole plan is nuts. There is only one correct answer, and that is to vote "yes" on this Congressional Review Act.

Mr. Speaker, let's bring sense and sensibility to America's education sys-

tem while protecting the interests of taxpayers.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleague from Florida that almost 120,000 borrowers from his district will be denied relief if this resolution is enacted.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS), the ranking member of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.J. Res. 45, which will disapprove of waivers and modifications on borrowers of Federal student loans.

As a former educator of 40 years, I am ashamed and astonished to see that my colleagues would introduce such divisive, misleading, and harmful resolutions. This partisan, all-Republican-led bill would end the one-time debt relief and the December payment pause.

The Department of Education would also be prevented from issuing a similar ruling to the Biden administration's one-time debt relief and extension of payment pauses in the future.

Let me be clear. This barely one-page bill does absolutely nothing to advance, to enrich, or to uplift borrowers.

Under the Biden administration's plan, 43 million borrowers would be eligible for student loan relief, and 20 million would be eligible for full forgiveness of their loans, ensuring that individuals affected by emergencies, including COVID, are not placed in a worse financial position.

Within my own district, there are more than 120,000 estimated eligible borrowers under the Biden student loan relief plan. Mr. Speaker, 79,900 of those borrowers were deemed automatically eligible for relief, and that is about 65 percent of the eligible borrowers. More than 50,000 of those were fully approved applicants that were sent over to loan servicers for discharge. That is about 42 percent of the eligible borrowers in my district.

Tens of thousands of constituents from my district and across the country will have the ability to live their lives without the looming effects of student loan debt. Just imagine the millions of borrowers that would be impacted across this country, as well.

Unfortunately, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle fail to realize the impact that this would have for so many Americans. This legislation moves to rid student aid borrowers in this country of any opportunity to better their financial situations.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, it is a step toward borrowers buying that house, taking that long-awaited trip, starting the family they wanted to start, and starting a business.

Education is an American right and a privilege, and no one should deny that right from anyone. I look forward to

having a meaningful conversation, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues want us to feel so sorry for these people who took out these loans and who are not going to pay them back. My colleague in the 12th District of North Carolina said 121,000 people in her district.

Mr. Speaker, you know who I am feeling sorry for? The 622,600 people who are being asked to pay off the bill that those 121,000 people took out willingly and have benefited from. This is a backward way of looking at things. Compassion should be shown to the 622,600 people who didn't take out the loan but are now being asked to pay it back.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER), the vice chair of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

□ 1300

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose President Biden's proposal to force blue-collar workers in my district to pay off the student loans of borrowers who attended universities who are sitting on billion-dollar endowments.

In my district, there are 599,500 constituents who are not being asked to but will be forced to pay the student loan debt that people agreed to take out. This plan is unfair to responsible Americans who have diligently worked hard and saved money to fund their education.

Furthermore, it is important to acknowledge the dedication of our military members who earned tuition benefits through their service. The rising costs of higher education deserve careful examination, particularly concerning the growing number of administrative positions focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

We must investigate the significant increase in administrative expenses that do not directly contribute to providing students with a quality education leading to meaningful employment.

Universities that charge exorbitant amounts for humanities degrees in cultural Marxism should bear the responsibility when their graduates struggle to repay their loans due to a lack of viable employment opportunities.

I urge my colleagues to prioritize the interest of taxpayers by opposing this proposal put forth by President Biden.

Mr. Speaker, I see them laughing over there. I don't think the people that are going to be left holding the bag paying someone else's student loan debt are laughing.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleague from Illinois that over 75,000 borrowers from her district will be denied debt relief if this resolution is enacted.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 17¼ minutes

remaining. The gentlewoman from North Carolina has 11 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA).

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to House Republicans' efforts to eliminate critical student loan relief.

Now, as an educator, it is shameful to me that my colleagues could look at this crisis of student debt in our country and decide to intentionally make it worse for 40 million Americans.

These are the same people that voted for tax breaks for billionaires and large corporations, and now they are telling everyday people that we can't afford to help them, and it is appalling.

When I was in the classroom, I saw my students take out loans for basic needs like rent and putting food on the table. We tell kids to go get an education, to go to college, to work toward the American Dream, but that also means taking out, oftentimes, thousands of dollars of loans.

Student loan debt also disproportionately impacts people of color, low-income students, and millions of young people that may not have had access to financial training. Millionaires are not burdened with student debt; working-class people are.

So let's be clear: Republicans in the House are putting billionaires and large corporations over students.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise, again, in support of H.J. Res. 45 and urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

The Democrats and the White House have accused Republicans of working against the interests of our constituents; however, this just shows how out of touch Democrats are with the realities of the people in my district.

While the White House likes to point to the fact that 75,000 of my constituents are eligible for the administration's bailout, they conveniently ignore that 675,000 of them, or over 90 percent, receive no benefit from this illegal scam.

Moreover, 212,000 of my constituents have never even set foot on a college campus. According to the National Taxpayers Union estimate, the administration's blanket loan cancellation and income-driven repayment plan will cost over \$3,500 per constituent. This will cost the hardworking constituents in my district \$1.2 billion alone.

Mr. Speaker, there is no such thing as debt forgiveness. The administration's student debt scheme simply transfers the cost from well-off college graduates to the backs of my constituents. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.J. Res. 45, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I oppose this legislation that will harm

43 million student loan borrowers who need debt relief so that the Republicans can spend trillions of dollars in just a few weeks on tax cuts for the wealthiest 1 percent.

Over 100,000 borrowers in my congressional district alone and over 1.5 million Illinoisans will lose and be affected if the relief is denied. The maliciousness of this legislation is appalling. The bill would ban relief for 43 million borrowers and also drawback relief that millions of borrowers already receive.

This heartless bill would force public servants like firefighters, teachers, social service providers, legal aid attorneys, and nonprofit workers to make additional payments. The callousness of this bill is heightened because the Republicans are bragging that they will spend trillions of dollars in just a few weeks to give trillions in tax breaks to the wealthy 1 percent while inflicting economic harm on Americans struggling with student loan debt. I reject this bill.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I would let Representative Davis know that in Illinois 11,655,200 people don't have student debt, and they will be the ones bearing the cost of the transfer from 90,800 people.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, America is a country built on the idea of freedom. Freedom to most means the ability to live and make decisions without unreasonable constraints. Freedom does not mean freedom from individual responsibility.

Unfortunately, President Biden and those who support his wealthy student loan giveaway scheme have gotten it backwards. They believe that hardworking, blue-collar Tennesseans should foot the bills for the wealthy.

Simply put, this is plain wrong. Because in America, we are free to make decisions on our own and no one should be responsible for someone else's personal decisions.

Mr. Speaker, by forcing this draconian student loan buyout down the throats of taxpayers, President Biden is hindering our freedom. That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in standing on the side of freedom by voting "yes" on H.J. Res. 45.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleague from Tennessee that 89,000 borrowers from his district will be denied relief if this resolution is enacted.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL), a member of the Education and Workforce Committee.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this cruel resolution that will force low- and middle-income student loan borrowers to face severe financial hardship.

In a reckless reversal of the payment pause, this measure sends an average of \$1,000 in surprise student loan bills to over 40 million Americans. This absurd

approach to block President Biden's student debt relief plan hurts those who are most at risk.

Older Americans owe a fifth of all student debt. Their debt has increased fivefold in the last 20 years. Black Americans owe an average of \$44,800 in student debt. Over 6 million Americans living in rural areas owe an average of \$35,000. Reversals to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness would put 260,000 public servants and 46,000 servicemembers back under the thumb of these crushing payments.

Those who receive that Public Service Loan Forgiveness have played by the rules for years and sacrificed too much to have partisan efforts steal relief that they were already given and counting on.

Our job is to protect working people, and that should mean ensuring that no one goes into unpayable debt just to get a degree to pursue their dreams. This Republican plan would increase the likelihood of defaulting for teachers, for law enforcement, for public servants across the board, and it would be a drop in the bucket toward actually addressing the deficit.

Yet Republicans took \$1.9 trillion from taxpayers and handed it to corporations in tax cuts, and dozens of them have absolutely no qualms in pocketing over \$22 million in PPP forgiveness just in this body across the aisle.

Congress should be prioritizing aid to seniors and borrowers from working families, not the wealthy. Vote "no" on this extreme, unworkable, and cruel resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter signed by over 260 organizations, including labor, civil rights, and consumer protection groups calling on Congress to reject this harmful resolution.

MAY 8, 2023.

Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

LEADER SCHUMER, MINORITY LEADER MCCONNELL, SPEAKER MCCARTHY, AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: The undersigned 261 organizations representing millions of students, workers, people of color, veterans, people with disabilities, consumers, and people of faith write in strong opposition to bicameral efforts to use the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to overturn President Biden's actions to pause student loan payments and provide student debt relief for low-income and working-class Americans continuing to recover from the deadly COVID-19 pandemic and its devastating economic fallout.

In March, policymakers in the House and Senate unveiled a CRA resolution to retroactively overturn the pause of federal student loan payments and interest accrual, and President Biden's debt relief plan. If success-

ful, these CRA efforts would immediately force tens of millions of borrowers into abrupt and unplanned repayment with devastating effects, including adding thousands of dollars of payments and interest onto their loan balances. It will also force the Department of Education to unwind loans forgiven under Public Service Loan Forgiveness for first responders, nurses, educators, servicemembers, and hundreds of thousands of other public service workers across the country. These actions are a clear attack on millions of the most vulnerable workers and families who are still reeling from the devastating impact of COVID-19.

The President's student debt relief program and extension of the pause on student loan payments are both plainly legal and desperately needed by the more than 43 million borrowers drowning in nearly \$1.76 trillion in student loan debt. While they await the Supreme Court's decision regarding the fate of debt relief, tens of millions of borrowers and their families are relying on the federal student loan payment pause as they continue to face the economic aftershocks of the pandemic, including high inflation. Data show that the payment pause has been of greatest help to student loan borrowers who were in financial distress even before the pandemic and has successfully provided relief for those borrowers more than other COVID-19 assistance programs. The payment pause is broadly supported among individuals with and without student loan debt and has been recognized as necessary by the Trump and Biden Administrations alike. Further, the U.S. Secretary of Education's use of the HEROES Act of 2003 to pause student loan repayment falls within a long line of waiver and modification authority exercised by prior administrations without the invocation of the CRA, including by his immediate predecessor for precisely the same purpose.

Overturning the payment pause and forcing borrowers into immediate repayment would have a devastating effect on borrowers in every community. U.S. Department of Education (ED) analysis demonstrates that a resumption of loan payments without cancellation will spike delinquency and default rates for the most financially vulnerable. Further, more than 26 million Americans applied for student debt cancellation in the few weeks before it was shut down by partisan attacks in the federal courts. This extraordinary engagement with President Biden's cancellation plan is further evidence of both the crushing burden this debt places on workers and families from all walks of life and the promise of hope debt cancellation offers for millions seeking an economic fresh start.

Recent polling illustrates that cancellation enjoys broad popular support, underscoring the massive impact of student debt across families, communities, and entire generations of Americans, and the reasons for the program's popularity are clear. Cancellation will also benefit many Americans who have suffered the most throughout the pandemic—with 90% of relief dollars going to borrowers earning below \$75,000 a year. These are student loan borrowers who are low- and middle-income, borrowers with disabilities, public servants who face high educational costs and low wages, women and Black and Latino/a borrowers who come from low-wealth families unable to foot the bill for higher education upfront, and many more. Cancellation will help prevent a wave of defaults and delinquencies when repayment resumes and ensure that these borrowers will be able to afford basics like food, housing, and other necessities that pandemic-related financial hardship would otherwise put out of reach.

The American people, the law, and the economic instability of the present moment all emphasize the necessity of debt cancellation and the continuation of the payment pause until cancellation is realized. Policymakers now seeking to reverse such critical relief through the CRA are ignoring the economic needs of their own constituents and threatening our nation's financial security. Congress should be acting to improve the circumstances of the American people, not attempting to thwart the President's efforts to ease the financial pressure that so many are feeling.

For these reasons, we strongly oppose the efforts to overturn this relief through the Congressional Review Act (H.J. Res. 45/S.J. Res. 22) and we urge you to consider the harmful impact they would have on the millions of American people and families who are in need of student loan debt relief.

Signed,

1000 Women Strong; AACTE (American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education); Accountable.US; Adasina Social Capital; Affordable Homeownership Foundation Inc.; AFGE; AFL-CIO; AFT Michigan, AFT, AFL-CIO; AFT-Wisconsin, AFT, AFL-CIO; AKPIRG; Alabama State Association of Cooperatives; Alliance for Justice; Amazon Labor Union; American Association of University Professors; American Association of University Women; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); American Federation of Teachers (AFT); American Psychological Association; Americans for Financial Reform; Applesseed Foundation.

Arkansas Community Organizations; Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (AFL-CIO); Associate Students of the University of California, Berkeley; Associated Students of the University of Nevada; Association of Flight Attendants-CWA; Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS); ASUCM External office; Autistic Women & Nonbinary Network; Bend the Arc; Jewish Action; Blue Future; BPUF.org; CAARMA; Cabrini Green Legal Aid; California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits); Campaign for College Opportunity; CASH Campaign of Maryland; CEA.org; Center for American Progress; Center for Economic Integrity; Center for LGBTQ Economic Advancement & Research (CLEAR).

Center for Responsible Lending; CFPB Union NTEU 335; Chicago Foundation for Women; Church Women United in New York State; Citizen Action of Wisconsin; Clearinghouse on Women's Issues; Color Of Change; Colorado AFL-CIO; Colorado Fiscal Institute; Columbia Consumer Education Council Inc.; Communication Workers of America (CWA); Communications Workers of America District 7; Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. (Delaware); Community Service Society of New York; Consumer Action; Consumer Federation of America; Consumer Federation of California; Consumer Reports; Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety; Council of Graduate Schools.

Council on Social Work Education; Debt Collective; Delaware Community Reinvestment Action Council; Dream Defenders; Economic Action Maryland; EMPATH: Economic Mobility Pathways; Empower our Future; End Citizens United/Let America Vote Action Fund; Equal Justice Works; External Vice President Office of the Associated Students of the University of California, Irvine; Faith Action for All; Faith in Action; Fayetteville Police Accountability Community Taskforce; Feminist Campus; Feminist Majority Foundation; Formerly Incarcerated College Graduates Network; Forward Montana; Fosterus; Freedom BLOC; Fresno Building Healthy Communities.

Friendship of Women, Inc.; Hawaii State Teachers Association; HEAL Food Alliance;

Hildreth Institute; Hispanic Federation; Housing and Economic Rights Advocates; Indivisible; Instituto de Avance Latino CDC; International Brotherhood of Teamsters; International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE); Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc.; Justice in Aging; La Raza Centro Legal, San Francisco; Latinos for Education; LCLAA; Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights (LCCR); LeadMN—College Students Connecting for Change; League of United Latin American Citizens; Legal Action Chicago; Loan Repayment Assistance Program of Minnesota.

Louisiana Budget Project; Maine Center for Economic Policy; Maryland Center for Collegiate Financial Wellness Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service Massachusetts Action for Justice; Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance Miami Valley Fair Housing Center, Inc.; Michigan Poverty Law Program; Minority Veterans of America; Montana Fair Housing; Mountain State Justice; MoveOn; NAACP; National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners; National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

National Association of Social Workers:

DC Metro Chapter, Alabama Chapter, Alaska Chapter, Arizona Chapter, Arkansas Chapter, California Chapter, Colorado Chapter, Connecticut Chapter, Delaware Chapter, Florida Chapter, Georgia Chapter, Guam Chapter, Hawaii Chapter, Idaho Chapter, Illinois Chapter, Indiana Chapter, Iowa Chapter, Kansas Chapter, Kentucky Chapter, Louisiana Chapter, Maine Chapter, Maryland Chapter, Massachusetts Chapter, Michigan Chapter, Minnesota Chapter, Mississippi Chapter, Missouri Chapter, Montana Chapter, Nebraska Chapter, Nevada Chapter, New Hampshire Chapter, New Jersey Chapter, New Mexico Chapter, New York City Chapter, New York State Chapter, North Carolina Chapter, North Dakota Chapter, Ohio Chapter, Oklahoma Chapter, Oregon Chapter, Pennsylvania Chapter, Puerto Rico Chapter, Rhode Island Chapter, South Carolina Chapter, South Dakota Chapter, Tennessee Chapter, Texas Chapter, Utah Chapter, Vermont Chapter, Virgin Islands Chapter, Virginia Chapter, Washington Chapter, West Virginia Chapter, Wisconsin Chapter, Wyoming Chapter.

National Association of Student Loan Lawyers; National Black Justice Coalition; National Center for Law and Economic Justice; National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients); National Consumers League; National Education Association (NEA); National Employment Law Project; National League for Nursing; National Legal Aid & Defender Association; National Nurses United (NNU); National Urban League; National Women's Law Center; National Young Farmers Coalition; New Era Colorado; New Georgia Project Action Fund; New Jersey Appleseed Public Interest Law Center; New Jersey Institute for Social Justice; New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG); NextGen California; Nine Star Enterprises, Inc.

Nonprofit Professional Employees Union (NPEU); NTEU Independent Staff Union; Office & Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU); Office of the Nevada State Treasurer; Ohio Student Association; Oregon Student Association; Our Revolution; P Street; Passengers United; People's Action; Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada; Protect All Children's Environment; Psycharmor; Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK); Public Citizen; Public Counsel; Public Good Law Center; Public Justice Center; Public Law Center; Quiet Creek Herb Farm.

Rachel Carson Council; RAISE Texas; Red River Association of Educators; Rise; RootsAction.org; Rural Coalition; Rutgers

University Student Assembly; School Social Work Association of America; Secular Student Alliance; SEIU Local 500; Service Employees International Union (SEIU); South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center; Stella's Girls Inc; Student Borrower Protection Center; Student Debt Crisis Center; Student Loan Fund; Students First Consulting; Students United; Suncoast NORML; Supermajority.

Take on Wall Street; Texas Appleseed; Texas State Teachers Association; The Arizona Students' Association; The Bell Policy Center; The Education Trust; The Hope Center at Temple University; THE ONE LESS FOUNDATION; Towards Justice; UC-AFT, Local 1474; UCSB Associated Students Senate External Affairs Committee; UCSB Lobby Corps; UFCW; UnidosUS; United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 400; United Way of Southern Cameron County; University of Wisconsin Law School Consumer Law Clinic; University of California Student Association; Vermont-NEA; Virginia Poverty Law Center.

Washington Council of Lawyers; Washington Office of the Student Loan Advocate; We the 45 Million; Western Center on Law and Poverty; Wisconsin Education Association Council; Women Employed; Xavier University of Louisiana Student Government; Young Invincibles; YWCA USA; Zero Debt Massachusetts.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I think our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are doing their best to gaslight the 87 percent of their constituents who are going to be saddled with the debt from the 13 percent.

In Washington's 7th Congressional District, there are 686,200 people who don't have any college debt who are going to be asked to pay the debt off for 84,300 people.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. MORAN), who is a member of the Education and Workforce Committee.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman GOOD of Virginia for introducing H.J. Res. 45, and I thank Chairwoman FOXX for her leadership in getting this important resolution to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, just a few statistics from my particular district in northeast Texas: Almost 70 percent of my district does not hold a college degree, and under this program, effectively what the President is asking for is, that those 70 percent should subsidize the college education of the rest of those individuals in my district.

The cost for my district is \$1.55 billion. The estimated number of constituents ineligible for student debt relief in my district is 640,000 individuals out of 767,000 individuals in east Texas.

Nearly 30 years ago when I began my post-education studies, I had to support myself through college. My parents wanted to do that, but they couldn't do it because of their financial status at the time, so paying for college was a matter of personal responsibility for me.

Better stated, it was a matter of personal investment for my future. It was an investment that I chose to make. It was an investment that I knew I needed to make to fulfill God's call on my life.

To pay for my education, I took on a variety of jobs, including being a server at a restaurant, running a vending route, serving as a painter's helper, even roofing a roof in the middle of the hot Texas sun.

There was still a gap between what college was going to cost me and what I could earn on my own during those summer and weekend jobs that I had. Despite my hard work, a shortfall was still there, so I picked up college loans.

When I did so, I evaluated what I was going to have to repay in the future. I looked at the degree programs I was studying, I looked at the future repayment plans before me, and I knew that it was a matter of my personal responsibility to pay back that loan that was going to benefit me and benefit my family.

It was not a matter of me taking out those loans believing that others would, in fact, be on the hook to pay for them. As a father of four school-aged children, we are now going through that same process with my older two children to determine what we are going to do about their future. It is a decision we know we need to make and an obligation we know we need to keep on the back side of taking out any loans.

Unfortunately, that is a conversation a lot of families don't have in this world before they send their kids off to school, and we need to make sure that there is more information out there before they incur the debt that ultimately they are going to have to repay.

□ 1315

But to saddle that repayment on the backs of others who have not benefited from it is simply wrongheaded. Frankly, it is unconstitutional for the executive branch to take that action without going through the legislative branch, but that is precisely what the President is attempting to do.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in opposition to the student loan debt forgiveness program and in support of Mr. GOOD's joint resolution. I look forward to this being on the floor.

I look forward to Americans in this country understanding that when they take an obligation for a loan repayment, that they are going to repay it, not others, because once we assume the obligations of every other person in this country, the free market, capitalist society that drives our economy is gone. We do not need to see that.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleague from Texas that over 88,000 borrowers from his district will be denied relief if this resolution is enacted.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I hope the American people are watching this shameful act to halt assistance on student debt for millions of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, 90 percent of people who will benefit from President Biden's student relief make less than \$75,000. To

my good colleague from Texas, as he says, these folks making all of these difficult decisions, how about this: Why don't those folks who took out PPP loans over there, who got it completely forgiven, give that money back?

You are asking teachers, firefighters, all who are drowning in education debt, who will benefit from a public service loan forgiveness program, to pay it back while they are serving our country in all different forms, reverse it all, and pay the interest back as well. Let them struggle and suffer while, again, they are educating our children and protecting our communities.

This is all happening, Mr. Speaker, while the far-right Republicans have filed a sham lawsuit to take it before an unhinged, corrupt Supreme Court that has secretly accepted lavish trips and payments from billionaire Republican mega-donors while considering striking down student debt relief.

Now, our Republican colleagues, including many who took out over \$20 million in PPP loans during the pandemic when everybody was suffering—that were completely forgiven—want to hurt fellow Americans who aren't wealthy like they are. They want to repeal the President's student debt relief program that has changed the lives of 43 million Americans for the better.

Under President Biden's debt relief program alone, in Michigan over 1.3 million residents were helped with the burden of crushing student debt.

I don't know, Mr. Speaker. Maybe they are doing this because student relief is tied to racial justice. We know that more than 20 million borrowers will be completely debt free and one in four of them are Black borrowers.

Our communities have been denied the ability to build generational wealth for far too long, targeted by police violence, systemic racism, and an economic system that is fueled by corporate greed.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow the same Republicans who had millions of dollars in PPP loans forgiven to repeal student debt relief. The hypocrisy is disgusting.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from North Carolina has 4¼ minutes remaining.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 10¾ minutes remaining.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FROST).

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this resolution.

I want to say something. My Republican colleagues are pushing a narrative that student debt relief is unfair. To my colleagues, I agree with

them. I agree that what is going on is unfair.

Folks who paid off their debt, the fact that they had to have it in the first place is unfair. The fact that students still have to take out crushing student debt just to get a college education, that is unfair.

If we legislated using the logic that you bring to this issue here today, women and Black folks wouldn't have the right to vote because it would be unfair to those who never got to vote before then.

See, if we legislated using your logic, that because there was an injustice we can't fix it because it is unfair to those who never had it fixed, means we would never progress on any issue in this country.

Why do you bring that * logic to this issue as it relates to students but not any other issue?

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I demand that words be taken down.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend. The gentleman will take a seat.

The Clerk will report the words.

□ 1330

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the offending words.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I have no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the offending words are withdrawn.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will proceed in order.

Mr. FROST. If we use this logic on every single issue, we would never have progress on anything.

The truth of the matter is that young people and people don't have student debt because we live beyond our means. We have student debt because we have been denied the means to live. It is important to understand that.

Congress needs to help fix this damaged economy, which gets more unequal and inequitable every single day. This resolution today is not delivering that help. It is making things worse. To people watching at home, to young people, the people with student debt, just know that the Republican Party here, my colleagues in this Chamber, are fighting to take away the relief that you need and that you deserve.

This is about fairness. True fairness is ensuring that everyone has equitable opportunity. Twenty million constituents robbed of relief by their own Representatives is what this resolution is about.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 2½ minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that in the 10th District of Florida, 654,500 people will be paying the debt for 122,500 people.

Mr. Speaker, over the last two decades, tuition and fees have increased nearly three times the rate of inflation.

Democrats continually talk about how college is unaffordable yet fail to realize their failed policies exacerbate the problem of outrageous college costs.

More Federal aid and generous loan subsidies allow schools to increase their prices to capture those additional funds. Economists at the New York Federal Reserve found that for every \$1 increase in student loan subsidies, colleges increased their tuition 60 cents. Another study found colleges reduced their own grant aid by as much as 83 cents for every dollar students receive in taxpayer student aid.

The Biden administration is telling borrowers that someone else will pay their loans and telling institutions that someone else will cover the cost of tuition.

It is no wonder the Congressional Budget Office found that the Biden administration's new income-driven repayment plan alone will increase student borrowing by 12 percent.

Let's work toward actually lowering college costs, not dumping hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars on well-off college graduates to make the problem worse.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.J. Res. 45, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE).

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn Republicans' attack on education. They want to ban teachers, books, and the opportunity to learn history, and now, they want to ban relief for students.

This resolution would block President Biden's debt forgiveness plan, forcing everyone who took advantage of the pause in payments to pay interest on every payment missed.

In addition, this plan would hit our valuable public servants the hardest—those who took advantage of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, like nurses, firefighters, law enforcement, and childcare providers.

If you want some real truth, Mr. Speaker, let's not get it twisted. PPP was not a grant, yet some of my Republican colleagues literally received millions in PPP loans. I don't see anyone rushing to pay those back. Talk about unfair; the American people are paying those bills that they didn't incur.

No, Republicans don't want to forgive anyone or anything except themselves, and the American people deserve forgiveness.

This legislation will harm low- and middle-income families, including 20.6 million of Republicans' own constituents, but they won't say that.

American people, if you don't know, now you know.

Let's enact legislation that encourages affordable education and economic mobility so that the American people can learn and earn.

Republicans, please get out of your and my constituents' way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for a "no" vote on this.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. PRESSLEY).

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of burdened borrowers throughout the Massachusetts Seventh Congressional District and borrowers everywhere.

I rise today on behalf of the third grade teacher who spent a decade in the classroom, month by month making their student loan payments; on behalf of the mother juggling three part-time jobs, trying her best to stretch her paycheck to cover rent and to pay down her student debt; and for the one in four Black borrowers who will have their student loans fully canceled under President Biden's historic plan.

You see, Mr. Speaker, student debt cancellation can and will change and save lives. This isn't hyperbole. It is reality.

A diverse coalition of voters came together to press for cancellation, critical payment pauses, and updates to the essential Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

Under this cruel measure, 260,000 public service workers could see their debt reinstated—nurses, educators, firefighters, and military servicemembers.

Let me make it plain: The President has the legal authority to cancel student debt.

Let me say this. I took out loans, and I paid off those loans. It took me 20-plus years while being a caregiver to my mother and while working three jobs sometimes. I took out those loans, and I paid them off, but I want an easier road for the next person.

The cost of higher education has increased by 150 percent, so I do not call it student debt forgiveness because borrowers have done nothing wrong. They don't need to be forgiven anything, but they are deserving of and do need relief.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLOOD). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts.

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, to anyone who seeks to mislead the public and to use the court's harmful measures to gut essential relief, take a seat. The people deserve and demand this relief.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close whenever the gentleman from Virginia is prepared, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, there are many challenges we have in higher education that demand our attention: the rising costs of higher education, the student debt crisis, the eroded value of the Pell grant, and mental health issues. The list goes on.

Instead of addressing these challenges, we are trying to force through a resolution that hurts tens of millions of student borrowers and their families, an average of almost 100,000 in each of our districts.

Many of my colleagues on the other side have justified this resolution by arguing that we can't afford it, but it is just a matter of priorities.

Congressional Republicans are willing to charge taxpayers more than twice as much for a tax package where 80 percent of the benefits were scheduled to go to the top 1 percent and corporations, but now they are unwilling to invest half that amount to help student borrowers pay for their education.

We should be passing proposals that meaningfully support borrowers and make college more affordable for current and future borrowers.

