

speak for all Americans when I say I never thought I would see the day when an American President would celebrate gas prices north of \$4 nationwide.

My story is Charlie from Fleming County, Kentucky. He is a farmer, and he cannot afford these diesel prices. He told me: I don't know, Congressman, where you come up with these numbers in Washington, D.C., 9.1 percent inflation. To us in America, it feels two or three times that much.

This inflation is hurting Americans. Time to reverse course and end these disastrous policies of war against American energy.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Kentucky for his strong words.

While Mr. DONALDS is coming forward, I got a note from Ron in Little Rock. He is a 100 percent disabled veteran. He is not eating well. He is not able to go places because of the cost of gas in this country. He has to conserve his gas money in order to go to the VA for his primary care.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DONALDS), my friend from Florida's 19th Congressional District.

Mr. DONALDS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for yielding.

Energy prices are up over 35 percent. Groceries have surged more than 11.9 percent. The consumer price index is up 9.1 percent. The producer price index is up close to 12 percent.

None of this was happening before the American Rescue Plan was passed by Congressional Democrats and signed into law by Joe Biden. Before that time period, our inflation rate was holding steady between 2 and 3 percent.

What happened? What happened was the Congressional Democrats and the President of the United States, Joe Biden, unleashed a labor shortage on the United States. People did not have to go to work in order to continue to buy goods. So what happens when you take people out of the workforce is that they have money to spend, but there is not enough supply in the economy because enough people are not working to provide the products for enough goods. So if there are not enough goods, but everybody has money, prices go up. It happens every single time.

This is very simple. Even Lawrence Summers, who was an economic adviser to Bill Clinton, said that the American Rescue Plan was going to unleash a massive inflation in the United States. House Republicans said if you pass that bill, it is going to unleash a massive inflation the United States.

So the American people need to know and understand that it is the policies of Congressional Democrats and Joe Biden that have unleashed the worst inflation most Americans have ever seen in their lives.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), who will tell us how inflation is impacting her constituents.

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Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, FRENCH HILL, for yielding.

Families, workers, and small businesses are hurting from the highest inflation in over 40 years, and in Southern California where I am from, everything is more expensive.

Inflation doesn't discriminate. It impacts every American and hurts small businesses and workers with less income the most.

For example, Raul and Rosalina Davis, owners of Tlaquepaque Restaurant in Placentia, in my district, told my office: "Higher gas prices and issues with our supply chain are leading to increasing costs from everything from beverages to meat for ingredients, to workforce shortages. As a restaurant, we run our small business with very tight revenue margins, and a small change in prices can really hurt our bottom line. If we have to pass on higher costs to our customers, it puts us in a tough place when we are competing against bigger restaurants that can absorb higher costs."

While the Biden administration calls inflation temporary and seeks to redefine the long-established meaning of a recession, I have introduced bills to combat inflationary spending, lower taxes on Californians, and support job creators.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. KIM of California. Policies from Congress should make life more affordable, not less.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is no longer recognized.

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, Thank you, Congressman HILL for taking the time to put together this special order.

From Arkansas to South Florida, every hardworking American is facing the same dilemma under Biden's presidency.

Look, we all know the facts. Record high inflation, 9.1 percent, a shrinking economy.

But what we often overlook is just how devastating this Biden's inflation is on everyday people and the real-life, practical impact it has on hardworking families. Inflation is the worst tax on American workers.

Over the last week, my office has been hearing a lot about Biden's inflation. Many families desperate to make ends meet, having to choose between feeding their families and putting gas in their car.

Genevieve from Cutler Bay reached out to my office saying quote: "we were already living paycheck to paycheck with very little savings. Now we are dipping in our savings just to make ends meet. I am worried that I will not be able to pay for after school services for my children when the school year starts."

Marianela from Miami shared similar concerns, saying quote: "I have less money to save or spend. My groceries are to a minimum. Costs of gas are a consequence of Mr. Biden's executive orders which have a domino effect on everything we have to buy."

Maria from Key West also reached out to us saying quote: "Constantly negative in the bank because bills have doubled in price, had to use credit cards after being debt free because

of how expensive everything is. I was a stay at home mom and will have to return to work sooner than planned."

When you go out and talk to people at the grocery store, at the gas pumps, parents at our schools, they all share the same stories. Biden's 9.1 percent inflation isn't just some fictional economics stat.

It means Americans are 9.1 percent poorer today than they were a year ago. Hardworking Americans are feeling the heat. It's time President Biden grow a backbone and do the work needed to increase our domestic energy, arrest the out-of-control spending, and get our economy working again for all Americans.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, Six hundred and seventy-seven dollars.

That's how much more—per month—Georgians are spending on everyday goods due to Biden's inflation crisis.

