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No. 168

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
November 14, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL GUEST to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

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

### RECOGNIZING THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL BOY SCOUT MEMORIAL

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the National Boy Scout Memorial in our Nation's Capital.

The Boy Scouts of America aims to prepare young people for lives of impact and purpose.

Since the Boy Scouts' founding in 1910 here in Washington, D.C., the organization has grown to become one of the largest youth organizations in the United States with over 1 million Scouts.

The United States Congress passed a congressional charter in 1916, officially establishing the Boy Scouts of America. The mission remains steadfast: "to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law."

In 1959, the 50th anniversary year of Scouting, Lyndon Baines Johnson, then-Senate majority leader, introduced a measure to establish the memorial. Scouts from across the Nation displayed their dedication and passion for Scouting by raising 100 percent of the funding needed to complete the statue.

Scouts who were able to collect \$5 in dimes sent in their collections and had their names printed on special scrolls.

The legacies of these Scouts and their dedication lives on, with all the scrolls still residing inside the boxes at the statue's base.

The sculpture sits at the location of the 1937 National Scout Jamboree, the very first jamboree. It was dedicated on November 7, 1964, and over 1,000 Scouts, leaders, family members, military personnel, members of government, and guests were present.

This weekend I was proud to attend the 60th anniversary ceremony.

Officially named the "Boy Scout Commemorative Tribute," it was the very first statue or memorial in D.C. dedicated to a living or ongoing cause, not a past leader or event.

The three statues represent the fundamental principles of Scouting. The young Scout in the middle symbolizes all Scouts past, present, and future, and is a beacon for good. The male and female figures symbolize the strength for both manhood and womanhood.

The male represents ideals of physical, mental, and moral fitness, citizenship, honor, and courage, while the female represents enlightenment, love of fellow man, justice, and freedom.

As a proud Eagle Scout and a Scout Master for over 30 years, Scouting has been an essential part of my young and adult life. Even in my current role as U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District and chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, I use the lessons and values learned in Scouting to guide my decisionmaking.

The Scout Oath tells us that we have a duty to God, to country, to others, and to self, and this is a checklist I use when voting on the House floor.

Scouting enables the next generation of youth to develop leadership skills, connect with their community, build self-confidence, and gain numerous other benefits for themselves and their country.

The Scouting program is one of the best youth organizations for cultivating a sense of responsibility and allows youth to become engaged citizens who care and respect their communities.

I will always cherish the time I spent in Scouting and value its role in shaping me into who I am today.

Mr. Speaker, for more than 100 years, Scouting has instilled essential values into our young people. This organization has helped develop academic skills, self-confidence, ethics, and citizenship skills that continue influencing these Scouts' adult lives.

The impact of Scouting cannot be measured. This monument stands as a powerful tribute, not just to the Boy Scouts themselves, but to the values they carry and their positive impact on our communities, Nation, and the world.

Let this memorial remind us of our responsibility to support and inspire the next generation to dedicate themselves to a lifetime of service.

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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H5977

## ECONOMIC DREAMERS

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about an urgent challenge facing our Nation, one that, if left unresolved, could lead to an economic and moral disaster.

This challenge is the uncertain future of our Dreamers, individuals who embody the very spirit of the American Dream. These Dreamers were brought to this country as children through no fault of their own. They grew up with our kids, attended our schools. They pledged allegiance to our flag, the only flag that they have ever known. If given the chance, many would die for it as many have done through their service in the military. They share the same hopes, the same dreams, and the same dedication to building a better America as all of us.

They contribute as taxpayers, small business owners, educators, artists, and aspiring public servants. During the pandemic, they stepped up as essential workers. They served as doctors, nurses, and first responders to keep our communities healthy and safe.

Instead of being recognized and celebrated, they live under the fear of constant threat, not because of their actions, but because of our inaction. They live in fear, fear that at any moment their lives could be uprooted by the stroke of a pen or a court decision or a tweet.

Every day they contribute to our communities, strengthen our economy, and make America a place worth living in.

Let's make one thing clear, Mr. Speaker: Immigrants, including Dreamers, are a tremendous economic force for good in this country, regardless of what some people in the majority may say or want to believe.

One study found that immigrants account for 17 percent of the U.S. GDP, or more than \$3.3 trillion. Make no mistake: Dreamers pay their fair share and more.

Since 2012, when President Obama created the DACA program, DACA recipients have paid some \$20 billion in Federal and payroll taxes and a further \$13 billion in State and local taxes.

In my very own home State of Texas, which has the second highest number of DACA recipients, Dreamers contribute over \$16 billion annually to our State's economy.

Let's be clear, Mr. Speaker: The U.S. economy cannot afford to lose this workforce, the talent, and the drive that Dreamers bring to this country.

In Texas alone, if DACA were to end, it would result in an estimated 2,600 job losses every single month, including 200 healthcare jobs and 100 educators.

That is nothing short of a national failure. Congress has a responsibility to act and pass solutions. Bipartisan bills like mine, the American Dream and Promise Act, could pass in this

House today if only it were brought to a vote.

This legislation would provide Dreamers with the security they deserve and ensure our economy remains competitive.

According to some estimates, creating a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers would increase the GDP by over \$799 billion in 10 years. That is not chump change. It would create more than a quarter of a million jobs.

Unfortunately, very few Republicans are working with us or are even willing to sit down and talk so that we can move forward on this issue.

For the sake of our economy and our future, I hope that course changes.

Mr. Speaker, please work with me and my Democratic colleagues to get this done. I know we can take care of Dreamers and immigrants who contribute to our economy and do more together to secure our border.

To close, I will share the story of three fellows who served in my office this past year. They served our constituents, upheld our Constitution, and exemplified what it means to be an American, all while knowing we could never even hire them in the end full time.

They are Dreamers. They are bright, young, dedicated people who deserve a permanent place here without fear of deportation. They and their families deserve better.

It is time for Congress to work together on a bipartisan basis to pass the American Dream and Promise Act and to keep the American Dream alive. We cannot let it die. We cannot let it go cold.

Let's step up and act with courage. Let's pass the American Dream and Promise Act to secure our border and unleash the economic potential of Dreamers across the country.

#### ENSURING OUR CORRECTIONS OFFICERS GET THE MENTAL HEALTH CARE THEY DESERVE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 9929, the Corrections Officer Blake Schwarz Suicide Prevention Act.

This critical legislation, which I introduced, creates a grant program to fund mental health screenings and provide essential resources for corrections officers, men and women who face some of the most dangerous and mentally taxing work in law enforcement.

Correction officers are exposed daily to verbal, physical, and sexual abuse, creating an environment that takes a profound toll on their mental health.

Tragically, suicide rates among these officers are far higher than the national average. It is unacceptable that those who protect our communities are left without the support they need to protect their own well-being.

This bill is backed by the National Fraternal Order of Police, representing over 377,000 officers who stand with us in calling for action.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this vital legislation, ensuring our corrections officers get the mental health care they deserve.

#### HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN HENRY LANGREHR ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of World War II veteran Henry Langrehr, who turned 100 on November 4.

As a native of Clinton, Iowa, Henry left school in 1942 to join the United States Army's 82nd Airborne Division, and at 19 years of age, was one of the first paratroopers to jump in during the landing at Normandy.

Following the battle, Henry was wounded and taken as a prisoner of war, sent to Czechoslovakia to work in a camp mining coal, which he later escaped in a harrowing runaway. Following his escape, he returned to Clinton and began a successful career in business.

All in all, Henry has been the recipient of two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, and the French Legion of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Henry, a true American hero and an example of Iowa's best, a very happy birthday.

#### CONGRATULATING HEAD COACH KIRK FERENTZ ON HIS 200TH BIG TEN CONFERENCE WIN

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Iowa Football Head Coach Kirk Ferentz on recording his 200th win in the Big Ten Conference, moving him into second place of all time.

Coach Ferentz's historic victory came at home against the Washington Huskies where the Hawkeyes dominated with a 40-16 win.

Since then, Iowa has earned two more victories, bringing Coach Ferentz's total to 202 wins, just three shy of an all-time record for the Big Ten coaching victories.

Coach Ferentz has led Iowa since 1999, guiding the team to two Big Ten championships and earning four Big Ten Coach of the Year honors, along with the prestigious AP College Football Coach of the Year award.

Beyond wins, Coach Ferentz has built a culture of excellence that has shaped countless young athletes, and I know personally that he considers these athletes like his family.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Coach Ferentz on his remarkable achievement. We look forward to celebrating his future success as the all-time winningest coach in the Big Ten.

Go Hawkeyes.

□ 1015

#### RECOGNIZING MEGHAN PURCELL

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of Meghan Purcell.

Mrs. Purcell has worked as an art teacher at Mark Twain and Herbert Hoover Elementary Schools in the Bettendorf Community School District for the past 15 years.

Her outstanding performance has earned her the title of Iowa's Outstanding Elementary Art Educator of the Year. It is educators like her that shape the minds of young future generations and lead us toward excellence. Her dedication to the education of Iowa's youth has been inspirational. She has been honored as the district's employee of the quarter and received the National Artsonia Educational Leadership Award.

She has attended six National Art Education Association national conventions and presented workshops on curriculum design and bookmaking techniques at the 2024 National Art Education Association conference in Minneapolis.

It is my hope that she can continue to inspire educators across the Nation to go above and beyond in our institutions of learning. Mrs. Purcell knows that it is the pursuance of excellence that sets us apart. It would serve us all well to remember that.

#### HONORING RICHARD BAILEY

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Richard Bailey of Coronado, who will conclude his service as mayor this December.

Since first being elected to the Coronado City Council in 2012 and later as mayor in 2016, Mayor Bailey has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to working with Congress to achieve clean beaches for Coronado.

Known for his dedication to local issues and his role in representing Coronado on the SANDAG board, Mayor Bailey has tirelessly advocated for his constituents. I very much appreciate the help he has provided me by reaching out to his contacts in Congress on the other side of the aisle to help us get funds approved to fix and expand the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, which cleans sewage that crosses our border.

We had several meetings here at the Capitol and at home, and he has been a critical partner in our work to stop this terrible environmental and public health crisis.

It is an enormous challenge, but Mayor Bailey is known for taking challenges. He is also known for becoming the first American mayor to reach Everest Base Camp shortly after finishing the Boston Marathon.

His leadership has strengthened the city of Coronado and has set a standard for service.

As Mayor Bailey moves toward his next chapter, we thank him for his years of public service and for the positive legacy he leaves behind. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing

Mayor Richard Bailey's contributions and wishing him all the best in the future.

#### RECOGNIZING KENZIE WILLEN

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kenzie Willen from Cumberland County High School in Burkesville, Kentucky.

Kenzie was runner-up in the Kentucky High School Girls State Golf Tournament. This was a very competitive golf tournament. I knew several of the girls in the golf tournament from around the State, and Kenzie finished second overall. In Kentucky we don't have classes. Every school competes against every school—the big schools against the little schools.

Kenzie's achievement was the highest athletic achievement in the history of tiny Cumberland County High School.

Kenzie was also recently named the KHSAA Fourth Region Girls Athlete of the Year. Kenzie's parents, Lannie and Kristi Willen, are good friends of mine and are leaders in the great community of Burkesville, Kentucky.

Mr. Speaker, I again congratulate Miss Kenzie Willen from Cumberland County High School.

#### THANKING AMERICAN VOTERS

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the voters of America for overwhelmingly turning out to reelect a Republican majority in the United States House of Representatives.

I had the honor of serving this Congress as chairman of the House Oversight Committee, and I plan on serving my final 2 years as chairman in the next Congress.

The House Oversight Committee passed 23 good government bills through this House body, most of which received bipartisan majorities. The House Oversight Committee also led many successful investigations and probes, including our bipartisan PBM investigation—that is pharmacy benefit managers.

Our investigation revealed, along with our three bipartisan committee hearings, that the pharmacy benefit managers were actually doing the opposite of what they were created to do. They were created to help lower the price of prescription drugs when, in fact, in many instances they have actually increased the price of prescription drugs.

I believe our work on the House Oversight Committee will lead to significant reforms for the PBM industry in this next Congress.

We also had many other successful investigations, the most high profile of which was the Biden family influence peddling investigation, which revealed that the Biden family received tens of millions of dollars from our adversaries around the world, and according to the two IRS whistleblowers, never paid a penny of taxes on it. Despite the Presi-

dent of the United States saying he didn't know anything about it and never met with any of these people, he met with every single one of them.

We achieved many of our objectives with respect to providing the American people with the truth. We provided the American taxpayers with badly needed oversight, despite massive—and I repeat that, Mr. Speaker, massive—opposition from the Biden-Harris administration, as well as constant disruption and dishonesty from Ranking Member JAMIE RASKIN.

I hope that this next Congress on the House Oversight Committee we can work together to get the backs of the American taxpayers to provide the badly needed oversight that the American people deserve and that Congress is supposed to provide.

I am excited about the future because I am confident that the Trump administration will be more transparent than this current administration has and cooperate with us and do things like provide information when we request it.

We work for the American people. We work for the taxpayers. The taxpayers have taken it on the chin, Mr. Speaker. They expect Congress to provide oversight. They expect good government. They expect efficiency and transparency with their hard-earned tax dollars that they send here to Washington, D.C. They have not been getting that, Mr. Speaker.

I also look forward to working with Elon Musk and the new government efficiency task force. I think there are lots of opportunities there, Mr. Speaker, to save significant amounts of tax dollars. We cannot continue to operate in this body spending \$1.5 to \$2 trillion a year more than we take in. It is not sustainable, and it has led to excessive spending.

The American people spoke loud and clear. They want good government. They want efficiency and transparency. Mr. Speaker, I pledge that the House Oversight Committee will work together to see that the American people get the efficiency and transparency in the government that they deserve.

#### ANTI-SEMITISM IS RETURNING WITH A VENGEANCE

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

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned that history is repeating itself. Anti-Semitism, Jew hatred, the demonizing, terrorizing, and killing of innocent Jews, especially women and children, is returning with a vengeance.

I want to take us back 83 years to December 15 of 1941 in Liepaja, Latvia.

For 3 terrifying days, German Nazis and Latvian collaborators rounded up thousands of Jewish women and children, forced them to march in the freezing cold to a beach on the Baltic Sea, ordered them to strip off their

clothing, and shot them dead in groups of 10 while others looked on terrified.

This horrific massacre has been memorialized by a brilliant Jewish artist in my community, Victoria Carlin Milstein, in a sculpture she has named "She Wouldn't Take Off Her Boots." The sculpture, which stands in LeBauer Park in downtown Greensboro shows a grandmother, her daughter, and her three granddaughters, arms locked together, awaiting their gruesome fate. All are barefoot, except the grandmother, who in an act of defiance, refused to take off her boots.

The sculpture was based on a haunting photograph taken by the Nazis to document their cruelty. The artist has placed a bronze camera in front of the statue so each person can look through the camera lens and see exactly what the photographer saw before the family was shot. Each person who looks through that camera is a witness to the unimaginable cruelty that was inflicted on innocent Jews while others stood by either complicit or silent.

A film has been made about the creation of this sculpture and a curriculum written to educate students and teachers about this dark time in history when 6 million Jews were murdered in the Holocaust.

Tragically, we are experiencing the violent cruelty of anti-Semitism today.

On October 7, 2023, thousands of men from Gaza invaded Israel and tortured, burned, and murdered more than 1,200 innocent people. These Hamas jihadi terrorists driven by Jew hatred subjected women and girls of all ages to unimaginable acts of torture, mutilation, rape—violence intended to dehumanize and humiliate Jewish women and girls before they were murdered.

Just like the Nazis 83 years ago in the Liepaja massacre, the Hamas terrorists filmed their horrific acts to memorialize their unspeakable cruelty.

These acts should shock the conscience of the entire world, and yet for too long, the world stood silent. Despite overwhelming evidence, some continue to minimize or deny these war crimes.

Another Jewish woman, Sheryl Sandberg, made a film to show the world what happened on that terrible day, to allow the victims to tell their stories. Just like looking through the camera in front of Victoria's statue, we can all watch Sheryl's film and bear witness to the horrors of anti-Semitism.

I am proud of these Jewish women who have taken action to make sure we do not allow these atrocities to be denied or forgotten.

We must all take heed of the words of Elie Wiesel, which are inscribed on the base of Victoria's statue: "The opposite of love is not hate, it is indifference."

As a nation, we must not be indifferent to the alarming rise of anti-Semitism across our country and around the world—from Los Angeles to New York to Amsterdam to Lithuania to Israel.

I call on my colleagues and all Americans to speak out against anti-Semitism and hate in all its forms and take action. Let us not be indifferent.

RELEASE KEITH SIEGEL

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, it has been over a year since Hamas launched a brutal attack on our ally Israel, slaughtering 1,200 innocent people and taking hundreds of innocent people hostage.

Today, the families of these hostages continue to live in unthinkable anguish, desperate for their loved ones to return home safely.

Among them is the family of Keith Siegel from my home State of North Carolina.

On October 7, Keith and his wife, Aviva, were kidnapped from their home in K'far Aza and held captive together in inhumane conditions underground lacking food, water, and even air.

After 51 days, Aviva was released in a hostage exchange, but Keith, now 65 years old, remains in those horrific tunnels.

We must continue to fight for the return of Keith and all 100 hostages. We must keep them in our hearts and speak up for them.

#### WILLCOX SOFTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Willcox softball's little league team for their perseverance and their hard work.

After winning back-to-back Arizona Little League State titles, this team was crowned as this West Region Champions and were invited to play at the World Series Tournament.

Unfortunately, they came up a little short in a 5-2 defeat in one of the elimination games, but we are so proud of them.

While they were not able to make it all the way, I know that Cochise County and the entire State of Arizona is incredibly proud of the Willcox softball's first World Series appearance.

They are only the fifth team from southern Arizona to ever make it this far. They have made our district proud with their resilience and competitive spirit. They must keep up the great work.

□ 1030

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
PRESIDENT DR. SURESH GARIMELLA

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the new president of the University of Arizona, my alma mater, Dr. Suresh Garimella.

I have met and spent time with him, and I am deeply impressed with what I have experienced. Dr. Garimella is a tireless champion for students who is well suited to lead the university into an even brighter future. He is a passionate educator who fosters the creativity of his students and empowers

them with the tools to pursue their own American Dream.

Throughout his career, he has personally mentored 90 graduate students and 50 post-doctoral scholars, many of whom were placed in prestigious faculty positions across the United States and the world.

Additionally, Dr. Garimella serves on the National Science Board, which acts as an independent body of advisers to Congress and the President on policy matters related to science and engineering.

I am grateful for Dr. Garimella's leadership and look forward to working with him to support the university and its students.

Bear Down.

CONGRATULATING MO SHELDON RETIRING

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mo Sheldon, who will be stepping down as CEO of Northern Cochise Community Hospital at the end of this month, and thank her for all of her invaluable work.

Mo joined the hospital in 2020 and has successfully led them over the past 4 years, including during their transition to Tucson Medical Center in 2021.

In FY24, Mo and I worked closely to secure \$859,000 in Federal funds for much-needed upgrades and repairs to the main entry area and emergency department, which are over 50 years old.

Mo is a pillar of her community, and she has dedicated herself to serving her patients and strengthening the healthcare system in our rural communities. Mo will be dearly missed, but her legacy of servant leadership will continue to echo far into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mo for her commitment, dedication, and hard work. It truly made a difference in our communities. Laura and I wish her all the best in this next chapter in her life.

#### WATER IS LIFE

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, we all know that water is life. Safe, accessible, affordable drinking water is a human right.

In 2021, I was proud to work with Representative DEBBIE DINGELL and the Committee on Energy and Commerce in helping establish the low-income household water assistance program, a \$1.2 billion financial assistance program to help pay off bills and debts to keep people's water connected, especially during the pandemic.

The program, of course, saved countless lives, but the money has run out. Millions of Americans all across our Nation are still struggling to keep up with their bills, and many are having their water shut off as we speak.

We already have a permanent program right now for gas and electric utilities for our families called LIHEAP, but we have nothing for water utilities. The cost of water has gone up more than 40 percent nationwide in the last decade, and increased 285 percent in Detroit since 1980.

With this bill, called the Half-Century Update for Water Access and Affordability Act, we are establishing a bill that would dedicate funding every year to keep people's water flowing. The program, Mr. Speaker, would include direct financial assistance, bill payments, and debt relief. What I also love is that it is going to help with water efficiency upgrades, like plumbing repairs that are much-needed in very old homes all across our Nation.

We are going to set up a community advisory committee made up of residents, nonprofits, utilities, and other local stakeholders that will help advise the EPA on how to set up and implement these programs.

Mr. Speaker, the act will also go to help fund local nonprofits to help with technical assistance to help many of our families. We are also going to collect the data that is necessary to improve this program every year to make the biggest impact.

This bill would also ban the practice of water shutoffs as punishment for not being able to afford your bills. It is inhumane to have our families in the richest country in the world not have access to water.

We always seem to have the money, Mr. Speaker, to send more bombs and weapons, but not support working families who can't live without water.

CELEBRATING UNITED COMMUNITY HOUSING COALITION'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I celebrate United Community Housing Coalition's 50 years of service to our communities.

It is an amazing organization that, in the past five decades, worked on life-saving housing assistance for many thousands of our neighbors throughout Detroit and southeastern Michigan. The United Community Housing Coalition has been a critical organization, helping families retain their homes, helping folks become homeowners, and helping to protect neighborhoods from abandonment and blight.

UHC serves as a beacon of hope for many of our residents in building a sense of community and empowerment. Their efforts in one of the most difficult times during the recession helped many Detroiters understand their legal rights, avoid foreclosure, fight eviction, organize, and secure housing.

I am proud of these 50 years of extraordinary service to our families. Please join me, Mr. Speaker, in recognizing UHC's impact as we continue to strive toward a future where everyone has a safe and secure place to call home.

BLINKEN'S 30-DAY HUMANITARIAN DEADLINE

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, let's talk about "Biden's 30-day humanitarian deadline."

The Biden administration has continued to ignore reports from its own experts, international human rights organizations, and the United Nations that the Israeli Government is blocking humanitarian aid into Gaza in violation of U.S. and international law.

ProPublica published a detailed account of how the U.S. State Department submitted report after report to Congress that contradicted the findings of the Department's own experts and those of other agencies.

The Israeli Government is using starvation as a weapon of war. Look at this picture. It is evidence that blocking U.S. humanitarian aid is clearly happening, and it is a blatant violation of section 620(i) of the Foreign Assistance Act.