The bottom line is that it is our responsibility to strengthen the support for those seeking a college degree because those who want a college degree should be able to access that opportunity. That opportunity should not be reserved for just the wealthy few.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose H.J. Res. 45, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that access to college is available to every single person in this country. It is not a matter of access. It is a matter of who is paying back their loans.

Coupled with the permanent repayment pause, expansive new regulations, and a radical new income-driven repayment plan, the Biden administration's student loan scam could end up costing taxpayers \$1 trillion. That is more than the Federal Government has ever spent on postsecondary education.

The Biden administration's policies do nothing to solve the root issues of student debt. If this bailout moves forward, then outstanding student debt will return to current levels in just over 5 years. We will be right back here again.

The Federal student loan system is broken, and real reform is needed. Simply put, the administration's action will mean that future students will come to expect their loans will be canceled, and colleges will continue to increase already skyrocketing tuition because they know Democrats will leave taxpayers to foot the bill.

We need to hold colleges accountable for charging outrageous prices for degrees with no value. We need a student loan program that has the best interests of students and taxpayers in mind.

As the institution that holds the power of the purse, Congress has the responsibility to protect the interest of

taxpayers. A vote in support of today's resolution will do just that.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.J. Res. 45, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 45 a Congressional Review Act resolution that would overturn the pause on federal student loan payments and block President Biden's student debt relief plan.

This CRA resolution would abruptly force tens of millions of borrowers into unplanned repayment and lead to thousands of dollars in payments and interest being added back onto their loans. In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic coupled with global inflation, overturning the payment pause would prove disastrous for borrowers at a time when they can least afford it.

According to the Student Borrower Protection Center*, more than 43 million borrowers continue to suffer under the crushing weight of \$1.6 trillion of federal student debt. In Minnesota alone, the pause on student loan repayments saved 641,004 borrowers \$495 million. Thanks to the pause, borrowers around the country have been able to accomplish things that had previously been beyond reach—such as saving for retirement, affording necessary medication, or simply having some breathing room to make ends meet.

Additionally, overturning the payment pause would impact the over 156,000 public service workers nationwide who received student debt cancellation through the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program. These nurses, educators, first responders, and other public servants could see their loans reinstated if these CRA efforts are realized.

Not only would this CRA resolution have a disastrous impact on borrowers in the here and now, it would also preclude the government from installing a repayment pause for borrowers in the future. We cannot know what lies ahead, and we must be able to react and provide borrowers with options should our country endure another pandemic, economic downturn, or other catastrophic event.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this resolution, which threatens the financial well-being of millions of Americans, including more than 260,000 hard-working public servants who have achieved or are working to achieve student loan relief under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program.

In 2007, I authored the PSLF program to help relieve the burden of student loan debt for public servants who contribute so much to our communities but often receive far less pay and fewer benefits than their private sector counterparts.

Under PSLF, these individuals—teachers, first responders, community health and social workers, service members and more—are eligible for forgiveness of their remaining federal student loan balances after completing 10 years of public service and making 120 qualifying payments on their loans.

I am pleased that the Biden Administration has made changes to strengthen PSLF and other student loan programs.

Unfortunately, the resolution before us today would reverse that progress, causing significant confusion and financial stress for these individuals.

By rolling back recent regulations, this resolution could put millions of Americans in financial jeopardy, forcing them to make payments on loans they had been told were on pause. It would also delay PSLF borrowers from getting their forgiveness and turn back the clock on those who received loan forgiveness during the payment pause.

This is not only confusing—it is just wrong. Rather than renege on the promise we made to these individuals, we must do everything we can to strengthen PSLF to give public service workers the relief they have earned.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 429, 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. SCOTT of Virginia. 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.

□ 1345

DISAPPROVING THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE RELATING TO "PROCEDURES COVERING SUSPENSION OF LIQUIDATION, DUTIES AND ESTIMATED DUTIES IN ACCORD WITH PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION 10414"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of May 16, 2023, the unfinished business is the further consideration of the veto message of the President on the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 39) disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to "Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414".

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is, Will the House, on reconsideration pass the joint resolution, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding?

(For veto message, see proceedings of the House of May 16, 2023, at page H2370.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLU-

MENAUER), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Trade of the Committee on Ways and Means, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. 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 veto message of H.J. Res. 39.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of overriding President Biden's veto of H.J. Res. 39, a Congressional Review Act resolution disapproving of the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties, and Estimated Duties in accord with Presidential Proclamation 10414.

Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, the Ways and Means Committee held a hearing at the Port of Staten Island in New York to listen to working Americans who are on the front lines of the impact of our trade policies.

Witnesses highlighted for the committee the troubling reality that the Chinese Communist Party continues to engage in a wide range of unfair trade practices that rip off American workers, farmers, and businesses.

Today's resolution highlights one of the most prolific of these unfair practices—massive subsidies for the CCP's favored industries.

Today's resolution is focused on the solar industry, but make no mistake, the CCP's industrial policy impacts all sectors of the American economy.

The United States has had tariffs in place since 2012—during the Obama administration—to provide a level playing field for American manufacturers who face unfair competition from unfairly priced and subsidized solar products coming out of China.

Now, President Biden's own Commerce Department has found that Chinese companies are shipping products through four Southeast Asian countries—Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam—to avoid paying these same tariffs.

China has set up a solar panel export scheme that cheats American workers and consumers. Instead of standing up for American manufacturers and workers, the White House rewarded China for exploiting them by issuing a proclamation that allows the CCP to continue to avoid paying the tariffs they owe for an additional 2 years.

The sad truth is the solar panel industry in China is historically one of the most prolific users of forced labor.

This body stood together not too long ago to pass the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act. We should do the same thing now when it comes to actually standing firm against products and industries which have a prov-

en track record of using such terrible practices.

Republicans and Democrats in this Chamber and in the Senate came together to block implementation of the White House proclamation on solar panels just a few weeks ago.

In doing, so we also sent a message to President Xi: We will not allow China to abuse our trade policies and hurt American workers.

Unfortunately, President Biden doubled down on his misguided decision and vetoed our efforts. America must stand up to China and stand up for our workers.

Small businesses and U.S. manufacturers already have to deal with inflation, rising interest rates, and a worker shortage.

The least Washington can do is level the playing field for American workers competing against Chinese state-subsidized companies.

China's unfair trade practices have left behind a trail of shuttered factories, lost jobs, and stolen intellectual property all across America.

When we voted to roll back the White House's misguided decision on solar panel tariffs, Congress spoke with a bipartisan voice in both Chambers. I hope today we can do the same.

I urge my colleagues to once again support this effort to turn out the lights on China's economic exploitation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution. President Biden struck the right balance by instituting a temporary freeze on solar tariffs.

The Inflation Reduction Act has already led to the announcement of more than 45 gigawatts of domestic solar manufacturing capacity, and work has already begun.

In 2021, there were only 7 gigawatts of domestic manufacturing capacity, but it takes time to build out manufacturing capacities. It doesn't happen overnight.

This 2-year bridge gives the solar industry the time needed to reorient supply chains away from China to produce panels domestically.

That is why the President's position is supported by leaders who do the work: organized labor from IBEW, LIUNA, the carpenters, and the operating engineers, as well as a variety of other organizations in the environmental community and the National Taxpayers Union.

The solar industry itself strongly supports the administration's position. Kenneth Cooper, president of IBEW, characterized the President's action as a carefully crafted compromise that would provide market certainty to allow American companies to continue deploying solar panels.

H.J. Res. 39 is a backward-looking resolution, he said, looking to reopen a settled matter rather than create a solution.

It is not just organized labor. Members of the environmental community say that this resolution could destabilize the solar supply chains, harm ongoing deployment, threaten high-quality solar construction jobs, and impede our Nation's decarbonization goals.

The National Taxpayers Union opposes this proposal, saying that Congress should not, "increase energy costs via the Congressional Review Act."

Many of us in Congress have worked for years to achieve the policy victories contained in the Inflation Reduction Act.

We share the goal of pushing back against China and have supported legislation to do precisely that. Now is not the time to undermine our efforts in producing a robust supply chain in solar.

I encourage my colleagues to consider the overwhelming evidence and reject this legislation when it is called for a vote today.

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the veto override on H.J. Res. 39.

In the past 5 months, the Republican-led House of Representatives has taken more action to hold China accountable for its unfair trade practices than the past 4 years that I have been in Congress, all while the Biden administration is actively working to promote Chinese interests.

The Biden administration is allowing the Communist Chinese Party to outmaneuver us at every step, even rewarding them by vetoing bipartisan legislation that puts America first.

Letting Chinese solar companies cheat directly handicaps U.S. solar manufacturers and puts America at a disadvantage.

Washington Democrats and the Biden administration have been in lockstep with China since they entered the White House.

It baffles me that the administration is so quick to put America last to help China succeed. We need a strategic decoupling from China.

Everyone in the United States should be focused on countering Chinese influence by bringing jobs back to America and implementing solid trade agreements with our allies.

It is imperative that we override this veto.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully disagree with the gentlewoman from West Virginia. This would not help American industry.

I include in the RECORD statements from nine American stakeholders in the industry who relied on Commerce's regulations to make significant business and economic decisions.

Re. Please Oppose Retroactive Duties and Protect American Clean Energy Jobs and Investment with a "No" Vote on the Auxin CRA (H.J. Res. 39/S.J. Res. 15)

We are writing to respectfully ask that you oppose H.J. Res. 39/S.J. Res. 15. Enactment of

this resolution would impose over \$1 billion in retroactive duty liability, increase energy costs for consumers, cost thousands of American jobs, and hamstring efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Last year, a single company filed anti-circumvention petitions with the Department of Commerce (Commerce). The threat of duties ranging from 50 percent–250 percent on solar panels and cells from Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, and Cambodia called for in the petitions abruptly froze solar supply chains. A significant number of domestic solar projects experienced cancellations or delays as a result.

To address this disruption, after Commerce accepted the petitions and initiated a set of investigations, President Biden issued an emergency declaration that included a temporary 2-year pause on potential duties arising from the investigations. This pause allowed planned solar projects to move forward while the investigations proceeded.

American stakeholders subsequently relied on Commerce's regulations to make significant business and economic decisions. Nullifying Commerce's rulemaking as provided for in H.J. Res. 39/S.J. Res. 15 would nullify companies, acting in accordance with the law, by imposing large (up to 254 percent), unanticipated retroactive duty liability for these stakeholders—back to April 1, 2022. Going back on this federal commitment would create a chilling effect on American business, setting a terrible precedent that undermines America's competitiveness in the global marketplace.

Passing H.J. Res. 39/S.J. Res. 15 would also stall or cancel planned solar projects, eliminate 30,000 jobs, including 4,000 manufacturing jobs, and \$4.2 billion of investment in domestic solar projects. 4GW of planned solar projects representing roughly 14 percent of the industry's anticipated deployment in 2023 would be cancelled. This in turn would increase CO2 emissions by 24 million metric tons.

American businesses need certainty and a bridge to domestic manufacturing. Right now, only about one-third of U.S. demand for solar panels (including both crystalline silicon and thin film photovoltaic panels) can be met with domestic production, and domestic manufacturers are sold out for the next 2–3 years. It is our preference to source solar panels domestically, and we are heartened by the rapid expansion of domestic solar manufacturing that is currently occurring. However, ramping up this production capacity across the solar supply chain will take time, and the temporary 2-year duty pause provides a necessary bridge to the point where domestic production capacity is more capable of meeting demand.

For these reasons, and to avoid needless disruption in the solar marketplace, we respectfully ask that you oppose H.J. Res. 39/S.J. Res. 15. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Solar Energy Industries Association
American Clean Power
American Council on Renewable Energy
Edison Electric Institute
E2
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Clean Energy Buyers Association
Advanced Energy United
Coalition for Community Solar Access.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, they say nullifying Commerce's rulemaking as provided for in H.J. Res. 39 would penalize companies acting in accordance with the law by imposing large, up to 254 percent, unanticipated retroactive duty liability for these stakeholders going back to April 1, 2022.

Going back on this Federal commitment would create a chilling effect on

American business, setting a terrible precedent that undermines our competitiveness in the marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas, (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, within this very week, the World Meteorological Association has indicated that for the first time in human history, we will hit a critical high temperature level by 2027.

It reported that in just 2 recent years, there were 22,000 deaths from extreme weather events.

Recognizing that we already face a grave climate crisis, the American people need a true winning strategy to escape the addiction to fossil fuels.

More and more Americans are turning to clean energy, daring to go green. A growing solar industry plays an instrumental role in helping them in seeking lower global temperatures, in saving our planet.

Disregarding the extreme heat, extreme Republicans only seem to get hot, to get warmed up, when they see the slightest opportunity to impede progress.

Their answer today to those who are trying to help solve this problem?

Punish American companies that are out there actually doing something about this problem. Punish them with a \$1 billion retroactive tax that they will have to pay.

I believe that there is an opportunity to continue to resolve the problems that we face with climate change. We responded to it last year with a climate incentives law. Our Republican colleagues are also seeking to repeal that law.

The pause that is involved in these tariffs ends in a mere 12 months, and Republicans will not ultimately be successful today in blocking the President.

What happens with this, as with their challenge to our climate incentives law, is an indication of the many obstacles that we face that we must overcome if we are to address the climate crisis.

I am yielding my time now, but we must not yield in the determination to protect the only planet that we call home.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that the overall U.S. trade remedy system is retrospective.

Final duties are always calculated after a product enters the United States upon completion of an investigation or review.

We have hundreds of anti-dumping and countervailing duty orders in place to level the playing field for American producers. In all these cases, the final duties have been calculated at the end of the investigation.

What is unusual about the solar circumvention case was the action by the Biden administration to encourage importation of these products despite the

fact that China is trading them unfairly.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY).

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my support once again for this critical, bipartisan legislation to undo the Biden administration's job-crushing solar policies.

It is unfortunate that we find ourselves here debating this policy again after both the House and Senate acted in a bipartisan manner to reject President Biden's solar giveaway to China.

Instead of siding with the American people and American workers, this administration is putting its Green New Deal agenda ahead of our economic prosperity.

Even though H.J. Res. 39 would protect American workers, and despite its bipartisan passage in both Chambers, the President vetoed this critical legislation.

Now Congress must unite to override this vote. If we succeed today, we will stop China, the Chinese Communist Party specifically, from continuing to circumvent U.S. trade laws and undermine U.S. manufacturers.

If we fail to override this veto today, then Congress will hurt the ability of American manufacturers to compete fairly.

I urge my Democrat colleagues: Please do not allow this to happen. Join us in standing up for American jobs.

If you support American workers, then join us in overriding this veto. We cannot stand by as this irresponsible proclamation allows Chinese solar companies to flood our market with their products tariff-free, hurting American jobs and industry.

President Biden's proclamation also sends the message to trade cheats everywhere that the U.S. trade laws just don't matter. This invites even more cheating which, in turn, hurts American workers.

A recent report from the Coalition for a Prosperous America reveals so much about the priorities hidden in the Green New Deal agenda.

This report shows that Chinese manufacturers could earn nearly \$125 billion in U.S. renewable energy tax credits because of the so-called Inflation Reduction Act, aka the Green New Deal, as my colleague just cited its true purpose.

□ 1400

That is \$125 billion from U.S. taxpayers that could now be going to Chinese companies, all because the partisan Inflation Reduction Act failed to include safeguards that prioritize American manufacturing.

I say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who haven't already joined us in this bipartisan effort, please join us. Join us in prioritizing American manufacturers. Join us in stopping this giveaway to the Chinese Communist Party. Hold the Chinese Communist Party accountable.

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

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a statement from Terry O'Sullivan, the general president of LIUNA, the Laborers' International Union of North America.

His statement is on behalf of a half million members of the Laborers' International Union in strong opposition to this proposal: "This CRA resolution comes at a time when our Nation is looking to bolster its wind and solar industry, steering away from more harmful energy sources. Our union has never seen this much solar construction work, and future construction already on the books, within the renewable energy industry, and it is now all at risk if the CRA is passed."

LIUNA!

Washington, DC, April 19, 2023

HON. JASON SMITH,
Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

HON. RICHARD NEAL,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH AND RANKING MEMBER NEAL: On behalf of the 500,000 members of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), I write in opposition to the Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution regarding solar panel manufacturing. This resolution will have a harmful and disruptive impact on our members' jobs within the solar industry.

Our nation's energy industry directly employs tens of thousands of LIUNA members across the country. These jobs span across all sectors of energy production including, natural gas, nuclear, hydro, and renewables. By way of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), The Biden Administration has brought good-paying union construction jobs into the renewable industry. Because of this, our members have seen a significant and rapid growth within the renewables sector, in particular the solar industry. These jobs are finally good jobs, with family-supporting wages and benefits.

Repealing President Biden's moratorium, however, will bring several solar construction sites to a halt, leaving our members without a paycheck. We recognize that the Department of Commerce's investigation found some solar panel producers committing trade violations. Of course, in time, this will need to be addressed.

This CRA resolution comes at a time when our nation is looking to bolster its wind and solar industry, steering away from more harmful energy sources. Our union has never seen this much solar construction work, and future construction work already on the books, within the renewable energy industry, and it is now all at risk if the CRA is passed.

I urge you to oppose the Congressional Review Act being marked up today in committee.

With kind regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

TERRY O'SULLIVAN,

General President.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for his leadership in this policy area.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this legislation. As I said when this

legislation originally came to the floor, I share my colleagues' goal of ensuring that our trade laws are fairly enforced, and I certainly share our collective goal of promoting domestic manufacturing and jobs.

However, if this bill were to become law, if the President's veto were to be overridden, it would cost, not create, American jobs. In the long run, it would make it harder, not easier, for our country to become energy independent.

This bill would make it impossible to deploy solar energy quickly enough throughout the United States. It would undercut the climate change investments in the Inflation Reduction Act, the biggest investment in fighting climate change in the history of our country.

We all want solar products manufactured right here at home; but in the short run, our domestic industry can't increase production rapidly enough to meet demand or to meet our climate goals.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. POSEY).

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, China is cheating America. They know it. You know it. I know it. Everybody knows it. China is avoiding the tariffs both Presidents Obama and Trump agreed upon by shipping solar panels through other countries in Southeast Asia and simply slapping a new label on them.

It is an undeniable fact, investigated and verified by the U.S. Department of Commerce. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the CCP—the Chinese Communist Party—has detained more than 1 million Uyghurs and other minorities in China's far western Xinjiang region.

An astounding 1 million people detained. To put that in perspective, that is nearly the equivalent of every man, woman, and child in most of our congressional districts. Many of these people have been forced into labor camps and factories to produce goods for the Chinese Communist Party loyalists to sell around the globe.

China produces 18 goods using forced or slave labor. Any use of slave labor is morally wrong. We know that, and China is by far the world's biggest offender.

Among the products produced by the Uyghurs and others through forced labor are electronics and polysilicon, which is used to make solar panels. Over 50 percent of the country's production of polysilicon takes place in Xinjiang. Some of those solar panels are the very same solar panels we are talking about here today.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, these are some of the conditions that Uyghurs and others in China's western region face as they make solar panels: They receive little pay; they are not allowed to leave; they have limited or no communication with

their family members; and they must learn Mandarin and undergo an ideological indoctrination. That is truly barbaric, and we shouldn't sell out our production to help them.

The regulation in question violates both our laws about importing products made with forced labor and enables these labor practices to continue.

I feel sure everyone in this Chamber despises the evils of slavery and slave labor. In a few minutes we will have the chance to see just who talks the talk and who walks the walk. If we pass this resolution, we can help put a stop to China's cheating and slave labor.

Make no mistake, people can still buy all the Chinese solar panels that they want to buy. We are not stopping them from doing that. We are not making solar panels unavailable. All we are saying is that they have to pay a tariff. Pay the fair tariff that President Obama and President Trump both agreed upon.

I would be remiss in not thanking some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for cosponsoring this commonsense resolution and working to make it bipartisan: The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE), the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL), and the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA).

Please walk the walk and vote in favor of this resolution to put American workers, American products, and the United States of America first.

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

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a statement from James T. Callahan, general president of the International Union of Operating Engineers, and Douglas J. McCarron, general president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

The statement indicates, among other things: "Repealing President Biden's proclamation will result in retroactive duties and tariffs that would jeopardize 30,000 construction and 4,000 manufacturing jobs. . . . We are not prepared to stand by and let some partisan dispute eliminate Operating Engineers' jobs and slow the deployment of clean energy."

For immediate release: April 19, 2023.

CARPENTERS AND OPERATING ENGINEERS
UNIONS OPPOSE LEGISLATION THAT ELIMINATES
THOUSANDS OF JOBS

WASHINGTON, DC.—The following statement was issued today by James T. Callahan, General President of the International Union of Operating Engineers, and Douglas J. McCarron, General President of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, regarding their unions' opposition to legislation that will eliminate thousands of American jobs:

Last year, the Department of Commerce opened a circumvention inquiry, alleging that four Southeast Asian countries were circumventing tariffs and duties on solar cells and modules from the People's Republic of China. The inquiry generated massive un-

certainty in the domestic solar market by suggesting possible retroactive tariffs as high as 250 percent. This threat resulted in a drop of 20 percent fewer solar construction and installation jobs across the United States.

President Biden took action to preserve these jobs, issuing Emergency Proclamation 10414 to prevent tariffs on any solar module and cell imports from the four countries until June 2024. House Joint Resolution 39 will repeal the President's Proclamation and eliminate thousands of jobs in the American solar industry.

"Repealing President Biden's Proclamation will result in retroactive duties and tariffs that would jeopardize 30,000 construction and 4,000 manufacturing jobs," said James T. Callahan, General President of the International Union of Operating Engineers. "We are not prepared to stand by and let some partisan dispute eliminate Operating Engineers' jobs and slow the deployment of clean energy."

"President Biden's Proclamation saves Carpenters' jobs and smooths the development of the domestic solar manufacturing industry. Today, we're seeing the American manufacturing sector respond to incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act and develop homegrown solar modules," said Carpenters Union General President Douglas J. McCarron. "Now is not the time to disrupt the solar industry and layoff thousands of union workers just as we're getting a foothold in the burgeoning solar business."

The International Union of Operating Engineers and United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners urge Congress and members of the Ways and Means Committee to vote against House Joint Resolution 39, which will repeal the administration's Proclamation and eliminate thousands of union jobs, slow the deployment of renewable energy, and generate unnecessary greenhouse gases.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, solar energy is one form of electricity generation that is growing in the United States, yet we do not have the economy of scale in manufacturing solar systems to meet supply and demand for industry and consumers.

Solar energy accounted for 3.9 percent of total electricity generation in 2021 compared to 0.7 percent in 2014.

Currently, domestic solar production is sold out for the next 2 to 3 years. In order to continue to address China's unfair trading practices and allow America's solar industry to grow, President Biden's proclamation 10414 declared an emergency with respect to U.S. electricity generation capacity by implementing a final rule that permits the importation of select cells or modules without the payment of anti-dumping and countervailing duty temporary for 24 months.

I urge my colleagues to stand with our President, who has shown such great wisdom and leadership. Vote "no" on H.J. Res. 39.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this veto override supports American workers and manufacturers in the solar sector, but it also helps protect American workers in

every sector that face unfair competition from China or any other country.

Our trade laws are designed to level the playing field so that American workers can compete and win. We have hundreds of trade remedy orders in place to do exactly that for many American industries.

These laws aren't worth the paper they are written on unless they are enforced. Overriding this veto is an important way for Congress to show that we will insist on strong trade enforcement for American workers, farmers, and manufacturers of any product that faces unfair competition from China or any other country.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS).

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, once again we are seeing a policy from President Biden and the Democrats where they say one thing, and they do another.

How many times have you heard the President talk about made in America? How many times have you heard the Democrats talk about buy in America? Yet here we are seeing another policy that does just the opposite. It hurts American manufacturers. It hurts American jobs. It is giving an advantage to not just a competitor, but an adversary.

Mr. Speaker, we support energy diversification. We support clean energy, but we want it to be American energy, and we want it to be done by American workers in manufacturing right here in the United States of America. We want to support our domestic solar manufacturers, not further discourage them from investing in manufacturing here.

Instead, we see the Democrats put forward another policy that instead of supporting American labor, it supports Communist Chinese slave labor, and we know this is often linked to the genocide of the Uyghur Muslims. If you are going to use Chinese slave labor, then at least have them pay a fair tariff, at least have them follow the same rules. Don't put forward a rule that allows them to circumvent tariffs.

As you know, last year an American solar manufacturer petitioned the Commerce Department to review whether Chinese producers were circumventing tariffs on imports from China by shipping their products through Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Lo and behold, in December of 2022, President Biden's own Commerce Department made a preliminary determination that circumvention is, indeed, happening through all of those countries.

That is why we must support the American worker today. We must support manufacturing in America, and override this veto of a resolution that, quite frankly, passed with bipartisan support here and in the Senate, as well.

Look, this is an opportunity for us to stand with American energy producers. Like I said, we support clean energy, we support diversification, but we want it to be made here in America using

American products, supporting American jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I continue to urge my colleagues to support this joint resolution to override the President's veto and do the right thing. We are not going to allow the President to get away with this, to constantly say made in America—he supports American workers, he says, but then again, he puts forward another policy that does the exact opposite. It hurts American people and is supporting the Communist Chinese Party instead.

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

Mr. Speaker, the gentlewoman from Staten Island has it backwards. The fact is that there is a process underway to review the challenges of the circumvention. There will be a report within the next year, but what the President did was put a pause on that to allow American industry to reorient and to catch up because otherwise they do not have the capacity.

I quote a strong representative of working men and women, the general president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Douglas McCarron: "President Biden's proclamation saves Carpenters' jobs and smooths the development of the domestic solar manufacturing industry. Today, we are seeing the American manufacturing sector respond to incentives in the Inflation Reduction Act and develop homegrown solar modules." According to this international union president, "Now is not the time to disrupt the solar industry and lay off thousands of union workers just as we are getting a foothold in the burgeoning solar business."

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Flint, Michigan (Mr. KILDEE), a strong and effective voice, for whatever he advocates.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this veto override resolution to support the Michigan and American workers and to hold those who violate U.S. trade laws accountable.

Let me be clear: I am proud to have worked with President Biden and his administration on important new laws, new laws like the CHIPS and Science Act and the Inflation Reduction Act, which I had a hand in writing. These legislative victories have helped to bring back critical manufacturing and to create good-paying American jobs.

However, on this particular issue, the President and I disagree.

For far too long, bad trade deals and unfair trade practices from other countries have hurt American workers. I believe that we need to enforce our current trade laws and strengthen our ability to fight unfair trade practices.

□ 1415

When companies explicitly endeavor to evade, to circumvent our trade laws, there is no choice. We have to hold them accountable. That is why Congress, with strong bipartisan votes in

both the House and the Senate, acted on our legislation.

The Biden administration's own Commerce Department investigation found that companies are evading U.S. tariffs on solar imports by circumventing those provisions. Yet, the administration has suspended enforcement on this matter. That is not acceptable to the specific workers that I represent because, let's keep in mind, we have to be thinking about the entirety of the supply chain when it comes to solar energy production, including polysilicon production.

By suspending tariffs on those that violate our trade laws, we are rewarding those companies that choose to follow the law. Failing to act will mean that other countries will think they can simply take advantage of American business and the American worker, making us more reliant on foreign manufacturing and supply chains, including for our clean energy needs.

Climate change is real. Addressing climate change is important, and fair trade is important. We can't be short-sighted in our efforts and rely on foreign companies and countries to meet our energy goals, especially when they have been found to be in violation of U.S. trade laws. It is a false choice. It is a false choice to suggest that we can either choose to combat climate change or protect American manufacturers and American workers. We can do both.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote "yes" to override this veto and to hold those companies, those bad actors, accountable. This is not simple. It is difficult, but we do need to make sure—

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to finish my point.

There will always be an argument to look the other way, to get cheaper products by looking the other way when it comes to some of the worst practices in manufacturing on this planet. Of course, it is going to be cheaper to look the other way when workers are being exploited, when intellectual property is being stolen, when child labor is being utilized. It will always be cheaper, but it is wrong.

We can do both. We don't have to make the sacrifice of one principle in the name of the other. We can't take the position that for only 24 months, we are going to look the other way, and then we are going to go back to adhering to both of these principles.

We can do both. I encourage my colleagues to join me in doing so.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, there are few times that I would have yielded time to the gentleman from Michigan, but I would have for that opportunity to finish.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle know well, the Chinese Communist Party has an egregious human rights record. There is a clear connection between these human rights abuses and the CCP's solar industry.

