

## HONORING SAMANTHA WOLL

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise to take a moment to honor the life of Samantha Woll, as our neighbors across Michigan and throughout the country mourn Samantha's tragic murder. She was a deeply loved member of our social justice community. She was a friend of mine.

Our mutual friend, Dan, reminded me how she showed up to my swearing-in ceremony with that beautiful, sweet smile and the warmest eyes that greet you. She embraced him in a hug, saying she was so happy that he showed up and how important it was. That is who she was. She showed up for others always.

Her organizing work, from progressive politics to interfaith work between Jewish and Muslim communities, has built bridges and made our communities stronger.

Please keep her loved ones and our community in your prayers as her family seeks justice and healing during this difficult time.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4821, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4820, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6126, ISRAEL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 838 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

## H. RES. 838

*Resolved*, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4821) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived.

SEC. 2. (a) No amendment to H.R. 4821 shall be in order except those printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution, and

pro forma amendments described in section 4 of this resolution.

(b) Each amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

(c) All points of order against amendments printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules or against amendments en bloc described in section 3 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 3. It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 4. During consideration of H.R. 4821 for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

SEC. 5. At the conclusion of consideration of H.R. 4821 for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 6. At any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4820) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived.

SEC. 7. (a) No amendment to H.R. 4820 shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, amendments en bloc described in section 8 of this resolution, and pro forma amendments described in section 9 of this resolution.

(b) Each amendment printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time speci-

fied in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 9 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

(c) All points of order against amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules or against amendments en bloc described in section 8 of this resolution are waived.

SEC. 8. It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc offered pursuant to this section shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 9 of this resolution, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole.

SEC. 9. During consideration of H.R. 4820 for amendment, the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

SEC. 10. At the conclusion of consideration of H.R. 4820 for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

SEC. 11. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 6126) making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 1 hour.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 838 provides for consideration of H.R. 4820 and H.R. 4821

under a structured rule and makes in order Democratic as well as Republican amendments. The rule further provides for consideration of H.R. 6126 under a closed rule and provides one motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, House Republicans have made a promise to the American people. We promised to deliver single-subject appropriations bills that responsibly fund government by cutting wasteful spending and investing in necessary services. We have passed six such bills so far, which is nearly three-quarters of overall discretionary spending. I am proud to say that we are keeping that promise here again today as we work to pass two more.

H.R. 4820 and H.R. 4821 will cut billions in unnecessary government spending and prevent overreaching regulations while prioritizing vital programs. The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill reduces funding for Department of Transportation grant programs by over \$6.6 billion and the Department of Housing and Urban Development by over \$1.7 billion.

The Appropriations Committee made these cuts by rejecting the administration's request to increase bureaucracy and their request to increase wasteful climate and equity initiatives. It rejects their request for additional program initiatives, including one to make the DOT's Federal vehicle fleet electric to the tune of \$26 million and \$300 million for Green New Deal grants promoting environmental justice priorities in public housing of all places.

It cuts all this and more while funding key programs. It will strengthen our infrastructure; prioritize transportation safety, including funding the training of 1,800 new air traffic controllers; and focus on housing assistance for vulnerable Americans, including the elderly, the disabled, and veterans.

The Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill rightsizes agency funding levels while expanding access to critical minerals. It also repeals this administration's waters of the United States regulation, something so important to States like Minnesota that know full well how to manage their waters and do not need the government telling them how to do their job.

Can you imagine having to go through the Federal Government when your field floods because now those waters fall under WOTUS authority? WOTUS is just another example of unnecessary government overreach.

The bill also limits the abuse of the Endangered Species Act. This also impacts States like Minnesota where the gray wolf population is not just maintained but is actually thriving. Because in California the gray wolf population is dwindling, the administration would force Minnesota to follow the same regulations as California. Complete nonsense.

I am proud to support this legislation that prioritizes public safety while

trusting the States to do what is right for them.

Mr. Speaker, finally, I stand here today in full support of our ally Israel. The supplemental package we are debating today will provide critical aid to our friend, as they defend themselves against terrorists, while respecting taxpayer dollars.

On October 7, our allies in the Middle East were attacked by Hamas terrorists, murdering 1,400 people. The victims include women, children, innocent bystanders, and even American citizens since the attacks started.

Israel and the U.S. enjoy a unique and longstanding relationship as one of our closest non-NATO allies. We have, for decades, provided assistance to help Israel defend itself, and House Republicans are continuing that tradition today.