In a letter to the Israeli Government on October 13, Secretary Blinken acknowledged that the Israeli Government is violating U.S. law by blocking aid and gave them 30 days to comply. The letter demanded that 350 trucks be allowed into Gaza per day. Guess what? According to Israel's own data and own government, only 57 trucks were allowed into Gaza per day in October. If that is even true, this is the lowest amount of aid into Gaza in a year.

On November 1, top United Nations officials said the entire Palestinian population in northern Gaza is at imminent risk of dying from disease, famine, and violence.

This week, Mr. Speaker, Secretary Blinken exposed his lie by announcing that there will be no change to any policy, despite admitting that the Israeli Government has still failed to comply with all of their demands.

Secretary Blinken has continued to lie to Congress and should resign. U.S. law is very clear: No nation blocking U.S. humanitarian assistance can receive U.S. weapons. The Biden-Harris administration cannot pick and choose when they comply with our own laws.

Children are forced to eat pet food and bug-infested flour. Look at this, and do not turn your back on again being complicit to this war crime.

Blinken says there is no need to change our own policy. Shameful.

HONORING FRANCO CUPINI'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th birthday of Mr. Franco Cupini.

Born in the heart of Rome, he was determined to make his mark on the world through his culinary talents. He learned the intricacies of Italian cuisine and earned himself a position at Villa Madama, of the Presidential palace, serving President Giovanni Leone and other distinguished government dignitaries.

He moved to the United States in 1968, bringing the flavors of Italy to the Midwest with his brother, Carlo. They owned several restaurants, and he solidified his place as a top-tier chef at the Ritz Carlton in St. Louis.

In 2003, Franco and his son Eddie opened up a restaurant in Kansas City in Westport, Cupini's. We eat there often.

What began as a modest 1,500-square-foot deli quickly became a local treasure. Over the next 21 years, the restaurant grew in size, dedication, and quality. Franco was a repeat guest on our morning show on Fox4 News.

Franco's love for his homeland is a testament to his lifelong dedication and passion. His story is one of hard work, determination, and a love for good food.

I wish Franco Cupini a happy birthday, and I thank him for keeping the culinary spirit of Italy alive and well.

Ciao, bello.

CELEBRATING ERICA SHADWELL

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding educator from Columbia, Missouri, Ms. Erica Shadwell, who participated and was selected as part of the prestigious Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program for the 2023–2024 academic year.

Ms. Shadwell is a dedicated teacher at Ann Hawkins Gentry Middle School and really shared her expertise and passion for education with students in Ghana, fostering cross-cultural understanding and enriching the lives of countless students.

The Fulbright Program is a beacon of international exchange and cooperation, and Ms. Shadwell's selection reflects her exceptional dedication and commitment to education. Her work represents the excellence of Missouri's educators and the importance of building bridges between our communities and the entire world.

We are proud of Ms. Shadwell's achievements and her role as an ambassador of knowledge. Her efforts will inspire students, both in Missouri and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Erica Shadwell on this remarkable achievement and wishing her the very best in this exciting and impactful endeavor.

HONORING CORPORAL GERALD "JERRY" NEWTON WILSON

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Corporal Gerald "Jerry" Newton Wilson, a true American hero from Macks Creek, Missouri, whose remains, after more than seven decades, have finally returned home.

Corporal Wilson was born on December 18, 1930, and enlisted in the Army in 1948, serving bravely in the Korean war with Fox Company. He was reported missing in action on July 25, 1950, following a fierce ambush by North Korean forces near Yongdong.

For decades, Mr. Speaker, his family endured the heartache of uncertainty with his remains resting unidentified in the U.N. Military Cemetery until the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency confirmed his identity in 2018.

On October 11, 2024, his remains were returned to Camdenton, accompanied by a tribute procession from across our State, an honor for a soldier who gave his life in the line of duty.

Corporal Wilson's sacrifice and unwavering faithfulness to his country

remind us of the true cost of freedom. May he rest in peace as we welcome him home.

HONORING LARRY DOBSON

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Dobson, a remarkable leader and selfless servant in Missouri, for receiving the Lieutenant Governor's Senior Service Award.

Born on July 4, 1948, in Harrisonville, Missouri, Larry's dedication to education and community service shaped countless lives across our great State. From his impactful career as an educator and guidance counselor in the Raymore-Peculiar District and Blue Springs School District to his steadfast commitment to Peculiar United Methodist Church, Larry has embodied the spirit of service.

He has contributed more than 50 years to numerous community boards, including Caring Hearts of Peculiar and the Missouri Bluebird Society, where he has worked tirelessly to enrich his community and uplift others.

Larry's motto is: "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you," the Golden Rule, a guiding principle that has certainly inspired a lot of us and him over the years.

Today, we celebrate Larry Dobson's legacy and his profound impact on the great State of Missouri.

#### CREATING A SHADOW CABINET

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

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, last week is done. As Democrats, we simply failed to convince the American people we have better ideas to solve their problems, but we do.

Now, we need to dust ourselves off and get ready to fight. We can't let Donald Trump's extreme MAGA agenda go unanswered or unopposed. Zone defense isn't going to work. We are going to have to go man on man.

Here is an idea on how to organize our opposition. We need to borrow from our British friends and appoint a shadow cabinet to fight back against the worst abuses of a second Trump administration.

The special relationship between the United States and Britain extends not just to our strength on the global stage but also to our shared commitment to democracy. Across the Atlantic, the British have something we don't: a team from the opposition that mirrors the government's own Cabinet members.

They watch the Cabinet closely, publicly challenging, scrutinizing, and offering new ideas. It is another form of checks and balances, a quiet guardrail that holds those in power accountable. With a shadow cabinet, there is no hiding.

Each decision by the government faces a ready counterpoint, not just from the media and voters, but also from political leaders poised to step in.

Shadow cabinet members can also become the clear point people for advocacy and grassroots organizers, making it easier to unify and amplify the solutions that those in power are ignoring.

It is democracy's insurance policy, and it strengthens the government, too. There is no room for lazy ideas when rivals stand ready to step in.

What would a shadow cabinet look like here in the United States? We certainly would make it our own, an American version. We have an amazing wealth of talent on the Democratic side of the aisle in Congress, people loyal to the Constitution and ready to be the watchdogs for an out-of-control Trump administration.

Democratic Leaders HAKEEM JEFFRIES and CHUCK SCHUMER in the Senate could appoint 26 Members of Congress to go one on one with each member of Donald Trump's Cabinet.

□ 1045

If Trump attempts to weaponize the justice system against his political opponents with Matt Gaetz at the helm, we could see incoming Senator ADAM SCHIFF as our shadow attorney general, arguing against replacing our independent prosecutors with Trump loyalties.

If Trump seeks to eliminate the Department of Education, Congresswoman JAHANA HAYES, a former teacher of the year, could step up as shadow education secretary to loudly defend public education in the United States.

If Trump orders MARCO RUBIO to hand Ukraine and much of Eastern Europe to Vladimir Putin, Congressman GREG MEEKS, as shadow secretary of state, could be a strong voice in support of maintaining international relationships and protecting democracy at home and abroad.

Senator MICHAEL BENNET as shadow treasury secretary and Congresswoman SUZAN DELBENE as shadow commerce secretary could help ensure the middle class and small businesses have a voice in government and call out Trump's proposed tax cuts for billionaires and corporations.

As shadow defense secretary, Congressman ADAM SMITH, a great Representative for the people of Washington, and not a FOX News host, could counter Trump's threat to use military force against his political opponents and work to ensure the Department of Defense stays loyal to the Constitution and not some wannabe dictator.

Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH could argue against cuts to the Department of Veterans Affairs that would delay the benefits and care our servicemembers have so rightly earned.

If Trump hands over the EPA to Big Oil ally Lee Zeldin, we could see Congresswoman KATHY CASTOR pushing back for environmental protection and conservation to protect the air we breathe and the water we drink.

If Trump pushes to ban abortion nationwide, Congresswoman ROSA DELAURIO could step in as shadow sec-

retary of health and human services to defend women's right to choose and argue against the gutting of Medicare by Trump and his cronies.

Mr. Speaker, new times require new solutions. The shadow cabinet isn't just about opposing extreme MAGA attacks on our government; it is also about making clear what we stand for, not just what we are against. It is time to show, not just to say, what we believe in: justice, accountability, and democracy.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF WILLIAM NOEL "BILLY" LAWLESS

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn remembrance of William Noel "Billy" Lawless, a member of the Irish Senate, immigration activist, successful entrepreneur, pillar of the community, and proud Irish American.

Born in Galway, Ireland, where he was raised on a dairy farm, Billy saw President John F. Kennedy give a speech as a young boy when our first Irish-American U.S. President visited Ireland in 1963.

After that experience, he knew he wanted to move abroad to the United States. In the meantime, he prospered in Galway, becoming a beloved part of his community, successfully owning and operating a restaurant and pub.

His boyhood dream of coming to America persisted. At 48 years old, he made it a reality. An accomplished rower in his own right, set to represent Ireland in the 1976 Olympic Games until he withdrew to care for his ill father, it was his daughter moving to the East Coast to row that helped him make the final decision.

Billy arrived in the U.S. in the late 1990s. He opened The Irish Oak pub in Chicago, Illinois. Billy would go on to open many successful restaurants and be a leader in the Chicago hospitality industry.

However, that was not the only thing that occupied his time. He had begun to hear a common story: people who had overstayed their visas but didn't want to leave the communities that they had grown to love so much in the United States. His Irish heritage informed his commitment to others who struggled for citizenship like himself.

Billy became a leader in the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and cofounded the Chicago Celts for Immigration Reform. In 2014, he introduced President Barack Obama at the Copernicus Center for a speech on immigration reform. That same year, both he and his beloved wife, Anne, proudly became American citizens, one of the world's great privileges.

For St. Patrick's Day celebrations, you could often find him honoring the holiday at the White House.

Billy used his voice and identity as an immigrant himself to help others.

He successfully lobbied for a bill in Illinois that made driver's licenses available to individuals regardless of immigration status. He worked with the Illinois Business Immigration Coalition where he collaborated with business leaders to persuade elected officials to support immigration reform, creating a bipartisan base of support.

In 2016, he became the first senator based overseas in the Irish Senate after his appointment by Enda Kenny, then Ireland's Taoiseach, giving a voice to the Irish diaspora that enriches every corner of our diverse Nation.

His businesses and restaurants live at the center of Chicago's hospitality industry, and his legacy of fighting for immigration reform continues to have ripple effects throughout the Nation.

I am grateful for our years of friendship, strengthened by our shared commitment to our Irish culture.

While serving as a senator, our Buffalo Irish community welcomed Billy and Anne to see how we honored and lived our shared heritage. We visited the James Joyce Collection at the University at Buffalo, a literary treasure honoring the Irish novelist, and many Irish monuments in Buffalo, including the Fenian Invasion Monument and the Western New York Irish Famine Memorial.

I join the long list of those inspired and heartened by his compassion and dedication, which he used to make his community and our country a better place.

Billy Lawless was a consummate gentleman, a visionary, and a brilliant international leader.

He leaves behind his wife, Anne; his four children, Amy, Clodagh, Billy Jr., and John Paul; and his eight grandchildren.

May Senator Billy Lawless rest in peace and may his vision for ever-closer ties between the United States and Ireland continue to flourish.

#### PRESIDENT-ELECT TRUMP'S CABINET APPOINTMENTS

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, this week, I came back to Washington with the idea of trying to give President Trump a chance, an open mind, hold my tongue a bit. It has been difficult, and it will get more difficult, it appears.

I first got inspired to get into government because of John Kennedy. I knew every single one of John Kennedy's Cabinet members. They are referred to in a book as the best and the brightest. That is what we used to have in our Cabinet of the United States of America was the best and the brightest.

What we have seen with the nominations that have come forth and the request for changes in the Senate's confirmation policy really is scary and should be of concern to the American people. It is a red light on the possibility of loss of democracy and the im-

plementation and institution of autocracy.

Mr. Trump asked the Senate leadership to give him a 2-week period where he could make Senate recess appointments, something that is permitted in the Constitution but was permitted because of the idea that back when they wrote the Constitution, if the Senate took a recess, it could take weeks or months before they could all get back to Washington by trains or horses, or however they traveled back in those days, in the late 1700s, to conduct business.

That is not the case anymore. The Supreme Court has ruled in a case about 10, 15 years ago that—I think it was Justice Scalia who was the lead on the Court—this should only take place in intersession, between the times the Senate ends a term and begins a new term, and that is simply whenever they decide to take off.

President Trump has asked. Senate leaders, candidates, and the Senate leader who was chosen, Mr. THUNE, all said they would do it when Mr. Trump asked them to do it, to have a period where he could have his appointments for Cabinet to come forward and be approved because of lack of action by the Senate in what is called a recess appointment. That is a dereliction of the Constitution, and anybody that goes along with it should be questioned.

The Senate is to act as a check and balance on the President and his nominations and appointments of Cabinet members. The Senate meets, has hearings, and votes to confirm or not to confirm nominees.

To not have hearings, to not have votes because at least some of his Cabinet recommendations are so abhorrent that they would scare the American people, and have a spectacle of bringing forth the facts about their backgrounds, lack of experience, and the lack of character that they have shown in their times in government and life here on this planet—to not have hearings and to not have votes is a dereliction and an offense to the Constitution that has the Senate as a check and balance before nominees are approved.

The worst was yesterday when Matt Gaetz was recommended for Attorney General. After his recommendation, and he flew back and forth to Washington with President-elect Trump, he announced his resignation from this body. By so doing, he thwarted an ethics investigation that has been going on in the House Ethics Committee concerning alleged conduct that he had had with a 17-year-old girl, sexual conduct, his involvement in activities using illegal drugs, use of his congressional powers for the benefit of people illegally, use of campaign funds for personal activities, and other offenses that would call for the expulsion of a person from this House.

By his resigning from the House, that investigation ends because the Committee no longer has jurisdiction over him. He will become a nominee for At-

torney General to go through the recess process where all of these facts won't come forth.

I would hope that our Ethics Committee and the chair of the Ethics Committee, who has done a great job on other occasions, and I have great respect for, would release the results of that study to the American public because they should see it. They should see the work that has been done, and they should see the type of person who is going to be brought up for Attorney General of the United States, even if the Senate doesn't want to bring it forth with hearings.

As I understand it, the report would be eye-opening and extremely damaging and should be released to the American public. They have a right to see it.

The recommendation of Tulsi Gabbard to be the head of intelligence, when she has mostly been known for controversial statements supporting our foes around the world, from Syria to Russia to Iran, is disturbing and challenging.

The suggestion that the Department of Defense should be led by the host of Fox & Friends on weekends, as his main contribution to society, is scary to our soldiers, who need the best and brightest at the helm.

□ 1100

#### MOURNING THE LOSS OF VERNON LEON DAVIS

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 mourn the loss of Vernon Leon Davis. Leon Davis was a firefighter for over 30 years in Blackshear, Georgia.

Mr. Davis worked his way up to assistant fire chief of Blackshear while working part time over his expansive 30-year career.

Sadly, Mr. Davis passed in the line of duty while helping the Blackshear community during Hurricane Helene. This hurricane has hit Georgia and the Southeast region of the United States hard. Without the tremendous efforts and service of people like Mr. Davis, our communities would not be able to recover.

Mr. Davis was known to be an exceptional man by his family, friends, and all the people he worked with throughout his career. He has deeply touched the Blackshear community and will be greatly missed by many.

Our community is forever indebted to Mr. Davis' service, and I send my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

CELEBRATING HOWARD YOUNG'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Howard Young's 100th birthday.

Born on November 25, 1924, in Louisiana, Howard Young has lived an incredible life. Howard grew up in Louisiana during the toughest of times,

the Great Depression, and those experiences shaped Howard for the rest of his life. His upbringing instilled in him a love for his church, hard work, and helping those in need.

At 17, Howard joined the Navy and served our Nation in the Pacific theater in World War II. After his service, he left the Navy and moved to Houston where he entered college.

Even after his retirement at 58, Howard is well-known throughout the community for his busy schedule of volunteering for organizations, including the United Way, the Alzheimer's Association, his church, the VA, and many more.

Howard is also a local celebrity in the GOP and often quips that he became a Republican after Governor Huey Long levied taxes on food during his childhood in Louisiana.

Today, I ask that we all come together to celebrate this great man and congratulate him on 100 years of a good life.

#### MOURNING THE LOSS OF EDWARD H. ZIPPERER

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the loss of Ed Zipperer. Ed was born in Savannah, Georgia, on August 8, 1931, where he grew up working on his family's vegetable farm along Highway 17.

Ed attended Savannah High School where he was a standout in football. He then played at Clemson University before earning an agricultural engineering degree from the University of Georgia.

He went on to coach basketball in 1965, forming one of the few racially integrated teams in the State. For games on the road, Ed even bought a hot dog machine to feed his team.

Ed continued making a difference in his community by serving in the State senate from 1967 to 1975.

Ed was instrumental in creating the Skidaway Island State Park, Fort McAllister State Park, and Kings Ferry Ogeechee River public recreational area. His dedication has helped to preserve land in south Georgia for generations to come.

Additionally, Ed was the president of Chatham County Farm Bureau for 45 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we take a moment to mourn Ed Zipperer and thank him for his life of service that will always be remembered by the people of south Georgia.

#### CELEBRATING THE WORK OF GERALD "JERRY" COURI

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the work of Gerald "Jerry" Couri, the now former GOP deputy chief counsel for the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on the Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials.

Jerry's impressive tenure in the House of Representatives began before me and several of my colleagues here today, during the 101st Congress.

After graduating from Marquette University, Jerry worked for Representatives Scott Klug and Paul

Gillmor, handling environmental issues related to the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. Couri then served on the committee for 23 years, specializing in chemical management and playing a large role in rewriting the Toxic Substances Control Act.

While we honor Jerry's dedication to the committee for all these years, we recognize nothing surpasses his love for Marquette basketball and his lovely wife and children.

On behalf of my office and the committee, I thank Jerry for his faithful service to the committee and the U.S. House of Representatives.

We wish Jerry the best in his next endeavors.

#### HONORING THE BRAVE FIRE CREWS OF THE HUDSON VALLEY

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

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and thank the brave fire crews who are battling the outbreak of wildfires that are currently devastating the Hudson Valley, centered in Greenwood Lake, Warwick, parts of western Ulster County, and have now spread into New Jersey, as well.

Undaunted by the great personal peril they are facing, these heroes are willingly putting their own lives on the line to protect our neighbors and our communities.

Each and every member of our fire and emergency response crews is saving lives, and I thank them. Their every action has spared families and property from heartbreak. They are preserving our Hudson Valley as our cherished home. I thank them for their unparalleled selflessness.

I also thank Orange County Executive Steve Neuhaus and his entire fire services and emergency management team for their around-the-clock, 24/7 work in regard to protecting the safety of our community.

We have also seen an outpouring of support from throughout the entire region across multiple States. Firefighters traveling in from across the Northeast see our community in need and are answering the call to help.

They are putting their own lives at risk to protect communities that aren't even their own communities.

I recognize the profound service, sacrifice, and life of one of those very heroes.

Daniel Vasquez was an 18-year-old State Parks aide from neighboring Ramapo in Rockland County who just a few days ago laid down his own life at the age of 18 to protect our Greenwood Lake community from the catastrophic fire raging in Sterling Forest.

Daniel was truly the best of what the Hudson Valley is: hardworking, genuine, compassionate, and a reliable shoulder to lean on for anyone and everyone who needed one. He was widely known throughout the region for his

pro prowess and power on the baseball field as the captain of his high school baseball team. He was even more widely known for the limitless friendship and brotherhood he extended to every person he met.

I join the entire Hudson Valley in mourning the tragic loss of such a young, bright life. I send my deepest condolences to his family and friends and my thanks. We are forever indebted to him in our community for his unwavering bravery and heroism.

To all those in our community who are facing unimaginable loss, the Hudson Valley takes care of each other, leans on each other, and carries each other through anything. This has been true for centuries of our history, it remains true today, and I am confident it will be true for many more to come.

My thoughts are with those facing such loss and with our fire crews who still at this moment throughout all last night and into this morning are putting their lives on the line while wildfires are still raging.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF JOHN LODGE STONEMAN

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of World War I veteran John Lodge Stoneman who was finally given a proper burial at our brand new Ulster County Veterans Cemetery last Thursday, November 7, more than 62 years after his passing.

In 1917, John courageously answered his Nation's call to service as the U.S. entered the Great War. He put his life on the line for years, and our Nation and our community owe him a debt of gratitude we can never repay.

His legacy deserves the absolute highest place of reverence and honor, but, unfortunately, his remains for over 61 years had remained unclaimed since his passing in 1962. Through tireless efforts, Wiltwyck Cemetery volunteer Kathy Wade pieced together the story of John's entire life. I am so grateful that my office and team were able to help assist her in obtaining his military records so he could finally receive, decades later, the honorable burial he was long overdue.

I thank Kathy and the countless other community members who made it their mission to lay Mr. Stoneman in his final resting place, especially our great Ulster County Veteran Services Agency, our Ulster County Sheriff's Department, the Patriot Guard Riders, the VFW, and The American Legion, who all worked together from across our community.

Thanks to their work, John Lodge Stoneman will now rest alongside his fellow heroes and ensure his place in American history is recognized for years to come.

#### ST. MICHAEL'S ACADEMY, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

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



Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, everybody knows when it comes to ribbons, blue is the best color to receive. Our Department of Education gives out blue ribbons to the very best schools across the Nation, and that is exactly what they did for St. Michael's Academy of Fernandina Beach, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Michael's Academy for earning the highest honor an American school can achieve: the National Blue Ribbon Award.

With only 356 schools selected from a pool of over 100,000, St. Michael's has done it, and they have proven, once again, that they are an excellent, outstanding academic institution.

We already knew that Fernandina Beach was home to the best beaches and shrimp around, but now we know that education is also at the very top of its list.

Schools don't get this prestigious honor by having students with great test scores or just running the 100-yard dash very quickly. In order to win this award, schools need straight As in every category, and that is exactly what St. Michael's has done. They have managed to crush their report card.

I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in recognition of St. Michael's Academy and their continued tradition of academic excellence.

May St. Michael's Academy keep up the good work, and let's keep the blue ribbons coming.

BRYCEVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, good teachers get apples, but great teachers get to work at Bryceville Elementary School.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bryceville Elementary School in Nassau County, Florida, for earning the highest honor an American school can achieve, the National Blue Ribbon Award.

Out of more than 100,000 schools nationwide, the Department of Education honored only 356 with the National Blue Ribbon Award this year.

