

lost Michigan. Trump lost Illinois. Trump lost Wisconsin. Trump lost Georgia. Trump lost Nebraska District 2. Trump lost Virginia. Trump lost Pennsylvania. Trump lost New York. Trump lost Maine District 1. Trump lost Washington, D.C. Trump lost Maryland. Trump lost Delaware. Trump lost New Jersey. Trump lost Connecticut. Trump lost Rhode Island. Trump lost Massachusetts. Trump lost Vermont. Trump lost New Hampshire.

Trump lost the electoral college 306–232. Trump lost the 2020 Presidential election.

#### KEEP GOVERNMENT OUT OF YOUR DOCTOR'S OFFICE

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, abortion is a highly and deeply personal decision.

It is very complicated. You have dramatic effects for the family, for the woman. It can have health effects.

Some pregnancies are fine in the first month, and then they are not fine in the fourth month for medical reasons.

Some pregnancies are the result of rape or incest.

Some religions support abortion. Some religions oppose abortion.

This is a very complicated issue, very personal, and it is exactly the wrong issue for government.

Republicans want to criminalize abortion. Keep government out of your doctor's office.

Democrats support Roe v. Wade. I urge the American people that if they want to have Roe v. Wade upheld, they cast their vote at the ballot box this November.

#### DEMOCRATS' ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, under the American Rescue Plan, we created jobs, we got vaccines into people's arms, we reopened schools, and we helped get the economy back on track.

In the first 15 months of the Biden Presidency, over 8.5 million jobs were created, the most in American history.

Democrats are for the people, and we put people over politics.

We also passed an infrastructure law that is going to rebuild roads, bridges, and highways, get lead out of water, and put broadband everywhere, from rural areas to inner cities to everywhere in between.

What are Republicans doing? I don't know, but I know a number of Republican Members of Congress sought a pardon from the White House for inciting an insurrection.

#### NATIONAL FOSTER YOUTH SHADOW DAY

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, today is one of my favorite days in Congress because it is National Foster Youth Shadow Day.

I have a foster youth shadowing me. His name is Joseph Mariscal. He just graduated from community college, and now he is going to go to Cal State LA. He is watching how Congress works.

He has overcome so many obstacles, and because of the amazing things he has done to overcome his obstacles, I

am confident he can do anything he wants in his future.

I thank KAREN BASS and other members of the National Foster Youth Institute for all they do for our foster youth and for having this shadow day today.

#### SHOCKING REMARKS ON GAS PRICES

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, recently, Cecilia Rouse, the chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, was trying to explain away the challenges that runaway inflation presents to most American households, and she said, "Most American household balance sheets are strong and can provide some cushion for rising prices."

I was shocked to hear these remarks coming from one of the President's top economic policy advisers. Madam Speaker, most Americans, in fact, do not have a cushion for rising prices. A recent survey found that 56 percent of Americans cannot cover a \$1,000 emergency expense from their savings.

That is why I led a letter demanding that Chair Rouse apologizes to the millions of Americans struggling with skyrocketing prices due to the failed economic policies of the Biden administration. I include this letter for the RECORD.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, June 15, 2022.

Dr. CECILIA ROUSE,  
Chair, White House Council of Economic Advisers, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIR ROUSE: We write today to express our outrage toward your recent comments during an online event hosted by the Center for American Progress. At the event, you stated, in part "... most household balance sheets are strong and can provide some cushion for rising prices ..." As Chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, we are astounded at your failure to recognize that most Americans actually lack any sort of cushion for the hardships they must endure as a result of the Biden Administration's failed economic policies.

A recent survey found that 56 percent of Americans cannot cover a \$1,000 emergency expense with their savings. We would not expect this to come as a surprise to you, one of the most senior economic officials in the Biden Administration. It is offensive to the millions of Americans fighting to fill their gas tanks, having to remove items from their shopping carts at the grocery store check-out line, and struggling to pay their rising rents to pretend that households have an imaginary cushion to deal with these historic price increases caused in no small part by runaway deficit spending.