□ 0930

The Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act provides \$14 billion for Israel to defend itself against foreign terrorists. This includes funds for Iron Dome and David's Sling defense systems and further development of the Iron Beam defense system.

Perhaps more significantly, this bill is offset through rescissions of the Democrats' IRS army funding provided under the Inflation Reduction Act. This rescission represents an important effort to respect the taxpayer and the dollars they entrust in us. America's support for Israel is unwavering, but there is simply no reason why the funds we provide should be placed on the backs of future generations by furthering our debt crisis.

This is a commonsense solution, and I commend Speaker JOHNSON and Chairwoman GRANGER in putting forth this bill at such a timely juncture. I look forward to supporting this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support the rule and the underlying legislation, and I urge all Members to do so.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to be clear about something. Democracy is messy, and, yes, at times it can be very frustrating. However, what happened in this Chamber last month, putting everything on hold for 3 weeks as House Republicans failed time and time again to elect a Speaker, was not democracy.

All the drama and all the chaos of the Republican Conference over the last few weeks was not democracy. Shutting down one-half of the United States Congress and immobilizing our national legislature at a time of global turmoil is actually the exact opposite of democracy.

I keep hearing my colleagues across the aisle claim that not having a Speaker for 3 weeks was somehow de-

mocracy in action. That is a bunch of baloney. Some of them even said that this impasse made our country look good on the world stage.

Are you kidding me?

What planet do they live on?

Their dysfunction makes us look like idiots.

The American public elected all of us to come here and to represent their interests and their ideals. That is democracy. They didn't send us here to play student government. They didn't send us here to sit around and yell at each other about who gets to be Speaker as if this were "Lord of the Flies." They sent us here to work, to govern, to get things done, and, yes, when necessary, to compromise.

Republicans have a slim majority in the House, Democrats have a slim majority in the Senate, and Joe Biden is President of the United States. To get anything done—anything—Republicans need to come to the table and work with us in a bipartisan way. That is what democracy is. It is compromise. It is consensus.

However, the spectacle that we saw last month of this Chamber sitting empty for weeks on end while Republicans fought with each other, or even the idea that they should be fighting over which member of their conference would compromise with the Democrats the least—let that sink in—is not democracy. That is a national embarrassment.

Now, even after 3 weeks of self-inflicted chaos, the House GOP still doesn't seem to get it. Instead of working across the aisle, they are digging in their heels, and they are continuing to advance their extremely partisan appropriations bills that will never become law. There have been no lessons learned over the last few weeks at all.

The GOP's Interior and Environment funding bill for fiscal year 2024 profits polluters while endangering the health of Americans. It cuts EPA funding to its lowest level since 1991. The bill additionally slashes funding for arts programs and, once again, shoves MAGA culture wars down the throats of the American people. They can't help themselves.

The Republican Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development funding bill for fiscal year 2024 would also keep us from meeting our Nation's infrastructure and housing needs. It cuts funding for housing and transportation programs by 28 percent, putting Americans' safety at risk while, once again, attacking vulnerable communities.

Now, I don't know how often this needs to be said before it sinks in: These draconian cuts to essential programs will not become law. If these bills manage to make it off the House floor, then the Senate will vote them down. It will be a bipartisan vote in the Senate, by the way. Even the Senate Republicans can't stomach this garbage, and if they ever made it to the President's desk, he would veto it.

What I am gathering is that Republicans would rather press forward with

these unreasonable bills instead of coming together to form a funding plan that serves all Americans. We are just over 2 weeks out from a government shutdown, and all Republicans are doing here is wasting more time. This is a complete waste of time. It is ridiculous.

Mr. Speaker, I haven't even got to how cynical—how cynical—and insulting this new supplemental aid package is. Republicans are leveraging the excruciating pain of an international crisis to help rich people who cheat on their taxes and big corporations who regularly dodge their taxes.

Are you kidding me?

The fact of the matter is the richest people in this country pay less in taxes than teachers, than police officers, than firefighters, than nurses, and than laborers.

This is what this is all about?

Who came up with this brilliant idea to help rich tax cheats? Who came up with that idea? Was that hatched at a fundraiser in Mar-a-Lago?

Did some big donor come up and twist somebody's arm and say, You have to do this. You have to protect us. We want to be able to continue to cheat on our taxes so we can make more and keep more money. This is truly despicable.

Here is what I love: The bill's so-called offset cuts \$14.3 billion from the IRS which will further increase the deficit. Basically they want to cut funding from those who are responsible for holding big corporations accountable and for going after rich tax cheats. That is their offset.