Mr. Speaker, I call attention to the full and complete testimony of Nury Turkel, a Uyghur human rights lawyer and chair of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, which was held before the Committee on Ways and Means during a field hearing in Staten Island, New York, on May 9, 2023, titled: "Trade in America: Securing Supply Chains and Protecting the American Worker—Staten Island. The testimony can be found on the Ways and Means Committee website.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Turkel's testimony highlights the ongoing human rights abuses and religious persecution being perpetrated against Uyghurs by the Chinese Communist Party.

I am disappointed that President Biden vetoed this important resolution. This is unacceptable. We must step up to hold China accountable for its human rights abuses.

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

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, there was a reference about false choices. Well, it is a false choice that we adhere to our interests and goals at the expense of throwing out of work thousands of American union workers and disrupting opportunities to smooth the supply chain.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a statement from 10 leading environmental organizations that says: "While the Commerce Department investigation of tariff circumvention was being conducted, the administration sought to provide enough lead time for domestic solar panel manufacturing and supply chains to rapidly expand operations to meet demand, bring certainty on the prices of imported panels to solar companies deploying clean energy, and job stability for those workers installing panels."

APRIL 17, 2023.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: The undersigned groups write to express our opposition to the Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolutions of disapproval (H.J. Res 39 and S.J. Res 15) aimed at reversing President Biden's temporary suspension of tariffs on certain solar cells and panels from manufacturers in Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam. Passage of these resolutions could destabilize solar supply chains, harm ongoing deployment of large scale solar projects, threaten high-quality solar construction jobs, and impede our nation's decarbonization goals.

Proclamation 10414, issued by President Biden in June 2022, gave the U.S. Department of Commerce authority to issue regulations suspending new solar tariffs until June 2024 while the department proceeded with its investigation into claims that facilities in the Southeastern Asian countries were circumventing existing tariffs on Chinese solar companies. The Commerce Department subsequently issued rules implementing the

delay, and H.J. Res 39 and S.J. Res 15 would nullify that rulemaking.

Our organizations support both a shift to cleaner and fairer supply chains for clean energy, as well as the rapid deployment of clean energy in order to meet the urgency of the climate crisis. Thanks in part to the expansive investments in clean energy manufacturing and high quality job standards included in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), we are now well positioned to achieve both of these goals. The administration's strong implementation of the IRA's domestic content provisions is a critical piece to further drive manufacturing buildout in the U.S. However, passage of these CRA resolutions would undermine the ability of the U.S. solar industry to succeed in accelerating the shift to more clean energy on the power grid.

The President's decision to pause tariffs for two years is providing U.S. businesses with much-needed certainty after several months of project cancellations and delays last year due to the Commerce Department's investigation, which caused solar deployment to decline by 30 percent—10 gigawatts below expectations.

We have already seen more than \$13 billion in domestic solar manufacturing announcements since the passage of the IRA. While more buildout is needed, this demonstrates that domestic investment is headed in the right direction. Additional panel shortages, as we saw during the Commerce Department investigation, would once again debilitate U.S. utility-scale solar projects and jobs. And if a CRA resolution rolls back the President's two-year tariff pause, then debilitating shortages and lost investment capital could begin this year.

Beyond the harm to solar deployments across the U.S., there is the larger issue of the CRA being the wrong tool for Congressional oversight. Congress has always had the power to create, modify or eliminate rules using the regular legislative process. The CRA provides a more extreme path by repealing a rule in its entirety and preventing an agency from issuing a new rule that is "substantially the same," an undefined phrase that can essentially freeze the regulatory process.

In this instance, while the Commerce Department investigation of tariff circumvention was being conducted, the administration sought to provide enough lead time for domestic solar panel manufacturing and supply chains to rapidly expand operations to meet demand, bring certainty on the prices of imported panels to the solar companies deploying clean energy, and job stability for those workers installing panels. Passing these resolutions could prevent future administrations from being able to find appropriate solutions to other tariffs and trade challenges.

For these reasons, the undersigned organizations urge you to vote NO on H.J. Res 39 and S.J. Res 15. Thank you for your attention to this matter and for considering our views.

Sincerely,

League of Conservation Voters, Natural Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, Climate Action Campaign, Environmental Law and Policy Center, Clean Energy for America, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, Earthjustice, Environmental Defense Fund, Union of Concerned Scientists.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, somebody listening from the sidelines would think that there is a great deal of disagreement between my honorable friend from Missouri and me. That is not the case. We share many of the same goals, as he knows, with legislation that I am proposing to try to rein

in some of the egregious abuses of the Chinese.

What we are disagreeing about today is to undercut a process that is working with the Department of Commerce for accountability. The goal here is for another year to be able to work the process through. I have no doubt that we are going to end up essentially in the same place but without compromising the ability of organized labor and workers to be able to have jobs without undercutting the opportunity for the businesses to be able to cope with these changed circumstances and to be able to develop a supply chain, which you cannot do overnight. But over the course of the next year or so, we can make significant progress. That is our goal. We don't think that we have to punish American companies and American workers to achieve that goal.

I am convinced that over the course of the next year, we will be largely in the same place after that process is finished with the Department of Commerce. In the meantime, we are not going to have American workers and businesses pay the price for this, frankly, unfortunate demonstration of political messaging. We want to reach the same goal. We don't want to punish workers and industry while we get there.

Having this additional year requested by the Biden administration that would be achieved by sustaining his veto is a reasonable outcome and I think gets us where we want to be.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully suggest that we reject this resolution, allow the process to work, do not penalize American workers, and strengthen supply chains so that a year and a half from now, we can, in fact, be in the same place, having a robust domestic industry and enforcing our goals and objectives.

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

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

For years, China has been engaged in a long list of unfair trade practices. It is these practices that are harming American workers. They cost communities their jobs and create an unfair playing field.

We are here today to end the misguided reward that the White House gave China for one of those unfair practices: shipping solar products through four Southeast Asian nations to dodge paying U.S. tariffs.

That is simply what we are talking about here. That is it. That is how you protect American workers.

It is not allowing the Chinese, the CCP, to have a competitive advantage over our manufacturers and over our American workers. But if it is for solar panels, wait, it is okay for the Chinese to subsidize that. It is okay for American workers to lose their jobs unfairly because we don't want to put a tariff on the CCP.

It is extremely important that even the Department of Commerce, Presi-

dent Biden's Department of Commerce, is the one that suggested there should be tariffs on these four countries because they are the ones that identified these four countries being misused by the CCP.

That is what we are trying to do, is to follow Biden's Department of Commerce. Unfortunately, Biden himself is not even following his own Department of Commerce because he is more on the side of his special interest groups instead of the American workers who are losing their jobs because this resolution, his veto, basically allows more Chinese solar panels in without tariffs, and they are not doing anything about it.

That is why, in a bipartisan measure, both in the House and in the Senate, we voted to reverse President Biden, including the Finance Committee chair over on the other side, a Democrat, who voted to reverse the President's proposal.

The problem is we don't have enough Democrats that will join us. We have just a few, but I am thankful for the few who want to stand up to the CCP.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is, Will the House, on reconsideration, pass the joint resolution, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding?

Under the Constitution, the vote must be by the yeas and nays.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Passage of H.J. Res. 39, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding;

Passage of H.J. Res. 45; and

The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1669.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

DISAPPROVING THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE RELATING TO “PROCEDURES COVERING SUSPENSION OF LIQUIDATION, DUTIES AND ESTIMATED DUTIES IN ACCORD WITH PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION 10414”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question of whether the House, on reconsideration, will pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 39) disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to “Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414,” the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.

In accord with the Constitution, the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 214, nays 205, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 233]

YEAS—214

Aderholt	Dunn (FL)	Johnson (SD)
Alford	Edwards	Jordan
Allen	Ellzey	Joyce (OH)
Amodei	Emmer	Joyce (PA)
Armstrong	Estes	Kaptur
Arrington	Ezell	Kean (NJ)
Babin	Fallon	Kelly (MS)
Bacon	Feenstra	Kelly (PA)
Baird	Ferguson	Khanna
Balderson	Finstad	Kigans (VA)
Banks	Fischbach	Kildee
Barr	Fitzgerald	Kiley
Bean (FL)	Fitzpatrick	Kim (CA)
Bentz	Fleischmann	Kustoff
Bergman	Flood	LaHood
Bice	Foxx	Lamborn
Biggs	Franklin, C.	Langworthy
Bilirakis	Scott	Latta
Bishop (NC)	Fry	LaTurner
Boebert	Fulcher	Lee (FL)
Bost	Gaetz	Lesko
Brecheen	Gallagher	Letlow
Buchanan	Garcia, Mike	Loudermilk
Buck	Gimenez	Lucas
Bucshon	Golden (ME)	Luetkemeyer
Burchett	Gonzales, Tony	Luttrell
Burgess	Good (VA)	Mace
Burlison	Gooden (TX)	Malliotakis
Calvert	Gosar	Mann
Cammack	Granger	Mast
Carey	Graves (LA)	McCarthy
Carl	Graves (MO)	McCaul
Carter (GA)	Green (TN)	McClain
Carter (TX)	Greene (GA)	McClintock
Chavez-DeRemer	Griffith	McCormick
Ciscomani	Grothman	Meuser
Cline	Guest	Miller (IL)
Cloud	Guthrie	Miller (OH)
Clyde	Hageman	Miller (WV)
Cole	Harris	Mills
Collins	Harshbarger	Moolenaar
Comer	Hern	Moore (AL)
Crane	Higgins (LA)	Moore (UT)
Crawford	Hill	Moran
Crenshaw	Hinson	Mrvan
Davidson	Houchin	Murphy
De La Cruz	Hudson	Nehls
Deluzio	Huizenga	Newhouse
DesJarlais	Issa	Norman
Diaz-Balart	Jackson (TX)	Nunn (IA)
Donalds	James	Owens
Duarte	Johnson (LA)	Palmer
Duncan	Johnson (OH)	Pence

Perez
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Santos
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self

Sessions
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Strong
Tennney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner

NAYS—205

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

NOT VOTING—16

Auchincloss	McHenry	Scanlon
Beyer	Mooney	Simpson
Higgins (NY)	Napolitano	Trone
Hunt	Obermole	Vargas
LaMalfa	Ogles	
Luna	Quigley	

□ 1703

Mr. PASCARELL changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds not being in the affirmative), the veto of the President was sustained, and the joint resolution was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GREENE of Georgia). The veto message and the joint resolution are referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Clerk will notify the Senate of the action of the House.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RELATING TO “WAIVERS AND MODIFICATIONS OF FEDERAL STUDENT LOANS.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the passage of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 45) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans”, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 218, nays 203, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 234]

YEAS—218

Aderholt	Cole	Gimenez
Alford	Collins	Golden (ME)
Allen	Comer	Gonzales, Tony
Amodei	Crane	Good (VA)
Armstrong	Crawford	Gooden (TX)
Arrington	Crenshaw	Gosar
Babin	Curtis	Granger
Bacon	D'Esposito	Graves (LA)
Baird	Davidson	Graves (MO)
Balderson	De La Cruz	Green (TN)
Banks	DesJarlais	Greene (GA)
Barr	Diaz-Balart	Griffith
Bean (FL)	Donalds	Grothman
Bentz	Duarte	Guest
Bergman	Duncan	Guthrie
Bice	Dunn (FL)	Hageman
Biggs	Edwards	Harris
Bilirakis	Ellzey	Harshbarger
Bishop (NC)	Emmer	Hern
Boebert	Estes	Higgins (LA)
Bost	Ezell	Hill
Brecheen	Fallon	Hinson
Buchanan	Feenstra	Houchin
Buck	Ferguson	Hudson
Bucshon	Finstad	Huizenga
Burchett	Fischbach	Hunt
Burgess	Fitzgerald	Issa
Burlison	Fitzpatrick	Jackson (TX)
Calvert	Fleischmann	James
Cammack	Flood	Johnson (LA)
Carey	Foxx	Johnson (OH)
Carl	Franklin, C.	Johnson (SD)
Carter (GA)	Scott	Jordan
Carter (TX)	Fry	Joyce (OH)
Chavez-DeRemer	Fulcher	Joyce (PA)
Ciscomani	Gaetz	Kean (NJ)
Cline	Gallagher	Kelly (MS)
Cloud	Garbarino	Kelly (PA)
Clyde	Garcia, Mike	Kiggans (VA)

Kiley	Molinaro	Smith (NE)
Kim (CA)	Moolenaar	Smith (NJ)
Kustoff	Moore (AL)	Smucker
LaHood	Moore (UT)	Spartz
LaLota	Moran	Stauber
LaMalfa	Murphy	Steel
Lamborn	Nehls	Stefanik
Langworthy	Newhouse	Steil
Latta	Norman	Steube
LaTurner	Nunn (IA)	Stewart
Lawler	Owens	Strong
Lee (FL)	Palmer	Tenney
Lesko	Pence	Thompson (PA)
Letlow	Perez	Tiffany
Loudermilk	Perry	Timmons
Lucas	Pfluger	Turner
Luetkemeyer	Posey	Valadao
Luttrell	Reschenthaler	Van Drew
Mace	Rodgers (WA)	Van Dwyne
Malliotakis	Rogers (AL)	Van Orden
Mann	Rogers (KY)	Wagner
Massie	Rose	Walberg
Mast	Rosendale	Waltz
McCarthy	Rouzer	Weber (TX)
McCaul	Roy	Webster (FL)
McClain	Rutherford	Wenstrup
McClintock	Salazar	Westerman
McCormick	Santos	Williams (NY)
Meuser	Scalise	Williams (TX)
Miller (IL)	Schweikert	Wilson (SC)
Miller (OH)	Scott, Austin	Wittman
Miller (WV)	Self	Womack
Miller-Meeks	Sessions	Yakym
Mills	Smith (MO)	Zinke

NAYS—203

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

Tonko	Vasquez	Watson Coleman
Torres (CA)	Veasey	Wexton
Torres (NY)	Velázquez	Wild
Trahan	Wasserman	Williams (GA)
Trone	Schultz	Wilson (FL)
Underwood	Waters	

NOT VOTING—14

Auchincloss	McHenry	Quigley
Beyer	Mooney	Scanlon
Garcia (IL)	Napolitano	Simpson
Johnson (GA)	Obernolte	Vargas
Luna	Ogles	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1711

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, as we all know, the House has already voted to address the debt ceiling.

Madam Speaker, on April 26, this House passed the Limit, Save, Grow Act. I should say some of this House, but a majority of this House passed a bill to address not only the debt ceiling but also the spending problem in Washington that has brought us to this point.

Now, I will also say, Madam Speaker, that for more than 4 weeks, the Senate has not even taken up action on that bill. In fact, the Senate is not even in session today or this week.

Madam Speaker, following tomorrow's votes, if some new agreement is reached between President Biden and Speaker MCCARTHY, Members will receive 24 hours' notice in the event we need to return to Washington for any additional votes either over the week-end or next week.

Additionally, we will allow all Members to have 72 hours to review any such legislative text that may come before us relating to the debt ceiling before final passage of that bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. CLARK).

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I don't know how my colleagues across the aisle who voted for the default on America act are going to look our veterans in the eye this Memorial Day.

You have presented our country with an impossible choice: devastating cuts or devastating default, hungry families or homeless seniors, kids without classrooms or parents without jobs, empty VA clinics or empty savings accounts.

Now you are sending us home with no resolution. That is the plan: to default, to run out the clock.

Well, I have some good news for you. Madam Speaker, 213 Members of the

Democratic Caucus have signed the discharge petition.

So before you go home, it only takes five patriots to join us in the fight for the American people. Join us. Sign the petition. Stay here and fight for American families. Fight for their American security.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, reclaiming my time.

Maybe my colleagues on the other side are having buyer's remorse, or should I say voter's remorse, that every single one of them voted against addressing the debt ceiling over a month ago when we brought that bill to the floor.

Now, Madam Speaker, there is a remedy. If anyone in this Chamber, including my friends on the other side, would like to see this problem addressed, they should go over to the Senate side.

Frankly, there is no one there. They should get on the phone and call the Democrat Senators who run the Senate and chose to be out this whole week because they took this so seriously or call the White House and ask the President why he took 97 days off after the first meeting with Speaker MCCARTHY when the Speaker was ready to negotiate.

We are still here. We have done our job. We have acted. We are, in fact, the only body in this town who has actually taken steps to address the debt ceiling and the spending problem in Washington.

I encourage the Senate to take up the bill. I encourage the President to get engaged and address this problem, but we already have the votes on the board.

I ask that the House be in order and there be some decorum on the other side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to abide by decorum of the House.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, while some in this town might be interested in theatrics, House Republicans took action.

We passed a bill to address the problem. It is time for my friends on the other side to start doing their job.

Call the Senate back in to take up the bill. If they don't like it, they can amend it. That is part of the legislative process. Let's get our jobs done. We have done ours. They need to do theirs.

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

VET-TEC AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H.R. 1669) to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the high technology pilot program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 409, nays 9, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 235]

YEAS—409

Adams	Crenshaw	Harder (CA)
Aderholt	Crockett	Harshbarger
Aguilar	Crow	Hayes
Allen	Cuellar	Hern
Allred	Curtis	Higgins (LA)
Amodei	D'Esposito	Higgins (NY)
Armstrong	Davidson	Himes
Arrington	Davidson	Hinson
Babin	Davis (IL)	Horsford
Bacon	Davis (NC)	Houchin
Baird	De La Cruz	Houlahan
Balderson	Dean (PA)	Hoyer
Balint	DeGette	Hoyle (OR)
Banks	DeLauro	Hudson
Barr	DelBene	Huffman
Barragán	Deluzio	Huizenga
Bean (FL)	DeSaulnier	Hunt
Beatty	DesJarlais	Issa
Bentz	Diaz-Balart	Ivey
Bera	Dingell	Jackson (IL)
Bergman	Doggett	Jackson (NC)
Bice	Donalds	Jackson (TX)
Billirakis	Duarte	Jackson Lee
Bishop (GA)	Duncan	Jacobs
Bishop (NC)	Dunn (FL)	James
Blumenauer	Edwards	Jayapal
Blunt Rochester	Ellzey	Jeffries
Boebert	Emmer	Johnson (GA)
Bonamici	Escobar	Johnson (LA)
Bost	Eshoo	Johnson (OH)
Bowman	Españillat	Johnson (SD)
Boyle (PA)	Estes	Jordan
Brown	Evans	Joyce (OH)
Brownley	Ezell	Joyce (PA)
Buchanan	Fallon	Kammlager-Dove
Buck	Feenstra	Kaptur
Bucshon	Ferguson	Kean (NJ)
Budzinski	Finstad	Keating
Burchett	Fischbach	Kelly (IL)
Burgess	Fitzgerald	Kelly (MS)
Burlison	Fitzpatrick	Kelly (PA)
Bush	Fleischmann	Khanna
Calvert	Fletcher	Kiggans (VA)
Cammack	Flood	Kildee
Caraveo	Foster	Kiley
Carbajal	Foushee	Kilmer
Cárdenas	Fox	Kim (CA)
Carey	Frankel, Lois	Kim (NJ)
Carl	Franklin, C.	Krishnamoorthi
Carson	Scott	Kuster
Carter (GA)	Frost	Kustoff
Carter (LA)	Fry	LaHood
Carter (TX)	Fulcher	LaLota
Cartwright	Gaetz	LaMalfa
Casar	Gallagher	Lamborn
Case	Galleo	Landsman
Casten	Garamendi	Langworthy
Castor (FL)	Garbarino	Larsen (WA)
Castro (TX)	Garcia (IL)	Latta
Chavez-DeRemer	Garcia (TX)	LaTurner
Cherfilus-	Garcia, Mike	Lawler
McCormick	Gimenez	Lee (CA)
Chu	Golden (ME)	Lee (FL)
Cicilline	Goldman (NY)	Lee (NV)
Ciscomani	Gomez	Lee (PA)
Clark (MA)	Gonzales, Tony	Leger Fernandez
Clarke (NY)	Gonzalez,	Lesko
Cleaver	Vicente	Letlow
Cline	Good (VA)	Levin
Cloud	Gooden (TX)	Lieu
Clyburn	Gottheimer	Lofgren
Cohen	Granger	Loudermilk
Cole	Graves (LA)	Lucas
Collins	Graves (MO)	Luetkemeyer
Comer	Green (TN)	Luttrell
Connolly	Green, Al (TX)	Lynch
Correa	Greene (GA)	Mace
Costa	Griffith	Magaziner
Courtney	Grijalva	Malliotakis
Craig	Grothman	Mann
Crane	Guest	Manning
Crawford	Guthrie	Massie

Mast	Peters	Steil
Matsui	Pettersen	Steube
McBath	Pfluger	Stevens
McCarthy	Phillips	Stewart
McCaul	Pingree	Strickland
McClain	Pocan	Strong
McClellan	Porter	Swalwell
McClintock	Posey	Sykes
McCollum	Pressley	Takano
McGarvey	Ramirez	Tenney
McGovern	Raskin	Thanedar
McHenry	Reschenthaler	Thompson (CA)
Meeks	Rodgers (WA)	Thompson (MS)
Menendez	Rogers (AL)	Thompson (PA)
Meng	Rogers (KY)	Tiffany
Meuser	Rose	Timmons
Mfume	Rosendale	Titus
Miller (IL)	Ross	Tlaib
Miller (OH)	Rouzer	Tokuda
Miller (WV)	Ruiz	Tonko
Miller-Meeks	Ruppersberger	Torres (CA)
Mills	Rutherford	Torres (NY)
Molinaro	Ryan	Trahan
Moolenaar	Salazar	Trone
Moore (AL)	Salinas	Turner
Moore (UT)	Sánchez	Underwood
Moore (WI)	Santos	Valadao
Moran	Sarbanes	Van Drew
Morelle	Scalise	Van Dine
Moskowitz	Schakowsky	Van Orden
Moulton	Schiff	Vasquez
Mrvan	Schneider	Veasey
Mullin	Scholten	Velázquez
Murphy	Schweikert	Wagner
Nadler	Scott (VA)	Walberg
Neal	Scott, Austin	Waltz
Nehls	Scott, David	Wasserman
Newhouse	Self	Schultz
Nickel	Sessions	Waters
Norcross	Sewell	Watson Coleman
Norman	Sherman	Weber (TX)
Nunn (IA)	Sherrill	Webster (FL)
Ocasio-Cortez	Slotkin	Wenstrup
Omar	Smith (MO)	Westerman
Owens	Smith (NE)	Wexton
Pallone	Smith (NJ)	Wild
Palmer	Smith (WA)	Williams (GA)
Panetta	Smucker	Williams (NY)
Pappas	Sorensen	Williams (TX)
Pascrell	Soto	Wilson (FL)
Payne	Spartz	Wilson (SC)
Pelosi	Stansbury	Wittman
Peltola	Stanton	Womack
Pence	Staubert	Yakym
Perez	Stefanik	Zinke
Perry		

NAYS—9

NOT VOTING—17

Biggs	Gosar	McCormick
Brecheen	Hageman	Roy
Clyde	Harris	Spanberger
Alford	Luna	Quigley
Auchincloss	Mooney	Scanlon
Beyer	Napolitano	Schrier
Garcia, Robert	Neguse	Simpson
Hill	Obornolte	Vargas
Larson (CT)	Ogles	

□ 1727

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I inadvertently voted "nay" on rollcall No. 235 on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended H.R. 1669, VET-TEC Authorization Act. I meant to vote "yea."

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I was absent for votes due to testing positive for COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 233, "nay" on rollcall No. 234 and "yea" on rollcall No. 235.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. OGLES. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 233,

"yea" on rollcall No. 234, and "yea" on rollcall No. 235.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR OF THE ROBB ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SHOOTING VICTIMS

(Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence in honor of the 1-year anniversary of the 21 Robb Elementary school victims who were murdered in my district in Uvalde, Texas.

HOOR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

HALT ALL LETHAL TRAFFICKING OF FENTANYL ACT

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the legislation and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 467.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MORAN). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 429 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. 467.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1734

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. 467) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes, with Ms. GREENE of Georgia 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 amendments specified in the first section of House Resolution 429 and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees.

The gentleman from 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. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, action is needed now to address the fentanyl crisis. That is why I rise today in strong support of H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act.

Fentanyl is the top cause of death for Americans 18 to 49 years old. In my home State of Kentucky, illicit fentanyl overdoses represented 70 percent of all overdoses in 2020 and 2021.

The fentanyl crisis is one of the foremost problems that the American public faces and has been made worse by the crisis at our southern border. Illicit fentanyl is turning virtually every community into a border community with these poisons flooding streets across America and taking innocent lives, including the lives of our kids.

The HALT Fentanyl Act would ban all fentanyl analogues and strip the drug cartels and other criminals of the incentive to create new versions of fentanyl to skirt around the law. This bill is a key step to help get these poisons off our streets and give law enforcement the tools they need to crack down on illicit fentanyl trafficking.

A two-pronged approach to addressing this crisis is needed. We must have a law enforcement and a substance use recovery strategy to address this crisis. That is why I look forward to examining the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act later this year to continue providing access to treatment and recovery support services that so many individuals rely on throughout the country.

To those who oppose this legislation on the grounds it could lead to mass incarceration, the emergency classwide scheduling implemented by President Trump did not lead to mass incarcerations. In a Government Accountability Office study from 2021, the GAO found that there were only eight prosecutions—yes, eight prosecutions—during the period in which the Trump administration temporarily scheduled fentanyl-related substances as schedule I drugs from 2018–2020, with four of them being individuals working on behalf of the cartel because the cartels quit creating illicit fentanyl separate from the fentanyl that is poisoning our kids today.

It could be even worse. I know there are also those who believe the emergency scheduling order didn't lead to reductions in overdose deaths and that this bill before us won't effectively address the issues we are facing.

To both of those criticisms, this bill stops these analogues from being produced in the first place. Right after the classwide ban was put in place, the number of fentanyl analogue encounters dropped nearly 89 percent, more than 6,200 fewer reports of analogues. DEA officials stated that the classwide scheduling contributed to this dramatic drop.

It also includes provisions to facilitate more research into the detection of fentanyl-related substances and potential treatment of fentanyl poisonings, something that has much more red tape in the status quo.

I am happy to see the White House supports two main provisions of the HALT Fentanyl Act. The HALT Fentanyl Act is one step of many this body needs to take to address the end of the overdose crisis. The time to permanently act is now, and I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on H.R. 467.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 467. I have deep concerns with the partisan approach my Republican colleagues have taken on this bill and the harmful implications it would have on our communities if adopted.

The substance-use and overdose crisis impacts all our communities, and the American people deserve bipartisan solutions that address both public safety and public health. This bill fails on both fronts and simply continues the status quo, allowing opioid use disorder and the overdose crisis to continue to devastate American families across the Nation.

In 2018, the Drug Enforcement Administration first issued a temporary classwide scheduling order of fentanyl-related substances under schedule I, the strictest classification for drugs. Congress has voted to extend the temporary order multiple times, most recently in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023.

Despite this action over the last 4 years, overdoses have not gone down, and we have, unfortunately, not made a dent in the incidence of opioid use disorders. Fentanyl and synthetic opioids continue to flood into the country. In testimony before our committee, the DEA administrator noted the DEA seized more than 50 million fake pills and 10,000 pounds of fentanyl in 2022.

In other words, the HALT Fentanyl Act is a partisan distraction from the hard, bipartisan work that actually has to be done to address a longstanding, intractable problem that faces our communities.

We lost over 100,000 people in 2022 to overdoses. This is one of the biggest public health crises our Nation has ever faced, and now is not the time for a partisan approach. Now is the time for a comprehensive bipartisan work.

Democrats stand ready to work with Republicans on addressing the fentanyl crisis. We stand ready to work on permanent scheduling, so long as it is carefully designed to avoid exacerbating inequities in our criminal justice system.

In committee, Democrats offered amendments to improve the HALT Fentanyl Act. We asked that Republicans consider additions to the bill that reflect the Biden administration's

commonsense interagency proposal. The proposal would permanently schedule FRS but establish a set of guardrails that promote a scientific and equitable approach. The administration's proposal is reflected in bipartisan legislation that was introduced by Representatives Pappas, Gonzales, and Newhouse and includes an off-ramp to allow for expedited descheduling of FRS that are found to be either inert or have medical applications. There is already evidence that at least one FRS could have potential applications for reversing overdoses, similar to naloxone, and we must provide for such substances to be rapidly descheduled.

The Biden administration's proposal also strikes the right balance on public safety by ensuring that permanent scheduling of FRS does not exacerbate existing inequities in our criminal justice system. It eliminates mandatory minimum standards involving FRS unless an offense results in serious bodily injury or death. Instead, the Republican majority has opted to continue failed punitive mandatory minimum sentencing that we know will disproportionately impact communities of color while doing nothing to address the underlying opioid crisis.