Considering President Biden's approval ratings have dipped below 40 percent, perhaps it is comments like these that lead Americans to believe that his administration is completely out of touch with the everyday struggles of millions of American families. We encourage you to travel to gas stations and grocery stores across the country to ask hard-working Americans whether they have enough "cushion" to offset this record inflation. In fact, each of us invites you to visit our respective districts to speak with our constituents, where you will find most of them do not have such a cushion.

Alarming, you followed your comment by stating "... I understand rising prices are painful, I understand that ..." Despite these claims, you clearly do not understand the full impact of rising prices because of your mistaken belief that most Americans have the ability to absorb the pain from rapidly increasing prices for goods and services they need each day with essentially inconsequential negative effects to their quality of life due to some mythical financial "cushion" you think most Americans enjoy. We ask you to publicly apologize to the millions of Americans struggling with skyrocketing prices and record inflation for these insensitive and inaccurate remarks.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, if remarks like these are reflective of the advice being given to the President of the United States, it is no wonder that they continue to enact policies completely out of touch with the American people.

#### GAS TAX HOLIDAY

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, if you were on a drive through middle Tennessee right now and needed to fill up, let's say, a 2015 Ford F-150, you would pay about \$120. A gas tax holiday would take fewer than \$5 off that bill.

Yet, this is the latest Band-Aid solution being tossed around by the Biden administration. President Biden has already depleted our Strategic Petroleum Reserve to its lowest point in 35 years, weakening national security while doing little or nothing to lower gas prices.

While every dollar certainly counts, saving only \$5 out of every \$120 from a gas tax holiday will not make much of a difference in our personal budgets, but it will have a crushing effect on our ability to pay for the Federal highway system.

Instead of kneecapping our Nation's infrastructure, the President should immediately approve the more than 4,000 pending applications for drilling and end the freeze on oil and gas leases, yet President Biden refuses.

The key to getting prices down is simple: reestablish the energy independence President Trump created.

President Biden simply must do better.

#### DEMOCRATS' ENERGY POLICY HURTING AMERICANS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, on President Biden's first day in office, he canceled the permit for the Keystone XL pipeline. It was a campaign promise.

This would have brought 700,000 barrels of oil per day into the United States. Instead, this move has cost thousands of Americans their jobs as well as much of their income.

Continuing his attack on our energy industries, he halted all oil and natural gas leases on Federal lands, despite a judge's ruling against this illegal ban.

His administration has also shut down the congressionally authorized oil and gas program in the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska and has threatened industry with regulation and increased royalties, which will significantly impact investment in new energy production. Indeed, the large financiers are already backing away due to their ESG idealism and the intimidation by the government to do so.

ANWR is actually 19.6 million acres. The 1002 Area is a small fraction of that total area, and the actual drilling itself will take place on an even smaller fraction of that, as well.

Most recently, the Biden administration has scrapped a court-ordered offshore 5-year lease in the Gulf of Mexico. This could likely spell a complete ban on offshore leases until the end of his whole term.

What does he expect is going to happen? Well, we are seeing it, and the people are feeling it: \$5 gas nationally; \$6, \$6.50 in California, where everything is more expensive; \$7 for diesel.

How do they expect that trucks are going to deliver items to the store or trucks are going to bring things from manufacturing facilities to distribution centers or from the field to the dryer, to the mill, the fertilizer brought to the field, the seed brought to the field? All these things, how do they expect they are going to happen with \$7 fuel and higher?

The expectations are it is not going to get better anytime soon. We have seen proposals by the Biden administration to relieve the gas tax and diesel tax, which is about 18.4 cents per gallon on gas and 24.4 on diesel. I think we would always be happy to take a reduction in taxes, whether it is temporary or not, but it is not going to make but a tiny impact on \$5, \$6, \$7 fuel.

What we need is production. Production will alter the market. When they are hesitant or reluctant or just flat saying no to increasing production, especially in a worldwide market where we had been relying on Russia for some reason for about 8 percent of our oil consumption, yes, we need to replace that.

We shouldn't buy anything from Russia. We shouldn't really be buying anything from China. Why do we want to be dependent on them for anything? Solar panels? Our energy policy in this country needs to be turned on its ear and put back to something that favors Americans.