According to CBO, it will add to the deficit.

Let me repeat that. This bill adds \$12.5 billion to the deficit. Their offset actually needs an offset.

Once again, they cry, they cry, and they cry about the deficit, but they have no problem conditioning aid to Israel on another tax break to millionaires, billionaires, and corporations.

Representative CHIP ROY who is on the Rules Committee said—or maybe he yelled: The aid “should be paid for, and it should be paid for with real money, not budgetary gimmicks.”

Nonetheless, that is what this is. This is a budgetary gimmick. It is a big, gigantic, and in-your-face gimmick. It is a joke, and they come to the floor with a straight face to say that somehow we are paying for this package.

Really? How can they say that with a straight face?

It makes sense because they don't like the results of the election and they tried to overturn it. They don't like the math from CBO, by the way, and they pretend it doesn't exist.

Republicans say they are friends of Israel. If I were Israel, I would unfriend them. What they are doing here will delay aid to Israel, not to mention there is no humanitarian aid in here for the vulnerable people in Israel or Gaza.

Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ came before the Rules Committee last night and asked us and tearfully pleaded with us to make in order her amendment for humanitarian aid that the President of the United States requested. This is humanitarian aid for Israel, for Palestinians, and for people in Ukraine. She pleaded with Republicans to unlink their conditions on aid. She offered an amendment to put in the humanitarian aid the Republicans left out, again, and asked that we help some of the most vulnerable people who are caught in the middle of this conflict. These are people in Israel, people in Gaza, and people in Ukraine.

By the way, one-half of the people in Gaza are children, for God's sake. They need food, they need medicine, and they need water. They need it now. They need help now.

I offered Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ's amendment, and it was voted down. It was voted down by every single Republican.

I have to tell you, Mr. Speaker, the ease and the indifference with which they rejected even making her amendment in order was, quite frankly, chilling.

By the way, there is no aid for Ukraine in this supplemental package. There is nothing. This is what the President asked for.

So Vladimir Putin is happy. I am always amazed at how my friends on the other side of the aisle fall over each other to try to make Vladimir Putin happy. He is happy with the package they are bringing to the floor today. There is no aid for any other national security priorities that the President asked for.

To sum it up, Mr. Speaker, the House is back, but Halloween has been extended. These people are scary, and there is no saying what will happen next. I hope and I pray for the sake of the Nation that House Republicans come to their senses soon. This is no way to govern.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring the focus back to the discussions in front of us.

It is worth reminding everyone that while we may have had a delay, we have still passed six appropriations bills this Congress. The Senate has just passed their first three appropriations bills this week. The House has passed bills representing the majority of the Federal discretionary spending, which is roughly three-quarters of the budget, and the Senate has passed just 17 percent.

Make no mistake: we still have a lot of work to do, but Speaker JOHNSON and the House Republicans will continue to work towards passing every bill individually before our November 17 deadline. I do invite my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to join us.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY).

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Minnesota for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, on October 7, 2023, the world witnessed in real time on the internet the heart-wrenching images of innocent Israelis slaughtered in their homes. These attacks claimed the lives of more than 1,400 innocent people, including at least 30 American citizens that we know of.

We saw pure evil on display that day as Hamas murdered and kidnapped children, raped women, and savagely attacked the elderly. They killed entire families in the most brutal and shocking fashion that the world has ever seen. Even worse, they went as far as to desecrate the bodies, and they celebrated their war crimes.

Every single American should be heartbroken, should be disgusted, and should be enraged. Shame on my colleagues who have called for a ceasefire. Shame on my colleagues who have acted as apologists for the genocidal terrorist organization Hamas. Shame on my colleagues who have joined anti-Semitic rallies and waved Palestinian flags, especially here in our Nation's Capitol.

Every American should stand with the Jewish people in Israel. The people of Israel are a lone beacon of freedom in the Middle East.

I have been there. Many of us have been there. We all should go there. I have seen firsthand the threat that they face from radical terrorists. They are the very same ones who hate the freedoms that we enjoy here in the United States.

It is in these moments of crisis that the strength of our convictions and the depths of our friendships are truly tested. In Israel's time of need, America cannot be silent. H.R. 6126 provides Israel with the support that they need to protect their freedoms and eradicate Hamas while offsetting the financial burden on the American people.