Now, as this bill comes to the House floor, Republicans are continuing to refuse to make this legislation better. Almost 90 amendments were filed for consideration on this bill, and Republicans ruled nearly all of them out of order, including the bipartisan Pappas amendment. An amendment from Representative PETTERSEN of Colorado would have provided the off-ramp for rapid descheduling of FRS that are inert or have medical applications. An amendment offered by Representative CROCKETT of Texas would have ensured that Federal law does not stand in the way of the use of fentanyl test strips which have proven to reduce overdoses from fentanyl and FRS. Unfortunately, Republicans refused to make any of these commonsense amendments in order, despite the fact that they are clearly germane.

We simply cannot incarcerate our way out of a public health crisis. The HALT Fentanyl Act does not provide any resources for research, prevention, treatment, recovery, or harm reduction. It also does not provide law enforcement or public health agencies with any additional resources to detect and intercept illicit drugs entering the country.

In fact, nearly every House Republican voted in favor of the default on America act, which would inflict devastating cuts that would force communities to lay off thousands of law enforcement officers and first responders, and that is in addition to the significant cuts the default on America act would make to substance use programs that help treat patients in our communities.

The reality is that this bill, paired with Republican efforts to slash vital public health and safety funding, will

leave our communities worse off and exacerbate existing inequities in our criminal justice system.

Madam Chair, I can't support the underlying bill in its current form. I encourage my colleagues to oppose it. I hope that at some point we can get back to doing some bipartisan work that will really make a difference in terms of this opioid and fentanyl crisis.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1745

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, this was a bipartisan bill. It got bipartisan votes in committee. It is the DEA's number one priority.

If you are selling fentanyl to our kids, you deserve to be incarcerated. We don't apologize for that.

Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington State (Mrs. RODGERS), the chairwoman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Chair, to save lives and make our community safer, I rise in support of the HALT Fentanyl Act.

Illicit fentanyl is one of the greatest threats that we face as a nation. Illicit drug manufacturers are diverting precursor chemicals from some of China's 160,000 chemical plants and shipping them to Mexico, where cartels are producing mass quantities of illicit fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances. These are being smuggled across our southern border and killing more people than ever.

According to an analysis by The Washington Post, fentanyl poisoning is the number one cause of death for people 18 to 49.

I think about my friend Molly Cain from Spokane, who lost her son Carson, and Deb and Ray Cullen from Pennsylvania, who lost their son Zach. Both Carson and Zach were killed instantly by substances laced with illicit fentanyl.

Molly asked me how many more letters from grieving parents is it going to take for action.

The fact is it shouldn't take another letter, another day. It shouldn't take another lost loved one.

The HALT Fentanyl Act will save lives.

We must make sure that law enforcement has the permanent tools that they need to seize these extremely lethal poisons. It is DEA's number one priority. Without these tools, drug traffickers being sourced from China will be emboldened to push deadlier and deadlier drugs across the border. We can't let that happen.

Let's come together today for a more secure future for every community in America.

Madam Chair, I urge support of the HALT Fentanyl Act.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER), a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Madam Chair, I thank Ranking Member PALLONE for yielding me time.

Madam Chair, today, I rise to talk about a public health emergency impacting every corner of our Nation: fentanyl.

As Congress debates the best approach to combating synthetic opioids, what we can all agree on is that every single one of us is impacted. I urge my colleagues to keep our focus on comprehensive and sustainable solutions.

In 2021, in my small State of Delaware, we lost over 500 family members, friends, coworkers, and neighbors to overdoses. Of the more than 500 Delawareans lost to overdose, 80 percent involved fentanyl. Those numbers, unfortunately, are poised to get worse.

As the former deputy secretary of health and social services in Delaware, my career has made me look at these challenges through a lens of public health. That is why I was proud to join my colleagues Representative ANNIE KUSTER and DON BACON in introducing the STOP Fentanyl Overdoses Act.

Our bipartisan bill takes a comprehensive public health approach to reducing fentanyl overdoses by expanding testing, improving data collection and analysis, and expanding treatment for opioid use disorder.

Our approach is supported by a broad and diverse coalition, including the Drug Policy Alliance, American Psychological Association Services, and Partnership to End Addiction.

As we continue to work to combat the fentanyl crisis, an issue that I know we all care deeply about, I hope we will keep a comprehensive public health approach top of mind.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH), the bill's sponsor.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Chair, everyone in this body knows someone who has been affected by the drug overdose epidemic.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2022, there were more than 107,000 overdose deaths in the U.S. Sixty-seven percent of those deaths involved synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

Right now, fentanyl analogues are considered schedule I substances, but only because of a series of scheduling orders that expire on December 31, 2024. Since we put that temporary order into place, we have seen a reduction in the trafficking of fentanyl analogues into our country.

According to a 2021 GAO report, fentanyl analogues coming into the U.S. dropped by 90 percent in the year that we did the temporary scheduling. This bill aims to curb overdose deaths by permanently scheduling fentanyl analogues as schedule I substances. This will strengthen law enforcement's ability to prosecute fentanyl traffickers and act as a deterrent.

The HALT Fentanyl Act also promotes research—this is something new—by removing barriers to the research.

In the Energy and Commerce Committee, we heard that there are as many as 4,800 potential analogues. Our experts at NIH, FDA, and other agencies have studied roughly 30 of the 4,800. By encouraging research of schedule I substances like fentanyl analogues, we can better understand how these substances work and how we may prevent potential harmful impacts in the future.

Because fentanyl itself has a proven medical use, it is considered a schedule II narcotic, but illicit derivatives of fentanyl, also called fentanyl analogues, currently have not demonstrated medical value.

Let me be clear. This bill will have no impact whatsoever on a physician's ability to administer fentanyl in proper medical scenarios. The HALT Fentanyl Act deals specifically with fentanyl analogues, not fentanyl itself.

The DEA has said that permanently scheduling fentanyl analogues is their top legislative priority. We must not allow this temporary extension to expire.

On Monday, the Biden administration released a positive statement regarding the bill. In the statement, they supported the provisions I just described: permanent scheduling and streamlined research.

The Biden administration did recommend a few other items they would like to see related to fentanyl analogues. I am open and willing to have those discussions, but that is not this bill.

Madam Chair, we should vote to advance this bill that we agree on and that does help stop the bad guys, particularly those bringing these substances over the border.

Once fentanyl analogues are permanently made schedule I, Congress will continue to build off this work and continue to address the illicit fentanyl crisis.

These large numbers that we have seen on fentanyl deaths and fentanyl analogues are because of these drugs coming across the border. They are 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times more potent than heroin. Why would we not take every step possible that we can to stop it?

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chair, I know the Republicans have a number of speakers, so I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA).

Mr. LATTA. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Chair, for over 2 years, I have worked with my colleague from Virginia's Ninth District to pass the HALT Fentanyl Act. During this time, our country has reeled from a record-breaking number of poisonings. In both 2021 and 2022, over 100,000 Americans died of an overdose.

What was the main culprit? Fentanyl-related substances.

In 2021, 77 percent of teen overdose deaths were attributed to an illicit

fentanyl poisoning, and it is now the number one cause of deaths among adults 18 to 49.

This crisis has simply spiraled out of control, and action must be taken immediately. That is why our bill, the HALT Fentanyl Act, comes into play.

Right now, these fentanyl substances are temporarily set as a schedule I narcotic. If this class-wide scheduling were to expire, drug traffickers will be given the green light to push deadlier drugs; law enforcement will lose authority to seize these deadly narcotics; and Americans will continue to die.

I am pleased the House is taking up this bill to permanently place fentanyl-related substances as a schedule I narcotic.

Let me take a moment to clear up a misconception about this bill. This isn't about criminal justice reform. This is about justice for the victims of fentanyl poisoning. Cartels are killing our citizens for 10 cents. Let me repeat that: Cartels are killing our citizens for 10 cents. That is how much it costs to make a pill in Mexico that is fentanyl-laced.

This is the DEA's number one priority. We owe it to our constituents to fix this permanently.

Currently, to trigger a 10-year mandatory minimum, an offense must involve 100 grams or more of a mixture containing a fentanyl analogue. Because the average lethal dose of fentanyl is just 2 milligrams, the offense would need to contain roughly 50,000 lethal doses. Again, that is 50,000 human beings that would be murdered from fentanyl poisoning.

Madam Chair, I strongly encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the HALT Fentanyl Act to help end this crisis and save innocent lives.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania. Madam Chair, I stand today in solidarity with the millions of Black and Brown folks who have been locked up over the failed war on drugs.

I stand before you today some 50 years from the war on drugs and 39 years after President Reagan signed the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, which expanded penalties on weed possession, established mandatory minimums, and created civil asset forfeiture—50 years since establishing drug policies that systematically led to the mass incarceration of generations of Black men.

But somehow, this war on drugs will be different.

We don't always know the consequences of a bill like this, but with the HALT Fentanyl Act, we all know.

We have to listen to our experts: our public health, criminal justice, and civil rights organizations. They are on the ground doing the work in our communities, and 158 of them just told us that, no, the HALT Fentanyl Act will not help the American people, as this

bill claims it would. It will only cause harm, especially to Black, Brown, and low-income Americans.

We really didn't need the experts on this one. We have had decades to observe the effects of policies just like this.

The definition of insanity is doing the same thing and expecting different results. The HALT Fentanyl Act will do exactly what it was designed to do if we allow it to pass.

We have seen 50 years of a terrifying merry-go-round: the economy struggles, housing becomes less stable, and a tough-on-crime approach is promoted as the solution. Lock up those most impacted, our siblings and neighbors struggling with addiction. Lock them up.

Who is winning? Not the 350,000 folks currently serving time for drug offenses, not the families that have been torn apart by mass incarceration. Imagine the loss of generational wealth.

Communities have been left without parents, grandparents, neighbors, leaders, and friends. Families are mourning tens of thousands that have died every year from drug overdoses.

Policies like this one do not lead to healing. They do not lead to safety. They do not lead to justice, and we do deserve justice.

We know there is a correlation between poverty and crime, not race and crime. We do not need tough-on-crime policies. We need to be tough on inequality, but for true, systemic change, we have to be willing to consider different roads. We have to be willing to consider community-based, trauma-informed, and harm-reducing policies. We must resist the urge to hearken back to tough-on-crime rhetoric.

Tough on crime is merely tough on community. We can do better, and we must do better than the HALT Fentanyl Act.

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Chair, I thank the chairman of the Health Subcommittee for his leadership and for yielding me time.

Madam Chair, I rise today in support of the HALT Fentanyl Act. The American people are in the midst of a staggering illicit fentanyl crisis. Our kids are dying, Madam Chair. We need to do everything we possibly can to help these kids.

Sadly, we read daily headlines, Madam Chair, of adults, teens, and even toddlers who have died from fentanyl poisoning.

My colleagues across the aisle, they kicked the can down the road. They have kicked it down the road too long, Madam Chair, and look at the consequences as fentanyl-related substances still remain only temporarily scheduled. The time is now to make it permanent.

Today, we take an overdue step in the right direction, and as a proud ad-

vocate for individuals suffering with substance use disorder, I know this is just one step. Much more needs to be done, and I am thankful the gentleman has brought this bill to the floor.

Sadly, we continue to see a huge influx of fentanyl-related substances into the country from across the Mexican border, from cartels using chemicals imported from China and India.

□ 1800

I am disheartened to see communities across my State of Florida and across the Nation bearing the ramifications of these criminal actors and our open-border policies. We must secure the border.

This is a nonpartisan issue, in my opinion, and we must come together to address the opioid crisis. We are at war with these cartels, Madam Chair.

I would like to see my Democratic colleagues heed the Biden administration's public support of these critical measures. Just this Monday, they issued their support for the policies in this bill, urging Congress to pass these measures to address public safety and save lives.

I say to my colleagues across the aisle: Work with us on this and on other meaningful policy solutions to combat fentanyl in our Nation.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE).

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Madam Chair, I rise today to strongly oppose the Republicans' HALT Fentanyl Act. Republicans want to ban American history so that they can repeat the bad parts.

Did we learn nothing from the war on drugs?

I guess not. Real talk was a huge failure. Back then we enacted ineffective and punitive laws that only worked to expand mass incarceration, mostly of Black and Brown folks.

This legislation will enact ineffective and punitive drug laws that only work to expand mass incarceration.

Who will suffer?

Mostly Black and Brown folks. The data shows that all races are facing challenges with fentanyl.

This legislation would put us on a dangerous path toward unjust and disproportionate mandatory minimums for the possession of all fentanyl-related substances.

News flash: Research is still needed on possible and legal pharmacological use of these substances. Fentanyl is still being prescribed legally and used in controlled settings by medical doctors. That is right. Republicans don't like science.

In its current form, this bill allows for no flexibility, and won't address the root issue. This bill is shortsighted because some of these substances could still be key to developing treatment for fentanyl overdoses.

Instead of learning about how we can save people from fentanyl, we want to criminalize all of the fentanyl-related substances.

Madam Chair, 97 percent of the illicit fentanyl seized at the border is seized at legal ports of entry. The majority of those convicted are U.S. citizens. The draconian mandatory minimums proposed under this plan don't address these issues.

In fact, this bill doesn't do anything smart. It doesn't address the humanitarian crisis we are facing at our southern border. It doesn't address the epidemic of substance abuse, and it certainly won't improve our public safety.

The majority of people who are dying from fentanyl are dying because they are taking it illegally. They are buying and searching for illicit drugs. It is not about prosecution. It is about drug use. The issue is substance abuse. That is what we should be addressing.

If you are going to propose some legislation, make it make sense. Make it address root issues and focus on the causes rather than continuing to scapegoat the same people that you have scapegoated for years and years to no end.

Madam Chair, I urge a "no" vote.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON), the vice chair of the Health Subcommittee.

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Chair, I point out that this is fentanyl poisoning, and just because people use illicit drugs, they certainly don't deserve to die from it.

Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of the HALT Fentanyl Act. In 2022, roughly 75,000 Americans died from poisoning by synthetic opioids, largely illicit fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances.

Illicit fentanyl poisonings are now the number one cause of death among adults ages 18 to 49, as has been pointed out many times.

People who have died from illicit fentanyl poisoning are not just statistics. They are someone's child, sibling, parent, family member, or close friend. It is happening in every community across America. It doesn't discriminate against socioeconomic class, race, or religion.

Just last week, a Federal grand jury indicted a man in Evansville, Indiana, my hometown, for selling counterfeit prescription pills laced with fentanyl over social media that caused at least three poisonings and the death of a 19-year-old woman in 2022.

Last fall, a Federal grand jury indicted another man in Evansville who sold fentanyl pills in 2021 that ended up killing a 3-year-old toddler and resulted in nonfatal poisonings of two other children in a home after they found illicit fentanyl pills in a nightstand and took them.

These are heartbreaking stories, and we in this body have the power to do something to help prevent more of them from occurring.

Let's pass the HALT Fentanyl Act and give hope to Americans whose family, friends, and loved ones, who have

been impacted by illicit fentanyl poisonings, that their loved one's death was not in vain. Support this bill.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Chair, I rise today in strong support of the HALT Fentanyl Act, which would permanently schedule fentanyl analogues as schedule I.

Madam Chair, the United States is facing a poisoning epidemic. It is caused by illicit fentanyl and its related substances that are pouring over our southern border. Almost 200 people are dying every day from fentanyl poisoning—200.

Included in that number is a family from my district who lost their son, Wesley, to the drug at the age of 22 years. His mother writes: "My son was a victim of drug-induced homicide. He took one pill that ended up being pure fentanyl and died. He was poisoned because he trusted the wrong person and paid for it with his life."

We cannot allow the lawlessness and tragedy to continue to tear our communities apart. That is why we must pass the HALT Fentanyl Act that is before us today.

Opponents of this legislation are choosing to side with criminals over the safety and well-being of our children. That is despicable.

Madam Chair, let's pass this bill, secure the border, stem the tide of the growing fentanyl crisis, and save lives.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for yielding to me.

Madam Chair, I will follow up with the last two colleagues of mine, the gentlewoman from California and the previous speaker.

We cannot have what happened in the 1980s and 1990s of the scapegoating of communities with the heinous drug epidemic.

It is interesting that now that fentanyl is impacting certain communities, it is now a health issue. In the 1980s and 1990s when there was a crack epidemic in urban communities, Nancy Reagan told us: "Just say no." But here we are now, in this day and age, and now it is a major issue. Why?

Because it is impacting other communities that people tend to care more about—their communities. What we are seeing now in minority communities was going on 20 years ago and we were screaming: Please, help. Please, let's stop this scourge.

What we did was say: No, those people that are abusing those drugs are criminals. Let's lock them up—mass incarceration.

Now, in this day and age with fentanyl, it is a health issue when the

same thing was happening then is happening now. I don't know how one is a criminal act and now we need to have compassion. We do because this country is suffering. Our young people are dying. It is just unreal the scourge that this drug is.

We have to remember that fentanyl is such a powerful opioid. It is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine. Two milligrams, or the size of five grains of salt, can cause a possible overdose. We need to do something. Our young people are screaming out. They are crying. They are dying.

We cannot blame it all on the southern border. Time and time again, we have data that shows that 90 percent of the fentanyl is coming through ports of entry by American citizens. We need to address that. We need to talk about it.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Chair, the HALT Fentanyl Act is not the way to go, but we need to come together and do something as this plague is ruining our future.

I have seen it in my community. Others have seen it now in their communities. We must come together with reasonable legislation. This is just another possible situation that starts mass incarceration once again. I know I don't want to see in your community what that did to mine over the past 20 years.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN).

Mr. DUNN of Florida. Madam Chair, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act.

This legislation will place all fentanyl-related substances, as a class, into schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act.

The Energy and Commerce Committee has taken an important step toward solving our fentanyl crisis. I am proud to have supported this bill since the 117th Congress.

We have heard from Molly Cain, the Cullens, and countless others who courageously told their stories of how their children were murdered by fentanyl. Make no mistake: Fentanyl is a poison in our communities. Every pill, every toke, every line of cocaine is like playing a game of Russian roulette every single time.

This crisis is happening at the hands of bad actors such as the Chinese Communist Party and the drug cartels. China remains the primary source of illicit fentanyl and its precursors that are trafficked internationally and through our porous southern border.

In fiscal year 2023, Customs and Border Patrol has seized over 17,000 pounds of fentanyl, enough to kill 11 times the entire population of the United States.

The HALT Fentanyl Act is an important step in the right direction, and we must permanently schedule these substances.

Let's call it what it is: a weapon of mass destruction. Our law enforcement officers fight heroically every day to combat this epidemic, and it is imperative that we protect them.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Chair, I rise today to speak in opposition to H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act.

The fentanyl crisis has touched every community across our State and country. We need to take serious, bipartisan action to address this epidemic and save lives.

Unfortunately, the legislation on the floor tonight misses the mark.

The HALT Fentanyl Act does not address how these dangerous drugs enter our country, nor does it include any measures to address the underlying demand driving the substance use crisis.

This bill simply preserves the status quo by continuing to schedule fentanyl-related substances as schedule I, which has been the case since 2018, and under current law, will be the case until December of 2024.

Scheduling alone will not change the overdose crisis. We need to broaden our scope.

Madam Chair, I urge this body to instead consider a public health approach to address this crisis. I am leading with LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER and DON BACON, a bipartisan, alternative bill that would address both the supply of and demand for illicit fentanyl in this country.

□ 1815

Our bill, the STOP Fentanyl Overdoses Act, will enhance fentanyl surveillance through investments in technology, dedicate resources to strengthen law enforcement response, and improve data collection of seized drugs.

The bill will also help reduce the demand for illicit drugs by expanding access to recovery resources, protecting people who administer opioid reversal drugs, and supporting education on the harm of drug misuse.

The STOP Fentanyl Overdoses Act is an alternative to the scheduling-only approach on the floor. An issue this complex requires an equally comprehensive solution.

Fentanyl doesn't care about our politics and neither should our approach to addressing the overdose crisis.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to consider my alternative, bipartisan solution.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO).

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Chair, our Nation is facing a tragic fentanyl crisis. Our kids are dying. Our neighbors are dying. During the last 2 years, if I may remind my Democratic colleagues,

they were in charge. They were in charge of the House, they had control of the Senate, they had control of the Presidency, and they did nothing to stop this fentanyl crisis.

Late last year, I visited the Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Office in Phoenix, Arizona. It is truly revealing. It is one of the busiest medical examiner offices in the Nation. In Maricopa County last year, fentanyl and its analogues were involved in 60 percent of all the drug-related deaths. Once more, there are record amounts of fentanyl coming across our southern border into our Arizona communities.

Did you know that last Thursday, officers at the Arizona Nogales Port of Entry seized over 207,000 fentanyl pills and over 16 pounds of fentanyl powder just in 1 day. With border officials only able to seize 5 to 10 percent of all illegal drugs, these numbers are truly terrifying. House Republicans are taking action. We are the ones introducing this bill. We are the ones getting something done. We are introducing the HALT Fentanyl Act.

Madam Chair, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation, to stop this deadly drug crisis and save lives.

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

Madam Chair, I don't like to disagree with my colleague from Arizona who I respect, but she did say that when the Democrats were in the majority that we didn't address the issue, and that is not accurate.

In fact, last Congress we did pass out of the Energy and Commerce Committee a bipartisan mental health and substance use treatment package, H.R. 7666, which became law as part of the consolidated appropriations bill last December, and that bill, H.R. 7666, that came out of our committee, when it came to the floor of the House, was supported by over 400 Members. Only 20 Members didn't vote for it, and it was later signed into law as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act. That new law includes the MAD Act and the MAiD Act, historic pieces of legislation that ensure medical practitioners are prepared to identify and treat substance use disorders and increase access to medication-assisted treatment, such as buprenorphine.

H.R. 7666 also reauthorized billions of dollars in public health programs that addressed the mental health and substance use crisis, including both the substance use prevention treatment and recovery services block grant and State opioid response grants.

Now, I am not suggesting that this is the end all. Obviously, more needs to be done, but part of what I think you are hearing from the Democratic side of the aisle today is that this legislation on the floor doesn't really deal with all these things. It doesn't deal with treatment. It doesn't deal with the border. It doesn't deal with law enforcement and more resources to address the fentanyl crisis.

We believe that a law that is going to really make a difference would do that, and that is the reason that we are saying that this bill that is before us, the HALT Fentanyl Act, really doesn't do anything because it just says that it is going to be in schedule I beyond 2024.

Right now, you already have synthetic fentanyl scheduled in I until the end of next year, and we haven't really seen any progress with that.

We would like to see a comprehensive approach that takes into account treatment that is a follow up on what we passed in the last Congress.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Chair, 6 months ago I received an email from Ray Cullen, a resident of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, who, along with his wife, Deb, had raised their kids in my district, Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District.

Ray told the story of his son, Zach, who last year was out with a bunch of buddies when he was sold cocaine that was laced with fentanyl, unfortunately, a deadly poison that claimed Zach's life. Zach didn't know that the drugs that he and his friends had purchased were laced with this deadly synthetic opioid.

Because of how lethal the drug is in small quantities, fentanyl has become the leading cause of death for Americans between the ages of 18 and 49. It was Franklin County Coroner Jeff Conner who put it so bluntly to me. He said: "Fentanyl is easy to get and it is fast to kill."

The Cullens reached out to share the memory of their son because they wanted to make a difference. They wanted to make sure that the pain that they were feeling was not shared by parents anywhere else in Pennsylvania or anywhere else in our country.

Now, on the eve of the HALT Fentanyl Act vote, we in Congress have a chance to help prevent these needless deaths by passing the HALT Fentanyl Act, legislation to finally classify these deadly fentanyl substances as schedule I narcotics.

Deb and Ray Cullen have traveled and presented their case before the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee of Health. Deb and Ray Cullen will be here tomorrow. They will be in the gallery as we have a choice to make to vote in a bipartisan fashion to halt fentanyl and its deadly cause here in the United States.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California, Mr. MIKE GARCIA.

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Madam Chair, for too long, a lack of national leadership has forced law enforcement into navigating this

fentanyl crisis without the proper tools or a defined mission. The HALT Fentanyl Act would provide both the tools and the mission by permanently classifying fentanyl analogues as schedule I narcotics. This bill, which I have long supported, will mitigate this crisis by empowering police to use every tool available to get the traffickers of poison off the streets and put them in jail.

Sell fentanyl, go to jail. Poison kids, go to jail. If you don't want to go to jail, don't sell fentanyl and don't poison our kids.

Right now we are failing as a Nation. We are failing to recognize the severity of this crisis, failing to hold China and dealers accountable for their role, and we are failing to protect the people who most need it, our children.

We have lost young Americans with bright futures like Daniel Puerta from my district who was a year away from graduating when he was poisoned by a counterfeit pill sold over Snapchat. For Daniel's memory and the memory of countless others, we must act.

Madam Chair, I urge support of this bill. One last thing, 30 times the number of people who died on 9/11 last year died of fentanyl poisoning.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Chair, I thank my colleague for yielding time.

Madam Chair, I rise today in support of HALT Fentanyl Act introduced by my friends and colleagues, MORGAN GRIFFITH and BOB LATTA.

The fentanyl crisis is ravaging our Nation, and there is no question this dangerous drug and its analogues should be scheduled. Fentanyl accounts for roughly 150 overdose deaths per day, and the number of deaths caused by fentanyl and other synthetic opioids is growing exponentially each year.

The HALT Fentanyl Act would permanently schedule fentanyl-related substances and provide law enforcement with the tools needed to keep these lethal drugs off our streets.

Should the temporary classwide scheduling expire, drug traffickers would be empowered to ramp up their operations without fear or repercussions. At our border, U.S. Customs and Border Protection would lose the authority to seize these substances, and the amount of drugs coming into our country would skyrocket.

It is hard to imagine the border crisis becoming worse than it already is, but should this scheduling expire, I am afraid the crisis would escalate even further.

As a physician and the former director of the Iowa Department of Public Health under whose purview substance use disorder and drug addiction failed, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle neglect to acknowledge a vast majority of people affected by this are not drug addicts. One pill can kill.

Furthermore, news flash: This bill doesn't hamper any legal medical use of fentanyl. Fentanyl is not only more deadly than cocaine or morphine or heroin, it is significantly easier to produce and can be sold for 100 times more than it costs to make. Bad actors will always take advantage of bad situations, and this is no exception.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill to protect our most vulnerable populations and keep fentanyl and its analogues off the street.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO).

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act of which I am proud to cosponsor. I also find it baffling, Madam Chair, that speakers from the other side say that this does nothing when, in fact, we are working to correct the wrongs of the procriminal, open-border agenda that Democrats have passed throughout this country.

There is not one community across this Nation that has been immune to the devastating effects of fentanyl. As an NYPD detective, I have witnessed far too many Americans destroyed due to opioid addictions stemming from this horrific narcotic, and Congress must act swiftly to combat the fentanyl epidemic.

Madam Chair, I urge all my colleagues to support the HALT Act in order to make permanent classwide scheduling order for fentanyl-related substances, which is the key to preventing unneeded deaths related to fentanyl.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act. I am a proud original cosponsor of this commonsense legislation that would permanently reschedule fentanyl-related substances as schedule I drugs. Far too often, we are hearing devastating stories from families across this great country who have lost loved ones to fentanyl-related deaths, and, in many cases, it is our young people.

Only a few milligrams of fentanyl can be lethal, which is why it is now the number one cause of death among adults 18 to 49. Deadly fentanyl-related substances are being manufactured by China and the cartels and pouring across our borders into our cities, communities, and neighborhoods.

We must ensure that our law enforcement and Border Patrol officers maintain the authority necessary to seize these drugs. That is why this body must take action.

The HALT Fentanyl Act would supply law enforcement with the tools needed to keep this deadly substance off our streets.

Madam Chair, to put it simply: This bill will save lives. I strongly urge a "yes" vote on H.R. 467.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Chair, may I inquire as to the time remaining?

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. D'ESPOSITO). The gentleman from Kentucky has 5½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from New Jersey has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Chairman, today, I rise in strong support of H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act. To drive home why this bill is so important, I want to emphasize that currently there is no permanent scheduling of fentanyl, only a temporary emergency scheduling order.

That means when, not if, but when this temporary order on fentanyl expires, fentanyl-related substances will become street legal.

Think about this: Over 300 people a day will die today from fentanyl poisoning, 300 people died yesterday, and 300 people will die tomorrow of fentanyl poisoning.

□ 1830

If an airliner carrying 300 people crashed every single day, within the span of a week we would have declared a national emergency and would have begun the work on solutions, but we haven't done that here.

