

Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

As a “fourth generation,” “yonsei,” Okinawan American, I believe this month is not only a chance to recognize our communities and their contributions, but it is also deeply personal to me as I think about the future we want to build for the next generation for our “children,” “keiki.”

AANHPIs are the fastest-growing population in the United States. We are a diverse diaspora. We are in every State across the country.

While we have made great progress, we have also seen an unprecedented rise in xenophobia, discrimination, and violence nationwide, but we will not let these forces of hate hold us down.

The stories of AANHPI people in our country are of grit, perseverance, and courage. They are stories that continue today through the tireless advocacy of those fighting to defend our civil rights and our democracy and through hard-working men and women keeping the American Dream alive.

I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE ON MEMORIAL DAY

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, next Monday, we will pause and pay tribute to the men and women who have died in service to our Nation.

It is a solemn time: one for deep reflection, patriotism, and gratitude. This upcoming Saturday, members of the High Country chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will be honoring deceased military veterans for Memorial Day by placing 600 flags on their gravesites.

Joining them will be members of The American Legion, ASU military staff, as well as local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Mr. Speaker, seeing members of the High Country come together in this fashion is heartwarming.

Let us never forget that we are blessed to live in the freest, greatest country in the world and that the selfless sacrifices made by those who have served should always be revered and recognized.

#### RECOGNIZING HUDSON COUNTY SHERIFF FRANK SCHILLARI

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great public servant, a law enforcement professional, a veteran of the United States Navy, and a dear friend, Hudson County Sheriff Frank X. Schillari.

Sheriff Schillari will be honored tomorrow in New Jersey for his over 25

years of service, 13 of which he has served as our county's highest ranking law enforcement professional.

Throughout that time, Sheriff Schillari has garnered respect from all corners for his devotion to protecting the residents of Hudson County and for ensuring our county roads, parks, and government facilities are safe for all to use.

His accomplishments have included improved community policing, the modernization of the sheriff's office, increased patrols of our county parks and roads, and building up the county's crash investigation unit.

In the last 25 years, Sheriff Schillari has embodied the best of law enforcement: fairness, respect, and devotion to his county, State, and country.

All the while, he has been a caring father to his children and a husband to his wonderful wife of 50 years, Mrs. Schillari, an incredible individual in her own right.

Today, on behalf of our county, I thank him and congratulate him on being honored by those who he has so selflessly served.

#### AMERICANS RULED BY BUREAUCRATS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, our government was founded on the principle of rule by the people's elected Representatives, indeed, a Republic.

The principle guided our Nation for many years and allowed the United States to become first among nations. Sadly, the uncontrolled growth of the Federal bureaucracy has usurped our constitutional foundation.

Instead of rule by elected Representatives, Americans are mostly ruled by bureaucrats. Federal bureaucrats and agencies, with the aid of activist judges, have successfully subverted many of our freedoms and the God-given rights of Americans found in the Constitution.

Almost every bill in the Bill of Rights has been successfully curtailed or subordinated to the wishes and desires of unelected, faceless bureaucrats.

Our Founders did not intend for the citizens of the Nation to be ruled by rubber-stamped decrees from agencies like the EPA or the ATF.

To add insult to injury, although we do have a mix of good people that are there, they are often outstripped by those that don't seem to care about what real people deal with. Their decrees often make no sense and do nothing more than make a headache for people trying to do basic, everyday things.

The Endangered Species Act, I remind you, does not trump the Bill of Rights or the U.S. Constitution. We need to take our powers back.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALLEN) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 18, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 18, 2023, at 4:02 p.m.

That the Senate agreed to S.J. Res. 18.

Appointment:

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,  
Clerk.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 1903(b), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Coast Guard Academy:

Mr. COURTNEY, Connecticut

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy:

Mr. DAVIS, North Carolina

#### APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUAL TO HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4003(e) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114-255), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, of the following individual on the part of the House to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee:

Dr. Jim Jirjis, Nashville, Tennessee

#### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8468(a), and the order of the House of

January 9, 2023, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Maryland

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES, Democratic Leader:

MAY 18, 2023.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,  
*Speaker of the House,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 9803(d)(1)(C) and (E) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Pub. L. 117-263), I am pleased to appoint the following Member to the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State:

The Honorable Mike Quigley of Illinois.

Thank you for your attention to this appointment.