It is time for Congress to step up and to send a message to the world that Israel is not alone. Unfortunately, this administration's foreign policy has failed. Their weak policies like unfreezing the \$6 billion in assets for Iran starkly contrast the previous administration's work to establish the Abraham Accords and end ISIS.

This weakness on the world stage leaves our Nation vulnerable as well. Combined with our wide-open borders, we cannot wait until there is an attack on American soil to act.

The world is watching. Today we have an opportunity to send a message, both to our allies and our adversaries, that we will not allow this senseless terrorism to go unchecked.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 6126 to support Israel, to eradicate Hamas, and to fight global terrorism.

□ 0945

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

Again, let's make no mistake about it, my Republican friends are deliberately delaying aid to Israel. They are deliberately delaying aid to Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the Statement of Administration Policy for the Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY  
ISRAEL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The Administration strongly opposes House passage of the Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

As demonstrated by the President's recent supplemental funding request, the Administration strongly supports providing resources for key national security priorities, including aid for our ally Israel as it defends itself against Hamas terrorists. But rather than putting forward a package that strengthens American national security in a bipartisan way, the bill fails to meet the urgency of the moment by deepening our divides and severely eroding historic bipartisan support for Israel's security. It inserts partisanship into support for Israel, making our ally a pawn in our politics, at a moment we must stand together. It denies humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations around the world, including Palestinian civilians, which is a moral and strategic imperative. And by requiring offsets for this critical security assistance, it sets a new and dangerous precedent by conditioning assistance for Israel, further politicizing our support and treating one ally differently from others. This bill is bad for Israel, for the Middle East region, and for our own national security.

Denying humanitarian assistance to two million Palestinian civilians, the majority of them women and children, would be a grave mistake. A deepening humanitarian crisis in Gaza will also undercut Israel's security and regional stability. We have a moral imperative to help those in need. Helping Palestinian civilians in need is also in Israel's national security interest. The United States must provide urgent and sustained humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza to alleviate suffering and bolster stability. Conflict and extremism will be much more likely to spread, which will only benefit Hamas and other malign actors in the region who will exploit the opportunity. This bill threatens the security and stability of our partners in the region. A deepening crisis will undermine the possibility of Israel's further integration in the Middle East.

Moreover, the bill would create a dangerous precedent by demanding partisan poison pill offsets in return for meeting core national security needs of the United States. This bill would break with the normal, bipartisan approach to providing emergency national security assistance by conditioning funding on offsets, politicizing aid to Israel, and treating Israel differently from our other allies and partners. And that new and

damaging precedent would have devastating implications for our safety and alliances in the years ahead. The egregiousness of this particular offset is it adds to the deficit and would help some wealthy individuals and large corporations cheat on their taxes. Congress has consistently worked in a bipartisan manner to provide security assistance to Israel, and this bill threatens to unnecessarily undermine that longstanding approach.

Bifurcating Israel security assistance from the other priorities in the national security supplemental will have global consequences. Humanitarian aid is critically needed to alleviate the suffering of civilians in Gaza, but it is also crucial support for innocent Ukrainians facing the brutality of Putin's war. It is vital assistance for people around the world who are suffering because Putin is blocking the shipments of grain from Ukraine—which was once the world's “breadbasket.” Failing to provide supplemental humanitarian assistance will leave displaced and conflict-affected civilians around the world—from Darfur, to Nagorno-Karabakh, from Zaporizhzhia to Gaza City, without access to food, water and sanitation, healthcare, hygiene programming, and emergency shelter support and protection.

This bill also fails to provide the resources we need to bolster integrated deterrence and maintain peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific. Our allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific face an increasingly assertive People's Republic of China, yet this bill provides no assistance to address that threat. And despite strong bipartisan support for investing in border security as the President called for—including technology to detect fentanyl and hiring more CBP officers—the bill fails to respond to the President's request for those needed funds.

There is strong bipartisan agreement that it is in our direct national security interest to help Ukraine defend its freedom and its sovereignty, and protect its people against the appalling crimes being committed by Russian forces against thousands of innocent civilians—and against Russia's attacks against the Ukrainian people with Iranian weapons. We have seen Russian forces commit horrifying war crimes and atrocities. They have hideously used rape as a weapon of war, and they have kidnapped and forcibly separated thousands of Ukrainian children from their families. Yet despite that bipartisan support, and in contrast to the President's national security package, this bill provides no aid whatsoever to Ukraine. This is an urgent requirement—as Ukraine heads into a winter of unrelenting attacks on its civilian infrastructure, they need air defense to protect their cities and munitions to keep pressure on Vladimir Putin. Failing to support Ukraine at this pivotal moment in the war would send a terrible message to Russia about our resolve, let alone to the rest of the world. We know from history that if we walk away and let someone like Vladimir Putin erase Ukraine's independence, he will not stop there and would be aggressors around the world would be emboldened.