The National Blue Ribbon Award is given to schools with not only the highest test scores, but also those that have closed the achievement gap, ensuring that every single student can succeed.

Bryceville Elementary School is a small school with big accomplishments. Their teachers and leadership work incredibly hard to deliver the best possible experience for their students, and now the whole Nation knows just how great Bryceville is.

I ask my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me today in recognizing Bryceville Elementary School for their stunning example of northeast Florida academic excellence.

May they keep up the good work, and let's keep the blue ribbons coming.

#### 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 11 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

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

#### PRAYER

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

Rise up, O Lord, and show us Your compassion. Reveal Your steadfast love in our lives this day, that our eyes would be opened to Your abiding presence with us and in all that the day sets before us.

Be patient with us if we are slow to acknowledge and appreciate Your guiding hand in our comings and goings. Be tolerant of us and grant us Your wise counsel as we strive to be faithful in confronting the decisions facing us this season.

Don't abandon us, but in Your mercy wait for us to come to You. Wait for us as we come to realize that nothing we do today is more important than opening our hearts to receive the grace You want to lavish on us.

Nothing is more demanding of us than Your command to share Your love with those around us, that all would know of the justice and peace You desire to grant to Your people.

In Your righteous name we pray.  
Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

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

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

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 13, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,  
The Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on November 13, 2024, at 3:38 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 2581.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,  
Acting Clerk.

#### RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 13, 2024.

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

MR. SPEAKER: I hereby resign, as United States Representative for Florida's First Congressional District, effective immediately, and I do not intend to take the oath of office for the same office in the 119th Congress, to pursue the position of Attorney General in the Trump Administration.

Enclosed please find the letter I have transmitted to Florida Governor Ron DeSantis.

Respectfully,

MATT GAETZ,  
Member of Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 13, 2024.

Governor RON DESANTIS,  
State of Florida, The Capitol,  
Tallahassee, FL.

DEAR GOVERNOR DESANTIS: I hereby resign, as United States Representative for Florida's First Congressional District, effective immediately, and I do not intend to take the oath of office for the same office in the 119th Congress, to pursue the position of Attorney General in the Trump Administration.

Respectfully,

MATT GAETZ,  
Member of Congress.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. Gaetz), the whole number of the House is 433.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

## MILITARY FAMILIES MONTH

(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 to recognize November as Military Families Month. With more than 5.2 million military families in the United States, this month is necessary to acknowledge the tremendous sacrifices our military families make.

These families are the unseen strength behind our Nation's military. While the focus is often on those in uniform, we must never overlook loved ones who carry the weight of their absence, move wherever duty calls, and keep life steady even when things around them feel uncertain.

In times of peace and conflict, these families stand as pillars of strength embodying the values of courage, dedication, and selflessness. Let's recognize the sacrifices they make—the birthdays, the holidays, and the milestones missed.

Let's thank them for their support and commitment to our country, and let's promise them our own support in return.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking our veterans, servicemembers, and military families for their service and sacrifice to our country.

May God bless our military families, our servicemembers, and our great country.

## CONGRATULATING LOS ANGELES DODGERS

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

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the World Series champion Los Angeles Dodgers.

Last month, to most baseball fans' delight, our Dodgers completed a gentleman's sweep to defeat the New York Yankees in the World Series.

This season was nothing short of remarkable.

Shohei Ohtani's contract broke records, and he continued to break more in the Dodger blue.

Ohtani became the first MLB player to record at least 50 home runs and 50 steals in a season and broke Shawn Green's team home run record.

Just wait until he can pitch for us.

From Ohtani and Freddie Freeman playing through injuries to Walker Buehler's improbable return, this team battled and defied the odds to make history.

We are celebrating this team from L.A. to Korea to the Dominican Republic to Japan.

Haters can talk trash all they want, but there is no COVID season asterisk next to this one.

The L.A. Dodgers are your World Series champions, and we will run it back next year.

## HONORING BRADEN DREILING

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

Mr. LATURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the pride of Hays, America, a dedicated staffer of 7 years, my longest-serving staffer, and my real life friend, Braden Dreiling.

Braden and I met when I was a State senator and he was a front desk staffer for the majority leader.

Our professional relationship rose from a Cracker Barrel lunch and grew into a true partnership. He has been my chief and my most trusted confidante. He is also always the first and the last in the room, always wanting and expecting the best from me. He always has a level head regardless of circumstances.

Braden and his wife have two beautiful daughters, and although his service in Washington is coming to a close, I know that he will make his friends and family proud as his service to Kansas will continue on.

## INFLATION CRUSHES AMERICANS

(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 and HARRIS have cost American families \$13,000 a year.

However, with the return of President Donald Trump partnered with Speaker MIKE JOHNSON and Senator leader JOHN THUNE, Republicans will drive down prices and increase jobs for American families.

Due to Kamalaflation, prices have risen over 20 percent—22 percent in South Carolina alone. Americans are spending more on everyday necessities compared to President Trump just 3 years ago. Eggs are up 69 percent. Gasoline is up 38 percent or more. Baby food and formula is up 31 percent. Chicken is up 25 percent.

Leading the Trump-Vance innovations will be the talented Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy co-leading the newly created Department of Government Efficiency.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all Americans at risk of more 9/11 attacks imminent, as warned by the FBI. Trump will reinstate the existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength.

## FEMA MUST PROVIDE AID TO EVERYONE IN NEED

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I want to discuss for a moment a recent report of a FEMA supervisor—and maybe

there is more than one—instructing workers to skip over certain homes with particular political signs or affiliations at their house. It really shouldn't matter what your political affiliation may be, but the idea of skipping over certain homes in a hurricane-ravaged zone or any other disaster is pretty offensive.

What we are hearing is that at least 20 people in this example in Florida—20 different homes—missed out on critical aid they should have gotten just the same as anybody else.

We know FEMA's mission is to assist any American that has been in a declared disaster area and help them through that difficult time regardless of any political affiliation or any other type of affiliation.

Under the Biden administration, the agency's priorities, at least with some staff, have shifted away from disaster preparedness and instead has shifted toward political discrimination.

We need to focus FEMA once again—and they have done a lot of good work on a lot of things, but if this is happening under an organization, not only should resignations or firings happen, but those that do such a thing should be prosecuted for this kind of discrimination. That needs to happen because people need to have confidence that FEMA is doing the right thing.

## CRITICAL MINERAL CONSISTENCY ACT OF 2024

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1568, I call up the bill (H.R. 8446) to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1568, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources, printed in the bill, is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 8446

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

*This Act may be cited as the "Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024".*

**SEC. 2. CRITICAL MATERIALS INCLUDED AS CRITICAL MINERALS.**

*Section 7002 of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606) is amended—*

*(1) in subsection (a)(3)(A), to read as follows: "(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'critical mineral' means—*

*"(i) any mineral, element, substance, or material designated as critical by the Secretary under subsection (c); and*

*"(ii) a critical material as determined by the Secretary of Energy under paragraph (2)(A)."; and*

*(2) in subsection (c)(5), by adding at the end the following:*

“(C) INCLUSION OF CRITICAL MATERIALS.—Not later than 45 days after the date on which the Secretary of Energy determines a non-fuel mineral, element, substance, or material to be a critical material under subsection (a)(2)(A), the Secretary shall update the list of critical minerals published under paragraph (3) to include such critical material.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 8446.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8446, the Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024.

H.R. 8446 introduced by Representative CISCOMANI would amend the Energy Act of 2020 to add critical materials from the Department of Energy Critical Materials List to the United States Geological Survey's critical minerals list.

Currently, each agency uses different metrics when constructing their respective lists.

DOE's methodology for critical material determination is forward-looking. It accounts for international demand scenarios and growth trajectories specifically for energy technologies.

On the other hand, currently USGS' process only uses historic data to determine supply risk to the U.S. economy and national security.

By law, all the minerals on USGS' list are automatically included in DOE's Critical Materials List. H.R. 8446 would enable the process to work in the other direction by placing critical materials on the critical minerals list.

The Critical Mineral Consistency Act is a straightforward solution that enables each agency to retain responsibility for reviewing minerals under their respective purviews while clarifying persistent confusion over critical minerals versus critical materials. As you can see, even speaking about it on the floor, it is easy to get the two confused.

The bill cuts across jurisdictional red tape while preserving each agency's discretion and expertise in adding items to its list.

Both critical minerals and critical materials are just that, critical. With-

out reliable access to essential materials such as cobalt and lithium for batteries and copper and aluminum for transmission lines, the U.S. risks failing to meet future economic and energy demands. Such a situation would lead to increased dependence on the market decisions of adversarial nations for critical minerals and materials.

H.R. 8446 passed out of the Natural Resources Committee on a bipartisan vote because both sides of the aisle understand the importance of critical minerals and materials.

I encourage my colleagues to once again come together to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 8446. This bill has a fairly innocuous seeming purpose on its face. It would amend the Energy Act of 2020 to add critical minerals as designated by the Department of Energy to the USGS, which is the agency that handles minerals issues for the United States, to a list of critical minerals.

□ 1215

My colleagues across the aisle will argue that this bill is simply for consistency and to streamline, that we have too many lists to manage critical minerals and materials, which, of course, are so important to our country, so it is important to harmonize these lists and make sure that we are operating the Federal Government in a streamlined manner.

It is critical that the American people understand that this is not the full story. In fact, this bill is the direct result of years of heavy lobbying and influence on the critical minerals list because, as you see, the critical minerals list is defined as all nonfuel minerals that are used as essential materials for national security or that may pose a supply chain vulnerability to disruption. The critical minerals list is designed to focus attention and vital resources on the most essential and at-risk mineral supply chains.

USGS' critical minerals list and DOE's Critical Materials List may sound similar, but they have different purposes because of the differences in how these lists are used and the Federal mandates for these agencies. They have different purposes that are not interchangeable.

The Energy Act of 2020 directed USGS to update the list of critical minerals to guide its use for infrastructure investments under the legislation that we passed here in 2021. As directed by a separate provision in the Energy Act of 2020, the Department of Energy undertook its own assessment of critical materials that were specific to energy needs because that is what the Department of Energy focuses on.

USGS is the agency that has existed since the 19th century here in the

United States to take stock of, identify, and support the Federal Government in understanding our geology and minerals and what we do with them.

It affects the entire economy. It may sound very simple to streamline and combine these lists, but not only do they have different purposes, they have far-ranging consequences. The importance of the USGS critical minerals list cannot be overstated. This list drives billions of dollars in Federal investment and permitting decisions.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell you a little bit about what happens if you get placed on the USGS list, which does not apply to the DOE list. It means that companies are eligible for millions of dollars in tax credits and grants under various bills that Congress has passed, including the Inflation Reduction Act, the CHIPS and Science Act, and many others. It also allows for permit streamlining under previous legislation that Congress has passed.

What that essentially translates into is expedited reviews. Folks at home may be saying, well, isn't that a good thing? If you look at the environmental, social, and cultural impacts of mines and how they affect communities, you need a Federal process that makes it possible for our communities to weigh in.

There is a public comment process so that you can go and say that we don't want this mine in this place. For our Tribes, it puts into place a Federal consulting process so that our Tribes can protect their sacred and ancestral lands. For communities, they can comment on the environmental and water impacts of potential mine operations. For our public lands, it means we can protect the sites that are used for recreation for fishing and the values that we hold dear for both environmental and recreational purposes.

Importantly, it also affects the impact of whether or not, after mines go in, there is liability and legal remedy for the pollution that mines cause.

If our public is not able to comment on mines during the permitting process, they will not have judicial standing if these mines are abandoned or there is not appropriate care taken in the aftermath of the mine operations and efforts to close the mine down and remediate the lands. That means that the public taxpayers and the people are left holding the bag, not the multinational mining corporations that are seeking to open these lands for mining.

When you look at it in its totality, the very seemingly simple act of just saying let's harmonize these two lists and put it all under the rubric of the Department of Energy's list may seem like a simple no-brainer. What it amounts to, in its totality, is a massive multimillion-dollar giveaway to multinational corporations that are seeking to mine public lands in the United States.

It should be no surprise that it is industry lobbyists that have been working to get this change in the law for

years. We have seen many different incarnations of this bill, some of which have been very explicit about copper, in particular, being added to the list, and some of which are a little more opaque like the bill we see in front of us today.

It is very clear that the copper industry is driving this bill in front of us today. We have to be realistic. Copper is an incredibly important resource. It is used in everything from our transmission lines to our electronics, consumer products, and cars and trucks. Even though it is designated as a critical material for energy purposes under the DOE list, it is not currently on the USGS list because it is not at risk of supply chain disruption.

In fact, the United States is a net exporter of copper. Let me repeat that. Copper is not at risk of supply chain disruption. We are exporting our copper.

So why is industry pushing so hard to open new mines on our public lands? Well, guess what? There is a lot of money to be made, and it turns out that the major holder of the two companies that are pushing for this bill is the Chinese Government. How ironic is that?

In fact, we know that over 10 percent of one of the largest copper mining multinational companies in the world that is seeking to open a copper mine in Arizona is pushing for this bill to expedite the permitting, reduce the timelines, and make sure that the public and Tribes cannot comment on whether or not they want the mine there.

We know that there are mine sites that have been identified that would be on sacred lands, and we know that it would have devastating impacts for the water supply of the State of Arizona and the entire Southwest.

In addition to that, copper mining is an incredibly disruptive activity. It is pollution heavy. It impacts the landscape. Smelters are notorious for emitting air pollutants. In Arizona, arsenic levels have been recorded at 150 times higher than State health guidelines, posing higher cancer risks to communities. We know the well-known impacts to water and to acid mine drainage in our communities.

On top of all of this—and I think this is the part that should raise all of our concerns—is that the copper industry is trying to use its influence through lobbying and through campaign donations to our colleagues.

It should be of no surprise that the primary sponsor of this bill and the other bills like it come from the very State where these mine companies are seeking to mine are on sites that have already been identified as unsuitable for copper mining. They are Tribal sacred sites, in a number of cases.

There have literally been decades of effort from the copper industry because there are high-quality copper deposits in many of these places, including in Oak Flat, which is a place that has

been held sacred by the Apache people since time immemorial.

Why are our friends across the aisle trying to advance a lobbying bill on behalf of a multinational set of corporations, which are held, in part, by Chinese Government inholdings on American lands that would violate the basic human, cultural, and religious rights of our indigenous communities? I will let the American people decide why they think that is happening, but it is certain that we just came out of an election, isn't it?

I think it is crucial that people understand this isn't a simple streamlining bill. This isn't about just harmonizing this list with that list. This is about foreign influence on the mining industry, on the copper industry, here in the United States.

I ask my colleagues across the aisle who have voted time and time again on this very floor to prevent foreign companies held by our adversaries, including China, from buying American lands, from trying to take American water rights, why on Earth would you be advancing a bill that would literally give away mining concessions to companies that are held by foreign adversaries? Why would you do it when we know that our communities have already resoundingly said that they do not want these mines in our communities, that they will harm our cultures, communities, waters, and public lands?

I look forward to hopefully getting some answers to these questions, but the American people should understand what this bill actually is, and I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 8446.

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. There were a lot of claims made from my friends across the aisle about what this bill does or what its intent and purpose are. I think I need to clarify some of this.

First off, I heard the claim that this bill would cost billions and billions of dollars to the taxpayer. I am not going to ask to submit that for the record because it is already part of the record. It is the CBO score for this bill that says, at most, it is a \$2 million cost to administer the program, which actually seems high to me, but it is far from billions of dollars of handouts to anyone. That is what the Congressional Budget Office said. That is what I am repeating here.

Also, a claim was made that we are exporting copper. I include in the RECORD the link from the U.S. Geological Survey's "Mineral Commodity Summaries 2024," which shows that we import 46 percent of the copper that comes into the country. That is on page 64 of that report. <https://pubs.usgs.gov/periodicals/mcs2024/mcs2024.pdf>

Mr. Speaker, it was mentioned about the demand for copper, and I do agree with that. We have an insatiable de-

mand for copper. A lot of that is created by some of the massive spending programs that our friends across the aisle passed a few years ago.

There are estimates that say we need to mine more copper than we have mined in the history of the world in the next 20 to 30 years. There is a big demand for copper, and we are blessed in the United States because we have that copper here that we can use to create jobs, grow our economy, and help national security.

This bill is not about copper, but if we want to talk about copper, I think we have a very strong position on our side of the aisle on how we see copper and how copper can play an important role in the economy going forward.

Also, there was talk about DOE's list and USGS' list. I want to clarify that the critical minerals on USGS' list automatically go into DOE's Critical Materials List. This bill would take DOE's Critical Materials List and make it synonymous with USGS' critical minerals list.

By the way, USGS supports this legislation. You would think if this administration's USGS had a problem with doing that, they wouldn't have supported the bill.

I know there were a lot of claims made, but I think it is important that we get the facts out here in the debate.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI), the author of this bill.

□ 1230

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman WESTERMAN for yielding me time and for clarifying a series of those points that were expressed by our friends on the other side of the aisle that he clarified so well.

I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 8446, the Critical Mineral Consistency Act. This bill, which passed with bipartisan support through the House Committee on Natural Resources and was recently introduced in the Senate, also with bipartisan co-leads, would require the U.S. Geological Survey to incorporate critical materials identified by the Department of Energy into the USGS critical minerals list.

Under the Energy Act of 2020, items appearing on the USGS critical minerals list are automatically included on the DOE's Critical Materials List. However, items on the DOE list are not reciprocated to the USGS list. This discrepancy is confusing to mineral producers and makes it unclear which minerals are critical to the United States' mission.

In addition to creating unnecessary confusion, the disconnect between the two lists puts our domestic supply chain at risk. Other countries like China and Peru have specifically articulated and invested in the minerals they deem critical. Meanwhile, here in the United States, several minerals are indisputably essential to our national security and clean energy economy, such as copper, electrical steel,

flourine, silicon, and silicon carbide. They are all listed as critical materials and not critical minerals, making them ineligible for expedited permitting processes and other benefits.

This legislation would create some consistency within our agencies and signal to the world that we are taking seriously the importance of domestic production for our critical minerals like copper.

In Arizona, copper is one of the State's five Cs, alongside climate, cattle, cotton, and citrus. Copper mining is embedded in our State's history, and today Arizona remains a leader in copper production, providing the Nation and the world with the copper it needs to operate.

Despite Arizona being a leader in copper production, dozens of potential copper mines in America remain untapped due to the burdensome regulations by the Federal Government. Handicapping our own domestic mineral production and relying on imports from foreign countries not only harms our national security and economy but it also hurts the environment because we know when we mine in America, we do it safer and we do it cleaner than just about anywhere else in the world.

According to various reports, the world is expected to need around 50 million metric tons of copper annually by 2035 due to the growing energy demands. Another recent study found that without increased domestic production, the U.S. will be 60 percent reliant on imports of copper by 2035. That is alarming.

In a world where foreign wars have created massive instability in the global economy, we should not be reliant on other countries for critical minerals that are used in everything from military vehicles to our electrical grid infrastructure.

It is high time we take tangible steps to onshore mineral production, and this legislation does just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense bill.

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

I think this is a really important debate for the American people to hear. I want to first address the comments that were made about these companies, which are seeking to get access to public lands for copper and other minerals, as being confused.

Let's talk about the specific corporations that have been lobbying for this bill and variations of this bill for years. Freeport, which is one of the largest copper mining companies in the United States, is worth \$61 billion. Rio Tinto, an international conglomerate, the very one that is held by Chinese Government holdings, is worth \$159 billion.

I ask my friends across the aisle: Do you really believe that a multinational corporation that is worth \$159 billion in multiple countries and continents is confused about permitting? I don't think so. Mr. Speaker, \$159 billion is 18

times the annual budget of the State of Arizona.

Come on, guys. We are not fools. These companies have spent decades lobbying to open public lands and specifically the sites that they are looking to mine on in Arizona. In fact, it is why places like Oak Flat were set aside, because they are cultural, sacred lands of Tribes. The copper industry, 100 years ago, had tried to mine on those lands, but we recognized as a Nation that we don't want to mine on every single inch of American lands because there are places where it is not suitable. It is not suitable for cultural reasons. It is not suitable for environmental reasons. It is not suitable because we don't want to look at a giant hole miles across in our backyards.

Now, we need mining and we need minerals, but let's be clear: These companies are not confused. They spend millions of dollars every year lobbying the United States Congress and giving campaign donations to our friends who are running for Congress. This is not confusion. This is influence. Let's be very clear about what we are talking about.

Now, I want to also address the claim that this is not about copper. Well, last night I went onto Congress.gov. The American people can go do this. There are like six different variations of this same bill. Some of them actually specifically name copper and some do not. Guess what? It is the same sponsors, literally the same sponsors of this bill.

I can appreciate and I always try to take my friends at face value. Okay. You are saying this has nothing to do with copper, but I encourage the American people to actually go do their own search because this same bill has many iterations.

Now, let's talk a little bit about the statutory and the cost considerations of this bill. Again, we heard the claim this is just about streamlining definitions, no big deal. Let me repeat: The USGS list not only confers the benefit of billions of dollars in potential tax subsidies and grants under many different Federal programs, which the Department of Energy list does not, but it will permit actual streamlining and reduction of timelines, public review, and judicial review of mining operations, which effectively means for all of you out there who are listening, you don't get a say if this multinational corporation, which the Chinese Government partially holds, gets to put a mine in your backyard.

My friends across the aisle are always asking us to have common sense. Does this make common sense to you out there? Of course not.

The public has a right to comment. The public has a right to be participants in decisions that the Federal Government makes on our public lands.

Tribes have a fundamental right, under the Constitution, treaty, and trust responsibilities, to help inform and decide whether or not we mine our

Tribal lands, or lands that are important to our Tribes.

The public has a right to say we don't want this because it is going to impact our future livelihoods.

Our friends claim that, oh, this is just a simple definitional change and streamlining.

It is really about taking away fundamental rights.

Now, I think it is instructive that we had a lot of conversation before the election about Project 2025, and our friends across the aisle kept trying to distance themselves from it and say, oh, we are not actually planning to do that.

However, we printed out some of Project 2025 today, and I want to point you to some of the choice sections on page 376. They want to pursue critical minerals. Oh, yeah, that is right. On page 537, there is a whole section in Project 2025 about opening Tribal lands to critical minerals mining.

Does that sound familiar?

Ironically, also, on page 725 of Project 2025, there is an extensive discussion about how the Chinese Government is plundering mines and critical minerals here in the United States.

It sure does make you wonder why my friends are pushing this in the final hours of this Congress as we are headed toward the closure of this Congress.

