

In this month, we have heard many on the other side spread frightening disinformation like Democrats want abortion on demand. No, Democrats want freedom and choice for women to make their own reproductive decisions.

Meanwhile, they ignore or don't care about the fact that women are scared, terrified that they may lose access to very personal reproductive healthcare medications and procedures.

So, it is necessary that we pass the Right to Contraception Act, which will guarantee the right to get and use birth control, whether it is birth control pills, IUDs, or emergency contraceptives.

It is maddening that we even have to vote on this, that a woman's right to birth control could even be in question, that a privacy right is even up for political debate. But in this brave new world, this is where we are.

I support this legislation to protect the rights of our daughters and granddaughters, nieces and friends, women and girls everywhere.

#### RECOGNIZING PASTOR ROSEMARY WOODS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible service of a member of our community, Pastor Rosemary Woods.

Pastor Woods has selflessly led members of her community for 30 years now and is set to achieve the lifetime achievement award in Brunswick, Georgia. This will not be her first award, as Pastor Woods has also received the key to the city of Brunswick.

She is the mother of former Philadelphia Phillies player Dominic Brown, and in 2014, she was named Mother of the Year by the organization.

Pastor Woods serves her community through many food drives, Christmas toy drives, and Easter festivals, and she is hoping to start a turkey giveaway this coming Thanksgiving.

Her service to our community is remarkable and commendable. Her work feeding those in need came at an essential time and has continued to inspire others to join in and offer a helping hand.

Pastor Woods is steering our community in the right direction, and I look forward to hearing about what else she is able to accomplish.

Madam Speaker, I thank Pastor Woods for what she has done for the people of Georgia's First Congressional District and congratulate her on her achievements.

#### WE TRUST WOMEN

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the Right to Contraception Act, which will soon pass the House with the support of House Democrats.

Women's rights have been under attack for decades. The recent overturning of Roe v. Wade has sadly provided a roadmap for future courts to reconsider and overrule the right to contraception and other fundamental rights.

In fact, Republicans have used this decision as an opening to try to block or ban contraceptive methods already. But House Democrats won't stand for this, not under our watch.

Today, we will further protect women and their fundamental rights by passing the Right to Contraception Act because we trust women. The bill will protect women's access to birth control because no one should control women and make their healthcare decisions for them. No one.

We trust women.

#### PRESIDENT BIDEN SHOULD FIST-BUMP THE AMERICAN ENERGY WORKER

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, while President Biden is fist-bumping with the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Americans are still facing record-high prices at the gas pump.

When he was campaigning, President Biden claimed he would crack down on Saudi leaders, and then he turns and shares a warm greeting with one before begging them to sell us their oil.

President Biden showed weakness on the world stage, and he showed the American people he cares more about keeping up friendly appearances with OPEC than the well-being of the American people.

Let's be clear: The Biden administration halted the Keystone XL pipeline on day one and destroyed 11,000 American jobs to line the pockets of OPEC oligarchs.

Why else would President Biden be begging Saudi Arabia and other OPEC countries to increase oil production when producers and refiners right here on U.S. soil have struggled for months thanks to the Green New Deal agenda?

Whatever happened to making America self-sufficient in energy? We are a country that can depend on ourselves for our energy, but the Biden administration is continuously doing whatever they can to block this from happening.

Instead of traveling 8,000 miles across the ocean to beg for oil from others, he should continue the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline and the rest of our American infrastructure, support American workers, and maybe fist-bump them for a change.

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#### DIALING FOR DOLLARS

(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, according to an analysis by Issue One, House Members running for reelection this year raised \$207 million over the past three months, an average of \$3,400 per Member, per day.

Back in Minnesota, people ask me all the time how busy Members of Congress—compensated by taxpayers—could raise that much money every single day.

Well, we know the dirty truth around here: Rather than meeting with constituents, studying policy, writing legislation, or attending committee meetings, Members of the House and Senate collectively are spending 10,000 hours per week dialing for dollars or attending fundraising receptions. It is downright gross.

So that is why my colleague, MIKE GALLAGHER, and I have introduced the On the Clock Act. Our bill won't fix America's corrupt campaign finance system, but it will ensure that Members of Congress spend more time working for the people and less time raising money for themselves.

#### JANUARY 6 INVESTIGATION

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, tonight, will be the last scheduled meeting of the partisan Committee on January 6th.

As my neighbors in middle Tennessee struggle with the skyrocketing cost of living, I can't help but think Congress' time and energy should be focused on the issues on most Americans' minds, not another political witch hunt.

If the committee had any legitimacy, it would allow Leader MCCARTHY to seek the Republicans of his choosing. Speaker PELOSI made the unprecedented decision to not do so.

If it had any legitimacy, the committee would be investigating what caused the events to unfold that day, what led to the breach of security, and what can we do to learn from these failures to prepare for the future.

Unfortunately, I don't think the committee has done its job to ask these important questions.

Tennesseans are smart and see this process as what it is: a partisan witch hunt in the form of a sham investigation.

#### DIAL 988 FOR MENTAL HEALTH

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, July 16 marked the turning point for America.

For the first time in our history, anytime, anywhere in America, you can call 988 for immediate help during a mental health crisis.

But to truly meet this moment and carry forward the full potential of 988, we need to do more.

Right now, America's default for people who need immediate help when experiencing a mental health crisis is to call 911, and the default treatment facilities are jails and emergency rooms.

Time and time again, we have seen repeating tragedies of police officers killing individuals during a mental health emergency. The fact is, we need to stop criminalizing mental illness and get people the crisis help that they need.

To truly fulfill the promise of 988, we must make sure anyone who dials 988 will have someone to call, someone to come if they need help, and somewhere to go for compassionate continuous care.

