Rep. Tom Emmer on Congressman Emmer speaks against H.R. 1 on the House Floor

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REP. TOM EMMER:

** to have. Thank you, Mr. Davis. Madam Speaker, for the second consecutive Congress, House Democrats have shown us what their priorities are. Is their top priority H.R. 1 about improving roads and bridges? No. Is their top priority H.R. 1 about improving access to health care? No. Is their top priority H.R. 1 about ensuring that our communities are safe? Absolutely not. No, their number one priority is themselves and their elections. Instead of prioritizing these important issues, they've offered H.R. 1 to eliminate our state-based system of elections, to codify practices like ballot harvesting, and to establish a federal match with taxpayer funds for campaign contributions. I guess federalizing our elections becomes the only option when your ideas, the very thing our constituents should be judging us on, are defunding our police and promoting government-run health care. The American people have soundly rejected those ideas, but that hasn't stopped our colleagues from finding a way to work around the will of the American people. The bill we're debating today, H.R. 1, is that workaround, and if adopted, will allow our colleagues to continue bypassing the issues most important to the people while guaranteeing their re-election to Congress. The American people are smart, and they're going to remember when they step into the voting booths next November that the top priority for House Democrats was not to address the health or safety of the American people. It was to undermine our Constitution in order to win elections. I urge everyone in this chamber to vote no on H.R. 1, and I yield.