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

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

Again, we are talking about copper. So let's talk about copper a little bit. This chart shows that in 1995, we produced 2.3 million tons of copper, and China produced 0.7 million tons. That is about three times more copper that we produced in the United States in 1995.

In 2020, China was up to 9.8 million tons a year, and we were at 0.9 million tons. You can see our overall production actually went down; China's skyrocketed. In 2020, they were producing 11 times more copper than we produced here in the United States. It is not because we don't have copper deposits in the United States, it is because people don't want copper mining and production in their backyard. However, if you are building a copper mine, you don't get to choose where the copper is located. It has long ago been determined that the copper in these places, sometimes it is on Federal lands, sometimes it is on private land.

The reason our production has gone down is because we can't permit new copper mines. We also can't permit copper refineries. The other side of this story is we have 2 copper refineries in the United States today and China has over 50.

With estimates that we need to produce more copper going forward in the next couple of decades than has been produced in the history of the world, you can see where that production is going to come from unless we

decide to mine the copper in our country, unless we decide to build responsible mines where there aren't human rights violations, where there aren't environmental violations, where we do things better, safer, and more efficient than anywhere else in the world.

Someone who knows how critical these minerals are to our defense and to our way of life here in America is the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN).

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Critical Mineral Consistency Act. This measure is an essential step forward to secure our supply chains, and in so doing to protect our national security and economic competitiveness.

Today, critical minerals like lithium, cobalt, and graphite are the building blocks of everything from advanced weapons systems to consumer electronics. Every advanced economy depends on these resources, but the challenge we face is that these minerals are in limited supply and overwhelmingly sourced from China.

Our dependence on the Chinese Communist Party for these materials puts our energy independence, technological leadership, and national security at risk. China has deliberately developed its control over these supply chains to build leverage against Western economies. It has been developing these capacities for decades, and it is already using it.

China placed export controls on gallium, germanium, and graphite just last year, and it announced new controls on antimony in August. They will continue to put us at risk unless we act.

Currently, the United States Geological Survey and Department of Energy each maintain separate lists of critical minerals leading to inconsistency in policy and program funding. These lists used different standards to determine what made a mineral or material critical, and this misalignment led to crucial elements like copper being listed by one agency while being ignored by the other.

This bill is a simple but significant step forward to streamline interagency coordination, improve efficiency, and ensure that Federal efforts to stockpile, recycle, and develop alternative supplies of these minerals are focused on the same priorities.

We must ensure that our Nation has the resources it needs to remain a global leader in defense, energy, and innovation. We cannot be at the mercy of China that uses forced labor and destroys environments around the world. My colleagues would like for China to continue to use forced labor. They would like for us to continue to see them increase the production of copper. They would like to see us continue to advocate for human rights violations and using forced labor and also to make sure, too, that they are destroying environments.

Thank you to the folks on the other side of the aisle for your stand on human rights, not so much.

□ 1245

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as I may consume. To my colleagues across the aisle: Absolutely. You are so right. We do want to prevent our foreign adversaries like China from working to out-compete us and to make sure that they do not have access to control our supply chain. This makes it particularly confusing that the bill you are trying to advance today is about copper. I want the public to know that they said that it is not about copper, but they just happen to have all the talking points about copper right there printed out ready to talk about copper.

It is about copper. This is about the copper industry, who has been lobbying for this bill for decades; and, in particular, several large multinational conglomerates, including Rio Tinto, which is one of the largest in the world, which is held, in part, by the Chinese Communist Party who would like to mine on specific sites in the State of Arizona that have already been identified as unsuitable, unsuitable for cultural reasons, unsuitable for Tribal reasons, unsuitable for water reasons, and unsuitable for public lands reasons.

They can say that this is just about harmonizing lists, but the Department of Energy does not have purview over permitting on our public lands. The Department of Energy's legislative mandate as created by this body is to oversee our Nation's energy systems.

The Department of the Interior, where USGS sits, who manages our public minerals and our understanding of them, is the Federal agency that makes the permitting decisions, the legal decisions, the executive decisions, and the Tribal consultations that affect when, where, and how minerals are accessed on our public lands.

This is about a lobbying effort by multinational corporations to move the list in such a manner that it will open up public lands to mining on sites they have already identified in which the public has, in various ways, already said no, no thank you, or they want a process for the public to actually weigh in on.

I hope that my friends across the aisle, because it does sound like we have a lot in agreement, will agree that the Chinese Communist Party is buying up minerals and mining projects around the world. In fact, the Chinese Government has been stockpiling critical minerals for years which has created a crisis for the United States.

Yes, while they are mining copper in their land, we have to ask ourselves: Why is a multinational company that the Chinese Government is massively bought into and trying to open copper mines in the United States getting a free pass by U.S. Congressmen on the House floor?

Mr. Speaker, I really would like to know why this is happening.

I hope that we can agree that we should not be allowing that kind of foreign influence in our permitting decisions.

Mr. Speaker, for this reason, and at the appropriate time, I would like to offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee.

It was noted a moment ago that USGS supported this bill. I want to tell you all that we contacted USGS last night based on the testimony that they submitted. While they said that they agreed with concepts in the bill, that it needed technical changes in order for them to actually support it.

If the House rules permitted, I would have offered a motion with an important amendment to this bill.

My amendment, my motion to recommit, is common sense. It would prohibit any Federal benefits associated with being on the critical minerals list, what this bill is trying to accomplish, from going to our foreign adversaries, including companies they own and the subsidiaries of these companies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment into the RECORD immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit so that we can protect our Nation's natural resources and our supply chain from our economic adversaries abroad.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am going to read directly from USGS's testimony on this bill in committee: "As a possible way to manage the two lists, the USGS supports this bill."

That is verbatim from their testimony in committee.

Also, we can talk about copper for a long time because it is the poster child of misguided principles and misguided regulations in our country. However, there is more on the list than just copper.

Let's talk about electrical steel. Electrical steel goes into transformers.

Mr. Speaker, if you want to build new transmission lines and transmission systems, then you have to have transformers. You can't build transformers without electrical steel. It is not on the critical minerals list, but it is on the Critical Materials List.

What about fluorine?

Nuclear reactors and electronics depend on fluorine. It is on the Critical Materials List. It is not on the critical minerals list.

Here is a good one: silicon carbide. Congress passed this massive bill to subsidize semiconductor companies to build chips factories here in the United States. Actually it was called the CHIPS bill. We are going to build chips facilities in the United States, but we can't produce the silicon carbide needed to put into those chips facilities.

It is about a lot more than copper, but copper is the big material that is out there that should be obvious to everyone that if we are going to have a more electrified economy, if we are going to build more electronics, and if we are going to have more renewable energy systems and transmission lines, then copper is absolutely critical to it, and that is why there is such a large projected demand for copper.

Fortunately, we actually have copper in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) who has I believe the largest copper deposit and largest cobalt and nickel deposits in the world located in his district, but decades of permitting and we are still not producing copper, cobalt, or nickel from those mines. Also I believe they have platinum and palladium.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, hailing from the great State of Minnesota, Minnesota has the most mineral wealth of any State in our Nation with the exception of Alaska.

I have heard my colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk about how they support mining. I disagree that they support mining.

Do you know why, Mr. Speaker?

It is because this administration, Mr. Speaker, hasn't opened up one mine and, again, not one mine in the United States of America under the Biden administration. They say they support mining so long as it never happens.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, any mining done in the United States of America must follow our environmental standards and our labor standards.

It was mentioned moments ago about the Chinese Communist Party. I want to bring one more mineral. It is antimony. One month ago, the Communist country of China stopped exporting antimony to the United States, antimony that is made for semiconductors, antimony that is used in our explosive devices for our military, antimony that is used for our medical instrument devices manufactured here in the United States.

We have antimony mines in the United States potentially if we are allowed to mine them.

Furthermore, in the Inflation Reduction Act, the \$7.4 billion, Mr. Speaker, that was put toward electric charging stations, we have got 11 of them. The government has actually installed 11 charging stations for EV vehicles across this Nation. They were \$7.4 billion.

Furthermore, the Democrats and this administration have removed the Buy American requirements for those charging stations.

Do you know why, Mr. Speaker?

It is because they won't let us mine here, and the percentage of minerals needed to meet the IRA demands can't be met unless we mine here in the United States of America.

Mining is our past, our present, and our future. Mr. Speaker, not only has this administration stopped mining in Minnesota, but they have stopped it in North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, New Mexico, California, and Pennsylvania. The list goes on and on.

This is the most antimining administration in the history of this country, and we are going to suffer for it. Right now, we need antimony to replenish our ammunition. We are struggling right now. That is why the Biden administration's USGS supports this H.R. 8446, the Critical Mineral Consistency Act introduced by my good friend, Mr. CISCOMANI from Arizona. He understands.

We have to have the political will in this country, Mr. Speaker, to be able to mine here safely under our regulations. We need permitting reform, which is going to allow us to mine here, process here, and manufacture here, right here in America using our jobs, our economy, and our workers, which is going to benefit our economy, our communities, and our strategic national security.

Why would anybody not want to mine in this country using the best environmental standards and the best labor standards in the world?

They are caving to the radical left, the antimining stance of their party. On January 20, the Americans are going to see a different attitude toward extracting these minerals that we are blessed with in this great country. We are blessed with these minerals.

No other country is like us, no other country. If we have the political will to meet these needs, then we can do it.

Mr. Speaker, I stand strongly in support of H.R. 8446. I stand strongly in support of domestic mining.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to remind you and others this is the most antimining administration in the history of this country, and it is going to end. We have to hold our strategic national security in the palm of our own hands. I will be doggone if I am going to allow China to control our destiny or other foreign nations.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I stand here, once again, today to oppose H.R. 8446, a bill that ignores science, ignores the facts, and would add copper to the critical minerals list to help wealthy multinational corporations, some of which are held by our foreign adversaries, to gain critical benefits, Federal tax breaks, and access to our Federal lands and Tribal sacred sites.

There have been some claims today about the Department of the Interior and the USGS's stance on this bill. I want to be clear that while the USGS did respond to the bill and share information about how to harmonize the list, they identified specific issues with the bill about its scientific integrity.

Let's be clear. USGS scientists used peer-reviewed methodology to determine whether or not copper or any other mineral here in the United States should be considered a critical mineral and be given the benefits that come along with being included on that list.

Now, while copper and many of the minerals discussed here are important to our economy, they are important to our national security, and they are important to the future of this Nation, they do not currently have the same supply chain vulnerabilities that other minerals on that list have and, therefore, do not qualify for the permitting and subsidy benefits that come with being included on that list.

I think that the American people would agree with all of the things that my colleagues said, that we should not be giving giveaways to our foreign adversaries who are trying to stockpile these minerals right now.

Why on Earth would we advance a bill that would give companies that the Chinese Government holds financial interest in access to copper and other critical minerals here in the United States?

It is crazy.

Designating copper as a critical mineral will divert precious resources and attention away from other critical supply chains that need it critically right now. It will open permitting, environmental review processes, and Tribal consultation. We know from history because it has told us in every chapter and every generation that it is our most vulnerable communities without power, influence, and money who will suffer the consequences, and, in this case, particularly our Tribal communities who have sacred lands that they have protected for countless generations.

While my colleagues may claim that this bill is necessary to support and build up our domestic supply chain, we have already seen how foreign influence is trying to grab a hold of U.S. copper. There are no safeguards in this bill, and I cannot emphasize it enough: This bill will allow foreign actors through their financial holdings, including our adversaries, to benefit from the U.S. public lands and resources and materials that they are trying to take and stockpile, and it will leave our communities with pollution and devastation.

□ 1300

We just heard an argument that everything is going to change on January 20. If my colleagues don't know, January 20 is Inauguration Day.

Project 2025, it turned out, was real: critical minerals, opening public lands,

opening Tribal lands, not protecting sites that we already knew were precious for sacred and other reasons.

We just heard it right here on the floor: It is all going to change on January 20.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues: Who is going to benefit? At what cost to our communities? At what cost to the American people?

Mr. Speaker, there were claims made on this floor today about Democrats not caring about our supply chain and about our people. We have one of the largest copper mines in the United States in New Mexico. We support our miners. We support our laborers.

I would not be standing here on the House floor if my mother had not been one of the first women operating engineers to work at a coal-fired power plant in New Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, I do not appreciate the assertions that we have heard here today that we are trying to attack workers, that we are trying to attack American sovereignty and national security, and that we don't care about our economy and supply chain because we are here fighting for the people. We are fighting for our communities. We are fighting for our Tribal nations.

Mr. Speaker, we will see changes on January 20. That is why we have to stop this bill, so that it doesn't give carte blanche to Chinese financial holdings to mine with impunity on our public lands.

That is why I oppose this bill.

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, what do we know about copper? It is extremely important to move forward with any of the technology that Americans are going to require, or certainly what government is likely to require, on electric vehicles and electrification of everything.

At a time when the demand for copper is going to skyrocket to be exponentially more, the U.S. is actually producing less copper than it has been.

If my colleagues want to talk about a process of trying to get more copper on line in this country, if it takes over two decades to get a mine from an idea to operating and to get through the permit process, certainly it is not like China or someone else is going to come in and just run roughshod over people to get the permit process done because it is hard to get a copper mine open in this country.

If that can't get done, then how in the heck are we going to meet any of these standards for electrification or CO<sub>2</sub> reduction by 2045 or 2050 if it takes over two decades? We have already missed the target on just producing the copper if it takes that long to open a copper mine.

Simply harmonizing two lists—we are not even talking about the same bill—between DOI and DOE, it is crazy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LOPEZ). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, to harmonize these two lists on whether copper is important or not between DOI and DOE, it is silly. We are not even talking about the same thing here. This is a simple bill to at least get the copper into the conversation so we can meet these extreme environmental goals people seem to want in California and on the other side of the aisle. It is crazy to not at least harmonize that and have a better conversation about how to produce copper in this country.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I believe that we have thoroughly debated the merits and significant impacts of this bill on the American economy and national security, as well as our communities. I point out that my colleague started this debate by saying this is not about copper and ended this debate showing us it is, indeed, about copper and the companies that own them.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the spirited debate. I hope we will protect our national security. I hope we will pass my motion to recommit. I hope we will stop this bill and the devastating impacts that it will bring.

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. In closing, I go back to this idea of what mining in America could mean to America. We know that it has national security implications. We know that it has critical implications on being able to grow our energy sector, to grow our economy.

I want to look at just strictly the mining and manufacturing component from mining. I have already submitted this report for the record, page 4, which USGS, along with Commerce, puts out every year. It shows how much material we mine in the U.S., how much we export, and how much we import. The net value last year was \$129.7 billion. Of all the ore that we mined and the exports and imports, it was worth \$129.7 billion.

That is a lot of wealth, but it pales in comparison to the amount of wealth that is generated when that raw material is converted into a metal. That material was worth \$890 billion when it was refined into metal.

When we talk about generating wealth, we are generating income for local communities and American workers not just by mining that ore but by processing it into metal, where we can increase it by eight or nine times the value, which means income for rural Americans.

This same report shows us that \$890 billion worth of value created from this material, along with another \$102 billion worth of material that we had to import, created an impact on our economy of \$3.9 trillion. Think about that.

When we use the resources that we have, it creates jobs in extracting those resources and in processing and refining those resources, and it creates jobs throughout our economy on manufacturing the goods and products that come from those resources.

I don't want it to be lost on anyone that, historically, and this year is no exception, the U.S. Treasury receives about 16.5 percent of the GDP in tax revenue. When we look at budget issues in America, for every trillion dollars we grow our economy, we are creating another \$165 billion going to the side of the ledger that we want it to go to, the income side, to help out with our budget.

At the same time, when we are promoting things that create high-paying jobs, we are taking money off of the other side of the ledger through social welfare programs. President Reagan said it best: The greatest social welfare program ever invented was a job.

It is time that we have these jobs in America, using American resources, refining those resources, and manufacturing products from them.

That takes me back to H.R. 8446. Both lists aim to identify vital minerals susceptible to supply shocks. With this bill, each agency will continue to review minerals and materials for redesignation regularly, just as Congress intended.

It was mentioned that there is no science behind this. We are trusting these agencies, USGS and DOE, to go through the same processes they have always gone through, but to put these lists together to have a comprehensive list.

These lists were not meant to be static snapshots of siloed industries. They are meant to be flexible tools that foster collaboration between sectors and agencies to promote the well-being of our ever-changing supply chain.

H.R. 8446 allows each agency the latitude to perform its own independent analysis. For example, DOE's most recent iteration of the Critical Materials List contains copper, electrical steel flooring, silicon, and silicon carbide. USGS' critical mineral list does not contain those. These materials are used in power generation, electrical wiring, semiconductors, solar panels, transformers, defense applications, really all over and all throughout our society.

We must continue to find ways to release China's stranglehold on our critical mineral supply chain. They have exploited their position on multiple occasions by instigating commodity dumping to make U.S. and our allied nations' critical mineral production uneconomical.

H.R. 8446 will provide the Federal Government with a clearer and more holistic snapshot of the materials we need to safeguard our economy, energy, and national security.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank Mr. CISCOMANI for all of his work on this



legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters of support from the following organizations: the National Association of Manufacturers, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Mint Innovation, and the Copper Development Association.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF MANUFACTURERS,  
Washington, DC, November 13, 2024.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers, the largest manufacturing trade association in the United States, representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, I respectfully urge you to vote "yes" on H.R. #8446, the Critical Minerals Consistency Act.

Manufacturers need robust, secure and reliable access to critical minerals and materials (including lithium, cobalt, copper, nickel and silicon) to make innovative products that power modern life, such as computer electronics and cell phones, batteries for storage, solar panels and household appliances. The U.S. has enormous mineral wealth, including some of the world's largest deposits of lithium and copper, and this legislation will help America remain a natural resources superpower.

Under the Energy Act of 2020, Congress directed the Department of the Interior (DOI) to identify and maintain a list of critical minerals to be routinely updated by the U.S. Geological Service (USGS). Unfortunately, the items that appeared on this list did not align with a separate critical materials list that was established under the same law to be maintained by the Department of Energy (DOE). This is causing confusion among producers because eligibility for certain grant programs, tax credits, loan guarantees or improved permitting processes are only granted to items on the DOI list.

This legislation is a priority for manufacturers to shore up supply chains of key minerals and materials by adding copper, electrical steel, silicone and silicone carbide to the national critical minerals list. These are materials that are irreplaceable in crucial energy, technology and national security applications from electrical equipment and batteries to grid transformers and semiconductors. American manufacturing is too often reliant on foreign sources of raw and refined inputs of these materials, when we can and must be doing more to produce them domestically.

H.R. 8446 provides necessary clarity by creating parity between the DOE critical materials list and the DOI critical minerals list and ensures that key minerals to America's national and energy security, like copper, electrical steel and silicone, are not left out.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CHRIS NETRAM,  
Managing Vice President, Policy.

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS,

Washington, DC, November 14, 2024.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: The U.S. Chamber of Commerce strongly supports H.R. #8446, the Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024, a to streamline interagency operations and eliminate the disparity in benefits available to critical materials and critical minerals by the Federal government. The Chamber will consider including votes related to this legislation in our annual How They Voted scorecard.

Currently, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Department of En-

ergy (DOE) develop separate lists of what qualifies as critical minerals and materials. Critical materials that are only on the DOE list are not eligible for the more extensive benefits granted to the critical minerals listed by the USGS. Reconciling the two lists would lead to expanded access to critical materials like copper, and would simplify and streamline interagency coordination efforts to determine which elements and minerals are critical to U.S. national and economic security.

Rapidly increasing demand for critical minerals coupled with mounting geopolitical instability makes developing a strong, reliable, domestic critical minerals supply chain vital to America's future. Our current attempts to secure the mineral supply chain rely too heavily on foreign sources while slowing or halting completely the ability to expand domestic mining. To bolster domestic supply chains and ensure stable long term economic growth, we must invest in, rather than constrain by bureaucracy, the responsible development of our abundant natural resources.

We applaud the work of the House Committee on Natural Resources to develop this legislation and we urge you to vote in favor when this bill comes to the House floor.

Sincerely,

RODNEY DAVIS,  
Senior Vice President, Government  
Affairs,  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

MINT INNOVATION,  
November 13, 2024.

Hon. BRUCE WESTERMAN,  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,  
House of Representatives, Washington DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN WESTERMAN: On behalf of Mint Innovation, an electronic waste recycling and biotechnology company for metals recovery founded in New Zealand in 2016 with a commercial facility located in Sydney, Australia that will this week announce plans to build its first domestic operation in Longview, Texas, we write to you to endorse H.R. 8446, the Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024.

Mint Innovation is a clean biotechnology pioneer transforming waste into value to empower a resilient future. Mint's proprietary low-carbon, local and circular solution recovers critical metals and materials from electronic waste, such as printed circuit boards. Mint's technology uses a combination of naturally occurring biomass and smart chemistry to recover high value and critical metals, namely gold and copper.

As we establish a network of domestic facilities here in America, we will also be able to recover Tin and Silver as well as Praseodymium, Neodymium, Terbium, Dysprosium and Tantalum from our byproducts. As we further develop the technology to recycle black mass in lithium-ion batteries, we will add Lithium, Cobalt, Nickel and Graphite to our list of recovered metals. We do this in a low-impact, cost-effective way, strengthening and securing local supply chains.

As national critical mineral security concerns grow and natural reserves dwindle, solutions that recover critical metals close to the source make more sense than ever, and key policies and legislation, such as H.R. 8446, the Critical Minerals Consistency Act of 2024, will allow emerging technologies to break new ground in critical mineral production and electronic waste processing.

We applaud the work of Reps. Ciscomani, Newhouse, Crane, Biggs, Lesko and Curtis for their work to ensure parity between Critical Materials, as defined by the Department of Energy (DOE), and Critical Minerals, as

defined by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

Thank you,

JASON PRICE,  
Chief Operating Officer, Mint Innovation.

COPPER DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATION INC.,  
June 11, 2024.

Hon. BRUCE WESTERMAN,  
Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,  
House of Representatives, Washington DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN WESTERMAN: I write to you on behalf of the Copper Development Association (CDA) to share our strong endorsement and support of HR 8446, the Critical Mineral Consistency Act of 2024. CDA is the U.S.-based not-for-profit association of the global copper industry, bringing the value of copper and its alloys to society to solve the challenges of today and tomorrow. We influence the use of copper and copper alloys through research, development, and education, as well as technical and end-user support. We are the voice of the copper industry.