#### FAILED SOLUTIONS TO RISING ENERGY COSTS

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, President Biden's reckless agenda is sending our Nation hurdling towards a recession.

The President wants people to believe 40-year high inflation is someone else's fault. But his solution to this crisis highlights his complicity in driving up the cost of everything, from gas to groceries.

One of President Biden's solutions to rising energy costs is begging foreign countries to pump more oil. This is the same President who is waging a regulatory assault on U.S. energy production. His administration has sold nearly 1 million barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to a Chinese energy company.

It is unbelievable. I am coauthoring an amendment to block the administration from ever doing this again.

As a fighter for working families, I will keep doing everything I can to hold the administration accountable for driving inflation to the highest level in 40 years.

#### RIGHT TO CONTRACEPTION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1232, I call up the bill (H.R. 8373) to protect a person's ability to access contraceptives and to engage in contraception, and to protect a health care provider's ability to provide contraceptives, contraception, and information related to contraception, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SÁNCHEZ). Pursuant to House Resolution 1232, the amendment printed in part B of House Report 117-420 is adopted,

and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

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

H.R. 8373

*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 "Right to Contraception Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **CONTRACEPTION.**—The term "contraception" means an action taken to prevent pregnancy, including the use of contraceptives or fertility-awareness based methods, and sterilization procedures.

(2) **CONTRACEPTIVE.**—The term "contraceptive" means any drug, device, or biological product intended for use in the prevention of pregnancy, whether specifically intended to prevent pregnancy or for other health needs, that is legally marketed under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, such as oral contraceptives, long-acting reversible contraceptives, emergency contraceptives, internal and external condoms, injectables, vaginal barrier methods, transdermal patches, and vaginal rings, or other contraceptives.

(3) **GOVERNMENT.**—The term "government" includes each branch, department, agency, instrumentality, and official of the United States or a State.

(4) **HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.**—The term "health care provider" means, with respect to a State, any entity or individual (including any physician, certified nurse-midwife, nurse, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, and pharmacist) that is licensed or otherwise authorized by the State to provide health care services.

(5) **STATE.**—The term "State" includes each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and each territory and possession of the United States, and any subdivision of any of the foregoing, including any unit of local government, such as a county, city, town, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State.

#### SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The right to contraception is a fundamental right, central to a person's privacy, health, wellbeing, dignity, liberty, equality, and ability to participate in the social and economic life of the Nation.

(2) The Supreme Court has repeatedly recognized the constitutional right to contraception.

(3) In *Griswold v. Connecticut* (381 U.S. 479 (1965)), the Supreme Court first recognized the constitutional right for married people to use contraceptives.

(4) In *Eisenstadt v. Baird* (405 U.S. 438 (1972)), the Supreme Court confirmed the constitutional right of all people to legally access contraceptives regardless of marital status.

(5) In *Carey v. Population Services International* (431 U.S. 678 (1977)), the Supreme Court affirmed the constitutional right to contraceptives for minors.

(6) The right to contraception has been repeatedly recognized internationally as a human right. The United Nations Population Fund has published several reports outlining family planning as a basic human right that advances women's health, economic empowerment, and equality.

(7) Access to contraceptives is internationally recognized by the World Health Organization as advancing other human rights such as the right to life, liberty, expression, health, work, and education.

(8) Contraception is safe, essential health care, and access to contraceptive products and services is central to people's ability to participate equally in economic and social life in the United States and globally. Contraception allows people to make decisions about their families and their lives.

(9) Contraception is key to sexual and reproductive health. Contraception is critical to preventing unintended pregnancy and many contraceptives are highly effective in preventing and treating a wide array of often severe medical conditions and decrease the risk of certain cancers.

(10) Family planning improves health outcomes for women, their families, and their communities and reduces rates of maternal and infant mortality and morbidity.

(11) The United States has a long history of reproductive coercion, including the child-bearing forced upon enslaved women, as well as the forced sterilization of Black women, Puerto Rican women, indigenous women, immigrant women, and disabled women, and reproductive coercion continues to occur.

(12) The right to make personal decisions about contraceptive use is important for all Americans, and is especially critical for historically marginalized groups, including Black, indigenous, and other people of color; immigrants; LGBTQ people; people with disabilities; people with low incomes; and people living in rural and underserved areas. Many people who are part of these marginalized groups already face barriers—exacerbated by social, political, economic, and environmental inequities—to comprehensive health care, including reproductive health care, that reduce their ability to make decisions about their health, families, and lives.

(13) State and Federal policies governing pharmaceutical and insurance policies affect the accessibility of contraceptives, and the settings in which contraception services are delivered.

(14) People engage in interstate commerce to access contraception services.

(15) To provide contraception services, health care providers employ and obtain commercial services from doctors, nurses, and other personnel who engage in interstate commerce and travel across State lines.

(16) Congress has the authority to enact this Act to protect access to contraception pursuant to—

(A) its powers under the Commerce Clause of section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States;

(B) its powers under section 5 of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States to enforce the provisions of section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment; and

(C) its powers under the necessary and proper clause of section 8 of article I of the Constitution of the United States.

(17) Congress has used its authority in the past to protect and expand access to contraception information, products, and services.

(18) In 1970, Congress established the family planning program under title X of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300 et seq.), the only Federal grant program dedicated to family planning and related services, providing access to information, products, and services for contraception.

(19) In 1972, Congress required the Medicaid program to cover family planning services and supplies, and the Medicaid program currently accounts for 75 percent of Federal funds spent on family planning.

(20) In 2010, Congress enacted the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) (referred to in this section as the "ACA"). Among other provisions, the ACA included provisions to expand the affordability and accessibility of contraception