

in 2023, I rise today to deliver the eleventh installment of my farm bill impact series, where I am highlighting various aspects of the farm bill that deserve Congress' awareness and support. We need robust biosecurity in America not only because we need to eat in order to survive, but also because strong American agriculture will help keep our country free and self-determining as a Nation.

Manhattan, Kansas, the home of my alma mater, Kansas State University, is also home of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility or NBAF. This state-of-the-art 700,000-square foot facility will be a national asset that helps protect our Nation's agriculture against the threat and potential impact of serious animal diseases. Experts believe that 75 percent of new and emerging infectious animal diseases can be transmitted from animals to humans. NBAF will be home to the only maximum biocontainment space in the country, where USDA will conduct comprehensive research, develop vaccines and antivirals, and explore enhanced diagnostic and training capabilities.

The United States Department of Agriculture is currently working with the Department of Homeland Security to bring NBAF online by December and to begin establishing partnerships between two key sectors heavily invested in animal health: academia and industry. Working with scientists and other industry professionals, NBAF will create new safety and security guidelines that will be critical for the prevention of future pandemics. Currently, scientists are conducting this very important research in New York at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, which is more than 60 years old. NBAF will replace this aging facility, create 400 local jobs for Kansans, generate over \$100 million in total economic benefit for our State, and make Kansas the home of internationally recognized animal disease experts. NBAF isn't just an exciting development for Kansas, it also marks the future of biodefense research that will protect the United States and the rest of the world.

□ 1045

The 2018 farm bill contained special authorization for biosecurity planning and response, which helped make NBAF possible. That version of the farm bill explicitly mentioned the coordination of "tactical science activities . . . that protect the integrity, reliability, sustainability, and profitability of the food and agricultural system of the United States against biosecurity threats from pests, diseases, contaminants, and disasters." NBAF is a concrete example of the impact that we can have when we authorize the farm bill in careful and creative ways.

During National Agriculture Month in March, I brought House Agriculture Committee Republican leader GT Thompson on an ag tour of Kansas, where I was proud to show him NBAF.

The technology, scale, and international significance of the facility are truly second to none. Once fully operational in December, NBAF won't just support and protect agriculture; it will protect our country and the world.

I will be back on the floor soon to deliver another installment of my farm bill impact series and highlight more programs and titles within the bill that I believe Congress must understand and support to ensure that agriculture thrives in America.

IMPORTANCE OF LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to follow up on a speech that I gave in March about the importance of the farm bill emergency assistance programs like livestock indemnity.

Agriculture is a risky business, and Mother Nature is a tough business partner. Over the past couple of weeks, Kansas producers have been losing cattle due to extreme temperatures, and qualified producers will be able to recoup some of their losses through the livestock indemnity program.

Just like the flooding and wildfires we saw in Natoma and the surrounding areas last year, this is another example of how essential the farm bill emergency assistance programs are to our country's food supply and the people who produce it.

Emergency programs like livestock indemnity are investments in the future of our country, and they help ensure that America remains food secure and self-determining as a Nation.

Natural disasters, diseases, and weather emergencies happen, and we can't afford to let them cripple the business of the men and women who keep us fed, fueled, and clothed. That is why emergency assistance programs like livestock indemnity must remain strong in the 2023 farm bill.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 47 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. LANGEVIN) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Sovereign God, we pray to You again on behalf of the Ukrainian people. They continue to call to You, O Lord, in their distress. They call to You, our God. Hear their voices.

Relieve them of the hardship of their oppression.

Free them from the abuse of their captors.

Loose them from the chains of their enemy and give them the freedom of their own sovereignty and the blessing of peace in their homeland.

Then gracious God, allow us, we who are observers to this travesty, to be inspired by the faith of the Ukrainians in the face of their adversity. Open our eyes to the spiritual warfare being waged which has called forth their unshakable faith in You. They are living proof of the victory they have already won in You.

For they are hard-pressed on every side, but not crushed. They are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

Almighty God, may we receive their testimony of Your saving grace. Then may we be found as steadfast in the living of our days.

In Your merciful name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. RUIZ 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 407. An act to provide redress to the employees of Air America.

S. 1787. An act to amend title 28 of the United States Code to prevent the transfer of actions arising under the antitrust laws in which a State is a complainant.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 117-81, the Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Commission on the National Defense Strategy:

Eric S. Edelman of Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105-292, as amended by Public Law 106-55, Public Law 107-228, and Public Law 112-75, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, upon the recommendation of the Republican Leader, appoints the following individuals to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom:

Mr. Abraham Cooper of California.
Mr. Eric M. Ueland of Oregon.

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.

URGING SENATE PASSAGE OF THE HONORING OUR PACT ACT

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on the Senate to immediately pass the Honoring our PACT Act.