If we don't pass this bill, when the emergency class-wide scheduling order expires, law enforcement will no longer have the authority to seize these extremely lethal drugs. Yes, you heard me right, they will no longer have the authority.

As so many of my colleagues have said today, fentanyl is the leading cause of death for individuals between the ages of 18 and 49, surpassing COVID, cancer, heart disease, and even car accidents. In fact, the DEA, Biden's DEA, you-all's DEA, says this is their number one priority.

Every single one of us knows someone who has been affected by fentanyl. Every single one of us in this Chamber knows who is responsible for the fentanyl pouring into our country, and it is every single one of our jobs to act and pass the HALT Fentanyl Act. Let's put the politics aside, come together as Americans for our communities, for this country.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

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

I just want to correct the record, or at least set the record straight, on what the DEA and the Biden administration are saying. I heard what my colleague on the committee said, but I want you to understand that no one on our side of the aisle, certainly not the Biden administration or the DEA, is saying that we should get rid of the current law, which says that synthetic fentanyl is on schedule I. That is the

case now. We have extended it many times. As the gentlewoman said, it is actually extended until December of 2024.

What the Biden administration, in conjunction with the DEA, is saying is that before you go ahead and permanently extend, that you should look at some of the other things that we have talked about on the Democratic side of the aisle. In other words, they say, in this task force from the administration with the DEA, that there is a real possibility that research will find that there are synthetic fentanyl substances that might actually help deal with the crisis and reverse an overdose in certain circumstances.

What they recommend is that we have an off-ramp to ensure that substances that are deemed to have a potential medical application are not improperly classified. If you pass this permanently, then you have to pass another law in order to take something off the list.

Also, they are not recommending that we have mandatory minimum incarceration involving synthetic fentanyl unless an offense results in serious bodily injury or death. This is what some of my colleagues on the Democratic side are saying, that incarceration, mandatory minimum sentencing, is not the answer. We know it hasn't been for years with other drugs, as well.

In addition to that, there should be funding to deal with the research, funding to deal with treatment, funding for law enforcement so they can prevent more fentanyl from coming into the country. None of that is included in this bill.

I just don't want my colleagues on the other side to misrepresent what DEA or what the Biden administration are saying. We all understand the nature of this crisis. We don't think that this bill is going to do anything to change that, because it just basically extends the status quo and doesn't do anything for all of these other things that have been mentioned on the Democratic side.

I think it is really important for you to understand where we are coming from on this. We don't disagree with putting this on schedule I, but we want to see a comprehensive approach, because what we are doing now has failed.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 467, the HALT Fentanyl Act.

A recent poll shows just 16 percent of Americans are satisfied with how things are going in the United States. Why?

Washington has largely ignored pressing issues in the past 2 years. While the fentanyl epidemic may not grab headlines in the mainstream

media, it has lost the pulse of mainstream America, few issues are more important.

Illicit fentanyl poisonings are now the number one cause of death among Americans aged 18 to 49. Nearly every American knows a friend or a relative who has struggled or even overdosed. I do.

Despite the crisis, Congress has continued to kick the can down the road by temporarily extending the class-wide scheduling order. Each time, law enforcement is left scrambling as we approach the deadline, which would let many of the fentanyl-related substances become legal.

We must permanently give law enforcement the tools they need to keep Americans safe. The HALT Fentanyl Act complements other solutions like the recently passed Secure the Border Act, which will help properly root out the flow of illicit drugs and limit supply.

Mr. Chair, I urge the bill's passage, which will represent another step toward restoring the voice of the American people in the House.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the HALT Fentanyl Act, which will help end thousands of deaths from this tragic situation.

I am speaking on behalf of parents like Joe Warnick and Donna Johnson of Odessa, Texas, who lost their son, Jackson, to fentanyl poisoning. I am speaking up for thousands of families across the United States.

How can you oppose this? Literally, how can you oppose this?

Every day we hear more and more stories of lives ended by fentanyl. It is our responsibility to act.

The HALT Fentanyl Act will help end the fentanyl crisis by cracking down on criminals who are trafficking deadly fentanyl across the southern border and into our communities. It will ensure law enforcement has the tools they need to keep these extremely lethal and dangerous drugs off our streets.

The moms and dads that I have talked to are tired of words. They want action, and the HALT Fentanyl Act is the action that we need to take. Lives are on the line.

Mr. Chair, I am very proud of my Republican Conference for proposing this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

The point that I have been trying to make and my colleagues have been trying to make on this side of the aisle is that Republicans continue to push punitive and partisan policies with regard to the opioid crisis rather than real solutions to address the substance abuse crisis, strengthen border security, or fix our immigration system.

The partisan HALT Fentanyl Act would not meaningfully address substance abuse. It would simply result in more incarceration.

This bill takes a one-sided approach by only requiring permanent class-wide scheduling of fentanyl-related substances in an attempt to incarcerate our way out of a public health crisis.

By contrast, the Biden administration has put forth an interagency proposal, which I have discussed, to permanently schedule synthetic fentanyl within schedule I without exacerbating existing sentencing disparities and inequities in our criminal justice system, as well as creating an off-ramp to remove or reschedule these substances shown to have medical or therapeutic value.

Now, I know that we hear from the other side: What have you done? What are you doing?

Well, the bottom line is that the Biden administration has taken aggressive action to combat the overdose epidemic. Congress and the administration should be working together on a bipartisan solution to address the fentanyl crisis, but the Republicans are threatening a default crisis right now that would seriously undermine these efforts.

Last year, the Biden administration announced its inaugural National Drug Control Strategy which expands access to lifesaving interventions, like naloxone and buprenorphine, while providing additional resources to law enforcement agencies to intercept illegal drugs.

To support this strategy and address illicit fentanyl, President Biden has called on Congress to make a historic investment of \$46 billion in funding for efforts to reduce the supply of illicit fentanyl and stop drug trafficking, as well as expand access to treatment and prevention to reduce overdose deaths across the country.

Now, at the same time, Republicans are threatening a default crisis unless Democrats go along with their drastic cuts that would seriously undermine our ability to combat the fentanyl and opioid crisis.

According to the administration, the cuts demanded by Republicans would force Border Patrol to ax more than 2,000 agents and drastically reduce funding for the DEA and the FBI. These things are crucial to interdiction and anti-drug-trafficking efforts.

The Republican proposal, the default on America act, would reduce funding for treatment for opioid use disorders resulting in thousands more Americans losing access to treatment and recovery. It would also threaten to take health insurance away from millions of low-income individuals, including those struggling with substance use disorders and the opioid epidemic, and it imposes a cruel and unnecessary work requirement on Medicaid.

Now, all we are trying to say on our side of the aisle is in this war on drugs, mandatory sentencing, incarcerate everybody, has not worked. It didn't

work for other drugs. It is not going to work for fentanyl.

At the same time, the Biden administration has put forward a proposal, and it has been put into bill form, the STOP Fentanyl Act, that looks at all of this and tries to increase treatment, tries to increase interdiction and help law enforcement, and tries to do more research to see to what extent we can find uses for synthetic fentanyl that actually will stop, if you will, or prevent overdoses from killing people.

We are just asking for a comprehensive approach. I haven't heard anything from the other side of the aisle that says you are going to do anything more than continue with the current law, which says that we are going to make synthetic fentanyl part of schedule I, which is already the law, at least until the end of next year.

All we are saying is, let's sit down and actually try to come up with something here on a bipartisan basis that is going to make a difference for this fentanyl crisis. What we have done in the past hasn't worked. If we are going to just reduce funding for all of these things, that is certainly not going to work. That is only going to make it worse.

I guess I am just pleading with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: Rethink this. We have the time now to come up with a comprehensive approach that will make a difference here. If you pass this partisan bill, it is going to go nowhere in the Senate, it is not going to become law, and we will have accomplished nothing.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill, and let's look for a comprehensive solution along the line of what the President has proposed.

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

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

My friend from New Jersey did say that this law expires at the end of the year. That is why we are here today to make scheduling illicit fentanyl permanent.

We have to understand what the status quo is. The status quo currently is horrific. Before these illicit fentanyls were scheduled, although we couldn't get them permanently scheduled, there were all kinds of analogues throughout America. That is why the DEA and others recommended that we schedule these, because once you change the fentanyl molecule, unless these are scheduled, then it becomes no longer illegal. These all appeared in our country, and that is why we are reacting to it. They are scheduled now, and what we are moving to do is to make it permanent.

What has happened since they were scheduled?

They came to me, and they talked about mass incarceration. We have heard that today. There have been eight people in prison under this law, four dealing with cartels, which I would say absolutely should be in prison.

I asked some of my law enforcement people when I was looking into this bill: If you have only arrested eight people, why does it matter?

That is what they are saying on the other side of the aisle.

What they said was the only reason we have only arrested eight people is because when this was put into place, the analogues—not fentanyl, but the analogues, which can be more dangerous—had disappeared from the marketplace. They are bringing in fentanyl that is already scheduled.

The problem is, if we treat fentanyl analogues differently than fentanyl, they are going to reappear again. That is why we have to put them in the same category. If you have fentanyl subject to mandatory minimums, but not these analogues, then they are going to reappear.

We have to pass this bill, we have to move forward, and I recommend support of this bill.

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

□ 1845

The Acting CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GRIFFITH) having assumed the chair, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 467) to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

HONORING KELLE STRICKLAND ON HER RETIREMENT

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kelle Strickland, who is retiring after 20 years of service to the House of Representatives.

Kelle is currently serving as my counsel on the Committee on Ethics and has spent two decades providing invaluable advice to Members and staff.

A native Alabamian, Kelle started her career on the Hill as an intern. She was quickly recognized as a leader and served for 6 years as the legislative director to former Congressman Jo Bonner. She served 5 years as chief of staff to Congressman MICHAEL BURGESS, 3 years as chief of staff in the Office of House Sergeant at Arms, and the last several years in her role as counsel to the ranking member and later chairman of the House Committee of Ethics.

I could not have been able to make the transition into my role at the Committee on Ethics without Kelle's guidance. She has served as a wealth of in-

stitutional knowledge and a trusted adviser to me since last August.

Kelle's presence in the House will be missed, but she will not go far. Kelle will continue to be a resource to the institution at the helm of the Congressional Institute, where she will undoubtedly enjoy continued success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in congratulating Kelle and thanking her for her many years of service.

IMPORTANCE OF LOAN FORGIVENESS IN BLACK COMMUNITIES

(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 discuss the benefits of President Biden's student loan forgiveness plan for the Black community.

Today, American families struggle with the high costs of higher education. These financial burdens are even worse in Black communities.

Black college graduates owe \$25,000 more in student debt on average than White graduates, and they owe 12.5 percent more than they borrowed 4 years after graduating.

President Biden's plan would forgive \$10,000 to \$20,000 of student loan debt for eligible students. It would cut the loan balance for Black graduates nearly in half, and it would erase the debt for 25 percent of Black borrowers.

It is a great first step, but we must do more. We must increase debt forgiveness for students targeted by predatory for-profit colleges regardless, and we must create interest-free Federal student loans to lower the financial burdens of college.

These actions would help millions of Black graduates pay off their loans and get a fresh start.

CLOSE THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, we received a briefing as to what was going on in the Russia-Ukraine war, and we heard of the callousness with which President Putin treats his own troops.

Indeed, 20,000 Russian troops recently died to take a city that was apparently of no important significance.

I thought, how could a President be so callous knowing that when one of these troops died, his parents, his siblings, and perhaps his children are left behind?

Then it occurred to me that here in the United States of America, we had 109,000 people die of illegal drugs last year, most of it fentanyl, and our President seems to be willing to do almost nothing.

Mr. Speaker, since almost all the drugs are coming across the southern border, with 109,000 people dying every year, wouldn't you figure it is a priority to close the border? No.

Wouldn't you think it is a priority to arrest or put in prison those people who are selling these drugs? No.

The major concern is to leave the border open and not put any more people in prison.

By the way, as far as the ability to prevent people from selling the drugs and putting them in prison, how many people died of fentanyl last year in China? None. Why? Because the minute they try to sell it, they would be in prison.

In any event, I call upon President Biden to finally address the fentanyl crisis.

SUPPORTING OUR KUPUNA

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

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, the Keep Kupuna Fed Act.

According to the most current data from the USDA, 1 in 10 kupuna, or senior citizens, are experiencing hunger and food insecurity.

SNAP has played a critical role in preventing millions of Americans, including our kupuna, from going hungry in the face of a public health crisis, supply chain disruptions, and rising inflation.

While the historic 8.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment was welcome news to more than 65 million Social Security beneficiaries, for many kupuna, this has resulted in a net loss.

Seniors in every one of our districts across the country have lost or will lose access to SNAP entirely, while others will see a significant decrease in benefits because of this bump in Social Security.

That is why I introduced the Keep Kupuna Fed Act, which would exempt title II Social Security benefits from the SNAP program's income eligibility requirements. This ensures more kupuna stay on SNAP and don't go hungry.

I invite my colleagues to join me in helping end senior hunger and keep our kupuna fed by supporting this important measure.

HONORING MICHAEL R. MASONE

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

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to Michael R. Masone, an ex-chief of the Island Park Fire Department, the same department that I proudly served for the last 23 years.

This weekend back home in Island Park, we are going to rededicate our beloved local beach in his honor. The ex-Chief Michael R. Masone Beach was named for a man who back in 1942, when he served as chief of our great department, resigned. He resigned as chief to do something far greater, and

that was to serve this Nation in World War II. He returned home and married the love of his life, Sue, and they lived in Island Park for decades.

He was the senior member of our department when he passed away, serving over 70 years.

His nickname in Island Park was "The Hawk," and we called him "The Hawk" because he always kept a watchful eye on our beloved community.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward this weekend to joining neighbors, loved ones, family, friends, and fellow Island Parkers in, once again, paying tribute to a true American hero, someone whom we all aspire to be back in Island Park, ex-Chief Michael R. Masone.

RECOGNIZING ANN BERRY

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Ann Berry, who, for the past 44 years, affected the lives of students, teachers, and families in the Carmel Unified School District.

This month, Ms. Berry is retiring as Carmel High School's attendance secretary, where she ensured that students not only attended school but enjoyed school.

She started in 1979 as a parent who showed up to ensure that her daughter wasn't skipping class. She did such a good job in that role that Carmel High School hired her to keep other students in school.

It was a vocation for Ms. Berry that affected thousands of other Padres, including my two older brothers, myself, and now my two daughters, who attend Carmel High School.

Through her work, our community relied on Ms. Berry as a cop for keeping kids in class, as a comedian for keeping kids happy, as a counselor well aware of teen mental health concerns, as a coach for common sense, and as a supporter of Padre athletic and academic success.

For four decades, Ms. Berry was that dependable school administrator. She was that voice of reason for parents, and she is that trusted adult for teenagers.

As one of her students and now as her Congressman, I thank and congratulate Ms. Ann Berry for her service, for her support, and for being that solid cornerstone of the Carmel High community.

INVESTING IN OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I represent nearly 50,000 veterans across North Carolina's First Congressional District. North Carolina ranks 10th in the Nation for veteran-owned small businesses.

During Small Business Week, I introduced a bipartisan package of veterans' legislation to repay our veterans for their sacrifice and selfless service.

The first, the Veterans Jobs Opportunity Act, introduced with Congressman ZACH NUNN of Iowa, provides veterans starting small businesses with a 15 percent tax credit on the first \$50,000 of startup costs.

The second, the Coast Guard Combat-Injured Tax Fairness Act, introduced with Congressman DON BACON of Nebraska, closes a loophole in an existing law that failed to provide Coast Guard servicemembers with the same tax benefits afforded to others.

Investing in our brave veterans while helping the communities that need it most should be our highest priority.

□ 1900

CUTS TO CRITICAL SPENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. OWENS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. RAMIREZ. 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 gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I know that many of our folks back home have been seeing or hearing the news nonstop about the debt ceiling and how much the health of our economy is counting on getting to a resolution.

Well, it is May 24 at 6:59 p.m., and because of Republicans, we don't have a deal because they refuse to put people over politics.

Republicans have made this all about political games. Quite frankly, it seems like they are happier to play under the guise of bipartisan negotiating to cut government spending, but there are real-life repercussions to the theater.

Let me be absolutely clear. Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY and his extreme MAGA Republicans aren't going to be the ones who aren't able to afford housing or keep food on the table if they get their way on massive cuts to essential domestic programs.

It is actually going to be everyday people across the country, including in the Third Congressional District of Illinois, which sent me to Congress to protect them from these cruel Republican cuts and an attack on our economy with bad deals.

It is going to be everyday people like Estela, a constituent of mine. Estela arrived in Chicago 13 years ago from

Guatemala, fleeing life-threatening violence and seeking security.

Since then, she has called Chicago home and has dedicated her time to ensure that others can also call it home, providing key information to protect renters' rights.

Like many of the families that she helps and like many of our constituents on both sides of the aisle, Estela's family depended on Federal housing funding to keep her home during the pandemic.

Now, as the cost of living keeps rising, she finds herself confronting the same exact problem as many other families: How do we pay rent? How to keep a place to live?

She says, "It is very difficult to see so many people be displaced from their homes because of the rising costs of rent. The cost of living is a problem that is affecting many families like mine. I have four children, and it is very difficult to afford extremely high rent and also afford our other necessities."

Now, you see, part of what makes Estela's experience so powerful is that this is the experience of so many everyday people.

People are already struggling. They are already trying to spread their paycheck for enough to cover the mortgage, the rent, feeding their children, utilities, the essential basics we all need and deserve.

Estela's story of struggling with housing costs while still working to help others in her community keeps me rooted in why we do everything in our power to protect our constituents from the Republican-made debt limit crisis.

What Republicans are doing right now is reckless, and it is irresponsible, and it is all to guarantee their ability to try to win politically in 2024.

They are willing to gamble with working people's livelihoods and the global economy. Republicans would rather default on the debt than come to an agreement that protects critical investments in our community across Social Security, SNAP benefits, veteran healthcare, housing, Medicaid, and more.

Republicans want to stick it to working people to bear the burden of terrible cuts instead of making billionaires and big corporations pay their fair share.

The question for me continues to be why?

Why is it that they are far more interested in protecting billionaires and corporations than the constituents they represent?

The Republican Party has a Republican-made problem, and Progressives are clear. We are not going to sell out our communities for a bad deal.

Tonight, I will be joined by fellow Progressive colleagues who will share stories from their own constituents because we have too much at stake to give in to cruel Republican demands.

I am pleased to yield to my colleagues who will share their personal

testimonies from their own constituents and why we need to protect our communities from Republican cuts and bad deals.

I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, (Mr. DELUZZIO).

Mr. DELUZZIO. Mr. Speaker, the bill our Republican colleagues forced through the House, the default on America act, is rubbish.

They are threatening to push our economy off a cliff unless we slash the basic functions of government by massive amounts, but they are protecting tax cuts for billionaires.

It is the very definition of fiscal irresponsibility and recklessness. In the bill forced through several weeks ago with no Democratic votes, with four Republicans voting against it, House Republicans voted for massive cuts with zero protections for veterans' healthcare, for rail safety, for Meals on Wheels for seniors, and so much more.

They voted to pull back \$2 billion from the VA. That is a cut. Now, their appropriations bill underfunds the Cost of War Toxic Exposure Fund by nearly \$15 million. If they didn't want to fund veterans' care, they shouldn't have sent Americans off to 20 years of war.

Do you know why Republicans are taking these extreme positions, these unpopular positions the American people do not want?

Because what matters most to them is protecting tax cuts for the uber wealthy and for the largest and most powerful corporations in this country.

Former President Obama once said, there could be an asteroid coming to Earth, and the Republican plan and response would be tax cuts for the ultra-wealthy.

It is true. They are for the big corporations and the rich and powerful. That is who they are. That is their core value.

This approach is fiscally irresponsible. What is more, their economic plan is not working for the people. Their tired, trickle-down fairy tale has been ripping us all off, starving the government of revenue, and has led to massive gaps in equality.

Wall Street, big corporations, CEOs, they have done just fine. The American people, not so much. This Republican economic vision is killing the American Dream.

It is driving up huge deficits in our government. It guts the core things our government does but makes sure that the richest people and companies in this country can still avoid paying their fair share in taxes.

Every Member of this body pays the same amount in taxes toward Social Security as Elon Musk. You can look it up. He is one of the richest men in the history of the world.

Elon Musk and all of his billionaire pals should be paying their fair share. They are not because Republicans want them to use the Federal Government to subsidize extreme wealth and corporate power.

Let me be clear. This is not about punishing success and demonizing the

wealthy. It is about fairness and fiscal responsibility.

Many of my House Republican colleagues don't want to admit the path to longer-term fiscal health in the budget is to actually tax the ultra-rich at historically normal rates.

Let's consider Republican President Dwight Eisenhower; hardly a radical. I don't think anyone here would call him a socialist.

Under his administration, the wealthiest Americans paid a top marginal tax rate of over 90 percent. Today, it is 37 percent.

We are at historically low tax rates for the most powerful, the wealthiest people in this country, and for the biggest and most powerful corporations. It is not an accident. It is by Republican design.

Let's look back at the 2017 Trump tax cuts that I am seeing handed out to the richest Americans and biggest corporations.

The bill was a massive wealth transfer to billionaires but also raised the deficit by almost 2 trillion—with a t—dollars. It gave so many of the benefits to the top 1 percent. Everyone knows the American people are being ripped off by this.

We can feel the dark reality, that the American Dream keeps getting pulled away while Republicans help billionaires and huge corporations cash out on the public's dime.

It is far past time for a change to real fiscal responsibility. Instead, Republicans are now proposing slash-and-burn cuts, defunding the government while urging the public to not look behind the curtain at their priorities for revenue.

Our colleagues know they are holding the economy hostage to protect these massive tax cuts and handouts to the most powerful, the richest people who have ever walked the planet Earth.

They are holding America's full faith and credit hostage to cut things that make your life better: programs like rail safety inspections, air traffic control towers, IRS auditors charged with tracking down tax cheats.

Republicans are literally threatening to blow up the American economy unless we agree to slash nearly everything in government, but they want to protect tax cuts for billionaires.

They still expect us to buy into this utterly discredited nonsense known as trickle-down economics. It is a fairy tale. It has never worked. It doesn't work.

We should be creating an economy that rewards hard work, not just wealth. That means taking on corporate power and putting people first.

We should be fighting for the common good and investing in our shared prosperity, not just the rich and powerful.

That means instead of slashing the heart of government, we should make the wealthiest Americans pay their fair share.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN).

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the Republican efforts to extort President Biden and the American people.

As a former prosecutor who prosecuted the Italian mob for extortion, I do not use that term lightly, but that is exactly what the Republicans are doing to hold America hostage to their extreme views.

Make no mistake about it: House Republicans would never pass the draconian spending cuts that they are pushing if they had to go through the regular budget and appropriations process with a Democratic-controlled Senate and a Democrat in the White House, and they know that. That is why they are using the threat of default on our debts, which would devastate our economy, to extract concessions that they would otherwise never get.

You don't have to take my word for it. One Republican Member said just yesterday, "Why would we negotiate with our hostage?"

To understand how unreasonable and how twisted their rationale is, consider the Speaker's response when asked by a reporter what concessions he has offered Democrats.

He stated one thing in response: Raising the debt ceiling.

That is not a concession. That is their constitutional duty to maintain the full faith and credit of the United States.

Our deficit is where it is today largely because of the excessive spending and serious, severe tax cuts that the Trump administration implemented.

These same Republicans had no problem raising the debt limit three times without demanding any spending cuts.

Republicans have a responsibility to ensure that we pay our debts, created on their watch, so we don't default and so the global economy does not crater, which would cause millions of Americans to lose their jobs, their benefits, their healthcare, their food, and their education.

We could raise the debt ceiling today if any five Republicans had the courage to stand up to the most extreme voices in their party who view the default on our debts and the catastrophic effect it would have on the global economy as an objective in and of itself.

Our Constitution states that the validity of the public debt authorized by law shall not be questioned. Yet, Republicans insist that this constitutional obligation does not apply to them.

We must stop playing politics with our global economy, and we must stand strong because we cannot and will not negotiate with extortionists.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressmen GOLDMAN and DELUZIO for the work they are doing in their districts, the work that they do here in Congress, and for their commitment to our country, to our communities before the politics that we are seeing before us today.

I keep hearing Speaker MCCARTHY say in one of his many interviews he

does a day—he spends a lot more time, I think, on interviews than actually negotiating or working with us. I hear: We don't want an increase to the debt limit.

Well, let me break down what Republicans want. Republicans insist that we spend less, but that actually equates into spending less on public housing, on food assistance, on Medicaid, on other fundamental programs like veterans' healthcare, like supporting our kids, our families, our communities.

There are no cuts to the multibillion-dollar defense weapons contractors, though. However, everyday constituents that sent us here, they should get those cuts.

The Republicans' framework imposes drastic cuts that would result in a 33 percent cut in 2024 to what I said, like housing, healthcare, education, and so much more. They would put 780,000 people out of work and cost more than 1 million jobs.

□ 1915

It would strip up to 21 million Americans of Medicaid coverage.

It would deny access to affordable college to 60,000 people.

It would kick 200,000 children off of Head Start.

It would force 100,000 families to lose access to childcare.

It would rob 1.2 million women, infants, and children of nutrition assistance.

It would remove rental assistance from 640,000 families and evict 430,000 more from public housing.

Republicans are willing to put the lives and livelihoods of the American people at risk. This is not just counterproductive; it is cruel.

This plan would pull hundreds of billions of dollars out of the economy, and it could contribute to a recession, increasing the deficit that they so desperately want to address—or it is what they say.

These are the choices that they are presenting: Default on America or a debt ceiling increase under their terms. That is it.

Here is the thing: The American people know that those are not the only options. Those two are not the only two choices. There are other choices, from making the wealthy pay their fair share to getting a discharge petition to the floor with the help of just one, two, three, four, five sensible, reasonable Republicans. That is it. Five Republicans. They could be from New York; they could be from California; they could be from Texas. Five people from the other side of the aisle could end this hostage experience of the American people and stop punishing their own constituents by signing onto the discharge petition or we can utilize the 14th Amendment.

From day one, progressives have been the most responsible and loudest voices in defending working families from Republican extreme behavior. That is why the CPC publicly called for raising

the debt ceiling last fall. That is why CPC members were the first to sign the discharge petition to force a vote on the clean debt ceiling, and it is why we will continue to call out Republican games and hostage-taking.

That is why we convened this Special Order hour for the Congressional Progressive Caucus, and I thank my colleagues who have joined me today and many others who are wrapped up in picking up calls from constituents who are calling and asking, what does this mean for my healthcare come June 1? What does this mean for my ability to get nutritional benefits come June 2?

In conclusion, the looming debt ceiling crisis has been significantly exacerbated by the Republicans' approach and their steadfast commitment to place party politics above the well-being of everyday people across our Nation.

As the June 1 deadline rapidly approaches, we all must recognize the gravity of the situation, and we have to demand immediate action that protects people over politics. The Republicans are holding the livelihood of Americans as prisoners.

According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the Republicans' default on America act would cost States and local communities an astonishing \$1.3 trillion. This would be disastrous for food access, for housing support, and for the overall well-being of our society.

I am profoundly grateful and humbled by the courage of constituents of mine, such as Rachel from Mount Prospect, Illinois, who took the time to reach out and express her concerns, reaffirming my commitment to effectively representing their best interests in this negotiation.

Rachel shared: "I am really worried about the debt ceiling increase not being passed, or if it is passed that Democrats will have to give in to extortion and agree to cut Medicaid, veteran programs, and climate provisions."

"Congresswoman, please do not let Democrats and President Biden cave to House Republican extortion on the debt limit."

"If Democrats betray us by doing so, Republicans will simply do this every single time. Don't give in. Please vote only for a clean debt ceiling."

I say thank you to Rachel. Our shared call to action is clear. It is about 7:20 p.m. For my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, if they are watching, hearing, complaining about me talking about essential programs that might be cut, if you are hearing from your constituents who are just saying to you: We are tired of Washington politics, do your job.

Well, I invite you to do your job, to join us, to actually negotiate and compromise to make sure that the American people are our priority, and not just politics of who can get over the other or a Congressman from Florida talking about you don't negotiate with a hostage.

The American people refuse to be hostages of politics in this country anymore, and this is why I call every one of my colleagues: Have the courage, have the ability, and put your constituents above the politics. Join us. All we need is five of you.

Let's be reasonable. Let's refuse to play into extremism. Let's put people over politics. Sign the discharge petition. All we need is five more patriots. Who will these courageous patriots be? Who will these servants be? That is the question.