Sincerely,

HAKEEM JEFFRIES,  
*Democratic Leader.*

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1604

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. EZELL) at 4 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### PREVENTING THE FINANCING OF ILLEGAL SYNTHETIC DRUGS ACT

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1076) to require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on the trafficking into the United States of synthetic drugs, and related illicit finance, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1076

*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 “Preventing the Financing of Illegal Synthetic Drugs Act”.

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, over 107,000 people in the United States died from drug overdoses or drug poisonings in the 12-month period ending January 2022, with 67 percent of those deaths involving synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

(2) According to the United National Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in its “Synthetic Drug Strategy 2021-2025”, the number of synthetic drugs, also called New Psychoactive Substances, has increased 631 percent since 2009, with traffickers introducing an average of 80 new substances to the illicit drug market each year from 2009-2019.

(3) In October 2022, F. Michael McDaniel, director of the Houston High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HITDA) program testified in Congress that one kilogram of fentanyl can produce one million counterfeit pills containing one milligram of fentanyl, saying, “Currently in Houston, Texas, you can buy a kilogram of fentanyl for an average price of \$25,000 to \$30,000. This same kilogram of fentanyl in Culiacán (Mexico) could be purchased at an average price of \$13,500. Currently, the price of a fentanyl pill in Houston ranges from \$6 to \$65. Therefore, an illicit investment of \$30,000 or less could result in a return of \$6 to \$32.5 million.”.

(4) According to Celina B. Realuyo, Adjunct Professor, The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs, in March 2022 Congressional testimony, “Financing is essential to support and sustain the command and control, personnel, arms, communications, logistics and operations of organized crime groups. For this reason, following the money trail and depriving criminals of illicit financial flows can disrupt and disable these networks.”.

#### SEC. 3. GAO STUDY ON SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRAFFICKING.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall carry out a study on illicit financing in connection with the trafficking of synthetic drugs, including fentanyl and methamphetamine, fentanyl- and methamphetamine-related substances, Captagon, and fentanyl and methamphetamine precursors, including—

(1) the business of the trafficking of synthetic drugs and related illicit finance, such as the participation of transnational criminal organizations and terror syndicates and their notable trafficking corridors, including source and transit countries;

(2) the business models used by these transnational criminal organizations, including U.S. domestic and foreign activities for precursor purchase or production, movement along the supply chain, manufacture of the completed product, marketing, distribution, sales, and return of proceeds;

(3) the overlap of the business model of human trafficking and the trafficking of synthetic drugs and related illicit finance;

(4) the use of online illicit drug markets and the use of social media for the marketing, sale, and payment for synthetic drugs;

(5) financial methods used by such transnational criminal organizations, including—

- (A) payment;
- (B) money laundering; and
- (C) repatriation of proceeds;

(6) the use of social media applications like Snap Chat, Discord, and Facebook and payment applications like CashApp to facilitate

financial transactions for synthetic drug trafficking, especially among young people; and

(7) U.S. Government activities to combat illicit finance related to the trafficking of synthetic drugs, including—

(A) interagency collaboration, including personnel detailed to other agencies to support the effort to combat synthetic drugs trafficking and related illicit finance;

(B) intergovernmental collaboration;

(C) intersectoral collaboration with the private sector, including the business and non-governmental communities; and

(D) identified gaps or resource deficiencies in combating the trafficking of synthetic drugs and related illicit finance in the coordination and collaboration activities described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than the end of the 1-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall issue a report to the Congress containing all findings and determinations made in carrying out the study required under subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) and the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. PETTERSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1076, the Preventing the Financing of Illegal Synthetic Drugs Act.

As we are all painfully aware, fentanyl is a poison that is afflicting every community across America. This poison is a synthetic opioid 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine. Just 2 milligrams, equal to 10 to 15 grains of table salt, is enough to be lethal.

That is why I am grateful that Members like Congresswoman DE LA CRUZ have hit the ground running on commonsense legislation like H.R. 1076 to sever the lifeblood that keeps the fentanyl business model going, which is its financing.

As we heard in the Financial Services Committee hearing titled, “Follow the Money,” “Financing is essential to support and sustain the command and control, personnel, arms, communications, logistics, and operations of organized crime groups. For this reason, following the money trail and depriving criminals of illicit financial flows can disrupt and disable these networks.”

I recognize there are many challenges to attacking the fentanyl crisis, including our unsecured border, but from a Financial Services Committee perspective, we can only address what