Today, the U.S. copper industry supports more than 395,000 direct, indirect, and induced jobs and more than \$160 billion in economic output. The U.S. copper industry is a key national driver contributing mightily to the economic success and national security of the United States. Copper is also referred to as the "metal of electrification" because of its high electrical conductivity and use across all energy transition applications including EV batteries and storage, wind energy, solar photovoltaics, transmission and distribution, and other low-carbon energies such as hydrogen.

These characteristics and the projected doubling in demand for copper by 2035 are some of the reasons why the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) added copper to their Critical Materials list last year. While this recognition is certainly welcome, exclusion from the USGS Critical Minerals list has kept copper from being eligible for benefits, include DOE Title 17 financing, FAST-41 permitting support, and others. HR 8446 eliminates this disadvantage by adding copper and other important clean energy materials to the USGS list.

HR 8446 not only has our support, but several bipartisan energy and electrification groups in Washington also favor the legislation. These include:

Zero-Emission Transportation Association (ZETA), National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), Business Council on Sustainable Energy (BCSE), and Transformer Manufacturers Association of America (TMAA).

We are also heartened by the fact that USGS themselves in their written testimony to the House Committee on Natural Resources supports HR 8446 as they wrote "As a possible way to manage the two lists, the USGS supports this bill."

Given the support for the legislation by us and others, including USGS themselves, we are hopeful the Committee will vote favorably to support HR 8446.

Regards,

ADAM ESTELLE,  
President & CEO.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I also note for the record the support of the following organizations: the Business Council for Sustainable Energy, the National Electrical Manufacturing Association, the Zero Emission Transportation Association, the Transformer Manufacturing Association of America, and the National Mining Association.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1568, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

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

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

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Stansbury of New Mexico moves to recommit the bill H.R. 8446 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

The material previously referred to by Ms. STANSBURY is as follows:

Ms. Stansbury moves to recommit the bill H.R. 8446 to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

Add at the end the following:

**SEC. 3. NO FEDERAL BENEFITS TO FOREIGN ADVERSARIES FOR CRITICAL MINERAL PROJECTS.**

(a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Federal Government may not provide any critical mineral related Federal benefit to an entity that—

- (1) is a foreign entity of concern; or
- (2) is a subsidiary of a foreign entity of concern.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED NATION.—The term “covered nation” has the meaning given such term in section 2533c(d) of title 10, United States Code.

(2) CRITICAL MINERAL RELATED FEDERAL BENEFIT.—The term “critical mineral related Federal benefit” means any tax credit, grant, loan, loan guarantee, or expedited permitting that is available on the basis of the designation of a mineral, element, substance, or material as critical pursuant to section 7002 of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606).

(3) FOREIGN ENTITY OF CONCERN.—The term “foreign entity of concern” has the meaning given such term in section 40207(a)(5) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (42 U.S.C. 18741(a)(5)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

Ms. STANSBURY. 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.

**HARNESSING ENERGY AT THERMAL SOURCES ACT**

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1568, I call up the bill (H.R. 7409) to amend the

Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to waive the requirement for a Federal drilling permit for certain activities, to exempt certain activities from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 1568, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7409

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources Act” or the “HEATS Act”.

**SEC. 2. NO FEDERAL PERMIT REQUIRED FOR GEOTHERMAL ACTIVITIES ON CERTAIN LAND.**

The Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 30. NO FEDERAL PERMIT REQUIRED FOR GEOTHERMAL ACTIVITIES ON CERTAIN LAND.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall not require an operator to obtain a Federal drilling permit for geothermal exploration and production activities conducted on a non-Federal surface estate, provided that—

“(1) the United States holds an ownership interest of less than 50 percent of the subsurface geothermal estate to be accessed by the proposed action; and

“(2) the operator submits to the Secretary a State permit to conduct geothermal exploration and production activities on the non-Federal surface estate.

“(b) NO FEDERAL ACTION.—A geothermal exploration and production activity carried out under subsection (a)—

“(1) shall not be considered a major Federal action for the purposes of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969;

“(2) shall require no additional Federal action;

“(3) may commence 30 days after submission of the State permit to the Secretary;

“(4) shall not be subject to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973; and

“(5) shall only be considered an undertaking under division A of subtitle III of title 54, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ‘National Historic Preservation Act’), if, with respect to the State in which the activity occurs, there is no State law in effect that addresses the preservation of historic properties in such State.

“(c) ROYALTIES AND PRODUCTION ACCOUNTABILITY.—(1) Nothing in this section shall affect the amount of royalties due to the United States under this Act from the production of electricity using geothermal resources (other than direct use of geothermal resources) or the production of any byproducts.

“(2) The Secretary may conduct onsite reviews and inspections to ensure proper accountability, measurement, and reporting of the production described in subsection (a), and payment of royalties.

“(d) EXCEPTIONS.—This section shall not apply to actions on Indian lands or resources managed in trust for the benefit of Indian Tribes.

“(e) INDIAN LAND.—In this section, the term ‘Indian land’ means—

“(1) any land located within the boundaries of an Indian reservation, pueblo, or rancharia; and

“(2) any land not located within the boundaries of an Indian reservation, pueblo, or rancharia, the title to which is held—

“(A) in trust by the United States for the benefit of an Indian tribe or an individual Indian;

“(B) by an Indian tribe or an individual Indian, subject to restriction against alienation under laws of the United States; or

“(C) by a dependent Indian community.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WESTERMAN. 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 H.R. 7409.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7409, the Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources Act, or the HEATS Act.

First, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), my friend, for being a leader on this issue and working with my staff and me to bring this bipartisan bill to the floor.

H.R. 7409, the HEATS Act, is a commonsense bill that would expedite the development of geothermal energy on non-Federal lands containing Federal minerals.

Currently, geothermal operators on non-Federal land producing any amount of Federal resources must abide by all Federal laws and permitting processes, even if the share of Federal minerals is minuscule.

Under this bill, such projects would still undergo a rigorous State permitting process but would not be bogged down by duplicative and burdensome Federal permitting processes.

H.R. 7409 stipulates that geothermal wells on non-Federal lands are not subject to NEPA, ESA, or NHPA if the United States holds an ownership interest of less than 50 percent of the geothermal estate and the operator receives a drilling permit from the respective State.

Notably, the bill would not impact the royalty paid to the Federal Government. Therefore, it would not reduce the Federal revenues generated by geothermal production. In fact, it would actually increase Federal revenues by reducing the administrative responsibilities of Federal agencies and expediting the permitting process for geothermal development.

Enhanced geothermal systems, or EGS, are created by injecting fluid deep underground in carefully controlled conditions to create new fractures and causing preexisting fractures to open, increasing permeability below the surface. The process employs established technology already commonly utilized in the energy sector, and the DOE estimates that EGS could generate 60 gigawatts of electricity by 2050, which represents 8.5 percent of the U.S. generation capacity.

The best geothermal reservoirs suitable for EGS are located in States with Federal minerals, including Colorado, California, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, New Mexico, and Oregon.

□ 1315

Mr. Speaker, Federal streamlining efforts like this bill will be necessary to realize EGS' full potential. Federal minerals, however, come with red tape.

This bill provides a rational approach to streamlining the development of a proven renewable energy source. This commonsense bill will help spur geothermal energy development and promote American energy independence as part of an all-of-the-above energy strategy. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise once again in opposition to another Natural Resources bill which, much to my dismay, I would love to have the opportunity to work on, on a bipartisan basis. Unfortunately, this bill is another technical bill that is masquerading as an effort to support energy development on public lands but is another assault on permitting processes, and, specifically, on the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA.

Under this bill, a geothermal project that starts on non-Federal surface lands and drills into Federal subsurface would not need a Federal drilling permit if the subsurface makes up less than 50 percent of the total area drilled.

If your eyes crossed when you heard me describe that technical language, let me explain. The Federal Government manages our Federal lands on the surface. That is where the soil, the trees, and all of that is. There is a separate permitting process for the subsurface. That is where we find oil and gas, other valuable minerals, and, in this case, geothermal resources that we may want to develop for energy sources. They are two different permitting processes.

What this says is if you have a power plant or some other energy source on a piece of private land that is adjacent to or nearby Federal lands, you don't have to go through the permitting process to figure out whether or not the drilling from here down, across, and under our Federal lands would be harmful. That is crazy.

Mr. Speaker, wouldn't we want to know as a scientific basis and a community basis whether or not the drilling under our Federal lands would be harmful for our communities? Of course we would. That is why we have Federal permitting laws. That is why we conduct scientific assessments on whether or not drilling or permitting of resource extraction in the subsurface is a good or bad idea.

As we have seen in some cases, it can cause seismic activity with certain oil and gas operations. In other cases, it can cause contamination of groundwater. In other cases, it can cause subsidence of the surface which could damage a national park or some sort of sacred site for a community or just your viewshed.

Taking away the permitting process means that folks can do things on private lands, using our Federal resources, without having to ask the public if they think it is a good idea. I am a fan of geothermal. It is a great energy resource. There is nothing wrong with geothermal, but all of our energy resources have a footprint. They all look like something.

In this case, as you can see in this picture, geothermal is also an industrial activity. So what we are talking about is building these kinds of facilities which might be an energy facility on a piece of private land, next to your favorite national park, next to your favorite BLM lands where you like to go fishing, next to Tribal lands that are sacred and important to our Tribal communities.

Don't you want the ability to weigh in with the Federal Government about whether or not you want this to be happening in your backyard? Again, it is just common sense. Why are we running bills that are trying to take away commonsense protections for our public and for the communities that would be impacted by them?

Mr. Speaker, I have great respect for Representative KIM. We have worked on a bipartisan basis on many issues including fire and science. Like I said, I am a fan of geothermal. In fact, we have been working on a bipartisan basis with our Republican colleagues on a number of geothermal permitting bills. In fact, there are two of them that passed by voice vote here on the House floor.

Representative CURTIS' GEO Act supports efficient approval of geothermal permit applications without sacrificing environmental and community review. A lot of Members on this side of the aisle think that is a good idea. Why are we not trying to pass that bill? Maybe it has something to do with what was said during the last debate about what happens on January 20.

Representative STEEL'S H.R. 6474 would create a narrow categorical exclusion—again, more technical language—for geothermal exploration and development in recently studied or developed areas, giving geothermal parity with oil and gas development.

Again, going back to the science, if we have already done an assessment of subsurface and we know it is not going to have impacts, maybe it makes sense to have some sort of streamlined purpose.

Mr. Speaker, to give carte blanche to private entities that might want to use Federal resources without creating a process to look at the scientific integrity, the potential environmental impacts, the potential community impacts, to not provide a legal process for communities to weigh in and potentially hold them accountable just doesn't make sense.

We do have a problem with this particular approach. We would support responsible, well-balanced stewardship of our geothermal resources that do protect the public interest and do protect our Federal lands. This bill is not really about that.

Mr. Speaker, while I have great respect for the intent, which I hope is good, behind this bill, we do need to protect the public interest as we develop these large-scale projects, big or small, that are adjacent to and that would impact the Federal subsurface.

No matter what, we are seeing time and time again in the final waning hours of this Congress that our friends are trying to advance bills that we know are really a setup for the next administration. I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill. We have other bills that would address the needs of this industry.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, if we lived in a place called Utopia, a lot of this might be possible. I come from an engineering background. Some of the things I remember from those classes long ago, laws like energy can't be created or destroyed, it just changes form.

It would be nice if we could get electricity in the wire without a geothermal plant or to mine coal or to mine gas or to build the solar farm. We haven't figured out how to do that yet.

If we want energy, we are going to have to use the sources that we have got where they are. If we want minerals, we are going to have to get them out of the ground. That can be a good thing because that can create jobs, that can create economic growth. We can do it in a responsible way.

Mr. Speaker, this bill does not remove all permitting. It requires landowners to still get permits from States. It has protections built in for the environment. It gives States and local communities a bigger seat at the table than to rely on some permit coming out of Washington, D.C., to develop a project that has a slight interest in Federal minerals.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM) and commend her for bringing this bill forward.

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman WESTERMAN for yielding and for his leadership in moving this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bipartisan bill, H.R. 7409, Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources Act, or the HEATS Act.

Geothermal energy is a clean, renewable source of energy that can generate electricity, heat homes and buildings, and power industrial processes. More geothermal energy production will lower our environmental footprint and benefit the climate.

Despite having a similar extraction process to that of oil and gas, geothermal energy is constrained by Federal permitting restrictions. Currently geothermal operators on non-Federal land that produce any Federal resources are subject to all Federal laws and permitting processes, even if minimal amounts of Federal minerals are present.

My State of California is a major producer of geothermal energy and has ample energy resources below the earth ready to be tapped into. The current Federal permitting process and State regulations have hurt progress in harnessing this clean energy source.

The HEATS Act would waive Federal drilling permit requirements for geothermal wells that are on State and private lands. This means geothermal operators would not need a Federal drilling permit for wells that are on State and private lands on which the subsurface geothermal estate is less than 50 percent Federal.

Operators must still go through a rigorous permitting process at the State level. They will, however, no longer be burdened by the Federal process, allowing us to harness this untapped energy source faster.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7409 is a common-sense measure that will lower costs for Americans, reduce emissions, protect our national security, and expand our energy portfolio. The Natural Resources Committee passed the HEATS Act by a bipartisan vote, and I look forward to this bill passing out of the House in a timely bipartisan manner.

I thank my colleague Representative DUARTE for co-leading the HEATS Act with me and, also, House Committee on Natural Resources Chairman WESTERMAN for his commitment to accelerating geothermal production and promoting energy independence.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 7409.

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

Mr. Speaker, I will start by agreeing with my colleague across the aisle. We do not live in a Utopia where energy just magically appears.

I completely agree that we are in a massive transition where we have to explore all options to produce and to supply the energy needs that our Nation needs in order for people to survive and to thrive, as long as it is done

in a way that informs the community, it is done in a responsible, environmentally friendly way, and a way that does not affect climate. Of course we want our communities to have a say in what we do.

I want to address what we heard: Well, it will be protected under the States. We are not talking about State resources. We are talking about Federal resources. The United States public lands belong to all of us. The surface, our national parks, our favorite streams on BLM lands and in our national forests, the subsurface belongs to the American people.

All of the things that we have been talking about today are the American people's resources. The minerals that will be mined are the American people's minerals. The geothermal resources are the American people's resources. Even the oil and gas are the American people's resources.

The reason why we have permitting processes is because the American people get to decide: Do we want to give the great riches of this Nation over to private companies who want to provide a good or service to the American people? The American people get to decide because those are our resources.

Mr. Speaker, that is why we have Federal processes to determine, one, if it is a good idea from a scientific and engineering standpoint; and two, to decide if it is going to impact our communities adversely.

Imagine going to your favorite stream to go fishing and find out that a permit for subsurface materials had caused the bottom to drop out and a land subsidence that destroyed your favorite fishing spot and nobody ever told you because the geothermal plant had gone in a few miles away and drilled underneath it.

That is why we have Federal permitting processes. It is so that the American people can decide if this is what we want to do with our precious lands, our precious resources, and the things that belong to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, there are solutions here in Congress. There are solutions that are supported by the vast majority of Members across the aisle that would protect the public interest, that would protect the environment, and would protect American interests in our resources.

Unfortunately, permit streamlining that does away with subsurface permit authority and public comment of our democratically owned natural resources is not the solution. For these reasons, I oppose this bill.

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

□ 1330

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I guess things depend on the perspective from which you look at them. They took the geothermal plant picture down that was up on the other side of the aisle, but I will point out that if that plant were to be built on Federal

lands, it would go fully under Federal permitting process.

We are talking about facilities that are built on State or private lands that are close to Federal lands. What we are really talking about is not what is on the surface; it is what is below the surface.

If the geothermal energy that is going to this facility, if 50 percent or less of that is coming off of the Federal estate, then the developer would not have to go through the Federal permitting process but would go through the State permitting process.

They would still pay the Federal Government the royalty for the geothermal energy that is coming off of the Federal estate, but they just wouldn't have to go through the Federal permitting process.

You can look at that and say, oh, they are being exempted from the Federal permitting process, but if you look at it from the other perspective, why should a State or private landowner be subject to the Federal permitting process on their private or State land just because less than half of the energy that is going into this facility is coming off of the Federal Government?

Should the Federal Government be dictating to States and private businesses and private landowners what gets developed on their land?

Again, I guess it is just the perspective of how you look at it, but the one thing we know is, you can't harvest and harness this renewable geothermal energy that could make up 8½ percent of our electricity generation without getting it out of the ground and having a facility to utilize that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER).

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7409, the HEATS Act, introduced by my good friend from California, Mrs. KIM.

This is an important piece of legislation that will increase our energy security and reliability and help lower energy costs for Americans across this great Nation.

As is the case with much of our domestic energy production, geothermal energy is often developed on checkerboard parcels of land. Such a project often has a footprint encompassing Federal, State, and private lands.

When that is the case, it is a headache for our energy producers as it often means more red tape and more regulatory hoops for energy developers to jump through.

These duplicative regulatory requirements increase the time it takes to get projects online, along with price tags for these projects to get moving. Ultimately, that means higher energy costs for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us today will help fix this project for geothermal projects by cutting down on the number of duplicative regulatory reviews a project developer needs to go through.

This bill would prevent the BLM from having to permit geothermal wells on State and private lands where the Federal Government holds an ownership interest of less than 50 percent of the geothermal estate. These projects, which have already gone through a rigorous State permitting process, would not be bogged down by the duplicative and burdensome Federal process.

Contrary to what some may argue, this bill doesn't waive the permitting process; it simply reduces the redundancy.

It is a commonsense fix. It will bring much-needed geothermal energy production online, providing much-needed energy to the American people at a much lower cost.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. While I appreciate that part of the debate has been framed as a difference in perspective, it is actually a difference in the actual facts on the page of what the bill says.

Let me read to you from the bill that is being proposed to be passed right now.

In General, the Secretary—they are talking about the Department of the Interior—shall not require an operator to obtain a Federal drilling permit for geothermal exploration and production activities conducted on non-Federal subsurface estates.

I know this is confusing. They are talking about those lands that the Feds manage for the American people. The claim that was just made was that, oh, this isn't about exempting Federal permitting, that is what the bill says. Mr. Speaker, I am reading from their bill.

Now, it has the specific reasons under which the permit would be allowed to be excluded, and, as was stated, it says: "The United States holds an ownership interest of less than 50 percent of the subsurface estate. . . ."

Now, I love when my colleagues across the aisle claim that industry is so confused and that is why we have to streamline these bills.

I ask the American people: When you hear this language, does it sound streamlined? I don't think so.

Mr. Speaker, I have a very high-tech drawing I will use to help the American people understand what they are talking about here.

You have got this geothermal energy producer. Here is a good example of a power plant using geothermal. If they are taking subsurface geothermal resources from private lands, let's say this side, and over 50 percent of their geothermal resources are coming from the private side, they are saying, if you drill down underneath this plant and go under your favorite national park, your favorite stream on BLM lands, your favorite place to go fishing on public lands, they don't have to get a

permit. They can just do it. That is what the bill says.

This isn't a difference of perspective, it is literally what the bill is trying to do, and that is to exempt Federal permit requirements on the Federal subsurface estate adjacent to private lands.

The claim that State permitting would apply is not true. State permitting only applies to private lands. State permitting requirements do not apply to Federal lands. Even if you have a State permitting regime like States that protect the environment, it is not going to help you over here on the Federal estate.

If you live in a State where there are not State environmental protections for the environment, then guess what? You are screwed.

That is why we are trying to protect the Federal estate and the community and environmental interests here. We are not trying to stop geothermal. As I said, we are fans. Let's do this, but let's do it in an environmentally responsible and community-informed way.

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I appreciate the gentlewoman pointing out the language on page 3 of the bill. I will point that out too because it says, "The Secretary shall not require an operator to obtain a Federal drilling permit for geothermal exploration and production activities conducted on a non-Federal surface estate. . . ."

I think most people would agree that we don't want the Federal Government telling States and private landowners that they have to obtain a Federal permit to extract energy off of their land. That is exactly why we are proposing this bill, and it is not coming from the standpoint that the government knows best, that somebody sitting here in D.C. in a nondescript cubicle should be telling somebody thousands of miles away how to develop their land. No.

We shouldn't require Federal permitting on State and private land, which is what we are talking about. That is what this bill would do. It is only in the case where when you get below the surface, if more than 50 percent of the geothermal energy is coming off of Federal land, then you still have to go through the Federal permitting.

If it is less than 50 percent, then the State permitting would rule. It is a commonsense bill. It would promote economic development. It would promote renewable energy development. It is a bill that needs to be passed.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. DUARTE), who also worked closely on this bill.

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 7409, the HEATS Act.

This bill will assist working families, small businesses, and the geothermal

energy producers streamline the permitting process for one of the cheapest and cleanest energy sources. We are talking about steam coming out of the ground and creating electricity. That is what we are talking about today.

Geothermal is a big word. Let's not miss that. This is simply turning steam out of the ground into electricity.

One of the cheapest and cleanest energy sources in the United States is prioritized and supported by the Federal Government. During a Natural Resources hearing earlier this year, I asked Federal regulators what we, the people, gain by requiring a Federal permitting process on geothermal energy, one of the cleanest, cheapest energy sources in the world.

There was no coherent answer. Instead of restricting geothermal energy, we should be supporting and encouraging advancements in this field. Currently, the Bureau of Land Management is practicing regulation by imagination, with no real instances of negatives of geothermal energy production.

I am proud to work with Representative KIM to take the necessary steps to make it easier to produce clean, affordable geothermal energy in California.

California produces more geothermal energy than any other State, but the Bureau of Land Management is preventing California from growing our clean energy to our fullest potential. This bill ensures that geothermal energy producers do not need to obtain a Federal permit if they are drilling on land that is not owned by the Federal Government.

With this commonsense change, we can grow our geothermal energy production. This would provide cheaper energy to working families, create good-paying jobs in California, and cement California and the United States as a global clean energy leader.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 7409. It is a commonsense bill that will lower energy costs for working families.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I will go back to the language of the text. As I read the text as it appears on the page as introduced, it is seeking to exempt Federal permitting requirements for the subsurface estate, so that means Federal resources.

They are saying, if it is private land on top but public on the bottom, you don't have to get a permit. That is what they are saying.

Now, I know that boggles the mind for some folks, but that is essentially an American resource. The people of this country should have a say as to whether or not they want an energy plant to go in, for drilling to happen under their lands, for resources to be extracted. It is just common sense.

Mr. Speaker, I will also make the point that there were some comments

made about the administration trying to restrict geothermal. That is just patently untrue.