In 2017, I met a veteran from Cathedral City, Jennifer Kepner, who developed pancreatic cancer due to her exposure to burn pits during her service in Iraq.

Despite being a young and otherwise healthy mother of two with no family history of cancer, she and her family faced roadblocks to getting the care that she needed from the VA.

At her kitchen table, she asked me to lead this fight, and I promised her I would. Now, 5 years later, we are closer than ever before to fulfilling Jennifer's vision for her fellow veterans.

With my provision included to get veterans the presumptive benefits they have earned and deserve, the Honoring our PACT Act will ensure that no other veteran will have to fight like Jennifer did for the care they need.

I urge the Senate to fulfill our Nation's promise to our veterans, honor Jennifer's memory, and pass the Honoring our PACT Act without delay.

WORLD UNIFICATION AGAINST PUTIN

(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, yet again, the world is uniting against war criminal Putin and his murderous invasion of Ukraine.

The European Union is set to sign an agreement with Israel and Egypt which will free itself from Putin energy reliance. EU leaders say they will reduce Russian oil and gas imports, cutting financial resources to the Putin war machine where young Russians are sacrificed by Putin for personal gain of oil, money and power, while conducting mass murder in Ukraine.

In the plan, Israel will export natural gas in a pipeline to Egypt where it will be turned into liquified natural gas, then delivered to EU member states. I appreciate the service of Egyptian Ambassador to the U.S. Motaz Zahran.

During a trip to Israel this week, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said, The Kremlin's be-

havior only strengthens our resolve to break free of Russian fossil fuels.

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

As the co-chair of the EU Caucus and the Israel Caucus, I especially appreciate the cooperation we see today.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF DACA

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the 10th anniversary of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program or DACA.

Today, Dreamers are doctors, soldiers, nurses, frontline workers, police officers, and firefighters, and many, many DACA recipients have made the ultimate sacrifice for this country.

Here is a picture of one of my constituents, Jose Angel Garibay. Jose Angel Garibay was killed in action. He was the first marine to make the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq from Orange County.

There are many, many more soldiers—DACA recipients—that have made the ultimate sacrifice for their new country. It is time to give them permanent status in the United States.

PROTECTING INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, with inflation at a 40-year high and a sluggish economy, attacking workers' freedoms should be the furthest thing from the President's mind.

President Biden's Department of Labor is in the process of changing the definition of an employee to include independent contractors. This would be devastating for the 19 million Americans who currently enjoy the flexibility that comes with building wealth by participating in the American Dream.

Under this change, workers classified as independent contractors would be subject to the same employment-related restrictions as traditional employees. This is an assault on the modern American worker.

Independent contractors were responsible for over 70 percent of the job growth during the last economic expansion before COVID. If we want to spur economic growth, we must remove barriers and allow our workforce to flourish.

Fortunately, my legislation, the Employee Rights Act, would codify protections for independent contractors, shielding them from these overreaching classifications.

NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

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

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, June is National Dairy Month, an opportunity to honor the contributions of dairy farmers throughout the country.

I am proud to represent our Nation's largest dairy district and the hard-working men and women in the Central Valley who work tirelessly to provide our Nation with milk, cheese, ice cream, and all the other dairy products we enjoy.

There are over 30,000 dairy farms across the United States, and many of those are farmer-owned and operated. As a lifelong dairy farmer, I know firsthand the impact that these burdensome government regulations have on day-to-day operations of these family farms and businesses.

We need to reduce the regulatory burdens on our domestic agriculture producers and incentivize more production here at home. Supporting American agriculture and our dairy industry will bring food costs down and provide stability to our global food supply.

Thank you to our dairy farmers and manufacturers in the Central Valley and across the country for their contributions to our community. Happy Dairy Month.

2022 PHILANTHROPISTS OF THE YEAR

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

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Ron and Terry Prill for being recognized as the 2022 Philanthropists of the Year.

For two decades, Ron and Terry have dedicated their lives to worthy causes, positively impacting residents across southwest Washington.

After retiring and moving to Camas, Ron served on the board of the Boys and Girls Club of Southwest Washington, helping make a difference in the lives of countless kids in our communities.

This venture inspired the Prills to continue giving back through other organizations. Among their numerous acts of charity, Ron and Terry have been highly supportive of several healthcare-related nonprofits and were critical in expanding PeaceHealth Southwest Washington's operations.

This includes a remodeled cardiology unit with state-of-the-art equipment and a cardiac education center, which provides care to countless patients and their families.

Ron and Terry, thank you for your unwavering support of our communities, and congratulations again on this well-deserved recognition.

RECOGNIZING THE LIBERTY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY BULLDOGS

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1