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

FENTANYL EPIDEMIC WREAKS HAVOC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURLISON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alabama?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today because fentanyl is an epidemic in America. In counties and cities across America, families are being destroyed by fentanyl overdoses. Doctors and nurses in emergency departments throughout our country see it every day. Paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police officers, and deputy sheriffs see it on the front line.

China provides precursors to Mexico, who, in turn, produces this deadly drug. We have seen what happens next. Every day mules illegally cross the U.S. border by the thousands, bringing fentanyl to communities across our country. It is killing 300 people every day.

The Secretary of Homeland Security has testified before Members of this body that we have operational control of the southern border. Americans know the truth. At this rate, fentanyl is on track to steal an entire generation from our country.

As a first responder, licensed emergency medical technician for more than 34 years, I have seen it up close. I have personally had to shoot Narcan up the noses of children in an effort to save their lives. That is something that no child should have to experience and no parent should have to witness.

According to the CDC, fentanyl is 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. So far in fiscal year 2023, Customs and Border Patrol have seized over 17,000 pounds of fentanyl coming across the southern

border. Again, in 2023, Customs and Border Patrol have seized 17,000 pounds of fentanyl coming across the southern border.

This year Madison County, Alabama, which I represent, is reporting 25 confirmed fentanyl overdoses through the coroner's office with 35 suspected overdose cases pending.

The devastation this drug is leaving as it infects the United States is something to be mourned. I can say this gruesome nature of fentanyl is destroying lives, families, and communities. It does not discriminate.

More and more often we see other dangerous drugs such as methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine, and even marijuana, being laced with fentanyl without the knowledge of the user.

In the wake of surge in illegal immigration and drug smuggling at the southern border, we are at risk to witness unprecedented spikes in fentanyl overdoses. Fentanyl is already running rampant in our country, and we must take action. My concerns reflect those of my own constituents and countless others around the United States, especially those who live and have been forever changed by fentanyl.

To solve problems, you must first admit you have one. We have gotten here because of this administration's reckless border policies. I am proud of the legislation that we have come together to advance in the House this Congress. We must continue to look for ways to equip law enforcement with essential tools to stop the spread of fentanyl and give us the support we need on more research of this vicious drug.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS).

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my friend, Representative DALE STRONG, and many of my Republican colleagues today in full support of the HALT Fentanyl Act.

Last year, the Drug Enforcement Administration seized 379 million deadly doses of fentanyl. This week 30,000 fentanyl pills, enough to kill 1.8 million people, were recovered in Utah during a routine traffic stop.

This deadly drug is pouring across our southern border and wreaking havoc in communities across the country.

Fentanyl is now the number one cause of death for young people aged 18 to 45 and poses more danger to young Americans than COVID, car accidents, and suicide combined.

The Biden administration and open-border Democrats have for 2 years ignored the border security crisis and the surge in drug trafficking. America's misery has become the Democrats' political strategy.

The HALT Fentanyl Act delivers on one of the House Republicans' pledges under our Commitment to America, a Nation that is safe.

The HALT Fentanyl Act will permanently classify fentanyl-related substances into schedule I of the Con-

trolled Substances Act and close the criminal code loophole to apply the current minimum sentencing for illicit drugs to fentanyl.

It also empowers law enforcement with the tools needed to keep these dangerous drugs off our streets.

It will support research efforts to understand the effects of fentanyl-related substances on the health of Americans.

The House GOP recently passed Secure the Border Act—the strongest border security legislative package in America's history—to address the border security crisis, increase Border Patrol agents, and to end the flow of deadly fentanyl.

These two landmark pieces of legislation will finally tackle the ever-worsening catastrophe at the border, save American lives from deadly drugs, and support our law enforcement officers who risk their lives to protect and serve our communities.

I urge the Biden administration and my colleagues across the aisle to support these commonsense, innovative solutions to our Nation's most pressing challenges.

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD).

□ 1930

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Alabama for putting this Special Order hour together and for the great work he is doing to represent Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, everyone knows that our government spending is completely out of control and that Congress has too often prioritized wants over needs while American families continue to struggle. It needs to stop now.

House Republicans are prioritizing good governance and are actively working to put this country back on the path of fiscal responsibility.

We did our job when we passed the Limit, Save, Grow Act weeks ago to responsibly raise the debt ceiling and, far more importantly, to cut out-of-control spending and burdensome regulations on American workers, industries, and the creative industry that this Nation has.

We are fighting for policies that put more money back in the pockets of hardworking Americans. We want to save the American people money by cutting funding for woke, weaponized spending and cutting inflationary spending by \$1 trillion in the first year and almost \$5 trillion over the next 10 years.

We want to protect the American people from being the target of 87,000 new agents hired by the IRS.

We want to ensure that the American people have reliable energy.

Just a couple of years ago, we were energy dominant. We do not want to enter the world where because of the green new delusion that benefits China, the leftist elite, and big corporations—we do not want to live in that world where the American people have to wonder if they have a reliable source of energy.

We want to guarantee that the American people who either choose not to attend college—they go into a field of their choosing—and people who responsibly have paid off their student loans won't be footing the bill for those who go to elite universities and often take career paths that don't lead to good jobs or a sustainable future.

What do Biden and the left want? More government, more spending, more inflation, more corporate subsidies, and less freedom.

We have made it clear that cutting woe, weaponized spending is a must to govern our Nation responsibly. Our Nation cannot afford it.

There are so many examples. We want to strengthen our border. We want safe communities. We want to solve the fentanyl crisis.

We just heard a lot of talking from the left that the sky will fall if we get back to fiscal responsibility. Just today, the U.S. Embassy in Brazil put out this tweet of a video of our Embassy teaching people how to say their proper pronouns. That is not the role of the State Department.

The State Department helps to ensure that we have strong national security and that we have strong allies, and in the words of one of the people who responded to it: I identify as a U.S. taxpayer, and I would like you to stop funding this craziness.

Mr. Speaker, we are focused on getting back to good governance. We are focused on putting this country back on the path of responsibility. I urge the administration to come to the table sooner rather than later to address this debt ceiling and issue the beginning steps of getting this country back in order.

This is our moment. This country's fiscal future is on the brink, and the success of the American worker is on the brink. We need to hold the line.

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congressman for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate and thank the gentleman from Alabama for having this Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, we are here tonight to shed light on the fentanyl crisis that continues ravaging communities nationwide. I must say, I am infuriated when I think about this.

More than 100,000 Americans overdose each year, most dying from fentanyl poisoning and fentanyl-laced drugs. It is estimated that China is fully responsible for nearly all the illicit fentanyl in the United States. Beijing has literally launched a chemical war on the United States of America.

Instead of demanding accountability, the administration under Biden continues promoting policies that actually increase our dependency on China, the very nation working tirelessly to ensure our annihilation.

Wait, there is more. Not only do we know where the drug comes from, but

we know how it is getting into the country. About 90 percent of fentanyl flows across and through our open southern border, the same border that President Biden has gone out of his way to destroy and erase.

Who is in control of our border now, bringing this poison into our people? The Mexican drug cartels, that is who.

It only takes 1–16th of a teaspoon of fentanyl to kill a person, an amount so minuscule that it can fit into Abraham Lincoln's ear on a U.S. penny.

I am a healthcare provider, a dentist. I have done hospital dentistry in my career. Fentanyl does not belong on the streets. It belongs in the operating room.

Border Patrol has already seized enough fentanyl this fiscal year alone to kill over 3.1 billion people. So ask yourselves, what kind of President knows this information and continues to look the other way?

We are already witnessing a death toll equivalent to 9/11 every 15 days because of this deadly drug. How many more stories must we hear from parents who are mourning a child who has overdosed on a counterfeit pill that had fentanyl in it? How many more Americans must die for this President to finally act?

Every single Member of Congress should be outraged by Joe Biden's inaction and exacerbation of this horrible crisis. It truly is despicable.

Mr. President, hold China accountable, secure our southern border, and save American lives.

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Alabama for yielding.

Every year, Mr. Speaker, thousands of Americans lose their lives as a result of fentanyl-related overdoses.

I rise today to bring added attention to the fentanyl crisis, a crisis that has affected every corner of America, including the 17 counties in east Texas that I represent.

Since the introduction of this drug in our Nation almost a decade ago, thousands of kids and teenagers have overdosed on this dangerous substance.

Since 2020, over 3,300 Texans have lost their lives in fentanyl-related overdoses. That is 3,300 too many lives snuffed out before they can fulfill their calling in this life.

Mr. Speaker, before coming to Congress to combat the opioid crisis in Texas, I worked with a small group of other interested parties to help negotiate what became known as the Texas Term Sheet, something that established a settlement structure for opioid-related claims in the State. It worked to ensure that State and local governments, along with regional health districts, could work together to reach global settlements with bad actors and then use that money specifically for activities to combat the expanding causes and effects of opioid ad-

dictions. Now, as a Congressman, I continue this fight.

Earlier this year, I introduced legislation that would require the President to impose sanctions on Mexican individuals, such as cartel members and corrupt Mexican officials who are involved with the manufacture, distribution, and transport of illicit fentanyl. It is past time that we hold these individuals personally accountable for their roles in the deaths of thousands of Americans.

Today, I am proud to stand here and express my full support for the HALT Fentanyl Act, which would classify fentanyl-related substances as schedule I narcotics, the most serious and dangerous classification of a drug, and establish a refined process for research on these drugs, ensuring that companies and researchers entrusted with access to these drugs do not abuse this access.

This is a steady and strong step in the right direction, but it is just a small step. There is much more for this Congress to do.

While these measures do not bring back those we have lost, they are a step, as I said, in the right direction to ensure that we do not lose any more lives, any more young lives, any more lives of any age to these lethal drugs.

Let us stand together in this fight. Let us work against this demon of fentanyl.

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I thank those who have participated in this Special Order hour.

Mr. Speaker, as I said, I speak firsthand as an emergency medical technician for 34 years in town. We have seen so many things occur, so many families that have been affected.

I can tell you this, as a member of the House Armed Services Committee and also the committees that have gone to the border, you start looking at what we saw firsthand and just trying to protect our country.

We were there at the southern border for about 5 minutes at a point of entry. In less than 5 minutes, here comes a vehicle. What would you imagine? Seventy pounds of cocaine right in front of 12 United States Congressmen.

We went again to McAllen, Texas, and had a full committee hearing—or what was supposed to have been a full committee hearing. It was only Republicans who showed up.

Mr. Speaker, the only way that we can solve problems is to admit that we have a problem and then work together to solve it. It is obvious that we have a problem with thousands of pounds coming across the southern border, and we have to act on it.

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

JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on May 18, 2023, the following joint resolution was presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.J. Res. 42. Disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022.

ADJOURNMENT
Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.
The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 40 minutes

p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 9 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first and second quarters of 2023, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DR. BRIAN MONAHAN, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 2 AND APR. 8, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Dr. Brian Monahan	4/2	4/3	Japan		723.28		(³)				723.28
Dr. Brian Monahan	4/4	4/6	Korea		674.00		(³)				674.00
Dr. Brian Monahan	4/6	4/8	Taiwan		739.31		(³)				739.31
Committee total					2,136.59						2,136.59

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY, May 12, 2023.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 11 AND FEB. 16, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Alan Thompson	2/11	2/16	England		2,104.00		828.75		245.34		3,178.09
Jamie Crotts	2/12	2/16	England		1,931.00		824.05		245.35		3,000.40
Committee total					4,035.00		1,652.80		490.69		6,178.49

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY, Apr. 10, 2023.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Mike Rogers	2/10	2/11	Greece		216.52						216.52
	2/11	2/13	Romania		446.28						446.28
	2/13	2/14	Poland		225.27						225.27
Hon. John Garamendi	2/10	2/11	Greece		216.52						216.52
	2/11	2/13	Romania		446.28						446.28
	2/13	2/14	Poland		225.27						225.27
Hon. Donald Norcross	2/10	2/11	Greece		216.52						216.52
	2/11	2/13	Romania		446.28						446.28
	2/13	2/14	Poland		225.27						225.27
Hon. Mark Alford	2/10	2/11	Greece		216.52						216.52
	2/11	2/13	Romania		446.28						446.28
	2/13	2/14	Poland		225.27						225.27
Hon. Lisa McClain	2/10	2/11	Greece		216.52						216.52
	2/11	2/13	Romania		446.28						446.28
	2/13	2/14	Poland		225.27						225.27
Mr. Chris Vieson	2/10	2/11	Greece		216.52						216.52
	2/11	2/13	Romania		446.28						446.28
	2/13	2/14	Poland		225.27						225.27
Mr. James Vallario	2/10	2/11	Greece		216.52						216.52
	2/11	2/13	Romania		446.28						446.28
	2/13	2/14	Poland		225.27						225.27
Mr. Craig Greene	2/10	2/11	Kenya		219.00						219.00
	2/11	2/14	Djibouti		1,123.18						1,123.18
	2/14	2/16	United Arab Emirates		811.70						811.70
Ms. Katy Quinn	2/10	2/11	Bahrian		595.10						595.10
	2/11	2/13	Kenya		219.00		**15,998.27				15,998.27
	2/13	2/14	Djibouti		1,123.18						1,123.18
Mr. Mark Morehouse	2/10	2/11	United Arab Emirates		811.70						811.70
	2/11	2/13	Bahrian		595.10						595.10
	2/13	2/14	Kenya		219.00		**15,998.27				15,998.27
Mr. Joe Bartlett	2/10	2/11	Djibouti		1,123.18						1,123.18
	2/11	2/13	United Arab Emirates		811.70						811.70
	2/13	2/16	Bahrian		595.10						595.10
Mr. William T. Johnson	2/10	2/11	Kenya		219.00		**15,998.27				15,998.27
	2/11	2/14	Djibouti		1,123.18						1,123.18
	2/14	2/16	United Arab Emirates		811.70						811.70
Mr. Michael Kirlin	2/10	2/11	Bahrian		595.10						595.10
	2/11	2/13	Kenya		219.00		**15,998.27				15,998.27
	2/13	2/16	Djibouti		1,123.18						1,123.18
	2/10	2/11	United Arab Emirates		811.70						811.70
	2/11	2/13	Bahrian		595.10						595.10
	2/13	2/16	Kenya		219.00		**15,998.27				15,998.27

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2023—
Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Mr. Patrick Nevins	2/10	2/11	Kenya		219.00				* 43.00		262.00
	2/11	2/14	Djibouti		1,123.18						1,123.18
	2/14	2/16	United Arab Emirates		811.70				* 291.00		1,102.70
Mr. Ian Bennett			Bahrian		595.10				* 190.82		785.92
							** 15,998.27				15,998.27
	2/11	2/14	Japan		1,116.00						1,116.00
Mr. Phil MacNaughton	2/14	2/16	Singapore		858.00						858.00
							** 8,726.44				8,726.44
	2/11	2/14	Japan		1,079.71						1,079.71
Mr. Kyle Noyes	2/14	2/16	Singapore		830.00						830.00
							** 8,726.44				8,726.44
	2/11	2/14	Japan		1,116.00						1,116.00
Ms. Kelly Goggin	2/14	2/16	Singapore		858.00						858.00
							** 8,726.44				8,726.44
	2/11	2/14	Japan		1,079.71						1,079.71
Mr. Forrest McConnell	2/14	2/16	Singapore		830.00						830.00
							** 8,726.44				8,726.44
	2/11	2/14	Japan		1,079.71				* 2,068.56		3,148.27
Mr. Glen Diehl	2/14	2/16	Singapore		830.00				* 703.00		1,533.00
							** 8,726.44				8,726.44
	2/11	2/14	Singapore		1,221.00						1,221.00
Mr. David Giachetti	2/14	2/18	Japan		1,206.65						1,206.65
							** 8,817.70				8,817.70
	2/11	2/14	Singapore		1,221.00						1,221.00
Ms. Hannah Kaufman	2/14	2/18	Japan		1,206.65						1,206.65
							** 8,817.70				8,817.70
	2/11	2/14	Singapore		1,221.00						1,221.00
Ms. Ilka Regino	2/14	2/18	Japan		1,206.65						1,206.65
							** 8,817.70				8,817.70
	2/11	2/14	Singapore		1,221.00				* 630.00		1,851.00
Mr. Mark Morehouse	2/14	2/18	Japan		1,206.65				* 1,613.14		2,819.79
							** 8,817.70				8,817.70
	2/19	2/23	Taiwan		1,096.00						1,096.00
Ms. Katy Quinn	2/19	2/23	Taiwan		1,096.00						1,096.00
							** 15,990.05				15,990.05
	2/19	2/23	Taiwan		1,096.00				* 1,285.53		2,381.53
Mr. Chris Vieson	3/10	3/13	Jordan		1,000.95						1,000.95
	3/13	3/15	Djibouti		735.76						735.76
	3/15	3/15	Somalia								
Mr. Brian Garrett	3/16	3/17	Kenya		328.00						328.00
							** 11,068.35				11,068.35
	3/10	3/13	Jordan		1,000.95						1,000.95
Mr. Walker Bartlett	3/13	3/15	Djibouti		735.76						735.76
	3/15	3/15	Somalia								
	3/16	3/17	Kenya		328.00						328.00
Mr. Patrick Nevins	3/10	3/13	Jordan		1,000.95						1,000.95
	3/13	3/15	Djibouti		735.76						735.76
	3/15	3/15	Somalia								
Mr. Patrick Nevins	3/16	3/17	Kenya		328.00						328.00
							** 11,068.35				11,068.35
	3/10	3/13	Jordan		1,000.95				* 447.57		1,448.52
Mr. Patrick Nevins	3/13	3/15	Djibouti		735.76						735.76
	3/15	3/15	Somalia								
	3/16	3/17	Kenya		328.00						328.00
Mr. Patrick Nevins	3/10	3/13	Jordan		1,000.95						1,000.95
	3/13	3/15	Djibouti		735.76						735.76
	3/15	3/15	Somalia								
Mr. Patrick Nevins	3/16	3/17	Kenya		328.00						328.00
							** 11,068.35				11,068.35
	3/12	3/13	Norway		927.00						927.00
Mr. Michael Kirlin	3/13	3/14	Germany		253.72						253.72
	3/16	3/17	Poland		89.00						89.00
Mr. Ian Bennett	3/12	3/13	Norway		927.00						927.00
	3/13	3/14	Germany		253.72						253.72
	3/16	3/17	Poland		89.00						89.00
Ms. Kelly Goggin	3/12	3/13	Norway		927.00						927.00
	3/13	3/14	Germany		253.72						253.72
	3/16	3/17	Poland		89.00						89.00
Mr. Kyle Noyes	3/12	3/13	Norway		927.00						927.00
	3/13	3/14	Germany		253.72						253.72
	3/16	3/17	Poland		89.00						89.00
Ms. Jeanine Womble	3/12	3/13	Norway		927.00						927.00
	3/13	3/14	Germany		253.72				* 1,422.00		2,349.00
	3/16	3/17	Poland		89.00				* 1,257.32		1,511.04
Committee total							** 14,291.25		* 4,387.70		4,476.70
							** 14,291.25				14,291.25
							** 14,291.25				14,291.25
Committee total					64,377.24		356,405.40		14,530.09		435,312.73

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
* Indicates Delegation cost.
** Commercial transportation.

HON. MIKE ROGERS, May 1, 2023.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA,

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. MENG):
H.R. 3619. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ban certain substances in cosmetic products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA,

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. MENG):
H.R. 3620. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to cosmetic safety, with an emphasis on communities of color and professional salon workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by

the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. MENG):

H.R. 3621. A bill to amend title VI of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for greater transparency with respect to fragrance and flavor ingredients in cosmetics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. MENG):

H.R. 3622. A bill to amend title VI of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the supply chain transparency needed for companies to make safe cosmetics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. HORSFORD):

H.R. 3623. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a national graduate nurse education program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YAKYM (for himself and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 3624. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that floor plan financing includes the financing of certain trailers and campers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Ms. BALINT, Mr. FROST, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. POCAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. TITUS, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. MENG, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. BUSH, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 3625. A bill to amend the Older Americans Code of 1965 to provide equal treatment of LGBTQI older individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 3626. A bill to amend the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to set training requirements on eligibility for certain emergency management performance grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 3627. A bill to establish the President's Council on Improving Federal Civic Architecture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. BICE (for herself, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. JACOBS, and Mr. PFLUGER):

H.R. 3628. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to extend certain benefits to members of the National Guard who incur disabilities while performing State ac-

tive duty; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 3629. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to list fentanyl-related substances as schedule I controlled substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CAREY (for himself and Mr. LANDSMAN):

H.R. 3630. A bill to prohibit certain entities from barring a student athlete from participating in intercollegiate athletics as a result of such student athlete entering into an endorsement contract, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself and Ms. HOULAHAN):

H.R. 3631. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend the authorization of appropriations for grants for State strategic stockpiles; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTER of Texas (for himself, Mr. BABIN, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. FALLON, and Mr. CALVERT):

H.R. 3632. A bill to prohibit the use of military installations to house aliens who do not have a lawful immigration status or are undergoing removal proceedings in the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida (for herself, Ms. LETLOW, and Ms. SCHRIER):

H.R. 3633. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a public awareness campaign with respect to human papillomavirus, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself and Mr. BURCHETT):

H.R. 3634. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to issue regulations to improve flight recorder and aircraft crash location requirements on certain commercial passenger aircraft by requiring the installation of a second combination digital flight data and cockpit voice recorder system that enables data recovery without an underwater search and recovery; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FERGUSON (for himself, Ms. SEWELL, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. MANN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. NEGUSE):

H.R. 3635. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure fairness in Medicare hospital payments by establishing a floor for the area wage index applied with respect to certain hospitals; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GAETZ (for himself and Mr. BIGGS):

H.R. 3636. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that online cred-

it card contributions to a political organization require a billing address and credit verification value; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GALLEGGO:

H.R. 3637. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to promulgate regulations to prohibit an entity from selling, leasing, or offering for sale or lease water rights at an excessive price during certain droughts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. SANTOS, and Mr. BRECHEN):

H.R. 3638. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to require the disclosure of violations of Federal law with respect to human trafficking or alien smuggling, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. POCAN, and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 3639. A bill to establish and expand child care programs for parents who work nontraditional hours, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. FINSTAD, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 3640. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to require the Congressional Budget Office to provide an inflation estimate with respect to direct spending legislation with a significant impact on the Gross Domestic Product of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. JACKSON of Texas:

H.R. 3641. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to rescind guidelines and ensure the removal of signs and guidance relating to the COVID-19 pandemic; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY (for himself, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. BUCK, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. TIMMONS):

H.R. 3642. A bill to require the Office of Government Ethics to establish and maintain a centralized database for executive branch ethics records of noncareer appointees; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. LATTI (for himself, Mr. STEWART, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, and Mr. NEWHOUSE):

H.R. 3643. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to deliver notice of the denial of claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary by certified mail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LATTI (for himself, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. STEWART, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, and Mr. BENTZ):

H.R. 3644. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authorization period for emergency treatment in non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities

under the Veterans Community Care Program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BROWN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. DELUZIO, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. FROST, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Mr. MFUME, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H.R. 3645. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish emergency grants to safeguard essential health care workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CHU, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PETERSEN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. TRONE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BALINT, and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ):

H.R. 3646. A bill to increase the availability and affordability of menstrual products for individuals with limited access, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Financial Services, Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Ways and Means, and the Budget, 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. MOLINARO (for himself, Mr. SCHOLTEN, Mr. MANN, Mr. STANTON, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. STAUBER):

H.R. 3647. A bill to amend the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 to reauthorize aviation workforce development programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. MOULTON (for himself, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. CÁRDENAS):

H.R. 3648. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit people from intentionally impeding the 9-8-8 suicide and crisis lifeline telephone number, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia):

H.R. 3649. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to furnish hyperbaric oxygen therapy to a veteran who has a traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress disorder; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. SALINAS):

H.R. 3650. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to expand the national organic certification cost-share program into a comprehensive opportunities in organic program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 3651. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ROSS:

H.R. 3652. A bill to address the rising trend of venue-shopping in Federal courts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 3653. A bill to provide the President with authority to enter into a comprehensive trade agreement with the United Kingdom, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 3654. A bill to address transnational repression by foreign governments against private individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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. SWALWELL (for himself, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 3655. A bill to enhance predisaster mitigation to prevent future natural disasters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 3656. A bill to amend the Act commonly known as the Wild Free-roaming Horses and Burros Act to prohibit certain uses of aircraft with respect to the management of wild free-roaming horses and burros, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. TOKUDA (for herself, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. SABLAN, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H.R. 3657. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to provide mandatory funding from the Commodity Credit Corporation for reimbursement payments to geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. VASQUEZ (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DELUZIO, and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 3658. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 with respect to the Joint Task Force to Combat Opioid Trafficking; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. PHILLIPS):

H. Con. Res. 49. Concurrent resolution establishing the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking to review, analyze, and make recommendations to Congress to promote the use of Federal data for evidence-building and evidence-based policymaking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, 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. ALLRED:

H. Res. 440. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the benefits of global trade improve the lives of Americans and American communities by fostering a more inclusive, resilient, and prosperous economy; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H. Res. 441. A resolution condemning the authoritarian repression of the Belarusian democracy movement by the Lukashenka regime and calling for the release of all political prisoners as well as free and fair elections; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. SCHOLTEN (for herself, Mr. BACON, Mrs. MCBATH, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H. Res. 442. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 24 as "National Aviation Maintenance Technician Day" or "National AMT Day" to commemorate the work of aviation maintenance professionals; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

ML-11. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Illinois, relative to Senate Joint Resolution No. 22, rescinding its 1863 ratification of the proposed and not ratified Amendment to the U.S. Constitution stating, "No amendment shall be made to the Constitution which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish or interfere, within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ML-12. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Alaska, relative to House Resolution 1048, calling on the United States government to disrupt the collaboration between drug cartels and terrorist organizations, declare fentanyl to be a weapon of mass destruction, and designate the Mexican drug cartels as foreign terrorist organizations; jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Education and the Workforce.

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 are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in

the Constituti the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 3619.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ban certain substances in cosmetic products, and for other purposes.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 3620.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to cosmetic safety, with an emphasis on communities of color and professional salon workers, and for other purposes.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 3621.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title VI of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for greater transparency with respect to fragrance and flavor ingredients in cosmetics, and for other purposes.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 3622.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title VI of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the supply chain transparency needed for companies to make safe cosmetics, and for other purposes.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 3623.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health care

By Mr. YAKYM:

H.R. 3624.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would provide parity for the taxation of towable travel trailers and campers with motorized recreational vehicles.

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 3625.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Seniors

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 3626.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To set training requirements on eligibility for certain emergency management performance grants.

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 3627.

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 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

The single subject of this legislation is: federal architecture

By Mrs. BICE:

H.R. 3628.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 14, 16, and 18. The single subject of this legislation is: National Guard

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 3629.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to list fentanyl-related substances as schedule I controlled substances

By Mr. CAREY:

H.R. 3630.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit certain entities from barring a student athlete from participating in intercollegiate athletics as a result of such student athlete entering into an endorsement contract, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 3631.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Public Health Service Act to extend the authorization of appropriations for grants for State strategic stockpiles

By Mr. CARTER of Texas:

H.R. 3632.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the housing of illegal immigrants on any military installation within the United States.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 3633.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to "provide for the common Defense and general Welfare" of Americans.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Cancer Prevention

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 3634.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Aviation

By Mr. FERGUSON:

H.R. 3635.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution, to "provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States."

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure fairness in Medicare hospital payments by establishing a floor for the area wage index applied with respect to certain hospitals.

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 3636.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that online credit card contributions to a political organization require a billing address and credit verification value.

By Mr. GALLEG0:

H.R. 3637.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: "[The Congress shall have the power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:

Commerce

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas:

H.R. 3638.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States of America and her citizens. Additionally Congress has the

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would protect taxpayer funds from incentivizing the border crisis by prohibiting federal funds to NGOs that aid and abet illegal immigrants. This bill would require NGOs to undergo a verification process to determine if they are eligible to be handing out federal benefits. An NGO knowingly violating this law or any federal law related to human trafficking will have their 501(c)3 tax-exempt status revoked.

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 3639.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends the Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990 to expand eligibility for after hours and nontraditional hours child care programs and establishes a program to award competitive grants for eligible after hours and nontraditional hours child care programs and providers.

By Mrs. HINSON:

H.R. 3640.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend Part A of title IV of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to direct the Congressional Budget Office to perform inflation forecasting prior to the consideration of major legislation in Congress, and to establish Congressional procedures for the consideration of such major legislation.

