

in the price at the pump that is hurting families.

One final question I want to raise to the gentleman, and this came up yesterday or 2 days ago as we were having a series of votes on the National Defense Authorization Act, as the gentleman pointed out. Next week, we will be bringing up some of the appropriations bills, with still more to come over the next few weeks. As we have large numbers of amendments on NDAA and appropriations, which is typical for the process, to be able to go back to 2-minute voting where we can do our business not in 4 hours until 11 at night, but where we can actually be more efficient at processing all the requests that Members have to get a vote on different issues.

We have continued to push to end proxy voting. Again, you have seen most of the country already get there. Most of the country is getting back to work.

Airplanes, finally, you don't have to wear masks anymore. People are traveling internationally again. People are opening up their offices again to get workers in the office.

Congress, frankly, should be leading, not lagging, on this. But if we got rid of proxy voting, we could get back next week to 2-minute votes and be much more effective and efficient in doing our jobs here in Congress.

Is that something that the majority would consider, especially looking at six different appropriations bills, which I am sure will yield hundreds of amendments that would be debated and voted on, on this floor?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CLYBURN. Thank you for yielding.

As the gentleman knows, proxy voting has been utilized by both sides of the aisle. I admit it can be a very cumbersome process here on the floor, but we all utilize it. It is done because it serves a very valuable purpose for this institution.

We have made great strides in mitigating the harm of the coronavirus pandemic through vaccines and treatments, but as we both know, the disease continues to spread in both of our home States.

We are hearing numbers that are very concerning. In just this week of this session alone, I know of several Members who have tested positive for COVID and are, therefore, isolating.

These Members can still participate in the process and represent their constituents by using the proxy vote. Of course, having the proxy vote and having 2-minute votes doesn't seem a pretty efficient process to me. We are having a hard time getting it done during 5 minutes.

We just had several 5-minute votes, and I saw on my friend's side of the aisle about 15 people still lined up after the time has expired.

Both of us are being disadvantaged and inconvenienced by this process, but I think it is something that we have to

do. I don't know how we could be efficient in this operation with 2-minute voting.

I will pass that along to the leader and hope that he will keep in mind that coronavirus is still here with us, as the gentleman knows.

We serve together on the coronavirus select subcommittee, and we are confronted with issues that still concern the American people. I think that we have to keep all of that in mind as we try to carry out the people's business.

□ 1415

Mr. SCALISE. I appreciate that. I will share—and if the gentleman wanted to share as well with the majority leader—our side stands ready and strongly encourages the complete elimination of proxy voting. We could absolutely get back to 2-minute voting with that. It is not a partisan issue.

You can look across the Capitol, in the United States Senate they have never utilized proxy voting. They continue to do their work. It is, of course, controlled by Democrats over there. They represent the same States that we represent. They managed to do their business without proxy voting so that everybody has to show up to do their job.

This time is no different than any other time in our Nation's history. There are some people who get ill; there are some people who have surgeries; there are some people who just have other things maybe with their family that takes them away. That is something that we all accommodate, we all recognize as a condition of doing a job that actually requires interaction with other people. The Senate has managed to do it without proxy voting; we would just urge that the House embrace that same approach. We will continue to push for that, which would allow us to do things like 2-minute voting.

Unless the gentleman has anything else, I am prepared to yield back.

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

#### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF VINCENT RANGEL

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life of a friend and an outstanding Chicagoan, Vincent "Vince" Rangel.

Vince was an immigrant from Mexico who proudly chose to serve his country during the Vietnam war as a member of the U.S. Army, accumulating a long list of decorations, including a Purple Heart, a Bronze Star Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and many more.

Vince later served in numerous veterans' organizations in Illinois, becoming a leading advocate for enhanced behavioral health services for veterans.

His service to our community included his work in support of small

business as president of the Mexican-American Chamber of Commerce of Illinois and as board member of the U.S.-Hispanic Chamber.

Vince never forgot his roots, serving as president of the Mexican Civic Society of Illinois, helping to promote Mexican history and culture.

My wife, Evelyn, and I send his daughters, Veronica and Jennifer, and his beloved grandchildren, Juan Diego and Victoria, our most sincere condolences.

#### CONGRATULATING KIRKLEY THOMAS ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise to wish a happy retirement to Kirkley Thomas, the vice president of government affairs for Arkansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc.

Early in his career, Kirkley served as a professional staff member in the United States Senate and subsequently worked for the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. Mr. Thomas accepted his leadership post at Arkansas Electric Cooperatives and served for 8½ years.

His service to our State and his contributions to the important progress in building badly needed infrastructure for power and broadband services is deeply appreciated. Our families have benefited by his leadership.

Madam Speaker, I thank Kirkley Thomas for his years of service, and I wish him a very happy retirement.

#### FIGHTING FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

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

Ms. BROWNLEY. Madam Speaker, recently the Supreme Court took an unprecedented, deeply disappointing, and ideologically driven action to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

This is a targeted attack on Americans' rights to make decisions for their bodies, their lives, and their future.

This decision sets a very dangerous precedent for our Nation's highest court and is the result of a premeditated agenda from radical conservatives to dismantle access to comprehensive reproductive care.

The decision to have an abortion is a deeply personal one, one that should be made between a patient and their doctor, not by politically motivated judges or politicians.

*Roe* offered Americans protections from the unsolicited belief systems and the ideologies of others being imposed on them and their personal healthcare decisions.