This is not about trying to restrict or trying to stop geothermal; this is just about maintaining the existing requirements that we have in protecting American resources in the subsurface so that the taxpayers get a fair shake and that the American public can say whether or not they think it is a good idea to have a private company drilling and removing resources under our feet. It is common sense.

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

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7409 is another loophole disguised as permitting reform and streamlining. It would create a path for geothermal projects to bypass critical environmental and community reviews based on arbitrary line drawings and new convoluted, not streamlined, language regarding the Federal subsurface estate.

It sets a dangerous precedent. I know they keep saying this is about streamlining and making it easier. This bill is not common sense when you read it. It would allow more energy projects to move forward without community input and oversight.

We have already worked on bipartisan solutions. We already have some bills that we all agree on, but here we are debating, in the final hours of this Congress, a bill that would do away with just basic, commonsense public input through the process.

□ 1345

We didn't spend a lot of time talking about it today, but the Federal agency that manages our subsurface, the Bureau of Land Management, has raised legitimate concerns about this bill, opposes this bill, and has warned that it would undermine our ability to enforce safety regulations, to uphold environmental laws, to do Tribal consultation, and to ensure that these projects are aligned with our multiple-use mandate, meaning we can protect our public lands for other uses.

As experts on the process, we have to listen to these folks. This is what they do every day.

We understand that there are opportunities to improve permitting. It is part of why we passed the Inflation Reduction Act. It is part of why we are making an over \$1 billion investment in expediting the permitting process and helping to get energy projects on the ground.

We are in the middle of a major energy transition, but we can't do that in an irresponsible manner by fast-tracking projects that need public input.

All energy projects have impacts, and this bill takes away the opportunity to just take a look and give the opportunity for the public to weigh in.

We have to keep this in mind as we move forward and work to build a more

just and sustainable future where our communities continue to have a say in what we do with the Federal estate, whether it is on the top or it is underneath our feet.

For these reasons I urge a "no" vote on H.R. 7409, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

In closing, I would like to urge my colleagues to vote in support of H.R. 7409. The HEATS Act would expedite geothermal energy production by removing the requirement that geothermal operators receive a Federal drilling permit for wells on State and private lands where the subsurface geothermal estate is less than 50 percent Federal.

Operators would still be required to receive State permits and approval but would be exempt from Federal permitting regulations like NEPA, the ESA, and section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. That is a mouthful of words, but let's look at in practicality.

We are talking about a geothermal production facility that is going to have a footprint on the surface of the land. It is going to be on the surface of State or private land. Then we are going to drill a hole thousands of feet into the ground, an 8- to 12-inch in diameter hole that is going to go a mile or so deeper, maybe 2 miles deep into the ground. Then it is going to turn horizontal, and it is going to start picking up geothermal energy from a large area.

What my friends across the aisle seem to want to do is to invoke a NEPA permit on a hole in the ground 2 miles deep. They want to be able to implement the ESA because of a hole in the ground 2 miles deep. They want to do a National Historic Preservation assessment because of a hole in the ground 2 miles deep.

What they really want to do is be able to link this private facility on State or private land back to the Federal Government so they can use these laws that are well-intentioned, well-meaning laws to stop that facility from being built on State or private land.

There is no environmental benefit of doing an ESA analysis on a hole in the ground 2 miles deep. There is no historical preservation that is going to be improved by permitting a hole 2 miles deep, not when this has already been through a robust State permitting process and these States have requirements and regulations for developing energy resources within their borders. What this does is it eliminates duplicative bureaucracy at the Federal level that has no intent or purpose other than to impede geothermal energy development.

This bill will lower emissions and energy costs for American families and strengthen U.S. energy independence. Accelerating renewable geothermal production and deployment is a win for our economy, our national security, and the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1568, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

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

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

#### MOTION TO RECOMMIT

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Stansbury of New Mexico moves to recommit the bill H.R. 7409 to the Committee on Natural Resources.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

Ms. STANSBURY. 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 are postponed.

#### 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:

Motion to recommit on H.R. 8446;  
Passage of H.R. 8446, if ordered;  
Motion to recommit on H.R. 7409; and  
Passage of H.R. 7409, if ordered.

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.

#### CRITICAL MINERAL CONSISTENCY ACT OF 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 8446) to amend the Energy Act of 2020 to include critical materials in the definition of critical mineral, and for other purposes, offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 199, nays 206, not voting 27, as follows:

[Roll No. 461]

YEAS—199

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

NAYS—206

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

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

NOT VOTING—27

Armstrong Garcia, Mike Rose  
 Biggs Gottheimer Sánchez  
 Bowman Granger Scott, David  
 Brecheen Grijalva Waltz  
 Cárdenas Jackson (TX) Wasserman  
 Cartwright Keating Schultz  
 Connolly LaTurner Wexton  
 Donalds Massie Wild  
 Edwards McHenry  
 Evans Porter

□ 1419

Messrs. NORMAN, OGLES, WENSTRUP, STRONG, NUNN of Iowa, and PALMER changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. LANDSMAN, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. CORREA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Messrs. VARGAS, MOSKOWITZ, DOGGETT, SWALWELL, BEYER, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mrs. DINGELL changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO). The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 245, nays 155, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 462]

YEAS—245

Golden (ME) Moskowitz  
 Gonzales, Tony Murphy  
 Gonzalez, V. Nehls  
 Good (VA) Newhouse  
 Gooden (TX) Norcross  
 Graves (LA) Norman  
 Graves (MO) Nunn (IA)  
 Green (TN) Obernolte  
 Greene (GA) Ogles  
 Griffith Owens  
 Grothman Palmer  
 Guest Panetta  
 Guthrie Pappas  
 Hagaman Peltola  
 Harris Pence  
 Harshbarger Perez  
 Hern Peters  
 Higgins (LA) Pettersen  
 Hill Pfluger  
 Himes Posey  
 Hinson Reschenthaler  
 Horsford Rodgers (WA)  
 Houchin Rogers (AL)  
 Houlihan Rogers (KY)  
 Huizenga Rosendale  
 Issa Rouzer  
 James Rulli  
 Johnson (SD) Johnson (SD)  
 Jordan Rutherford  
 Joyce (OH) Joyce (OH)  
 Joyce (PA) Joyce (PA)  
 Kaptur Kaptur  
 Kean (NJ) Kean (NJ)  
 Kelly (MS) Kelly (MS)  
 Kelly (PA) Kelly (PA)  
 Kiggans (VA) Kiggans (VA)  
 Kiley Sessions  
 Kim (CA) Kim (CA)  
 Kustoff Sherrill  
 LaHood Simpson  
 LaLota Slotkin  
 LaMalfa Smith (MO)  
 Lamborn Smith (NJ)  
 Langworthy Smucker  
 Larsen (WA) Sorensen  
 Larson (CT) Spanberger  
 Latta Stauber  
 Lawler Steel  
 Lee (FL) Lee (FL)  
 Lee (NV) Lee (NV)  
 Lesko Stefanik  
 Letlow Steil  
 Lopez Loudermilk  
 Lucas Luetkemeyer  
 Luetkemeyer Luna  
 Luttrell Luttrell  
 Duarte Mace  
 Duncan Malliotakis  
 Dunn (FL) Maloy  
 Ellzey Mann  
 Emmer Manning  
 Estes Mast  
 McCaul McCaul  
 McClain McClain  
 McClintock McClintock  
 McCormick McCormick  
 McHenry McHenry  
 Meuser Meuser  
 Miller (IL) Miller (IL)  
 Miller (OH) Miller (OH)  
 Miller (WV) Miller (WV)  
 Miller-Meeks Miller-Meeks  
 Mills Mills  
 Foyx Molinaro  
 Franklin, Scott Moolenaar  
 Fry Mooney  
 Fulcher Moore (AL)  
 Gallego Moore (UT)  
 Garbarino Moran  
 Gimenez Morelle  
 Yakym  
 Zinke

NAYS—155

Brown Cherfilus-McCormick  
 Brownley Brownley  
 Bush Bush  
 Carbajal Carbajal  
 Carson Carson  
 Carter (LA) Carter (LA)  
 Casar Casar  
 Case Case  
 Casten Casten  
 Castor (FL) Castor (FL)  
 Castro (TX) Castro (TX)

Davids (KS) Kim (NJ) Quigley  
 Davis (IL) Krishnamoorthi Ramirez  
 Dean (PA) Kuster Raskin  
 DeGette Landsman Ross  
 DeLauro Lee (CA) Roy  
 DelBene Lee (PA) Ruiz  
 DeSaulnier Lee Carter Ruppertsberger  
 Dingell Leger Fernandez  
 Doggett Levin  
 Escobar Lieu  
 Eshoo Sarbanes  
 Espaillat Lynch  
 Fletcher Schakowsky  
 Foster Schiff  
 Foushee Matsui  
 Frankel, Lois McClellan  
 Frost McCollum  
 Garamendi McGarvey  
 Garcia (IL) McGovern  
 Garcia (TX) McIver  
 Goldman (NY) Meeks  
 Gomez Menendez  
 Green, Al (TX) Meng  
 Hayes Mfume  
 Hoyer Moore (WI)  
 Hoyle (OR) Moulton  
 Huffman Mullin  
 Ivey Nadler  
 Jackson (IL) Napolitano  
 Jackson (NC) Neal  
 Jacobs Neguse  
 Jayapal Nickel  
 Jeffries Ocasio-Cortez  
 Johnson (GA) Omar  
 Kamlager-Dove Pallone  
 Keating Vargas  
 Kelly (IL) Perry  
 Kennedy Phillips  
 Khanna Pingree  
 Kildee Pocan  
 Kilmer Pressley

[Roll No. 463]  
 YEAS—198  
 Adams Golden (ME)  
 Aguilar Goldman (NY)  
 Allred Gomez  
 Amo Gonzalez, V.  
 Auchincloss Green, Al (TX)  
 Balint Hayes  
 Barragan Himes  
 Beatty Horsford  
 Bera Houlihan  
 Beyer Hoyer  
 Bishop (GA) Hoyle (OR)  
 Blumenauer Huffman  
 Blunt Rochester Ivey  
 Sherman Jackson (IL)  
 Smith (WA) Jackson (NC)  
 Soto Boyle (PA)  
 Stansbury Brown  
 Strickland Brownley  
 Sykes Budzinski  
 Takano Bush  
 Caraveo Carvajal  
 Carbajal Kaptur  
 Carson Kelly (IL)  
 Carter (LA) Kennedy  
 Casar Khanna  
 Case Kildee  
 Casten Kilmer  
 Castor (FL) Kim (NJ)  
 Castro (TX) Krishnamoorthi  
 Cherfilus-Kuster  
 McCormick Landsman  
 Chu Larsen (WA)  
 Clark (MA) Larson (CT)  
 Clarke (NY) Lee (CA)  
 Cleaver Lee (NV)  
 Clyburn Lee (PA)  
 Cohen Lee Carter  
 Correa Leger Fernandez  
 Costa Levin  
 Courtney  
 Craig  
 Crockett  
 Crow  
 Cuellar  
 Davids (KS)  
 Davis (IL)  
 Davis (NC)  
 Dean (PA)  
 DeGette  
 DeLauro  
 McGovern  
 McIver  
 Meeks  
 Menendez  
 Meng  
 Mfume  
 Moore (WI)  
 Morelle  
 Moskowitz  
 Moulton  
 Mrvan  
 Mullin  
 Nadler  
 Napolitano  
 Neal  
 Neguse  
 Nickel  
 Norcross  
 Ocasio-Cortez

Guthrie Maloy Salazar  
 Hageman Mann Scalise  
 Harris Mast Schweikert  
 Harshbarger McCaul Scott, Austin  
 Hern McClain Self  
 Higgins (LA) McClintock Sessions  
 Hill McCormick Simpson  
 Hinson McHenry Smith (MO)  
 Houchin Meuser Smith (NE)  
 Hudson Miller (IL) Smith (NJ)  
 Huizenga Miller (OH) Smucker  
 Issa Miller (WV) Spartz  
 James Miller-Meeks Stauber  
 Johnson (SD) Mills Steel  
 Jordan Molinaro Stefanik  
 Joyce (OH) Moolenaar Steil  
 Joyce (PA) Mooney Steube  
 Kean (NJ) Moore (AL) Strong  
 Kelly (MS) Moore (UT) Tenney  
 Kelly (PA) Moran Thompson (PA)  
 Kiggans (VA) Murphy Tiffany  
 Kiley Nehls Timmons  
 Kim (CA) Newhouse Turner  
 Ryan Kustoff Norman  
 Salinas LaHood Nunn (IA)  
 Sarbanes LaLota Obernolte  
 Scanlon LaMalfa Ogles  
 Schakowsky Lamborn Owens  
 Schiff Langworthy Palmer  
 Schneider Latta Pence  
 Scholten Perry  
 Schrier Lee (FL) Pfluger  
 Scott (VA) Lesko Posey  
 Sewell Letlow Reschenthaler  
 Sherman Lopez Rodgers (WA)  
 Sherrill Loudermilk Rogers (AL)  
 Slotkin Lucas Rogers (KY)  
 Smith (WA) Luetkemeyer Rosendale  
 Sorensen Luna Rouzer  
 Soto Luttrell Roy  
 Spanberger Mace Rulli  
 Stansbury Malliotakis Rutherford

NOT VOTING—32

Armstrong Gosar Porter  
 Biggs Gottheimer Rose  
 Bowman Granger Sánchez  
 Cárdenas Grijalva Scott, David  
 Cartwright Harder (CA) Smith (NE)  
 Connolly Hudson Strong  
 Donalds Hunt Waltz  
 Edwards Jackson (TX) Wasserman  
 Evans LaTurner Schultz  
 Garcia, Mike Massie Wexton  
 Garcia, Robert Mrvan Wild

□ 1427

Ms. KAPTUR changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the bill was passed.  
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HARNESSING ENERGY AT THERMAL SOURCES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 7409) to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to waive the requirement for a Federal drilling permit for certain activities, to exempt certain activities from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes, offered by the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. STANSBURY), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 198, nays 206, not voting 28, as follows:

Craig  
 Crockett  
 Crow  
 Cuellar  
 Davids (KS)  
 Davis (IL)  
 Davis (NC)  
 Dean (PA)  
 DeGette  
 DeLauro  
 McGovern  
 McIver  
 Meeks  
 Menendez  
 Meng  
 Mfume  
 Moore (WI)  
 Morelle  
 Moskowitz  
 Moulton  
 Mrvan  
 Mullin  
 Nadler  
 Napolitano  
 Neal  
 Neguse  
 Nickel  
 Norcross  
 Ocasio-Cortez

NAYS—206

Aderholt Carey Ezell  
 Alford Carl Fallon  
 Allen Carter (GA) Feenstra  
 Amodei Carter (TX) Ferguson  
 Arrington Chavez-DeRemer Finstad  
 Babin Ciscomani Fischbach  
 Bacon Cline Fitzgerald  
 Baird Cloud Fitzpatrick  
 Balderson Clyde Fleischmann  
 Banks Cole Flood  
 Barr Collins Fong  
 Bean (FL) Comer Foxx  
 Bentz Crane Franklin, Scott  
 Bergman Crawford Fry  
 Bice Crenshaw Fulcher  
 Bilirakis Curtis Garbarino  
 Bilirakis D’Esposito Gimenez  
 Bishop (NC) Davidson Gonzales, Tony  
 Boebert De La Cruz Good (VA)  
 Bost DesJarlais Gooden (TX)  
 Brecheen Diaz-Balart Graves (LA)  
 Buchanan Duarte Graves (MO)  
 Bucshon Duncan Green (TN)  
 Burchett Dunn (FL) Greene (GA)  
 Burgess Ellison Griffith  
 Burlison Ellzey Grothman  
 Calvert Emmer Guest  
 Cammack Estes

NOT VOTING—28

Armstrong Gosar Porter  
 Biggs Gottheimer Rose  
 Bowman Granger Sánchez  
 Cárdenas Grijalva Scott, David  
 Cartwright Harder (CA) Waltz  
 Connolly Hunt Wasserman  
 Donalds Jackson (TX) Schultz  
 Edwards Keating Wexton  
 Evans LaTurner Wild  
 Garcia, Mike Massie

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1433

Mr. BEYER changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.  
 The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 225, nays 181, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 464]

YEAS—225

Banks Bost  
 Barr Brecheen  
 Bean (FL) Buchanan  
 Amodei Bucshon  
 Arrington Bergman  
 Babin Bice  
 Bacon Bilirakis  
 Baird Bishop (NC)  
 Balderson Boebert Calvert



Cammack	Harris	Norman
Caraveo	Harshbarger	Nunn (IA)
Carey	Hern	Oberholte
Carl	Higgins (LA)	Ogles
Carter (GA)	Hill	Owens
Carter (TX)	Hinson	Palmer
Chavez-DeRemer	Houchin	Panetta
Ciscomani	Hoyer	Pappas
Cline	Hudson	Peltola
Cloud	Huizenga	Pence
Clyde	Issa	Perez
Cole	James	Perry
Collins	Johnson (SD)	Pfluger
Comer	Jordan	Phillips
Correa	Joyce (OH)	Posey
Costa	Joyce (PA)	Reschenthaler
Crane	Kean (NJ)	Rodgers (WA)
Crawford	Kelly (MS)	Rogers (AL)
Crenshaw	Kelly (PA)	Rogers (KY)
Cuellar	Kiggans (VA)	Rosendale
Curtis	Kiley	Rouzer
D'Esposito	Kim (CA)	Roy
Davidson	Kustoff	Rulli
Davis (NC)	LaHood	Rutherford
De La Cruz	LaLota	Salazar
DesJarlais	LaMalfa	Scalise
Diaz-Balart	Lamborn	Schweikert
Duarte	Langworthy	Scott, Austin
Duncan	Latta	Self
Dunn (FL)	Lawler	Sessions
Ellzey	Lee (FL)	Simpson
Emmer	Lesko	Smith (MO)
Estes	Letlow	Smith (NE)
Ezell	Lopez	Smith (NJ)
Fallon	Loudermilk	Smucker
Feenstra	Lucas	Spartz
Ferguson	Luetkemeyer	Stauber
Finstad	Luna	Steal
Fischbach	Luttrell	Stefanik
Fitzgerald	Mace	Steil
Fitzpatrick	Malliotakis	Steube
Fleischmann	Maloy	Strong
Flood	Mann	Suozzi
Fong	Manning	Tenney
Foxx	Mast	Thompson (PA)
Franklin, Scott	McCaul	Tiffany
Fry	McClain	Timmons
Fulcher	McClintock	Turner
Garbarino	McCormick	Valadao
Gimenez	McHenry	Van Drew
Golden (ME)	Meuser	Van Duyne
Gonzales, Tony	Miller (IL)	Van Orden
Gonzalez, V.	Miller (OH)	Wagner
Good (VA)	Miller (WV)	Walberg
Gooden (TX)	Miller-Meeks	Weber (TX)
Gosar	Mills	Webster (FL)
Graves (LA)	Molinaro	Wenstrup
Graves (MO)	Moolenaar	Westerman
Green (TN)	Mooney	Wied
Greene (GA)	Moore (AL)	Williams (NY)
Griffith	Moore (UT)	Williams (TX)
Grothman	Moran	Wilson (SC)
Guest	Moulton	Wittman
Guthrie	Murphy	Womack
Hageman	Nehls	Yakym
Harder (CA)	Newhouse	Zinke

NAYS—181

Adams	Cleaver	Gomez
Aguilar	Clyburn	Green, Al (TX)
Allred	Cohen	Hayes
Amo	Courtney	Himes
Auchincloss	Craig	Houlahan
Balint	Crockett	Hoyle (OR)
Barragán	Crow	Huffman
Beatty	Dauids (KS)	Ivey
Bera	Davis (IL)	Jackson (IL)
Beyer	Dean (PA)	Jackson (NC)
Bishop (GA)	DeGette	Jacobs
Blumenauer	DeLauro	Jayapal
Blunt Rochester	DelBene	Jeffries
Bonamici	Deluzio	Johnson (GA)
Boyle (PA)	DeSaulnier	Kamlager-Dove
Brown	Dingell	Kaptur
Brownley	Doggett	Keating
Bush	Escobar	Kelly (IL)
Carbajal	Eshoo	Kennedy
Carson	Españillat	Khanna
Carter (LA)	Fletcher	Kildee
Casar	Foster	Kilmer
Case	Foushee	Kim (NJ)
Casten	Frankel, Lois	Krishnamoorthi
Castor (FL)	Frost	Kuster
Castro (TX)	Gallego	Landsman
Cherfilus-	Garamendi	Larsen (WA)
McCormick	Garcia (IL)	Larson (CT)
Chu	Garcia (TX)	Lee (CA)
Clark (MA)	Garcia, Robert	Lee (NV)
Clarke (NY)	Goldman (NY)	Lee (PA)

Lee Carter	Omar	Soto
Leger Fernandez	Pallone	Spanberger
Levin	Pelosi	Stansbury
Lieu	Peters	Stanton
Lofgren	Petterson	Stevens
Lynch	Pingree	Strickland
Magaziner	Pocan	Swalwell
Matsui	Pressley	Sykes
McBath	Quigley	Takano
McClellan	Ramirez	Thanedar
McCollum	Raskin	Thompson (CA)
McGarvey	Ross	Thompson (MS)
McGovern	Ruiz	Titus
McIver	Ruppersberger	Tlaib
Meeks	Ryan	Tokuda
Menendez	Salinas	Tonko
Meng	Sarbanes	Torres (CA)
Mfume	Scanlon	Torres (NY)
Moore (WI)	Schakowsky	Trahan
Morelle	Schiff	Trone
Moskowitz	Schneider	Underwood
Mrvan	Scholten	Vargas
Mullin	Schrier	Vasquez
Nadler	Scott (VA)	Veasey
Napolitano	Sewell	Velázquez
Neal	Sherman	Waters
Nenguse	Sherrill	Watson Coleman
Nickel	Slotkin	Williams (GA)
Norcross	Smith (WA)	Wilson (FL)
Ocasio-Cortez	Sorensen	

NOT VOTING—26

Armstrong	Garcia, Mike	Porter
Biggs	Gottheimer	Rose
Bowman	Granger	Sánchez
Cardenas	Grijalva	Scott, David
Cartwright	Horsford	Waltz
Connolly	Hunt	Wasserman
Donalds	Jackson (TX)	Schultz
Edwards	LaTurner	Wexton
Evans	Massie	Wild

□ 1441

So the bill was passed.  
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes, but had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 461, YEA on Roll Call No. 462, YEA on Roll Call No. 463, and NO on Roll Call No. 464.