By Mr. JACKSON of Texas:

H.R. 3641.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Require the Department of Veterans' Affairs rescind all guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

By Mr. LANGWORTHY:

H.R. 3642.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 of article of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:
Public ethics documents database

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 3643.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1:

The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Executive the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:
to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to deliver notice of the denial of claims for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary by certified mail.

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 3644.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1:

The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Executive the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:
to extend the authorized period for emergency treatment in non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities under the Veterans Community Care Program.

By Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 3645.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art I, Sect. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

A bill to pay healthcare workers.

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 3646.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution [page H10170]

The single subject of this legislation is:
Menstrual equity

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 3647.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Transportation

By Mr. MOULTON:

H.R. 3648.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution gives Congress the power to make laws that are necessary and proper to carry out

The single subject of this legislation is:
Create Accountability and Liability Against Lifeline Attacks

By Mr. MURPHY:

H.R. 3649.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U. S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to furnish hyperbaric oxygen therapy to a veteran who has a traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress disorder.

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 3650.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this bill agriculture.

By Mr. PHILLIPS:

H.R. 3651.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, Congress has the power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving military spouses, and for other purposes.

By Ms. ROSS:

H.R. 3652.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Addressing judge shopping in federal courts

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.R. 3653.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1, and Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Trade

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 3654.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign Policy

By Mr. SWALWELL:

H.R. 3655.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, specifically clause 18 related to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would enhance predisaster mitigation to prevent future natural disasters.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 3656.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, and Article IV, Section 3 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Animals

By Ms. TOKUDA:

H.R. 3657.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1. and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amending the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to provide mandatory funding from the Commodity Credit Corporation

for reimbursement payments to geographically disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

By Mr. VASQUEZ:

H.R. 3658.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United State Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of the Congress.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Preventing Drug Trafficking

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 40: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. CLYBURN, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 79: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 316: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 340: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. TORRES of New York.

H.R. 345: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 412: Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 453: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 491: Mr. LIEU and Mr. MCGARVEY.

H.R. 533: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 536: Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 542: Mr. MCGARVEY.

H.R. 543: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 544: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 549: Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. CROCKETT, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. MENG, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 568: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. BERA, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. KILMER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 589: Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. MENG, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 630: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 660: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 715: Mr. HOYER.

H.R. 793: Mr. NADLER, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Ms. PEREZ.

H.R. 866: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 894: Ms. TITUS, Mr. CROW, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.

H.R. 898: Ms. SHERRILL.

H.R. 906: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 926: Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. WILD, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. LIEU, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 927: Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. WILD, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GALLEGGO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. UNDERWOOD, and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 939: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.

H.R. 949: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 994: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 1024: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 1097: Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 1105: Ms. MANNING, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 1147: Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mrs. MCCLAIN, and Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 1150: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 1167: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1191: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1228: Mr. MURPHY.

H.R. 1230: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 1264: Mrs. KIM of California.

H.R. 1266: Ms. MACE.

H.R. 1297: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. JORDAN, and Mrs. MCCLAIN.

H.R. 1322: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1351: Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. SCHIFF.
 H.R. 1362: Mr. DONALDS.
 H.R. 1385: Mr. BERGMAN.
 H.R. 1405: Ms. LEE of Florida.
 H.R. 1413: Mr. MOONEY and Mr. AMODEI.
 H.R. 1478: Ms. PETTERSEN.
 H.R. 1499: Mr. CARSON and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
 H.R. 1501: Mr. LaLOTA.
 H.R. 1505: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 1526: Mrs. DINGELL.
 H.R. 1546: Mr. MANN.
 H.R. 1549: Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina.
 H.R. 1591: Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 1606: Mr. THANEDAR.
 H.R. 1613: Mr. RYAN.
 H.R. 1615: Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 1617: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MILLS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. VALADAO.
 H.R. 1624: Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 1626: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
 H.R. 1634: Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 1666: Mr. CAREY and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.
 H.R. 1716: Mr. VALADAO.
 H.R. 1719: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
 H.R. 1721: Mr. SCHIFF and Ms. STANSBURY.
 H.R. 1729: Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 1730: Mr. MANN and Mr. THANEDAR.
 H.R. 1761: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
 H.R. 1763: Ms. SLOTKIN.
 H.R. 1764: Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mr. RYAN.
 H.R. 1788: Ms. BONAMICI.
 H.R. 1801: Mr. CASAR and Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H.R. 1806: Mrs. HINSON.
 H.R. 1814: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
 H.R. 1815: Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 1818: Mr. SANTOS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. SELF.
 H.R. 1826: Mr. MFUME.
 H.R. 1831: Ms. WILD, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, and Mr. LIEU.
 H.R. 1839: Mr. COSTA.
 H.R. 1840: Mr. PAYNE.
 H.R. 2370: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. SWALWELL.
 H.R. 2376: Mr. SCHIFF.
 H.R. 2403: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
 H.R. 2407: Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. BANKS, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
 H.R. 2412: Mr. BOWMAN.
 H.R. 2414: Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. KILDEE.
 H.R. 2451: Mr. HUDSON.
 H.R. 2483: Mr. FALLON, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. MEUSER.
 H.R. 2539: Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. STEEL, and Mr. DAVIDSON.
 H.R. 2544: Mrs. LESKO.
 H.R. 2604: Mrs. HAYES and Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.R. 2630: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. BERA, and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2663: Mr. FOSTER, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. MENG, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
 H.R. 2669: Mrs. HAYES and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 2672: Ms. LEE of Florida.
 H.R. 2676: Mr. LIEU.
 H.R. 2685: Mr. SWALWELL.
 H.R. 2693: Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. THANEDAR.
 H.R. 2705: Ms. WILD.
 H.R. 2706: Mrs. BICE and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
 H.R. 2714: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
 H.R. 2723: Mr. VASQUEZ.
 H.R. 2729: Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 2739: Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California.
 H.R. 2745: Mr. GIMENEZ.
 H.R. 2766: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.
 H.R. 2801: Mr. CASTEN.
 H.R. 2825: Mr. IVEY.
 H.R. 2830: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
 H.R. 2852: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
 H.R. 2874: Mr. SORENSEN.
 H.R. 2894: Mr. MOONEY and Mr. SHERMAN.
 H.R. 2897: Mr. LIEU.
 H.R. 2938: Mr. WILLIAMS of New York and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
 H.R. 2953: Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MRVAN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. IVEY.
 H.R. 2974: Mr. MAGAZINER and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 2994: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 2998: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. TITUS.
 H.R. 3011: Ms. SLOTKIN.
 H.R. 3019: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. SCANLON, and Ms. LEE of Florida.
 H.R. 3038: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. EVANS, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 3063: Mr. LAWLER and Mr. EVANS.
 H.R. 3090: Ms. BALINT, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. GIMENEZ, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. OMAR, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. TURNER, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. BACON, and Mr. VASQUEZ.
 H.R. 3099: Mr. FALLON and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.
 H.R. 3103: Mr. CASAR.
 H.R. 3127: Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 3133: Mr. LIEU.
 H.R. 3152: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska and Mr. FALLON.
 H.R. 3170: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. TRONE.
 H.R. 3176: Mr. GAETZ.
 H.R. 3183: Mrs. McBATH.
 H.R. 3185: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. STEWART, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. FERGUSON.
 H.R. 3199: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.R. 3202: Mr. MOSKOWITZ and Mr. LAMBORN.
 H.R. 3219: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 3226: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
 H.R. 3246: Mr. SCHIFF.
 H.R. 3251: Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 3255: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. CHU, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. DELUZZIO.
 H.R. 3264: Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 3266: Mr. STEIL, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, and Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 3278: Ms. TENNEY.
 H.R. 3316: Mr. ROUZER.
 H.R. 3317: Mr. ROUZER.
 H.R. 3331: Mrs. WAGNER and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 3337: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
 H.R. 3352: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. IVEY.
 H.R. 3358: Mr. BRECHEEN.
 H.R. 3363: Mr. STEUBE.
 H.R. 3376: Mr. CASE and Ms. SHERRILL.
 H.R. 3402: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
 H.R. 3413: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. WILD, and Ms. TITUS.
 H.R. 3422: Mr. FROST.
 H.R. 3440: Mr. LAWLER.
 H.R. 3448: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. DESJARLAIS.
 H.R. 3455: Mr. MAST.
 H.R. 3459: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
 H.R. 3462: Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. LAMBORN.
 H.R. 3470: Ms. MENG, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. KUSTER.
 H.R. 3481: Mr. SHERMAN.
 H.R. 3483: Mr. NEHLS.
 H.R. 3484: Mr. NEHLS.
 H.R. 3486: Mr. NEHLS.
 H.R. 3492: Mr. BRECHEEN.
 H.R. 3502: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
 H.R. 3534: Ms. ESHOO and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
 H.R. 3537: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
 H.R. 3538: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
 H.R. 3539: Ms. TITUS.
 H.R. 3547: Ms. MENG.
 H.R. 3554: Ms. HAGEMAN.
 H.R. 3557: Mrs. LESKO.
 H.R. 3563: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. CLEAVER.
 H.R. 3565: Mrs. LESKO.
 H.R. 3567: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
 H.R. 3579: Mr. COLE.
 H.R. 3596: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
 H.R. 3608: Ms. PORTER and Mr. LIEU.
 H.R. 3617: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. BROWN.
 H.J. Res. 25: Mr. HARDER of California.
 H.J. Res. 59: Mr. LAWLER and Mrs. HOUCHIN.
 H. Con. Res. 33: Ms. WILD.
 H. Con. Res. 43: Mrs. SYKES.
 H. Con. Res. 46: Mr. ALLRED and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
 H. Res. 8: Mr. BOST.
 H. Res. 154: Ms. PETTERSEN.
 H. Res. 285: Mr. MOLINARO.
 H. Res. 288: Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
 H. Res. 335: Ms. SALINAS.
 H. Res. 377: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
 H. Res. 409: Mr. TIMMONS.
 H. Res. 438: Mr. JEFFRIES and Mr. KUSTOFF.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

APPRECIATING MISS ALYSSA DINH FOR HER SERVICE ON MY STAFF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in appreciation of Miss Alyssa Dinh for her service to the people of California's Eighth Congressional District as a member of my staff. A native of California, Miss Dinh joined my office in October 2022, having served previously in the offices of Congressman HOYER and Congressman Lowenthal. Her critical experience and knowledge made her a natural choice as Scheduler and Legislative Aide in my office.

The Scheduler is widely considered to be one of the most demanding positions in any Congressional office. From ensuring that I made votes on the House floor, joined Committee proceedings, or attended meetings with constituents and dignitaries. Miss Dinh's work each day ensured that I was able to carry out my duties as a Member of Congress.

In addition to serving as my Scheduler, Miss Dinh also served as my Legislative Aide, handling a critical legislative portfolio covering agriculture, animal welfare, and women's rights issues. In that role, she proved adept at ensuring my work in Congress comprehensively addressed the priorities and concerns of California communities. Miss Dinh quickly grew into the role and became an integral member of my DC, staff. Quite simply, her excellent work was essential in allowing me to effectively represent the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District.

Miss Dinh has joined the Office of Congressman HOYER, as an Executive Assistant. I and all the members of Team Garamendi wish her all the best in her new position. During her tenure on my staff, Miss Dinh approached her work with an attention to detail and the flexibility to solve challenges as they arise without complaint. These same qualities will serve her well in her future endeavors.

While we will miss her, we all look forward to what Miss Dinh will do next. She will remain a deeply valued member of Team Garamendi, always.

HONORING EBON RICHARD "RICK" JONES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ebon Richard "Rick" Jones as he is presented with the John Shafer Visionary Award, which recognizes his exemplary advocacy work in Napa Valley.

Mr. Jones was born in Illinois. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University and his Master of Business Admin-

istration degree from the Stanford University Graduate School of Business. Mr. Jones is a treasured member of the Napa community as he advocates for matters of health and youth education.

Mr. Jones has been active in the Napa community for decades. In 2013, he joined the operating board of OLE Health, a nonprofit health center serving vulnerable populations in and around Napa County. He then served as treasurer from 2014 to 2015 and board chair from 2017 to 2018. Currently, Mr. Jones has been reappointed treasurer of the OLE Health foundation board and remains a trusted advisor for OLE Health leadership.

Beyond his work at OLE Health, Mr. Jones sits on the boards of Napa Valley Education Foundation, St. Helena Hospital Foundation, the Napa Valley Community Foundation, the Napa Valley Vintners, and Napa Valley Firewise Foundation. He has previously served in leadership roles on the boards of the San Francisco Zoo, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Napa Learns, and Raising a Reader.

When he is not engaging in community organizations throughout Napa, Mr. Jones is a respected Napa Valley vintner. Having developed a passion for viticulture while living in France in the 1970s, he founded Jones Family Vineyards in 1996, which he now operates together with his two daughters Heather and Stephanie. Their family-run winery is certified by Napa Green, a certification program with an emphasis on climate action and regenerative farming.

Mr. Speaker, the John Shafer Visionary Award exists to honor the legacy of vintner John Shafer, who was among Napa Valley's strongest community leaders. There is no doubt that Mr. Jones has been a dedicated advocate for the Napa Valley community.

MAY CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH KEVIN SHIN

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Kevin Shin as my May Constituent of the Month.

As a veteran, businessowner, and volunteer, Kevin has served our District in countless ways and has worked tirelessly to make our community a better place to live.

During Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I am proud to celebrate the exceptional work of individuals like Kevin Shin who volunteer their time to contribute to our unique and beautiful district. I'm honored to recognize and thank him for his service in the U.S. military and for his service to our region since. Kevin is a true leader, and I am proud to honor him today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF OFFICER ROBERT J. SHISLER

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, family, friends, the community, police officers, and leaders from across the Nation, gathered inside Pfleeger Concert Hall at Rowan University on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 to celebrate the life, legacy and bravery of Officer Robert "Bobby" J. Shisler.

Officer Robert J. Shisler proudly served as a Police Officer for the Deptford Township Police Department. Born on October 22, 1995, Robert grew up in South Jersey. He graduated from Deptford High School in 2014, where he was an exceptional athlete, playing both varsity football and baseball.

Officer Robert J. Shisler continued his education and athletic career when he committed to play Division One baseball at Presbyterian College in South Carolina. He was also very passionate about hunting and weightlifting, taking first place in a bodybuilding competition in 2021.

Officer Robert J. Shisler will forever be remembered as a dedicated officer and a hero who gave his life to protect and serve his community, state, and country. His heroic actions and service, putting others safety above his own, will be etched in history for all to honor and remember.

Officer Robert J. Shisler was not only an exemplary officer, but he was also an excellent son, grandson, and brother. He came from a family committed to public service, working alongside his brother who currently serves as a Deptford Township Police Officer. He is survived by his parents Robert and Tracy, grandparents Marion, Robert, and Ethel, and his siblings Ashley and Tyler.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Officer Robert J. Shisler, for his outstanding service and his selfless dedication to the Deptford Township Police Department and community, the Great State of New Jersey and the United States of America.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MYSTIC AQUARIUM

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a national leader in the global effort to protect the world's oceans, Mystic Aquarium. Mystic Aquarium celebrates a major milestone this year—its 50th anniversary, and it is fitting that this chamber recognizes the institution for its service to and advocacy on behalf of our natural world.

• 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.

Since its opening in 1973, Mystic Aquarium's mission and capabilities have evolved impressively over the decades. From education, exhibition, conservation, to research, the team at the Aquarium has grown yet remained ever so dedicated toward advancing our respect for and understanding of marine wildlife.

As we celebrate what Mystic Aquarium has become after all these years, it would be impossible to recap all of the nonprofit's achievements. It has expanded interactive educational opportunities to accommodate roughly 800,000 visitors annually, a number which will only grow as it opens a new exhibit this year. The Aquarium is also engaging the local community through other means, including strengthening a volunteer conservationist network under its newer Ocean Ambassadors Program. Through its Animal Rescue Program and multiple freshly constructed veterinary facilities, Mystic Aquarium has also directly supported the rehabilitation of Long Island Sound area populations. The Aquarium even takes on cases from other rescue facilities, reducing pressure on our nation's veterinary system for marine wildlife.

The Mystic Aquarium has taken on greater efforts to become an advocate of conservation on the national stage. The organization actively studies opportunities to protect endangered species such as the African Penguins, Coral Reefs, Sea Turtles, Sharks and Rays. Its expert researchers have also notably been central in laying the groundwork for the establishment of the first federally protected monument in US Atlantic waters, the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument. This monument is a hotbed of biodiversity that is now better protected from human activity because of the Aquarium's advocacy apparatus.

Over the years, Mystic Aquarium has grown into a major employer which significantly contributes to the Second District of Connecticut's economy and culture. I know countless success stories of youth who have taken up summertime, annual employment or internships, and have forged those early formative experiences into full-on careers.

Mr. Speaker, the work Mystic Aquarium takes on is community driven, compassionate, and highly technical. They have been tremendously valuable to both our region and nation which is why they continue to earn federal support. To that end, as Mystic Aquarium celebrates a half-century of outstanding service, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the legacy of their mission and its future relevance, and wishing them many more milestones to come.

RECOGNIZING DOLLY RABINOWITZ,
YIDEL PERLSTEIN, AND LT. IRA
JABLONSKY

HON. DANIEL S. GOLDMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of May as Jewish American Heritage Month. As a proud American Jew and the Representative of one of the largest Jewish populations in a Congressional district in the country, Jewish Amer-

ican Heritage Month is particularly meaningful to me.

Jewish Americans have made countless contributions to our great Nation, and at a time when Jews continue to be the single most targeted religious minority in this country, I encourage all of us to take this month to recognize and appreciate the deep connections and rich history the Jewish people have to America.

I also rise today to recognize 3 prominent constituents of my district. They stand as exemplars of the achievements of American Jews and are befitting of this great honor.

Dolly Rabinowitz is a 94-year-old Holocaust survivor who has lived in New York since the end of WW2. She was born in Czechoslovakia to a rabbinical family and when she was 19, her family was told to pack up for an unknown village. From there she was forced to endure the barbaric cruelty of Auschwitz and the Death March to the Ravensbrück concentration camps. After experiencing unspeakable atrocities simply because of her faith, Dolly was liberated by the Allies in 1945. Following the war, Dolly emigrated to the United States and has lived in New York ever since, working as a bookkeeper and participating in Jewish life across the city. Dolly is one of a dwindling number of Holocaust survivors and we must pass along her story and others, so we never forget.

Yidel Perlstein is a local leader and the Chairman of Community Board 12 in Borough Park. He was the first Hasidic Jew to lead this impactful community organization and was just reelected after more than a decade in that position. With Yidel at the helm, CB12 has continued to lead many aspects of life in Borough Park—organizing voter outreach, community forums, and representing Borough Park's interests to elected officials across the country. On Jewish holidays you can find Yidel running food drives for needy people across Borough Park, demonstrating the spirit of giving that typifies the tight-knit bond of the Brooklyn Hasidic community.

Lieutenant Special Assignment Ira Jablonsky of the New York City Police Department has been on the force for over two decades. He grew up attending Brooklyn Yeshiva and was interning at the Office of Emergency Management on 9/11. After seeing the first tower hit, Lt. Jablonsky jumped into action, running into 7 World Trade and helping as many people as he could before they were ordered to evacuate. Lt. Jablonsky is a Brooklyn yeshiva graduate and has worked in the community his entire career to make it safer for New Yorkers and fellow Orthodox Jews alike. He demonstrates the importance of having Jews represented in law enforcement, working to catch several high-profile antisemitic vandals who threaten the safety and security of Jewish Brooklynites. His service to his community does not go unnoticed, and I am honored to give him this distinction today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing May as Jewish American Heritage Month as well as these 3 outstanding Jewish Americans who represent the best of what our community offers their communities, their city and state, and their country.

HONORING COACH EARL SMITH,
JR. OF GARY EMERSON HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand before you today to recognize Coach Earl Smith, Jr. and the alumni of Gary Emerson High School. The Emerson All Class Reunion Gala will take place on September 2, 2023, at Chateau Banquets in Merrillville, Indiana. During this special event, Coach Smith will be honored for his lifetime of dedicated service by former students, athletes, colleagues, and friends.

Coach Earl Smith, Jr. was a true mentor, leader, teacher, and advisor for the Gary Community School Corporation for over 56 years. His lifelong career includes numerous positions, culminating with his retirement as City Athletic Director in 2013. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Smith coached track and field, football, golf, and basketball at Tolleston, Froebel, West Side, Emerson, and Lew Wallace high schools, and he holds the distinction of being the first African American head coach at Froebel, Emerson, and Lew Wallace. His basketball teams won five conference titles, three sectional titles, three regional titles, and twice advanced to the elite eight at the Indiana State Tournament. In addition, Coach Smith's 1977 Emerson basketball team won the Hall of Fame Classic Tournament, reaching the number one ranking in the state polls during that time.

For his outstanding career and his unwavering dedication to the Gary Community School Corporation and beyond, Coach Smith has received many accolades. He has been inducted into the Indiana Track and Field Hall of Fame, the Indiana Football Hall of Fame, and the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. Coach Smith was also honored with the prestigious Ray Crowe Excellence in Leadership Award by the Indiana High School Athletic Association for his superior standards of sportsmanship, exceptional ethical conduct, and high moral character. His outstanding and unwavering commitment to the community of Gary and Northwest Indiana is worthy of our highest commendation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Coach Earl Smith, Jr. and in recognizing the alumni of Emerson High School. For his noteworthy career and his remarkable dedication to youth sports and education, Coach Smith is worthy of the highest praise, and he serves as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING DETECTIVE AGNES
WATSON FROM THE CITY OF RI-
ALTO POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. PETE AGUILAR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Agnes Watson from the City of Rialto Police Department. Detective Watson was awarded the Rialto Police Department's Meritorious Service Award for her tenacious work to secure the release of a juvenile

who had been held hostage in New York City. This is the second highest recognition award a sworn member of the Rialto Police Department may receive.

On May 2, 2022, Detective Watson began following up on a missing juvenile report. Her instinct, initiative and discipline led her to believe the girl's disappearance was not voluntary. Her determination led her to take extraordinary steps to notify local agencies and coordinate with the New York Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to save this child's life and fly her back to Rialto to be reunited with her family on Mother's Day.

Detective Watson's actions made national news, bringing credit to herself and to the entire Rialto Police Department. This is just one example of the outstanding job performance, high degree of initiative and ability in an extremely critical situation that Detective Watson demonstrates on a daily basis. That's why I am proud to recognize her.

**HONORING AIR FORCE VETERANS
BARRY AND DORIS RICE**

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituents, U.S. Air Force Technical Sergeant Barry Rice from Jacksonville, Alabama, and U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Doris Kimery Rice, a native of Greeneville, Tennessee for their distinguished military and civil service. They both joined the Air Force at the end of the Vietnam War.

The couple met in technical school at Lowry Air Force Base in Denver, Colorado in 1974. After technical school, they went to their respective assignments of Robins Air Force Base in Georgia and Grand Forks Air Force Base in North Dakota. TSgt Rice served as an avionics specialist, repairing radio and communication equipment; while SrA Rice served as a supply troop where she processed materials for arrival and departure.

They were married in November 1974 and after assistance from U.S. Senator John Sparkman of Alabama, they attained a joint spouse assignment at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. They then served together at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada. SrA Rice completed her four years of enlistment and rejoined the civilian sector. She later pursued a vocation in elementary education when her children became school age. The family was assigned to Eglin AFB, in Fort Walton Beach, Florida where they worked and served for 14 years. During this timeframe, TSgt Rice pulled a remote assignment to Keflavik NAS, Iceland, and Saudi Arabia during the First Gulf War.

After TSgt Rice's retirement from military service, he worked as a computer specialist for a publishing company in Murfreesboro, TN. During the Yugoslav Wars, the couple served as relief volunteers, where they aided refugees resettling in Nashville. TSgt Rice then decided to join the U.S. State Department Foreign Service. The Rice family lived in the Washington, D.C. area with assignments to the countries of Zambia, Cyprus, Israel, and Lesotho, where TSgt Rice worked for the dip-

lomatic corps, while SrA Rice volunteered at soup kitchens, unwed mothers' houses, crisis pregnancy centers, and local missions. They are now retired and continue to serve others in their hometown of Greeneville, Tennessee. Please join me in honoring TSgt and SrA Rice for their long careers of service to our Nation.

**RECOGNIZING NATIONAL BEEF
MONTH**

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, as National Beef Month ends, I rise to recognize the enormous impact that the beef industry has on Colorado, our nation's economy, and our western way of life.

The American beef industry is the world's largest producer of beef and accounts for 21.7 percent of the world's total beef production. With 91.9 million heads of cattle and roughly 720,000 beef farms in the United States, the beef industry accounts for the largest share of total cash receipts among agricultural commodities and accounts for 35 percent of all U.S. farms.

This multi-billion-dollar industry employs hundreds of thousands of hard-working American men and women, most of whom work for family-owned, small businesses. With cattle raised in all 50 states, beef has grown to be the second most popular choice of meat in the United States and has contributed greatly to both domestic and international economies.

Often a great source of essential nutrients such as protein, zinc, iron and B vitamins, high-grade beef provides our bodies with the strength needed to thrive and grow throughout all stages of life. Lowering bad cholesterol, building muscle, and improving cognitive health are among the many benefits derived from a healthy, balanced diet that includes protein-rich animals such as beef. For years critics have unfairly alleged that the resources needed to sustain such an industry have done damage to our environment and raised greenhouse gas emissions, when in reality, the beef industry has undergone tremendous technological, genetic, and management reforms in an effort to preserve our environment. As ranchers who rely on healthy soil and good seasons for the well-being of their cattle, cattle ranchers have long placed environmental stewardship at the forefront of their operations.

Today, I show my appreciation for the hard-working men and women of the American beef industry who rise before the sun each day and work tirelessly to provide food to our nation. Working alongside their partners in the agricultural sector, the American beef industry has been a key contributor to our nation's fight against food insecurity and has provided much needed, nutrient-dense food for the world's population.

The beef industry is deeply ingrained in American culture and has been a valued economic partner in many communities across the United States and the world. Eastern Colorado, which I represent in the U.S. House of Representatives, has the ten most agriculture producing counties in Colorado, with 2.85 million heads of cattle valued at over \$2.8 billion. This ranks Colorado 10th in the United States

for total cattle and makes it the 4th largest exporter of beef in the United States.

These hardworking men and women deserve our gratitude. I am proud to honor their work during National Beef Month.

**HONORING THE CAREER OF NANCY
RISTER**

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I commend the exceptional career of Williamson County Clerk Nancy Rister as she celebrates her 25th anniversary of outstanding public service to Central Texas. Her contributions have made the members of her community's lives better and have helped make Texas a great place to live and work.

Nancy's resume is one to be admired and respected. It tells the story of a woman unafraid to contribute both her time and energies to the highest levels of public service as well as to a multitude of organizations that rely on volunteerism and social engagement to make good communities great.

She has done what all public servants are honored to do: put the needs of the people first. Implementing physical records to an online forum that's available for all citizens, decreasing turnaround time for deeds, and improving the organization and professionalism of the County Clerk's office, are just a few examples of the accomplishments that Nancy has achieved in her esteemed career. Over her quarter century in office, she has worked tirelessly to ensure that Williamson County residents receive the world-class public service they deserve.

Nancy's anniversary is a testament to her admirable career and a milestone in a life of service. I join her colleagues, friends, family, and the citizens of Williamson County in celebrating and honoring her 25 years of hard work and dedication.

**APPRECIATING MISS ELLE EKMAN
FOR HER SERVICE ON MY STAFF**

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in appreciation of Miss Elle Ekman for her service to the people of California's Eighth Congressional District as a member of my staff. Miss Ekman joined my office in December 2021, having previously served our country in the U.S. Marine Corps. Her critical firsthand experience and knowledge of the needs of our servicemembers made her a natural choice as Military Legislative Assistant in my office.

The role of the Military Legislative Assistant is critical to my work serving on the U.S. House of Representatives Armed Services Committee. From developing innovative legislation to identifying the most pressing concerns facing our military, Miss Ekman's work each day ensured that I was able to effectively represent the brave men and women who put their lives on the line for our country.

As Military Legislative Assistant, Miss Ekman was instrumental in ensuring the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 addressed the critical issues facing our servicemembers, military families, and military installations. In this essential legislation, Miss Ekman helped advance over forty legislative priorities to enhance our military's readiness and resiliency. Miss Ekman was an integral member of my D.C. staff, and her excellent work will have a lasting impact on servicemembers across America.

Miss Ekman has joined the National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology, as a Senior Research Analyst. I and all the members of Team Garamendi wish her all the best in her new position. During her tenure on my staff, Miss Ekman approached her work with an upbeat outlook, a demonstrated ability to think outside the box, and a passion for innovation. These same qualities will serve her well in her future endeavors.