I am committed to continuing to work alongside House Democrats and President Biden in the fight for reproductive freedom and reproductive justice and the right to abortion across the United States.

## WAR IN UKRAINE

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to address the current situation in Ukraine.

Obviously, everyday people in Ukraine and Russia are dying, and I am concerned that the current administration has no particular plan, or at least we are not told of any plan or goal, as to where we want to wind up.

Ukraine has the second lowest birthrate of any country in a country of that size in the world. It is lower than all but South Korea. Russia also has a very low birthrate. Even before the war, a lot of Russians were leaving Russia, at least subjectively from what I have seen when I toured the southern border of the United States.

The combination of immigration and low birthrate means that the primary goal of the leaders of both these countries should be to make sure we get the number of Russians and Ukrainians up, not going the opposite direction.

In any event, I do not know. We have not met collectively since March to have a briefing for all the legislators as to what the opinions of the Biden administration are. So I am going to ask the press maybe to ask a few questions to find out whether they are working with anybody to try to reach some sort of end to this war or if they don't care if it goes on for another 6 months.

## PURSUING COMMON GROUND

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

Mr. PHILLIPS. Madam Speaker, I am hearing from Minnesotans who want their leaders to reach across the aisle and pursue common ground.

From fighting inflation to fighting crime, I work to build consensus on our biggest challenges as vice chair of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus, and I am proud of everything that we have accomplished so far.

There is hard work ahead, but Minnesotans know that we are stronger when everyone is at the table, and that is why I created Common Ground Workshops and why I will continue to pursue commonsense solutions.

## PREVENTING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

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

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my support for research activities to prevent child sexual abuse under the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

Throughout my career, it has been a top priority of mine to protect the most vulnerable populations in our

communities, including children impacted from sexual abuse.

For the second year in a row, I was proud to lead a letter to the House Appropriations Committee in support of these research activities. Thank you to all 30 Members who joined me in this initiative as well as the leaders of the Appropriations Committee for the increase in funding.

I appreciate the report language that recognizes the severe and often lifelong physical, cognitive, and emotional impact of child sexual abuse and the value of this research to increase the understanding of risk and factors that can improve prevention efforts.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to ensure that all children can thrive in a safe and healthy environment.

## ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I am honored to yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), former chair of the Appropriations Committee.

## HONORING FALLEN HEROES IN FLOYD COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I thank Judge Gohmert for very graciously allowing me to speak before his main subject.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of three fallen heroes in eastern Kentucky. Last week we laid to rest three police officers and one service canine who were slain in the line of duty after enduring unexpected gunfire in Allen, Kentucky, on June 30, 2022.

Among the fallen were William Petry, a 31-year law enforcement veteran and the fire chief in Floyd County, Kentucky; Ralph Frasure, a 39-year law enforcement veteran and school resource officer; and Jacob Chaffins, was a 28-year-old police officer who just started his law enforcement career 3 years ago and an active sergeant in the Kentucky Army National Guard. Also among the deceased was a beloved canine named Drago, a well-trained service dog for the Floyd County Sheriff's Department.

Needless to say, the heartbreak and pain that have reverberated across eastern Kentucky at the loss of these brave men who dedicated their lives to serving and protecting our local people has been overwhelming.

President Theodore Roosevelt, who was a former New York City Police Commissioner, once said, "No man is worth his salt who is not ready at all times to risk his body, to risk his well-being, to risk his life in a great cause."

On Thursday, June 30, 2022, these officers, and many other responders risked their lives as they valiantly answered the call to protect the people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Their heroic deaths represent a powerful display of the selfless love described in John 15:13, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Even as we speak, several other first responders are also fighting for their lives, recovering from their injuries from that horrific day, and our prayers are with them and with their families.

In a Nation where police forces have been vilified in recent years by the actions of a few bad actors, may the lives of these brave men be a reminder of the outstanding integrity and sacrifice that the thin blue line represents. We must continue to support our law enforcement officers across the United States, ensuring they are fully equipped, adequately prepared, and never at the mercy of evildoers.

This Nation owes a great debt of gratitude for the life and service of Officers Petry, Frasure, and Chaffins. May their loved ones find abundant peace and confidence in Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God."

Madam Speaker, I request to recognize a moment of silence in memory of William Petry, Ralph Frasure, Jacob Chaffins, and K-9 Drago.

□ 1430

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, what a very fitting and appropriate tribute to such selfless servants.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

## REMEMBERING R.D. KINSEY

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend from East Texas, Judge Gohmert, with whom I have had such a great association over these past several years and thank him for his leadership in this people's House.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a Vietnam veteran and leader in our Arkansas community, R.D. Kinsey, a great personal friend of mine, taken too suddenly last week.

Following Kinsey's honorable discharge from the United States Air Force, he worked to serve his fellow Vietnam-era veterans by working alongside them and the VA to ensure that those heroes could obtain the benefits they had earned during their time in service.

Over time, R.D.'s mission expanded, and he worked with local veterans and their families to ensure that they had the healthcare and benefits that they had rightfully earned. R.D. dedicated his life to his fellow service heroes.

In 2004, R.D. worked to establish the Michael Vann Johnson, Jr., American Legion Post 74 of North Little Rock, Arkansas, where he held the commander position for 14 years. Under his leadership, Post 74 became known for their tremendous work in assisting veterans across the State. Let me say personally, no one was more shipshape than Post 74.

In 2018, R.D. became the first African-American State commander in the history of the Department of Arkansas