They are blaming everything under the Sun for these rising costs except for the policies they are putting in place. The President is blaming MAGA Republicans. What does that even mean? How does that make sense?

Washington, D.C., has been under one-party rule for the last couple of years. It is clear: The price hikes we are seeing at the gas pump are caused directly by the Biden administration's anti-American, anti-energy policies. His exact words while campaigning

were: "No more drilling on Federal lands. No more drilling, including offshore. No ability for the oil industry to continue to drill, period. It ends."

Well, you are seeing the effects, and it is unaffordable for people. Normal folks don't have discretionary income to even get through an emergency, in a lot of cases, within their family, and we keep heaping this upon their backs, for their energy needs, driving their vehicles, and heating their homes.

We are taking away natural gas. There are areas moving to do that. Cities and certain other jurisdictions want to say no more natural gas for your stoves, heaters, and such. They want it to be all electric.

These hostile actions are, indeed, creating long-term uncertainty. We are seeing the futures contracts for energy are staying high.

How much longer can we do this? How long will they be in place that way? Less drilling results in higher oil prices, which means higher gas prices for consumers. It is that simple. It is not rocket science.

Instead, the President is traveling to Saudi Arabia to beg for them to send more of their oil to us. We have the reserves in many States in our own country that we can be tapping into and doing it more ecologically soundly and certainly more economically soundly. He would rather, I guess, lie in the pockets of OPEC oligarchs than create the high-paying jobs we have right here and do it well.

We know that American energy is the cleanest and safest in the world. It is much cleaner than natural gas that Russia was sending to Western Europe and now is cutting off from them. Well, that is a surprise, isn't it? Germany gets rid of their nuclear power plants and cuts back on other forms of energy, and now instead, because they cannot rely on Russian gas coming in through the big pipe, they are having to restoke their coal-fired plants.

Isn't that amazing? You actually go backward on environmental issues when you don't plan, when you can't foresee what might happen with what Russia would do.

We could be a major exporter, and we should be a major exporter, helping our European allies and helping Americans have jobs and decently priced energy that comes from our own country.

#### CHANGING THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM FROM INSIDE

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

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to talk about the nearly half a million young people in our Nation's child welfare system.

Last month was National Foster Care Month, a time for our country to come together to acknowledge the half million people in our system, the hundreds of thousands who work within the system day in and day out, and the mil-

lions of adults who have exited the system and are no longer in care.

No one knows the child welfare system like the foster youth who have grown up in the system. Today, the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth and the National Foster Youth Institute have brought more than 35 young people from all over the country to shadow their Members of Congress. I would like to take a second to thank the Members of Congress who are spending this morning learning from a constituent and delegate of the program about their personal experiences and ideas to make impactful change in the child welfare system.

Each year, our participants have a real hand in making change. From the Chafee Grant extensions to the passage of the Families First Prevention Services Act to securing COVID relief for foster youth, this group's voices have changed our child welfare system forever.

As a matter of fact, when COVID first struck and none of us in the country knew what to do, the young people who were members of the National Foster Youth Institute contacted Members of Congress and said: While you are passing legislation to address the pandemic, don't forget us because we have very specific needs. And Members of Congress responded.

When we put together the emergency packages, we took their input. We took specifically what they requested, such as the Chafee Grant extensions and other extensions of programs, and put it into law and made sure that they had resources.

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The reality is this: When the government removes children from their parents, the government becomes that child's parent. Too often, the government forgets this commitment, and life goes on for those not in the child welfare system; but for those in it, they come to feel trapped and forgotten.

These young people here today have traveled thousands of miles to share their stories of their challenges with abuse, trafficking, overmedication, and homelessness. In addition, they are sharing their successes with mentorship, adoption, family reunification, community activism, and independent living. They are resilient and have the ability to navigate challenges in their life and succeed, even in spite of their hardships. Their goal is to leave Congress with a better understanding of the reality faced today by our Nation's youth in care.

I will share some words from Xandra Ruby Vaughn, who is shadowing me this morning. She told me just yesterday that her time in care helped shape the person she is today. While in care, she saw that resources for foster youth, especially when it came to education, were hard to find and hard to access. She manages a Facebook page of resources for foster youth of all ages, assisting them with finding and assessing