That's gas. Groceries. Retirement. That's money people need to live their lives.

Instead, they're using it to subsidize Biden's far-left agenda.

And unlike the President, the American people can't just change the definition of a word and watch their problems go away.

Regardless of what the White House's latest blog says, we are headed towards a recession. In fact, we may already be in one.

The single mom trying to feed her family and the trucker paying more for diesel are feeling the sting of this Administration's policies daily.

Recession isn't just a word to them—it's a lived reality that leads to lost income, jobs, opportunities, and even hope.

Where the White House sees the so-called "strength" of the economy, my constituents see weakness.

That weakness is emblematic of a failed President who is willing to look us in the eye and say that we are not in a recession, that the \$4.30 you're paying for gas is a gift.

He's wrong.

Washington Democrats' one-party rule is robbing Americans blind.

We know how to fix this! Unleash American energy independence, rein in the runaway spending, and pass a budget, which was supposed to happen months ago, so that the American people know what their elected officials value and how their tax dollars are being spent.

It's time to put the American people first.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 144.—An act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 1 of House Resolution 1230, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow morning.

Thereupon (at 10 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED
RULEMAKING

U.S. CONGRESS,
OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
WORKPLACE RIGHTS,
Washington, DC, July 26, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Section 210(e) of the Congressional Accountability Act (“CAA”), 2 U.S.C. §1331(e), requires the Board of Directors of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (“the Board”) to issue regulations implementing Section 210 of the CAA, relating to the rights and protections against discrimination in the provision of public services and accommodations established by sections 201 through 230, 302, 303, and 309 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§12131–12150, 12182, 12183, and 12189), made applicable to the legislative branch by the CAA. 2 U.S.C. §1331(a).

Section 304(b)(1) of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. §1384(b)(1), requires that the Board issue a general notice of proposed rulemaking by transmitting “such notice to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate for publication in the *Congressional Record* on the first day of which both Houses are in session following such transmittal.”

On behalf of the Board, I am hereby transmitting the attached notice of proposed rulemaking to the Speaker of the House of Representatives. I request that this notice be published in the House section of the *Congressional Record* on the first day on which both Houses are in session following receipt of this transmittal. In compliance with Section 304(b)(2) of the CAA, a comment period of 30 days after the publication of this notice of proposed rulemaking is being provided before adoption of the rules.

Any inquiries regarding this notice should be addressed to Teresa James, Acting Executive Director of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, 110 Second Street SE, Room LA-200, Washington, DC. 20540-1999; telephone: 202-724-9250.

Sincerely,

BARBARA CHILDS WALLACE,

Chair of the Board of Directors,

Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

Attachment.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING
FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
WORKPLACE RIGHTS**Modification of Regulations Under the Americans With Disabilities Act Relating to Public Services and Accommodations, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, as Required by 2 U.S.C. §1331, Congressional Accountability Act of 1995, As Amended.****Background:**

The purpose of this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“Notice”) is to propose modifications to the pending legislative branch Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) substantive regulations under Section 210 of the Congressional Accountability Act (“CAA”) (2 U.S.C. §1331 et seq.), which provides that the rights and protections against discrimination in the provision of public services and accommodation under Titles II and III of the ADA shall apply to entities covered by the CAA.

The Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (“CAA”), PL 104-1, was enacted into law on January 23, 1995. The CAA, as amended, applies the rights and protections of 14 federal labor and employment statutes to covered employees and employing offices within the legislative branch of the federal government. Section 210 of the CAA provides that

the rights and protections against discrimination in the provision of public services and accommodations established by Titles II and III (sections 201 through 230, 302, 303, and 309) of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§12131–12150, 12182, 12183, and 12189 (“ADA”), shall apply to legislative branch entities covered by the CAA. The above provisions of section 210 became effective on January 1, 1997. 2 U.S.C. §1331(h).

As set forth in detail below, the Board of Directors (“the Board”) of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (“OCWR”) adopted regulations implementing section 210 of the CAA in 2016. 162 Cong. Rec. H557-565, S624-632 (daily ed. February 3, 2016). These modified proposed regulations will bring OCWR’s ADA regulations in line with recent changes to the Department of Justice’s (“DOJ”) and Department of Transportation’s (“DOT”) ADA regulations and with the CAA of 1995 Reform Act of 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-397. These and other proposed changes are set forth fully in this Notice. Deletions are marked with square [brackets] and added text is within angled <<brackets>>. Therefore, if these regulations are approved as proposed, the deletions within square brackets will be removed from the regulations and the added text within angled brackets will remain.

What is the authority under the CAA for these proposed substantive regulations?