□ 1445

CHAMPION OF THE WEEK: THE KNIGHTS AND CHRIS POLLACK

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

Mrs. SYKES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable achievements of the Archbishop Hoban Knights varsity golf team and, in particular, the outstanding senior member, Chris Pollack, as the Ohio 13th Congressional District's Champion of the Week.

At the Ohio High School Athletic Association State Championships held at the NCR Golf Course in Kettering, Ohio, the Knights secured their second Division I State title in school history, a true testament to their hard work.

The team triumphed with an impressive 17-stroke victory, finishing with a total score of 595. Their closest competitor led on the first day, but ultimately, the Knights prevailed to win their second championship. This victory is especially commendable given the challenging conditions on the second day, where rain and cold temperatures significantly impacted the field.

Senior Chris Pollack captured the individual State championship with a remarkable score of 142. He edged out his competitor by just two strokes, maintaining his composure to shoot a consistent 71 for both days of the competition, ultimately finishing as the tournament medalist.

Chris will continue his impressive golf career at Florida Southern College, an NCAA Division I institution in the State of Florida. This senior certainly has a bright future ahead of him.

Again, I congratulate the Archbishop Hoban Knights varsity golf team, Coach Quinn Parker, senior Chris Pollack, and the entire Archbishop Hoban High School for their remarkable State championship in the Division I golf finals. They are truly what skill and dedication mean and what makes Ohio's 13th Congressional District the birthplace of champions.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE FRED B. MILLER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Judge Fred Miller, a beloved Blair County, Pennsylvania, judge, a dedicated public servant, and an incredible supporter of the community, who unfortunately passed away just this week.

Throughout his distinguished career, Judge Miller personified compassion, honesty, fairness, and integrity from the bench. During his more than two decades of service, Judge Miller applied the law fairly and impartially.

In addition to his professional expertise and achievements, Judge Miller will be remembered for his personal warmth, his sense of humor, and his remarkable ability to foster lifelong friendships.

As we remember Judge Miller, we also keep his loved ones in our prayers, including his wife, Tracy; his son, Grant; his parents, Dr. William and Melissa Miller; as well as his siblings, Norman and Veronica.

Today, please join me and all Members of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District in remembering the remarkable life of Judge Fred Miller.

HONORING DR. RUDY LOMBARD

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

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, since joining the United States Congress, I have sought to designate a postal facility in the name of Dr. Rudy Lombard in recognition of his legacy as a champion of civil rights.

Simultaneously, I was exploring other options of honoring him in other ways. After consultation with Dr.

Lombard's family, I am suspending my efforts to rename the post office, as we decided that the Algiers Ferry Terminal would be more suitable for this tribute.

This terminal, at the foot of Canal Street in New Orleans, is where Dr. Rudy Lombard likely embarked on many of his direct actions to fight for civil rights. As a native of Algiers, I can think of no better tribute for a man who dedicated his life to justice, equality, and the people of New Orleans.

Dr. Rudy Lombard was a civil rights hero. Born in Algiers in 1939, he grew up confronting the harsh realities of racial discrimination, a challenge that would shape his path as a relentless activist.

His courage shone brightly as a college student at Xavier University, where he led the now-legendary sit-in against segregation at McCrory's Five-and-Dime, alongside the CORE Four, Lanny Goldfinch, Cecil Carter, Jr., and Oretha Castle. His brave actions helped dismantle the framework of injustice, culminating in the landmark Supreme Court victory.

Naming the Algiers Ferry Terminal after Dr. Lombard would not only honor his legacy but will also serve as a constant reminder of the power of collective action.

The ferry has been a vital part of Algiers, connecting communities and enabling access. I implore the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority to take this action so it will connect us with the values of Dr. Rudy Lombard and those things that he embodied: equity, courage, and progress.

#### HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL CURT POWELL

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

Ms. McCLELLAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifetime of service of one of my constituents, Lieutenant Colonel Curt Powell, who was the 2024 Veteran of the Year for Virginia's Fourth Congressional District.

Lieutenant Colonel Powell held a variety of staff and command-level positions during his 23-year career in the U.S. Marines. He served two combat deployments in Somalia and Lebanon, including the ill-fated amphibious unit peacekeeping mission that was attacked in October 1983.

Lieutenant Colonel Powell also served as a White House advance officer under President Clinton, where he planned Presidential helicopter missions worldwide and served as the sole representative upon Marine One, responsible for coordinating with the Secret Service and White House Communication Agency.

Today, Lieutenant Colonel Powell continues his incredible record of service as the founder of a mentorship program at the Chesterfield County vet-

eran treatment docket, an important organization that provides resources and support for veterans suffering from mental health issues or substance abuse disorders.

Lieutenant Colonel Curt Powell has spent his life helping those around him, and I thank him for his profound contributions to our country, to our Commonwealth, and to his community.

I am honored to name him the 2024 Fourth Congressional District Veteran of the Year.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES MONTH AND NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

(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. Madam Speaker, as we recognize National Veterans and Military Families Month and National Family Caregivers Month, we must recommit ourselves to helping our Nation's veterans, our real heroes.

It is important for Congress to pass the Veterans Caregiver Application and Appeals Reform Act, also known as the CARE Act. The CARE Act cuts red tape for our disabled veterans who apply through the VA caregivers program with veteran service organizations' assistance.

The CARE Act also requires the VA to ensure medical specialists are carefully reviewing applications and providing full transparency to our veterans as it pertains specifically to denials.

We must always lend a helping hand to our veterans and their families. Support of the CARE Act does exactly that, Madam Speaker.

#### TAKING A KEY STEP FORWARD

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank the overwhelming majority of our colleagues who voted to pass the Social Security Fairness Act, necessary bipartisan legislation to ensure retired public servants do not lose out on essential earned Social Security retirement benefits for which they have worked hard.

As a key step forward, the bipartisan Social Security Fairness Act eliminates the harmful windfall elimination provision and the government pension offset, which reduce or eliminate Social Security benefits for millions of Americans who worked as public servants, including police officers, firefighters, and educators.

The next step is for Congress to fund the financing gap and work in partnership with affected States.

More than 2 million Americans and 165,000 Ohioans are impacted by the

windfall provision, and 800,000 nationwide are impacted by the government pension offset.

In a time of severe partisanship, I am pleased to note that 327 Members of the House voted for this bipartisan legislation. Let this be an example of collaboration and working across the aisle to find the big middle.

The House has done our work, and now I urge swift Senate passage so this legislation can be sent to the President's desk to be signed into law.

#### CELEBRATING MANCHESTER POLICE CHIEF ALLEN ALDENBERG'S RETIREMENT

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the impressive and impactful career of Manchester Police Chief Allen Aldenberg as he retires.

Throughout his life, Chief Aldenberg dedicated his efforts to serving others. In a military career spanning 30 years, he commanded from the company level to the brigade level and deployed in support of key operations to combat terrorism and protect our Nation after 9/11. He was awarded a Bronze Star medal for his service in Iraq from 2009 to 2010.

As a law enforcement officer for 27 years, including 4 years as chief in Manchester, Chief Aldenberg has worked with his officers, department staff, city leadership, and community members to make Manchester safer and stronger.

Madam Speaker, I wish him well in his next endeavor as the new chief military and veterans service officer at Easterseals Military and Veterans Campus. I join all Granite Staters in thanking Chief Aldenberg for his exceptional leadership and commitment to the people of Manchester and the State of New Hampshire.

I congratulate Chief Aldenberg on a job very well done.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JEN GIATTINO

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a dedicated public servant and friend, Hoboken Council President Jen Giattino, who passed away last week.

Jen was more than an elected official. She was someone who cared deeply for Hoboken and was a pillar for her community.

She was a champion for the unhoused, a compassionate advocate for small business owners, and a warm-hearted, generous presence throughout the city that she served and loved.

Her legacy will live on in Hoboken and the hearts of all those who had the privilege of knowing her.

In this difficult time, my thoughts are with her husband, Joe; her sons, Joe, Jack, and Alex; and her family, friends, and the people of Hoboken who adored her.

In her memory, let us live by the example that she set: compassion, generosity, and care for others.

□ 1500

#### ADVOCATING FOR PROGRESSIVE POLICIES FOR OUR VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. LESKO). 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. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for all Members to have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order hour.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Madam Speaker, today, I want to take a moment to remind us why we are here.

On my first day of Congress, which feels like so, so many years ago but was about 23 months ago, I made a commitment to represent, advocate, defend, and fight for the people. I made a promise to legislate with a vision for a better future for the constituents of my district. That includes veterans.

As a proud member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, my goal continues to be the same: Advance policies that improve the lives of veterans and ensure that they have access to every benefit they have earned and that has been promised to them.

However, I continue to be disappointed with so much extreme rhetoric from many of my colleagues to the right of me who choose to put politics over the lives of veterans, effectively watering down the protections and stonewalling progress on bills that would assist them.

The Congressional Progressive Caucus and I remain determined to do what is right for our veterans. That means advocating for better access to healthcare, fighting for our veterans experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness, and advocating for our women veterans and their unique needs. Above all, when our veterans come home, we ensure they can lead a happy, fulfilling life after service.

Madam Speaker, we have delivered. I am proud to say that since Representative TAKANO's Honoring our PACT Act was signed into law, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the VA, has delivered more than \$6.8 billion in PACT Act benefits to veterans. Over 5.7 million veterans have received new toxic exposure screenings. Over 740,000 new veterans have enrolled in VA healthcare.

This means that more veterans are getting the care and benefits they rightfully earned.

The success of the PACT Act demonstrates what is possible when Congress prioritizes people over partisan politics, and it shows what can be done for veterans when Congress and agencies work together to deliver for our constituents.

Where the Department of Veterans Affairs succeeds also provides us with a broader vision and useful roadmap for what we can achieve for all Americans. The VA provides a basic housing allowance, population-specific healthcare, job assistance and training, and targeted interventions to prevent and address homelessness.

I believe that Congress can and should replicate the most promising parts of the VA to ensure the same base level of material and social support for our everyday working families. I believe we can eradicate poverty, prevent and end homelessness, and ensure that no person goes hungry or lives without essential healthcare.

It is actually possible for all Americans to lead a happy, fulfilling life and to retire with dignity. It starts with legislating with compassion and a commitment to the flourishing of our neighbors.

Despite Republican efforts to stop progress and turn the clock back 100 or more years, let me just say the Congressional Progressive Caucus and I will hold the line. We will defend our veterans. We will ensure they have every single benefit that veterans deserve, and we will honor their service with action.

I want to talk about the last 23 months and the work that I have done here in Congress. When I became an elected official, first as a State representative and now in Congress, I made a commitment. That commitment was to remain rooted in the community that I was elected to serve. Since joining the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I have seen how critical it is for veterans and the families of veterans to receive the full benefits of our Nation's promise to them and what they have earned.

I am proud to say that during my freshman year—no longer a freshman in a couple of months—I have advocated for and introduced pieces of legislation that expand veteran access to education, healthcare, and housing.

Last year, I introduced the Student Veteran Benefits Restoration Act, which would reinstate GI benefits for students who pursued a degree at a college or university that defrauded them. I am proud to say this bill was voted on and passed by the House in April.

While the final negotiated bill is more limited in scope than I would have wanted, I do think it represents an ongoing commitment to work to ensure that veterans receive full access to the educational benefits that they have earned. I am committed to building on this momentum and continuing this fight into the 119th Congress.

This year, I am proud to have introduced the Servicemember Student Loan Affordability Act, with Senator DURBIN leading this effort in the Senate. What this bill would do is amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to limit the interest rate on student loans incurred by servicemembers before they go into military service. It will consolidate and refinance it during military service.

I was in my district on Veterans Day with veterans and veteran-serving organizations, and I heard how much they need for us to invest in them and address the issues of homelessness. As a matter of fact, I heard that, in the last year, we have seen another increase in homelessness among the veteran community.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to announce that I am introducing a new bill to create permanent housing opportunities for our veterans. The bill would expand the services that the grant per diem providers give to include prevention services and also allow for capital grants to be used to convert units into permanent housing.

I am eager to work with the committee around the bill introduction, and I am excited to be able to share more details on the bill very soon.

I voted to advance critical legislation that will bring solutions to the policy failures that leave our veterans and their families desperate and frustrated. During every hearing and every markup, I remain intentional in my efforts to ensure that we fulfill the promises our Nation has made to our veterans.

That work has to continue next Congress. In my opinion, that is how we honor service through action.

I want to talk a little bit about healthcare. One of the most pressing issues our veterans face is access to quality healthcare. Healthcare is a basic need that we must deliver for our veterans. Accessible healthcare for veterans shouldn't be considered a privilege but a right for those who have served their country.

Expanded health services will allow veterans to receive timely treatments for various medical conditions without having to worry about financial burdens or lengthy waits for appointments. Improved access to mental health services is also critical to address issues such as PTSD and other psychological conditions caused by military service.

Expanding healthcare for veterans will also help reduce the long-term costs associated with providing care for aging veterans, ensuring they receive the care they need in later life.

Veterans should be provided access to high-quality medical treatment, regardless of economic status or geographic location, so that they can all benefit from high-quality healthcare services without undue financial burden or delays in treatment.

To show appreciation and respect for their sacrifice and service to their country, our Nation is responsible for

providing vital care for veterans. It is why, during the October recess, I convened veterans. What they have said to me is that the gaps that they continue to experience are unacceptable, gaps like dental care and dental coverage, wait times for physical and mental health appointments, challenges to healthcare enrollment, and a greater need for outreach to underserved veterans.

It is why I co-led the Expanding Health Care Providers for Veterans Act with Representative TLAIB, to make it easier for the VA and State veterans homes to hire employees on H-1B visas when they cannot find a suitable applicant in the United States. Specifically, the bill designates the Department of Veterans Affairs and State veterans homes as cap-exempt institutions for the purposes of the H-1B visa program.

I am also proud to cosponsor numerous bills around veterans healthcare, including the 9-8-8 Implementation Act. Madam Speaker, 988 is the new nationwide suicide prevention line, and the 9-8-8 Implementation Act would offer more Federal support to the crisis line, including resources to veteran-specific departments of the crisis line.

Providing quality, accessible healthcare is how we honor our veterans with action.

To hear a little bit more about this work that many of us are doing to ensure that our veterans are getting the services they deserve, we will hear from some of my colleagues very soon.

Madam Speaker, while we do that, I want to talk to you a little bit more about some of our veterans who currently continue to see so many challenges.

I want to make sure that I am clear. I am here to represent all veterans, especially the veterans who are most vulnerable. That means first-generation veterans. That means women veterans. That means veterans of color. That also means veterans who, we don't want to admit, have been deported after having served this country, after nearly dying for this country and experiencing PTSD. They have lost their green cards and, today, are separated from their families.

As the evidence has shown, veterans of color have served this country honorably for decades. Due to intentional segregation and racism, they were unable to use the benefits promised to them. That is why I commend my colleague, Congressman CLYBURN, for putting forward the VA Housing Loan Forever Act, to do the right thing and restore equity to veterans of color.

Similarly, women veterans were locked out of receiving the benefits they earned due to their service not being properly recognized. That is why, when I go back to my district and when I sit in those hearings, I always center the voices of our veterans, particularly those most impacted. As a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, ensuring that our women in uniform are recognized for their contributions

and sacrifices. Having full access to their benefits must be a priority.

It is why I was proud to offer and have passed an amendment to the Jax Act out of subcommittee. What does this amendment do? It directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit a report regarding gender disparities and covered claims for traumatic brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder, particularly among those who have engaged in combat since 1990.

I also want to shed light on an issue that I hold close to my heart, and that is our veterans who are seeking legal pathways to citizenship. You heard me a few moments ago talk about those who have been deported and are now separated from their families after having served their country. To me, it is unimaginable that they are at risk of deportation or have been deported because, despite their service and sacrifice, too many undocumented veterans have faced deportation due to a failed immigration system that does not honor who we say we are as a nation.

Now, you ask, how are they serving if they are not a U.S. citizen? You don't have to be a U.S. citizen to die for this Nation. You will get a green card, and you will be able to do that. If you come back to the country you love, the country you call home, and something happens, if there is a fight at a bar, if you are dealing with PTSD and there is something that happens to you, you can immediately lose your green card and be deported.

Let me say this to you: As we celebrate our veterans, we must remember those who today find themselves living in exile, separated from their families and often struggling to access the benefits and support they earn through their service.

Madam Speaker, it is time to return these veterans home and deliver justice and support. It is why I am proud to cosponsor Representative TAKANO's Veteran Service Recognition Act, which would allow noncitizen servicemembers to apply for naturalization during basic training, establishing a review process for those who are in removal proceedings, and provide an opportunity for a noncitizen veteran who has been removed or ordered removed and who has not been convicted of a serious crime to obtain legal permanent resident status.

□ 1515

Today, I call my colleagues, Republican and Democrat, who say that they care about our veterans to stand with us and to cosponsor this incredibly important piece of legislation because that is how we honor every veterans' service with action for: Sergio Andrade, Jiji Thomas Kurian, Elsworth Alexander Smith, Mark Osmond Isaacs, Gerardo Emeterio Lopez Flores. The time to act is today.

In a moment, I will yield to one of my colleagues who every day fights like hell for our veterans, so you can

hear directly from them on the work that they are doing.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. CHRIS DELUZIO.

Mr. DELUZIO. Madam Speaker, it is, of course, an honor for all of us to serve here, but, of course, maybe no greater honor than to stand up for our fellow veterans.

I think this country has a sacred obligation to care for all who served. I am proud of my time in uniform, and I often talk about a simple lesson I learned in the Navy: ship, shipmate, self. You put the mission and the country first. You put others before yourself. I think that is fundamentally at the heart of the ethos of service.

I come from western Pennsylvania where so many homes and families have a picture of someone who has worn the uniform, someone who has served or shares the values of hard work and patriotism and sacrifice. It is pretty common but becoming a little rarer for us maybe to talk about it as we should.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for convening us for this important fight for veterans. It is so central to our work here in the House and certainly in this Congress.

This work should be bipartisan in so many ways, and I think it often is, not always, but it often is. I introduced a bill with colleagues from both sides of the aisle, Saving Our Veterans Lives Act, which is about us putting together a coalition to tackle the crisis, the problem of veteran suicide. It has got a coalition that I think tells you it can succeed, from gun safety groups to the National Shooting Sports Foundation, and Veterans Service Organizations. That is a coalition that is broad, that tells you this is a serious effort.

What this bill would do is authorize a VA program to give free firearm lockboxes to veterans who want them. This is something that we know can save veterans' lives. We have seen that if you limit the ease by which someone at risk, someone in crisis can get to their gun, you prevent suicide deaths. We know that firearms are the most common means used by my fellow veterans to die by suicide. We should take some action like this.

Madam Speaker, 73 percent of male veteran suicide deaths and more than half, 52 percent of female, are with firearms. Those rates greatly exceed those for nonveterans.

A little bit more than half of veterans report owning one or more guns themselves. Of those, more than half report storing it loaded or unsecured.

I think this intervention can be one that can save veterans' lives and earn support on both sides of the aisle.

Madam Speaker, I was proud to introduce the Save Our Veterans Lives Act. It is a simple, straightforward, bipartisan idea, a commonsense one, to save lives and to fight back against veteran suicide. Something that I think we all share as a priority.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Illinois for her leadership on these issues.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Madam Speaker, as we talk about the faces of our veterans and the impact and challenges that they are going through at this moment, I am also reminded of so many of them who come back home and continue to provide public service, who continue to show up for their community and for their neighbors and families.

As we recommit to fighting for every single veteran, I will take the time to recognize a servicemember in my district, someone who is using her platform to advocate for the care and benefits of those who came before her.

Madam Speaker, today, I will honor my constituent, U.S. Army Major Karen Hernandez, who serves our country and our community with dedication and courage.

The daughter of Mexican immigrants and a proud first-generation college graduate, Major Hernandez embodies, like the daughters and sons of immigrants, the values of resilience, of integrity, and an enduring commitment to community and to service.

Since enlisting in 2008 as a medical service officer for the 108th Multifunctional Medical Battalion, Karen has commanded field hospitals and played a vital role in Illinois' COVID-19 response.

In our communities, as the executive director of Chicago Veterans, she helps servicemembers transition back to civilian life. She advocates for them to receive the promised benefits that they earned.

Whether it is supporting humanitarian efforts or empowering veterans, Hernandez leads with selflessness and Hernandez leads with courage.

On behalf of Illinois' Third Congressional District, I commend Karen Hernandez for her remarkable service and for her leadership, both in and beyond

the military. "Thank you, Karen." "Gracias, Karen."

As I wrap up, I thank all of my colleagues who are continuously working and looking past the partisan politics. I especially thank the Progressive Caucus and the Special Order hour because what the American people continue to ask of us is to stop talking at them. What the American people continue to say is, stop promising things. What the American people are saying is, we are tired of your darn fights online because you want to go viral. What the American people are saying is, we need you to move from words to action.

Madam Speaker, I will end with this: The future that we seek is possible. Accessible, affordable healthcare is possible. Every person having a safe, clean home is possible. A country where no one goes hungry can be possible. Quality education and jobs that provide living wages, a humane, assured, legal pathway to citizenship, all of this is what our veterans deserve and all of it is what our veterans have earned.

It is also what every person who has contributed to this country deserves, and that includes my friends, our neighbors, who for years have served our communities and our economies with the reassurance of permanent protections. I am talking about our Dreamers.

Right now, there are 530,000 DACA recipients, approximately 500,000 people eligible for DACA barred from applying, and 80,000 unprocessed applicants who, for years, have lived in a legal limbo, many of them here since the age of 2.

These Dreamers are not children anymore. Wesdin Hernandez, my brother-in-law, is not a child. He is actually 40 years old. They work, they provide for their families, and they invest in our economies, contributing at least \$2.1 billion to Social Security and Medicare every single year.

Today, we must be courageous and exhaust every avenue possible to keep

the 11.3 million Americans in DACA-impacted families together and provide a pathway to citizenship and security for Dreamers. Whether through passing the American Dream and Promise Act or through bold executive action, we must honor with action all who have put their lives in service to our Nation and our communities, and those are Dreamers and those are veterans, full stop.

As we near the end of the year, I am reminded why I stand on the House floor today. I stand here to amplify the voices of the people in my community who sent me here, to be the only Latina in the room representing veterans who look like they could be my family members, to be the person who lifts as she climbs, to be the person who never forgets where she comes from, to be the person who says proudly, it doesn't matter if one person is impacted or a million, it is the one that I am here fighting for.