While we will miss her, we all look forward to what Miss Ekman will do next. She will remain a deeply valued member of Team Garamendi, always.

REMEMBRANCE OF KATHRYN HARRISON

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the extraordinary life of Kathryn Harrison, who walked on last Sunday at the age of 99. Kathryn was an extraordinary woman of vision, leadership, and determination.

Kathryn was a key leader for her Grand Ronde tribe, and indeed for Native Americans everywhere. Her amazing life resulted in numerous honors and widespread recognition for her testimony before Congress that ultimately led to the restoration of Grand Ronde's federal recognition. After the restoration, Kathryn was instrumental in developing ways to capitalize on tribal resources for the lasting benefit of both the people of Grand Ronde, and indeed all Oregonians.

She was patient, thoughtful, determined, and always had a great spirit and a terrific sense of humor. I am honored to have been able to work with Kathryn on tribal issues for over 20 years. She led with dignity and focus simply by being in the room. We are all better people for being touched by her life and her services of giving back. I count myself lucky that our paths crossed many times. She was a powerful symbol of determination—helping secure justice for tribal people and providing inspiration for Native Americans across the country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DELIA C. RAMIREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 213, and YEA Roll Call No. 214.

RECOGNIZING TERRY DEARDEN

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Terry Dearden, Director of Government Relations for the New Jersey Department of Military and Veteran Affairs, and all her years of service to our community. Terry will be retiring from her distinguished 18-year career of advocating and supporting New Jersey veterans, National Guard, Reserve, and active servicemembers.

Terry has been an invaluable resource to me and my office staff as we navigate complex military issues on the Armed Services Committee. Her support has been crucial to my constituent services team for any number of requests we receive every single day. From answering questions on state benefits to ensuring a veteran can lay with dignity in their final resting place, she has always dedicated her work to helping those around her.

Throughout my time working with leadership at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Terry was always there to act as an instrumental person in arranging tours and visits for myself and our team. At any available opportunity, she would include my office in exciting advancements on our base like the refueling flight exercises of the 108th Air Wing, tours of New Jersey National Guard facilities, and medal ceremonies honoring those who served, so we could also be more involved in helping our servicemembers and veterans. Through her leadership, Terry worked to show our constituents and servicemembers across the State the commitment and dedication of those who answer the call of serving our country as well as the legacy of our veterans.

I thank her for her years of dedicated service to New Jersey servicemembers, their families, and our veterans. I wish Terry many happy years in retirement with her husband Ed and four daughters.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of New Hope Baptist Church in Metuchen, New Jersey. Throughout its long history, New Hope Baptist Church has been a spiritual center for prayer, education, fellowship, and service to the community, and it is my honor to join the church leadership and congregation in marking this significant occasion.

Established in 1923 by four deacons, including the grandfather of the church's current pastor, New Hope Baptist Church began humbly, initially renting space for worship. Over the years, the church has been led by dedicated pastors whose vision and leadership oversaw the growth and obligation of the church. The purchase of the property where the church still stands today began under the leadership of Rev. J.J. Dale, with anticipated

opportunity for expansion. Rev. Joseph J. Dale directed the completion of the current sanctuary, from its groundbreaking in 1970 to its first service in 1972.

Its current pastor, Rev. Dr. Ronald Owens, serves as the 12th pastor of the church, where he worshiped as a child and was also ordained as a deacon, and licensed and ordained as a preacher of the gospel. He has dedicated over 30 years of service to the congregation, and throughout his pastorate the church has grown immensely, boasting a membership of over 500. In addition, under his leadership, New Hope Baptist Church has dedicated itself to social action, serving the needs of people through worship and outreach ministries. The clergy, staff, and members of New Hope Baptist Church endeavor to carry on its mission and ensure a viable future.

Mr. Speaker, once again, it is my great honor to pay tribute to New Hope Baptist Church as it celebrates its 100th anniversary this year. New Hope Baptist Church is a mainstay of the community, and this incredible milestone is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

RECOGNIZING ARDEN CAHILL ACADEMY, A PROMINENT INSTITUTION OF LEARNING IN LOUISIANA

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a prominent institution of learning located in Louisiana's Second Congressional District, which I am so proud to represent. Arden Cahill Academy was founded in 1968 by Arden and Harry Cahill as a private academy dedicated to the interest of early childhood education. As the Head Mistress of the academy, Mrs. Cahill chose, Mrs. Diana Wright, Mrs. Joy Vickery, Mrs. Dolly Stakelum, Mrs. Patricia McMullen, and Mrs. Marjorie Snyder as members of the original faculty. Each of these ladies contributed greatly to the creation and formation of the philosophy of the academy.

The history of events leading up to their decision to start a school is significant because Mrs. Cahill's prior teaching experiences greatly influenced the vision that she had for Arden Cahill Academy. Mr. and Mrs. Cahill's interest was to establish a school where the focus would be on the whole child. The school's philosophy is "to create a wholesome environment for learning where each child may grow and mature intellectually, socially, emotionally, physically, and morally to the best of his ability. It is the hope that through the good example and guidance of dedicated teachers each child will be encouraged to develop strength, confidence, and love for his fellow man and inspired to seek truth and knowledge."

Inspired and encouraged by the successful progress and development of the first group of students, Mrs. Cahill made the decision to expand the program and continue the process of education by adding one grade each year within the elementary school. The first eighth grade graduation was held at Lakewood Country Club in May 1977.

The original school campus consisted of one building on a two-acre site and later became the administrative office building. Buildings and classrooms were added yearly to accommodate the growing enrollment. The buildings were designed to house preschool, kindergarten, and elementary classes in separate quarters with special areas for library, art, music, and drama. Arden Cahill Academy's expansion did not only include classrooms, but they also provided a rich experience for their students by adding two swimming pools and an outdoor basketball court.

From the very beginning, it was Mrs. Cahill's desire to provide an airy country environment where children could discover and enjoy God's natural gifts while also pursuing knowledge. In 1976, a ten-acre tract of land was acquired for the purpose of building a new school. Riding stables and a country farmyard were added to the property in the summer of 1976 for use in the summer camp program and to offer horseback riding as an extra-curricular activity during the regular school year. In 1982, Jefferson Parish expropriated the property to build the Boudreaux Elementary School. Soon after, a twelve-acre tract in Lake Timberlane Estates was purchased for the new school site. In 1985, stables and an equestrian arena were erected on the rear of the property, Bayou Stables, as it is now called, was used for summer camp and extracurricular horseback riding lessons.

In 1986, construction began on two of the five buildings that comprised the master plan. These buildings were designed to provide a facility that would complement the academy's curriculum of academic excellence and cultural enrichment to finally bring the Cahill's vision to life. The buildings situated on Wall Boulevard along Bayou Fatma included classrooms, a library, a dining room, an art studio, a music room, a 300-seat theatre, a gymnasium, and a junior Olympic swimming pool. In September 1988, the first class of students from nursery through the eighth grade entered the Wall Boulevard campus while the school on Faragut Street continued with an infant and early childhood program. The first graduation on the Wall Boulevard Campus was held on May 19, 1989. In the summer of 1990, Building B, an 8-classroom building, was constructed to house the nursery and preschool making it possible to add additional sections in the lower school. In September of 1995, the foundation was poured for a 16,000 square foot, two story building which was occupied in March of 1996. The new building includes 14 classrooms, a state-of-the-art science lab, a technologically advanced computer lab, and academic offices.

I am humbled to virtually deliver the keynote address to Arden Cahill's first high school graduation. I am equally humbled that my great-nephew Cameron Smith is a member of this year's graduating class. My nephews, Cameron and Larry both attended Arden Cahill in the most difficult times of their life. After the sudden passing of their father, Larry Smith, their mother, China Carter Smith went into Kidney Failure and had to begin dialysis treatment, while also dealing with the COVID-19 Pandemic and battling Cancer. My niece, China and Mrs. E Arden Cahill both transitioned in 2021. Mrs. Cahill, after a long battle with Alzheimer's passed away on July 15, 2021. Exactly 4 months later our sweet China passed away on November 15, 2021.

The founders' vision to create a school with an intimate setting to incorporate nature and natural environments and the arts into an educational experience was so important for both Cameron and Larry's educational experience and personal development. Today, there are 9 seniors graduating. I know this is a hallmark event for them, and for Cameron and our family in many ways.

The Board of Directors of Arden Cahill Academy is comprised of Mr. and Mrs. Cahill's children, Harry "Chip" Cahill, III, Jack Cahill, Mary Kevin Cahill, Kelly Cahill, and Chris Cahill. Carrying on their parents' legacy, they remain dedicated to providing the Westbank with an exceptional school for years to come. After more than 50 years of educating children on the Westbank and the surrounding areas of the city, the Cahill family is excited about the expansion plans and looks forward to continuing the mission to uphold the standards that Mr. and Mrs. Cahill established, thus forever keeping their dream alive. I know that this school will be an important fixture in the lives of many to come, as it has been for my nephews and my family.

I am so blessed and grateful to have this opportunity and to extend my great-nephew, along with his classmates, well wishes for a successful and bright future. My prayer and dream are that each member of this class continue to make us proud. And extreme well wishes to Arden Cahill Academy, as they continue to change the lives of those they educate, the future leaders of this great country. God Bless them and their path.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JOPLIN POLICE CHIEF SLOAN ROWLAND

HON. ERIC BURLISON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable career of Chief of Police Sloan Rowland, a true public servant whose dedication and commitment to his community have left an indelible mark on the city of Joplin, Missouri.

For 35 years, Chief Rowland has selflessly served the people in various public safety positions, starting as an emergency medical technician in Kansas and eventually rising through the ranks to become the chief of police.

After joining the Joplin Police Department in 2003, Chief Rowland advanced from officer to corporal, sergeant to lieutenant, and assistant chief, before ultimately assuming the role of chief of police in 2019. His ascent is a testament to his leadership skills and his unwavering commitment to public safety.

Chief Rowland also led the department and the community through a time of heartbreak and grief, when a gunman shot and killed Corporal Ben Cooper and Officer Jake Reed, and injured Officer Rick Hirshey in March of 2022.

On June 1st of this year, Chief Sloan Rowland will retire after 20 years of service to the community of Joplin, Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Chief Rowland on his upcoming retirement and thank him for his dedicated service to our community. Chief Rowland has not only served as an exceptional

law enforcement leader in Joplin but has also been an exemplary role model for law enforcement professionals throughout the Nation.

It is my honor and privilege to have him as my constituent, and to recognize him today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER OF THOMAS "TOMMY" GILLILLAND

HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and honor the legacy of career public servant Thomas "Tommy" Gilliland.

Mr. Gilliland was born in Bladen, Nebraska in 1932 and spent his childhood in Glenwood, Iowa. As a young man, he attended the University of Iowa and Wentworth Military Academy, before receiving both his undergraduate degree and a master's degree in International Relations from American University. A proud American patriot, Mr. Gilliland served his country as a commissioned officer in both the Army Reserves and the Iowa National Guard.

Throughout his life, Mr. Gilliland demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serving others. As a young professional entering the work force, he and his wife Cory chose to move to Micronesia and spent several years working with the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in the pursuit of self-governance. Following his work abroad, Mr. Gilliland returned to the United States and began working for the federal government in Washington, D.C. He spent time at the Department of State, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Treasury, becoming a well-regarded expert in the congressional legislative process.

Upon his retirement from the public sector, Mr. Gilliland and his wife fulfilled a lifelong dream and opened an art gallery in Saint Augustine, Florida, before settling in Willsboro, New York. He continued his public service as the Chairman of the Willsboro Zoning Board of Appeals and a member of the Willsboro and Essex County Republican Committees.

Mr. Gilliland was a passionate musician, known as a vocalist for his beautiful low range. He sang in multiple church choirs and was an active member in the American Association of Barbershop Singing in America. However, nothing was more important to Mr. Gilliland than the success and happiness of his wife, their 3 children, and 7 grandchildren.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am honored to recognize Mr. Thomas "Tommy" Gilliland as an extraordinary public servant, patriot, and staple of his community.

HONORING FRED HARTMAN

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fred Hartman, a U.S. Army veteran who bravely served during World War II, as he celebrates his 99th birthday this Memorial Day.

One of Medford VFW Post's last surviving members of the "Greatest Generation," Fred proudly answered the call to serve our country in 1943. Originally born in Philadelphia and starting work as an apprentice tool maker, Fred put everything on hold to serve during World War II. Through his work and service, he exemplified integrity and resilience even as his regiment landed on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day and suffered grave losses. In treacherous circumstances they persevered, and Fred continued to serve in various other capacities like Operation COBRA. Even after being wounded by grenade fragments, Fred rejoined his unit in time for the breakthrough of Seigfried Line. Toward the end of his service, Fred was an integral part of helping Allied Forces during the Battle of the Bulge, and later joined the offensive effort during Operation PLUNDER.

Upon his return home as a Sergeant, Fred became a deservedly decorated veteran. He was awarded the Purple Heart, the European Service Medal, and received five stars. At home, he continued his career as a tool maker, and began involvement with local organizations. Most notably, he joined the Medford VFW Post, and served in numerous leadership positions. Eventually, he became the Post Quartermaster, and dedicated his time to managing the financial affairs of the organization. Much like his service to our country, Fred went above and beyond as a leader, and achieved the distinction of All State Quartermaster.

It is clear that no matter the field, Fred has made an indelible impact on our lives. We are proud to have Fred call New Jersey's 3rd District home, and to have been fortunate enough to benefit from his contributions. We thank him for all the ways he has served our community and country as a whole. As Fred continues to enjoy serving others and time with his family, we wish him many more years of good health and continued happiness.

RECOGNIZING FIRST KOREAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD my letter recognizing First Korean United Methodist Church's 100th Anniversary:

DEAR MEMBERS OF FIRST KOREAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: I offer my sincere congratulations to everyone at First Korean United Methodist Church as the congregation marks its 100th anniversary of ministry to the community.

For the past century, First Korean United Methodist Church has been an important part of the Korean American community, providing a welcoming home and vital services. The work you do in the community, from developing programs which help the next generation of Korean American leaders thrive to providing ministry for all people regardless of age and gender, has changed countless lives.

Through commitment, dedication, and the strong faith of the leadership and the congregants, First Korean United Methodist Church has made so many feel at home, and I am proud to be your representative in Con-

gress. I look forward to working with the community for many years to come.

Sincerely,

BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER,
Member of Congress.

MAY CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH, ILLIMA MARTINEZ

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Ilima Martinez as my May Constituent of the Month. As the Founder and President of Umeke Organization, Ilima works to preserve Hawaiian culture and traditions.

Ilima has more than a decade of experience of doing this work and this year, Ilima used her experience to organize the first annual Southern California Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Festival to celebrate the rich history of Asian American and Pacific Islanders in our community. I have no doubt she will continue to make a difference in our region.

During Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month, I am proud to celebrate the exceptional efforts of individuals like Ilima Martinez who volunteer their time and contribute to our unique and beautiful district. I'm so grateful for CA-49 residents who dedicate their lives to the betterment of our residents and community, and I'm proud to honor Ilima Martinez as my May Constituent of the Month.

HONORING MARK GHILARDUCCI

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with the members of the California delegation, to honor Mark Ghilarducci, the director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), for his 40 years of public safety service.

Born in San Mateo, California, Mr. Ghilarducci received his Bachelor of Science in Physiology from University of California, Davis. Afterwards, he joined Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government as a part of their fellowship program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government.

Mr. Ghilarducci started his career at the federal level working on homeland security, emergency preparedness, and disaster response. Mr. Ghilarducci was an executive member of the Advisory Board for the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System from 1990 to 2003. Here he led federal search and rescue operations after the 1995 bombing in Oklahoma City. From 1997 to 2000, he also served as federal coordinating officer with the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Additionally, Mr. Ghilarducci was a critical advisor to the state of Louisiana and Governor Kathleen Blanco after Hurricane Katrina.

In California, Mr. Ghilarducci has occupied several integral public safety positions. He served as deputy state fire chief of special operations for California's Office of Emergency

Services (Cal OES), where he led the development and creation of the state's internationally recognized fire and rescue mutual aid system. In 2014, he was appointed director of Cal OES by Governor Jerry Brown, and again by Governor Gavin Newsom in 2019. Over the course of his tenure as director, he guided California through 130 federally declared disasters such as an enduring drought, five of California's largest wildfires, including the tragic Camp fire, and the COVID pandemic. He also serves in Governor Newsom's cabinet as his homeland security adviser, using his experience to advise on matters of terrorism and cybersecurity.

Mr. Ghilarducci has also been a member of numerous state bodies that have shaped California's emergency preparedness, response, and recovery approaches. From 2001 to 2003, he co-chaired both the Governor's Strategic Committee on Terrorism and the California Standardized Emergency Management System Technical Committee. Governor Newsom also appointed Mr. Ghilarducci as chair of the California Earthquake Authority Board of Directors and the California Wildfire Catastrophic Response Council, as well as the executive board member of the Governor's Homeland Security Advisory Council.

Some of Mr. Ghilarducci's most notable policy achievements include the modernization of California's 911 system, his facilitation of the State Threat Intelligence and Assessment System, the design and implementation of the nation's first Earthquake Early Warning System, and the design and operation of the California Cybersecurity Integration Center. Furthermore, he was a vocal advocate for the California Disaster Assistance Act which authorized over \$300 million in funding towards building a more resilient and safer California.

Mr. Ghilarducci is known for his motto "one team, one fight" as well as his honesty, integrity, and respectful nature. He spends his spare time with his wife Linda Ghilarducci and two children, RJ Ghilarducci and Alexandra Ghilarducci.

Mr. Speaker, Mark Ghilarducci has undoubtedly made our Nation and the state of California a safer place for our constituents.

APPRECIATING MR. JACOB JERNIGAN FOR HIS SERVICE ON MY STAFF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in appreciation of Mr. Jacob Jernigan for his service to the people of California's Eighth Congressional District as a member of my staff. A native of California, Mr. Jernigan joined my office in 2018, playing a critical role in my office for over four years. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Jernigan demonstrated a sincere commitment to the people of California, serving as Outreach Manager and ultimately using his vast experience and knowledge to become a Legislative Assistant in my office.

By listening to community members, writing legislation, and advocating for constituents, Legislative Assistants are fundamental to ensuring the priorities and concerns of Americans are comprehensively addressed. Mr.

Jernigan handled a critical legislative portfolio that included education, labor rights, and housing and his dedicated work each day was essential in meeting the most pressing needs of California communities.

From helping secure critical funding for our communities to spearheading my office's efforts to revitalize America's workforce, Mr. Jernigan's endeavors undeniably improved the lives of Californians and helped provide them

with the resources necessary to thrive. Mr. Jernigan's commitment to his responsibilities as Legislative Assistant was essential in allowing me to effectively represent the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District.

Mr. Jernigan has joined the Office of Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR, as the Military Legislative Assistant. I and all the members of Team Garamendi wish him all the best in his new position. During his tenure on my staff,

Mr. Jernigan approached his work with dedication, thoughtfulness, and a genuine desire to serve American communities. These same qualities will serve him well in his future endeavors.

While we will miss him, we all look forward to what Mr. Jernigan will do next. He will remain a deeply valued member of Team Garamendi, always.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session and stands adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 40 public bills, H.R. 3619–3658; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 49; and H. Res. 440–442 were introduced. **Pages H2594–96**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2598–99**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Langworthy to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2549**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:31 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H2559**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:26 p.m. and reconvened at 4:30 p.m. **Page H2576**

Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to “Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414”—Presidential Veto: The House voted to sustain the President’s veto of H.J. Res. 39, disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Commerce relating to “Procedures Covering Suspension of Liquidation, Duties and Estimated Duties in Accord With Presidential Proclamation 10414”, by a yea-and-nay vote of 214 yeas to 205 nays, Roll No. 233 (two-thirds of those present not voting to override). **Pages H2571–76, H2577**

Subsequently, the veto message (H. Doc. 118–41) and the joint resolution were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. **Page H2577**

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans”: The House passed H.J. Res. 45, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Waivers and Modifications of Federal Student Loans”, by a yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 203 nays, Roll No. 234. **Pages H2562–71, H2577–78**

H. Res. 429, the rule providing for consideration of bill (H.R. 467) and the joint resolutions (S.J. Res. 11) and (H.J. Res. 45) was agreed to yesterday, May 23rd.

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Monday, May 22nd.

VET–TEC Authorization Act of 2023: H.R. 1669, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the high technology pilot program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 409 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 235. **Pages H2578–79**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, May 25th. **Page H2579**

Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act: The House considered H.R. 467, to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the scheduling of fentanyl-related substances. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, May 25th. **Pages H2579–87**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. **Page H2579**

H. Res. 429, the rule providing for consideration of bill (H.R. 467) and the joint resolutions (S.J. Res. 11) and (H.J. Res. 45) was agreed to yesterday, May 23rd.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2577, H2577–78, and H2579.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Committee Meetings

REIGNITING AMERICAN GROWTH AND PROSPERITY SERIES: REMOVING THE BURDENS OF GOVERNMENT OVERREACH

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Reigniting American Growth and Prosperity Series: Removing the Burdens of Government Overreach”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BREAKING THE SYSTEM PART II: EXAMINING THE IMPLICATIONS OF BIDEN’S STUDENT LOAN POLICIES FOR STUDENTS AND TAXPAYERS

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled “Breaking the System Part II: Examining the Implications of Biden’s Student Loan Policies for Students and Taxpayers”. Testimony was heard from James Kvaal, Under Secretary of Education, Department of Education; and Richard Cordray, Chief Operating Officer, Office of Federal Student Aid, Department of Education.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1418, the “Animal Drug User Fee Amendments of 2023”; H.R. 2544, the “Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act”; H.R. 3561, the “Promoting Access to Treatments and Increasing Extremely Needed Transparency Act of 2023”; H.R. 2666, the “Medicaid VBP for Patients Act”; H.R. 3284, the “Providers and Payers COMPETE Act”; H.R. 3290, to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to ensure transparency and oversight of the 340B drug discount program; H.R. 3309, the “Standard FEES Act”; H.R. 3293, the “Expediting Federal Broadband Deployment Reviews Act”; H.R. 3299, the “DIGITAL Applications Act”; H.R. 3283,

the “Facilitating DIGITAL Applications Act”; H.R. 3343, the “Federal Broadband Deployment Tracking Act”; H.R. 3565, the “Spectrum Auction Reauthorization Act of 2023”; H.R. 3557, the “American Broadband Deployment Act of 2023”; H.R. 1160, the “Critical Electric Infrastructure Cybersecurity Incident Reporting Act”; H.R. 3277, the “Energy Emergency Leadership Act”; H.R. 1042, the “Prohibiting Russian Uranium Imports Act”; H.R. 1640, the “Save Our Gas Stoves Act”; and H.R. 1615, the “Gas Stove Protection and Freedom Act”. H.R. 1418, H.R. 2666, H.R. 3284, H.R. 3290, H.R. 3561, H.R. 3565, H.R. 3557, and H.R. 1160 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 2544, H.R. 3309, H.R. 3293, H.R. 3299, H.R. 3283, H.R. 3343, H.R. 3277, H.R. 1042, H.R. 1640, and H.R. 1615 were ordered reported, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3556, the “Increasing Financial Regulatory Accountability and Transparency Act”; H.R. 3564, the “Middle Class Borrower Protection Act of 2023”; H.R. 2622, a bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to codify certain Securities and Exchange Commission no-action letters that exclude brokers and dealers compensated for certain research services from the definition of investment adviser, and for other purposes; H.R. 1553, the “Helping Angels Lead Our Startups Act”; H.R. 3063, the “Retirement Fairness for Charities and Educational Institutions Act”; and H.R. 2627, the “Increasing Investor Opportunities Act”. H.R. 3556, H.R. 3564, H.R. 2627, H.R. 1553, H.R. 3063 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 2622 was ordered reported, as amended.

MODERNIZING U.S. ARMS EXPORTS AND A STRONGER AUKUS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Modernizing U.S. Arms Exports and a Stronger AUKUS”. Testimony was heard from Jessica Lewis, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political—Military Affairs, Department of State; and Mara Karlin, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategies, Plans, and Capabilities, Department of Defense.

AMERICAN CONFIDENCE IN ELECTIONS: ENSURING EVERY ELIGIBLE AMERICAN HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE—AND FOR THEIR VOTE TO COUNT ACCORDING TO LAW

Committee on House Administration: Subcommittee on Elections held a hearing entitled “American Confidence in Elections: Ensuring Every Eligible American has the Opportunity to Vote—and for their

Vote to Count According to Law”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a business meeting on Committee Resolution 118–16, to adopt regulations to provide that, during each session of each Congress, each Member (including each Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress), officer, and employee of the House of Representatives shall complete a program of training in the workplace rights and responsibilities applicable to offices and employees of the House under part A of title II of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.), including anti-discrimination and anti-harassment training. Committee Resolution 118–16 was adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 277, the “Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act”; H.R. 357, the “Ensuring Accountability in Agency Rulemaking Act”; H.R. 1505, the “No Stolen Trademarks Honored in America Act of 2023”; H.R. 3571, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 2, title 50, and title 52, United States Code, and to correct related technical errors; H.R. 3506, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions classified to title 7, title 20, and title 43, United States Code, and to correct related technical errors; H.R. 3496, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to certain provisions that were formerly classified to chapters 14 and 19 of title 25, United States Code, and to correct related technical errors; and H.R. 3578, to make technical amendments to update statutory references to provisions reclassified to title 34, United States Code, and to correct related technical errors. H.R. 277, H.R. 357, and H.R. 1505 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 3571, H.R. 3506, H.R. 3496, and H.R. 3578 were ordered reported, without amendment.

EXAMINING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S EFFORTS TO LIMIT ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining the Biden Administration’s Efforts to Limit Access to Public Lands”. Testimony was heard from Todd Devlin, Commissioner, Prairie County, Montana; J.J. Goicoechea, Director, Nevada Department of Agriculture; Travis Lingenfelter, Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Mohave County, Arizona; and

Stephanie Garcia Richard, Commissioner of Public Lands, New Mexico.

CONSUMER CHOICE ON THE BACKBURNER: EXAMINING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S REGULATORY ASSAULT ON AMERICANS’ GAS STOVES

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs held a hearing entitled “Consumer Choice on the Backburner: Examining the Biden Administration’s Regulatory Assault on Americans’ Gas Stoves”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A FAILURE OF SUPERVISION: BANK FAILURES AND THE SAN FRANCISCO FEDERAL RESERVE

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services held a hearing entitled “A Failure of Supervision: Bank Failures and The San Francisco Federal Reserve”. Testimony was heard from Michael E. Clements, Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 3560, the “National Drone and Advanced Air Mobility Research and Development Act”. H.R. 3560 was ordered reported, as amended.

SALUTING SERVICE: SUPPORTING VETERAN OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Saluting Service: Supporting Veteran Owned Small Businesses”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NEVER ENDING EMERGENCIES—AN EXAMINATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCIES ACT

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing entitled “Never Ending Emergencies—An Examination of the National Emergencies Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

VA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONTRACTING: CHALLENGES IN CONSOLIDATION OF COMPETITION AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Technology Modernization held a hearing entitled “VA

Information Technology Contracting: Challenges in Consolidation of Competition and Conflict of Interest”. Testimony was heard from Shelby Oakley, Director, Contracting and National Security Acquisitions, Government Accountability Office; and a public witness.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION’S UNIQUE ROLE IN COMBATTING SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER- RELATED IDENTITY FRAUD

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing entitled “The Social Security Administration’s Unique Role in Combatting Social Security Number-Related Identity Fraud”. Testimony was heard from Jeffrey Brown, Deputy Assistant Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General, Social Security Administration; Sean Brune, Deputy Commissioner for Systems and Chief Information Officer, Social Security Administration; and public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party: Full Committee held a business meeting to consider two committee reports outlining policy recommendations based on the committee’s March 23, 2023, hearing regarding the CCP’s genocide targeting the Uyghurs and on the committee’s April 2023 activities—including a tabletop exercise and roundtable—focused on enhancing deterrence against CCP aggression

aimed at Taiwan. The two committee reports were adopted.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions, hearing entitled “International Financial Institutions in an Era of Great Power Competition”, 9 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing entitled “Examining the President’s FY 2024 Budget Request for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Office of Insular Affairs”, 9:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Trade, hearing entitled “Modernizing Customs Policies to Protect American Workers and Secure Supply Chains”, 9 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on Defense Intelligence and Overhead Architecture, hearing entitled “Foreign Materiel Acquisition/Exploitation”, 9 a.m., HVC-304 Hearing Room.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12:30 p.m., Thursday, May 25

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, May 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Complete consideration of H.R. 467—Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act.

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