Section 210(b) of the CAA provides that the rights and protections against discrimination in the provision of public services and accommodations established by the provisions of Titles II and III (sections 201 through 230, 302, 303, and 309) of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§12131–12150, 12182, 12183, and 12189, shall apply to the following entities: (1) each office of the Senate, including each office of a Senator and each committee; (2) each office of the House of Representatives, including each office of a Member of the House of Representatives and each committee; (3) each joint committee of the Congress; (4) the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services; (5) the Capitol Police; (6) the Congressional Budget Office; (7) the Office of the Architect of the Capitol (including the Botanic Garden); (8) the Office of the Attending Physician; (9) the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights; and (10) the Library of Congress. 2 U.S.C. §1331(a).

Section 210(e) of the CAA requires that the OCWR Board, pursuant to section 304 of the CAA, issue regulations implementing that section, and that such regulations “shall be the same as substantive regulations promulgated by the Attorney General and the Secretary of Transportation to implement the statutory provisions referred to in subsection (b) [of section 210 of the CAA] except to the extent that the Board may determine, for good cause shown and stated together with the regulation, that a modification of such regulations would be more effective for the implementation of the rights and protections under this section.” 2 U.S.C. §1331(e).

Are there ADA public access regulations already in force under the CAA?

Yes. The first ADA regulations implementing section 210 of the CAA were adopted by the Board and published on January 7, 1997, 142 Cong. Rec. H10676-10711, S10984-11019 (daily ed. September 19, 1996) and 143 Cong. Rec. S30-61 (daily ed. January 7, 1997), after providing notice, and receiving and considering comments in accordance with section 304 of the CAA. No congressional action was taken and thus the 1997 regulations were not issued. Revised regulations were adopted by the Board and published on February 3, 2016, 160 Cong. Rec. H7363-7372, S5437-S5447 (daily ed. September 9, 2014) and 162 Cong. Rec.

H557-565, S624-632 (daily ed. February 3, 2016), after providing notice, and receiving and considering comments in accordance with section 304 of the CAA. No congressional action was taken and thus the regulations were not issued.

The CAA provides that, while the CAA rulemaking procedure is underway, the corresponding executive branch regulations are to be applied. Section 411 of the CAA (2 U.S.C. §1411) provides:

“Effect of failure to issue regulations.

In any proceeding under section 1405, 1406, 1407, or 1408 of this title . . . if the Board has not issued a regulation on a matter for which this chapter requires a regulation to be issued, the hearing officer, Board, or court, as the case may be, shall apply, to the extent necessary and appropriate, the most relevant substantive executive agency regulation promulgated to implement the statutory provision at issue in the proceeding.”

This makes plain that ADA public access regulations are presently in force. “[T]he most relevant substantive executive agency regulation[s]” are the DOJ and DOT ADA public access regulations.

Why are these regulations being proposed at this time?

As set forth above, the CAA requires employing offices to comply with ADA public access regulations issued by the DOJ and DOT pursuant to the ADA. The CAA also requires the Board to issue its own regulations implementing the ADA public access provisions of the CAA. The statute obligates the Board’s regulations to be the same as the DOJ and DOT regulations except to the extent that the Board may determine that a modification would be more effective in implementing ADA public access protections. 2 U.S.C. §1331(e)(2). These proposed regulations will clarify that covered entities must comply with the ADA public access provisions applied to public entities and public accommodations to implement Titles II and III of the ADA. Congressional approval and Board issuance of ADA public access regulations under the CAA will also eliminate any question as to the ADA public access protections that are applicable in the legislative branch.

As set forth above, the Board adopted ADA regulations in 1997 and 2016, but no congressional action was taken and therefore these regulations were not issued. The Board now proposes modifications to regulations adopted in 2016 to facilitate congressional consideration of the ADA regulations.

How do these regulations differ from those adopted by the Board on February 3, 2016?

This proposal consists of modifications to the regulations adopted by the Board in 2016. There are three significant types of changes:

1. Updates to DOJ and DOT regulations: The proposed regulations set forth herein incorporate by reference the pertinent DOJ and DOT regulations that are in effect as of the date of the publication of this Notice, and, as such, have been updated to incorporate the changes made in the DOJ and DOT regulations since 2014.

2. Modifications “for good cause”: Section 210(e) of the CAA requires that the regulations issued by the OCWR Board to implement Titles II and III of the ADA as applied by the CAA be the same as those promulgated by DOJ and DOT to implement the ADA except where the Board determines, for good cause shown and stated together with the regulation, that a modification of such regulations would be more effective for the implementation of CAA rights and protections. 2 U.S.C. §1331(e).

3. Unlike the Board in 2016, the current Board has decided not to propose adoption of