Our veterans deserve better, and they demand urgency. Our country deserves better, and I refuse to stand down in the face of injustice and hate because I, "the Congresswoman," "la congresista" of Illinois' Third Congressional District, I choose to fight for the future we deserve. I choose to fight for a future that is possible. I choose to fight so that our veterans are honored through service and action.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 24 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, November 15, 2024, 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 second, third, and fourth quarters of 2024, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DR. BRIAN MONAHAN, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 2 AND JULY 6, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Dr. Brian Monahan .....	7/2	7/4	Estonia .....		703.78		(3)				703.78
	7/3	7/3	Latvia .....				(3)				
	7/4	7/8	Lithuania .....		1,437.31		(3)				1,437.31
	7/6	7/6	Poland .....				(3)				
Committee total .....											2,141.09

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

<sup>3</sup> Military air transportation.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DR. BRIAN MONAHAN, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 30 AND AUG. 10, 2024

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows include Dr. Brian P. Monahan and Committee total.

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.

B.P. MONAHAN, Oct. 30, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO JAPAN, THE PHILIPPINES, QATAR, AND FINLAND, EXPENDED BETWEEN SEPT. 27 AND OCT. 6, 2024

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows list multiple members and their travel details across various countries.

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. VERN BUCHANAN, Nov. 4, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows list various committee members and their travel details.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024—  
Continued

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency). Rows list various members and their travel expenses to countries like Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Brazil, Argentina, Guatemala, Qatar, Kenya, Djibouti, Italy, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Austria, Czech Republic, Mexico.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024—

Continued

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows include Hon. David Trone, Hon. Ben Cline, Hon. Ed Case, Susan Adams, David Bortnick, Erin Kolodjeski, Laurie Mignone, and Committee total.

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. TOM COLE, Oct. 30, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows include Hon. John Joyce, Nathan Hodson, Mary Martin, Brandon Mooney, Waverly Gordon, Joseph Wright, Hon. John Curtis, and Committee total.

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. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, Oct. 31, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows include Daniel Markus, Erik Ashida, Mary Vigil, Janice Kaguyutan, McCoy Pitt, Nico Ruiz, Hon. Michael McCaul, Hon. Joe Wilson, Charles Carroll, Allison Schwartz, Anubhav Gupta, Leslie Shedd, Rachel Walker, Hon. Michael McCaul, Hon. Young Kim, Hon. Joe Wilson, Charles Carroll, Anubhav Gupta, Allison Schwartz, Leslie Shedd, Rachel Walker, Christine Kortokrax, Maggie Goessler, Erik Ashida, Christine Kortokrax, Maggie Goessler, Erik Ashida, Christine Kortokrax, Maggie Goessler, Erik Ashida, Gabriella Zach, Laura Fullerton, Philip Bednarczyk, Gabriella Zach, Philip Bednarczyk, and Brendan Shields.



REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024—  
Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Marcus Towns .....	9/2	9/7	Brazil .....		446.00		10,482.00		642.00		11,570.00
Committee total .....					17,400.01		212,555.83		48,550.21		278,506.05

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.  
<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL, Oct. 31, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Brad Wenstrup .....	8/19	8/21	Taiwan .....		540.60						540.60
	8/21	8/22	Cambodia .....		264.00						264.00
	8/22	8/24	Laos .....		* 350.00						350.00
Transportation Cost .....							11,884.10				11,884.10
Mitchell Benzine .....	8/19	8/21	Taiwan .....		540.60						540.60
	8/21	8/22	Cambodia .....		264.00						264.00
	8/22	8/24	Laos .....		* 350.00						350.00
Transportation Cost .....							12,979.20				12,979.20
Marie Policastro .....	8/19	8/21	Taiwan .....		540.60						540.60
	8/21	8/22	Cambodia .....		264.00						264.00
	8/22	8/24	Laos .....		* 350.00						350.00
Transportation Cost .....							12,979.20				12,979.20
Delegation Expenses .....								4,169.68			4,169.68
Committee total .....											45,475.98

\* Hotel only.  
<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.  
<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JAMES COMER, Oct. 31, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.  
<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS, Oct. 28, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Rick Crawford .....	4/1	4/3	Europe .....		973.47		20,719.40				21,692.87
Griffin Decker .....	4/1	4/3	Europe .....		973.47		16,291.90				17,265.37
Kelly Repair .....	4/1	4/3	Europe .....		973.47		8,793.20				9,766.67
Hon. Josh Gottheimer .....	4/2	4/4	Middle East .....		656.51		14,730.88				15,387.39
Edyt Dickstein .....	4/2	4/4	Middle East .....		656.51		10,631.38				11,287.89
Kathryn King .....	4/2	4/4	Middle East .....		656.51		10,631.38				11,287.89
Hon. Mike Turner .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,868.01						3,868.01
Hon. Elise Stefanik .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Hon. Darin LaHood .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		2,762.63						2,762.63
Hon. Austin Scott .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Hon. Dan Crenshaw .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		2,975.63		1,048.30				4,023.93
Hon. Jim Himes .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63		600.30				3,718.93
Hon. Stacey Plaskett .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Hon. Chrissy Houlahan .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		2,763.63						2,763.63
Hon. Jimmy Gomez .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Adam Howard .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Mike Calcagni .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Kelli Parks .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,092.95		342.30				3,435.25
Eliott Walden .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,092.95		342.30				3,435.25
Jonathan Clifford .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Alex Igleheart .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63		0.40				3,119.03
Jeff Naft .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Kathryn King .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,092.95		342.30				3,435.25
Hannah Snyder .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Jeff Lowenstein .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		1,428.57						1,428.57
Kara Benson .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Nora Kohli .....	4/21	4/24	Europe .....		3,118.63						3,118.63
Hon. Darin LaHood .....	4/23	4/29	Middle East .....		5,474.80		7,281.36				12,756.16
Rick Trimble .....	4/23	4/29	Middle East .....		4,187.04		13,105.66				17,292.70
Hon. Rick Crawford .....	5/11	5/13	North America .....		786.00		2,498.90				3,284.90
Adam Howard .....	5/11	5/13	North America .....		786.00		419.10				1,205.10
Kelly Repair .....	5/11	5/13	North America .....		786.00		419.10				1,205.10
Meghan Green .....	5/11	5/13	North America .....		786.00		419.10				1,205.10
Hon. Elise Stefanik .....	5/24	5/26	Europe, Africa .....		3,734.21						3,734.21
Hon. Ami Bera .....	5/25	6/1	Asia, Australia .....		1,212.59		13,024.40				14,236.99
Jae Jo .....	5/25	6/1	Asia, Australia .....		1,457.85		23,845.00				25,302.85

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows include Matt Pylypciw, Rocco DiCicco, Hon. French Hill, etc.

In accordance with title 22, United States Code, Section 1754(b)(2), information as would identify the foreign countries in which Committee Members and staff have traveled is omitted.

1 Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

2 If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER, Oct. 23, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2024

Table with columns: Name of Member or employee, Date (Arrival, Departure), Country, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Other purposes (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent). Rows include Hon. Josh Gottheimer, Jae Jo, Griffin Decker, etc.

In accordance with title 22, United States Code, Section 1754(b)(2), information as would identify the foreign countries in which Committee Members and staff have traveled is omitted.

1 Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

2 If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER, Nov. 5, 2024.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-6038. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Recreational Fishing for Chinook Salmon in the Cook Inlet Exclusive Economic Zone Area [Docket No.: 240417-0111] (RTID 0648-XE003) received No-

vember 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6039. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — West Coast Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries off West Coast States; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Measures to Keep Fishery Impacts Within the Conservation Objective for the California Coastal Chinook Salmon [Docket No.: 240807-0215] (RIN: 0648-BM68) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec.

251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6040. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone off Alaska; Cook Inlet; Final 2024 Harvest Specifications for Salmon [Docket No.: 240612-0158; RTID 0648-XD877] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6041. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program; Correction [Docket No.: 240529-0147] (RIN: 0648-BM81) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6042. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Habitat Conservation — GARFO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Framework Adjustments to Northeast Multispecies, Atlantic Sea Scallop, Monkfish, Northeast Skate Complex, and Atlantic Herring Fisheries; Southern New England Habitat Area of Particular Concern Designation [Docket No.: 240130-0029] (RIN: 0648-BM51) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6043. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — HMS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; General Category January Through March Quota Transfer [Docket No.: 220919-0193; RTID 0648-XD628] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6044. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2024 Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Pollock, Atka Mackerel, and Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts [Docket No.: 230306-0065] (RTID: 0648-XD597) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6045. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Greater Atlantic, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Gulf of Maine Cod Trimester Total Allowable Catch Area Closure and Possession Limit Adjustments for the Common Pool Fishery [Docket No.: 230810-0190; RTID 0648-XD575] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6046. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 230224-0053; RTID 0648-XD708] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6047. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — West Coast Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan; Amendment 30; 2023-24 Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Correcting Amendment [Docket No.: 230217-0046] (RIN: 0648-BL48) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6048. A letter from the Branch Chief, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 230224-0053; RTID 0648-XD069] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6049. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — West Coast, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's inseason action rule — Inseason Action for 2023-2024 Commercial Pacific Bluefin Tuna Biennial Catch Limit in the Eastern Pacific Ocean [Docket No.: 220801-0167; RTID 0648-XD342] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6050. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Jig Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 240227-0061; RTID 0648-XE015] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6051. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — West Coast Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Pacific Halibut Fisheries of the West Coast; 2024 Catch Sharing Plan; Inseason Action [Docket No.: 240327-0090; RTID 0648-XE116] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6052. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 230224-0053; RTID 0648-XD654] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6053. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — GARFO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Quota Transfer From Virginia to Massachusetts [Docket

No.: 231215-0305; RTID 0648-XD770] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6054. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Southeast Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2024 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for Gag in the South Atlantic [Docket No.: 230914-0219; RTID 0648-XD744] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6055. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sablefish Managed Under the Individual Fishing Quota Program [Docket No.: 240227-0061 and 240304-0068; RTID 0648-XD758] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6056. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — West Coast, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Harvest Specifications for the Central Subpopulation of Northern Anchovy [Docket No.: 240415-0107; RTID 0648-XD112] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6057. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 240304-0068; RTID 0648-XD798] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6058. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — GARFO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; American Lobster Fishery; Removal of American Lobster Effort Control Measures [Docket No.: 240520-0141; RIN: 0648-BM92] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6059. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — GARFO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Adjustments of 2024 Specifications [Docket No.: 240228-0062; RTID 0648-XD699] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6060. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — GARFO, National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Mid-Atlantic Bluefin Tilefish and Golden Tilefish Fisheries; 2024 Specifications [Docket No.: 240315-0081] (RIN: 0648-BM55) received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6061. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFIS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska Region, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 240227-0061; RTID 0648-XD883] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6062. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFIS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — SERO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; 2024 Recreational Accountability Measure and Closure for Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper [Docket No.: 100217095-2081-04; RTID 0648-XD915] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6063. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFIS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — Alaska, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Trawl Sablefish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 240304-0068; RTID 0648-XD853] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6064. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFIS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — HMS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Angling Category Retention Limit Adjustment [Docket No.: 220919-0193; RTID 0648-XD871] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6065. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFIS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — HMS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries; Closure of the Angling Category Southern New England Area Trophy Fishery for 2024 [Docket No.: 220919-0193; RTID 0648-XD926] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6066. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFIS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Pacific Island Fisheries; Modification of Seabird Interaction Mitigation Measures in the Hawaii Deep-Set Longline Fishery [Docket No.: 231010-0243; RTID 0648-BL34] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-6067. A letter from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, NMFIS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries — GARFO, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Monkfish Fishery; 2024 Monkfish Specifications [Docket No.: 240205-0038; RTID 0648-XD564] received November 1, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5103. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to approve or deny spend plans within a certain amount of time, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-733). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6107. A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to authorize certain extraordinary operation and maintenance work for urban canals of concern; with an amendment (Rept. 118-734). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 8413. A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land at Swanson Reservoir and Hugh Butler Reservoir in the State of Nebraska, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-735). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6843. A bill to expand the boundaries of the Atchafalaya National Heritage Area to include Lafourche Parish, Louisiana (Rept. 118-736). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 7332. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain Federal land to the State of Utah for inclusion in certain State parks, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-737). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6826. A bill to designate the visitor and education center at Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine as the Paul S. Sarbanes Visitor and Education Center (Rept. 118-738). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BALDERSON (for himself, Mr. HERN, and Mr. PFLUGER):

H.R. 10120. A bill to nullify certain inter-agency guidance related to climate-related financial risk management for large financial institutions; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FROST (for himself, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 10121. A bill to establish youth advisory councils for the purpose of providing recommendations to the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior, Department of Energy, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Commerce with respect to environmental issues as those issues relate to youth communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Agriculture, 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. GOOD of Virginia (for himself and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois):

H.R. 10122. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to implement the industry-recognized apprenticeship program process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 10123. A bill to establish an inter-agency committee to harmonize regulatory regimes in the United States relating to cybersecurity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. NOR-TON):

H.R. 10124. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish and administer a pilot program to provide grants to support Food is Medicine programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. LIEU (for himself and Mr. KILEY):

H.R. 10125. A bill to increase penalties for the commission of financial crimes using artificial intelligence; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. GRIMALVA, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 10126. A bill to fully fund the Prevention and Public Health Fund and reaffirm the importance of prevention in the United States healthcare system; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 10127. A bill to suspend normal trade relations with the People's Republic of China and to increase the rates of duty applicable with respect to articles imported from the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Armed Services, Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SABLAN (for himself and Mr. MOYLAN):

H.R. 10128. A bill to authorize grants to be made on an equitable basis to highest courts to assess and improve the handling of foster care and adoption proceedings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. SEWELL (for herself and Mr. KIM of New Jersey):

H.R. 10129. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program regarding treating pregnancy as a qualifying event for enrollment in TRICARE Select; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 10130. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide that aliens who are not qualified aliens are ineligible for certain assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. ESPALLAT, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Mrs. HAYES):

H. Con. Res. 132. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of November 11 through November 17, 2024, as “National Caregiving Youth Week” to raise awareness and encourage national recognition of children and adolescents under 18 years of age who serve as a primary or secondary caregiver for family or household members; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:

H. Res. 1570. A resolution reaffirming the validity and applicability of the Twenty-second Amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina):

H. Res. 1571. A resolution supporting the recognition of November as “National Bread Month” and celebrating bread as a nutritious, affordable, and culturally significant staple food; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MORAN:

H. Res. 1572. A resolution honoring the selfless acts of adoption, fostering, and unconditional love by Bishop W.C. Martin, First Lady Donna Martin, and the Bennett Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Possum Trot, Texas, toward the children in their community, and recognizing families across America who strive to foster, adopt, and better the lives of vulnerable children in the foster care system; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. PEREZ (for herself and Mr. GOLDEN of Maine):

H. Res. 1573. A resolution establishing the Select Committee on Electoral Reform; to the Committee on Rules.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BALDERSON:

H.R. 10120.

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:  
Financial Services

By Mr. FROST:

H.R. 10121.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish youth advisory councils for the purpose of providing recommendations to the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of the Interior, Department of Energy, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Commerce with respect to environmental issues as those issues relate to youth communities, and for other purposes.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H.R. 10122.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amending the National Apprenticeship Act to create Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 10123.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish an interagency committee to harmonize regulatory regimes in the United States relating to cybersecurity, and for other purposes.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 10124.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture in collaboration with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish competitive grant funding for Food is Medicine programs around the country to improve health outcomes through nutrition while lowering healthcare costs.

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 10125.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Criminal Justice

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 10126.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

health care

By Mr. MOOLENAAR:

H.R. 10127.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution of the United States of America

The single subject of this legislation is:

• The bill ends MFN for China. There is no annual vote for recertification. It codifies tariffs in statute and creates a new tariff column for China.

• The new column creates a minimum 35% ad valorem for non-strategic goods and a minimum 100% ad valorem for all strategic goods.

◦ Phase-in period: The new tariff Column rates are phased-in over five years with 10 percent of the tariff increase implemented in year one, 25 percent of the increase implemented in year two, 50 percent of the increase implemented in year four, and 100 percent of the increase implemented in year five.

◦ Strategic Goods: Strategic goods are listed in the bill by HS code. They were based on the White House’s Advanced Technology Product list and China’s Made in China 2025 plan.

• The bill ends current De Minimis treatment for covered nations (including China) and requires customs brokers for other de minimis shipments.

• It will provide Tariff Revenue to U.S. farmers and manufacturers injured by Chinese retaliation. Additional revenue will be used to purchase key munitions important to a Pacific conflict

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 10128.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Extends grants under the Court Improvement Program to the Marianas, Guam, and American Samoa

By Ms. SEWELL:

H.R. 10129.

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:

Military

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 10130.

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:

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide that aliens who are not qualified aliens are ineligible for certain assistance, and for other purposes.

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 208: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 244: Ms. STRICKLAND.  
H.R. 303: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
H.R. 603: Mr. KILEY.  
H.R. 800: Mr. LANDSMAN.  
H.R. 827: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 1062: Ms. SPANBERGER.  
H.R. 1077: Ms. SPANBERGER.  
H.R. 1232: Mr. AMO.  
H.R. 1572: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Mr. SELF.  
H.R. 1781: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.  
H.R. 2413: Mr. LEVIN.  
H.R. 2584: Mr. EVANS.  
H.R. 3024: Mr. VAN DREW.  
H.R. 3481: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.  
H.R. 3537: Ms. DELAURO.  
H.R. 3633: Mr. TONKO and Mr. NADLER.  
H.R. 3970: Mrs. MCIVER and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.  
H.R. 3998: Mr. LANDSMAN.  
H.R. 4249: Mr. LEVIN.  
H.R. 4303: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.  
H.R. 4422: Mr. PANETTA.  
H.R. 4483: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 4562: Mr. LANDSMAN.  
H.R. 4969: Mr. BEAN of Florida.  
H.R. 5029: Mr. NICKEL.  
H.R. 5074: Mrs. HAYES and Ms. PINGREE.  
H.R. 5357: Mrs. HAYES.  
H.R. 5371: Mr. COHEN.  
H.R. 5406: Mr. BAIRD.  
H.R. 5563: Ms. TLAIB and Mr. DELUZZO.  
H.R. 5589: Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. HAYES, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
H.R. 5625: Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. NICKEL, and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.

H.R. 6031: Ms. TITUS.  
 H.R. 6134: Ms. PEREZ.  
 H.R. 6205: Ms. DELBENE.  
 H.R. 6429: Mr. BRECHEEN.  
 H.R. 6576: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.  
 H.R. 6672: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 7025: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
 H.R. 7297: Mr. FOSTER.  
 H.R. 7384: Ms. PINGREE.  
 H.R. 7543: Mr. AMO.  
 H.R. 7585: Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.  
 H.R. 7629: Mr. PETERS.  
 H.R. 7801: Mr. NEHLS and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.  
 H.R. 8028: Ms. SPANBERGER.  
 H.R. 8061: Ms. BROWN.  
 H.R. 8092: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 8103: Mrs. RAMIREZ.  
 H.R. 8231: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 8312: Mr. PHILLIPS.  
 H.R. 8371: Mr. LAHOOD.  
 H.R. 8383: Ms. PINGREE.  
 H.R. 8469: Mr. LANDSMAN.  
 H.R. 8488: Ms. TOKUDA.  
 H.R. 8514: Mr. LEVIN.  
 H.R. 8691: Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Ms. OMAR.  
 H.R. 8702: Mr. NORCROSS.  
 H.R. 8706: Mr. FINSTAD.  
 H.R. 8715: Mrs. KIM of California and Mr. CISCOMANI.  
 H.R. 8848: Mr. MRVAN.  
 H.R. 8869: Mrs. LUNA.  
 H.R. 8886: Mr. POCAN.  
 H.R. 8936: Mr. LIEU.  
 H.R. 8993: Ms. SPANBERGER.  
 H.R. 8995: Mrs. HINSON.  
 H.R. 9021: Ms. CHU.  
 H.R. 9047: Mr. TIFFANY.  
 H.R. 9093: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 9096: Mr. MANN and Mrs. FOUSHEE.  
 H.R. 9120: Mr. EVANS.  
 H.R. 9125: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.  
 H.R. 9211: Ms. SPANBERGER.  
 H.R. 9214: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 9228: Ms. CHU, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. MEEKS, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.  
 H.R. 9233: Ms. TLAIB and Mr. CLEAVER.  
 H.R. 9274: Mr. ESPAILLAT.  
 H.R. 9275: Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. CARSON, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. MULLIN, and Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 9324: Mr. SMITH of Washington.  
 H.R. 9369: Mr. MOSKOWITZ.  
 H.R. 9394: Mr. D'ESPOSITO and Mr. CARBAJAL.  
 H.R. 9523: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.  
 H.R. 9525: Mr. DELUZIO.  
 H.R. 9535: Mr. TAKANO.  
 H.R. 9568: Ms. LOFGREN.  
 H.R. 9573: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.  
 H.R. 9578: Ms. PINGREE.  
 H.R. 9647: Mr. VARGAS.  
 H.R. 9687: Mr. MANN.  
 H.R. 9745: Mrs. HINSON.  
 H.R. 9855: Mr. MFUME.  
 H.R. 9864: Mr. MAGAZINER.  
 H.R. 9884: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.  
 H.R. 9907: Ms. PINGREE.  
 H.R. 9920: Mr. RUTHERFORD.  
 H.R. 9950: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Mrs. WAGNER.  
 H.R. 9977: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 9982: Mrs. HAYES and Ms. TOKUDA.  
 H.R. 9998: Mr. MCGARVEY.  
 H.R. 10024: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
 H.R. 10041: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 10065: Mrs. FLETCHER.  
 H.R. 10073: Mr. MEUSER and Mrs. TRAHAN.  
 H.R. 10077: Mr. MOORE of Alabama.  
 H.R. 10079: Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Mrs. HAYES.  
 H.R. 10084: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. MCIVER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. BROWN, Ms. SEWELL, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.  
 H.R. 10089: Mr. ARRINGTON.  
 H.R. 10097: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
 H.J. Res. 72: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Ms. PLASKETT.  
 H.J. Res. 210: Mr. ROUZER.  
 H. Res. 376: Mr. LAHOOD.  
 H. Res. 561: Mr. LIEU, Mr. DELUZIO, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.  
 H. Res. 1131: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
 H. Res. 1436: Mrs. HAYES.  
 H. Res. 1496: Ms. TOKUDA.  
 H. Res. 1554: Mr. KHANNA.