The Administration will continue to engage with both chambers of the Congress in a bipartisan manner to secure an agreement on the critical national security package transmitted to Congress a few weeks ago.

If the President were presented with this bill, he would veto it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, despite a clear bipartisan path to assisting Israel, House Republicans have decided to go at it alone, alienating Senate Republicans, Democrats, and the President. The President has indicated that he will veto this supple-

mental in favor of a bipartisan approach that he knows Congress is capable of.

A bipartisan approach is what our allies deserve. A bipartisan approach is what the American people expect, not playing politics with an international crisis to be able to satisfy their richest donors.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article by The Hill titled: “GOP plan to ‘offset’ Israel aid with IRS cuts would backfire, budget experts warn.”

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

There was no objection.

[From The Hill, Nov. 1, 2023]

GOP PLAN TO ‘OFFSET’ ISRAEL AID WITH IRS  
CUTS WOULD BACKFIRE, BUDGET EXPERTS  
WARN

(By Tobias Bruns and Aris Folley)

A recent proposal by House Republicans to take billions of dollars from the IRS and give it to Israel for its war against Hamas is raising alarm from budget experts, who say the push would undercut the party's calls to reduce the national debt.

Since assuming control of the House in January, House Republicans have targeted what they've described as “wasteful” spending by Democrats. GOP leaders have proposed steep cuts to tackle the national debt.

But budget experts argue a Monday bill from House Republicans, which would take \$14.3 billion away from the IRS, will expand the national debt by tens of billions of dollars over the next decade.

The cuts would also hamstring efforts to close the “tax gap”—hundreds of billions of dollars the government is owed every year but fails to collect.

“Paying for new spending by defunding tax enforcement is worse than not paying for it at all, said Maya MacGuineas, president of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget (CRFB), in a Monday statement.

CRFB estimated the GOP plan would add more than \$30 billion to the debt.

“Instead of avoiding new borrowing, this plan doubles down on it,” MacGuineas said.

Howard Gleckman, senior fellow at the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center at the Urban Institute, said it was “pretty clear” that “cutting this kind of IRS funding would actually increase the deficit.”

“Instead of being an offset, it would actually make matters worse,” he argued. “The general rule of thumb that the budget scorekeepers use is it's about 2-to-1. So if you cut IRS funding [by \$14 billion to \$15 billion], you're actually going to increase the deficit by about \$30 billion.”

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which determines how various pieces of legislation affect the national deficit, is now in the process of scoring the bill.

“We are working on it now,” Deborah Kilroe, communications director of the CBO, told The Hill in an email Tuesday morning.

The White House has already promised to veto the bill, favoring a joint military aid package for both Israel and Ukraine. But further IRS cuts could resurface as attachments to military aid specifically for Ukraine, which is a priority for Democrats in need of Republican votes to get the money out the door.

The House is expected to consider the legislation shortly after they return to Washington on Wednesday. But Democrats have already panned the bill as a “non-starter” in the Senate.

"If Republicans had an ounce of shame they wouldn't condition support for Israel and Ukraine on giveaways to wealthy tax cheats. Making aid to Israel and Ukraine dependent on gutting IRS enforcement funding is an absolute nonstarter," Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), the Senate Finance Committee chair, said in a Tuesday statement.

Not all Republicans seem to be in lockstep on the proposed cuts either.

Asked Tuesday about the framing of the cuts as an "offset," Sen. Mitt Romney (R-Utah) told *The Hill*, "I don't think you reduce the number of IRS agents then expect that you're going to get more tax revenue."

"I think reducing agents means less tax revenue," Romney said.

The Treasury Department said earlier this month that the U.S. borrowed \$1.7 trillion in the one-year period ending in late September, a spike over the previous year that Biden officials partly attributed to low revenue.

The U.S. is currently running a \$33 trillion debt, which spiked above its trend line during the pandemic as the government expanded major tax credit programs for lower earners and sent out checks to families while the economy was shut down.

As part of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) passed last year by Democrats, the IRS was given an additional \$80 billion in funding over the subsequent 10 years. That allotment would have increased revenues by around \$200 billion for a net deficit reduction of around \$114 billion, according to a CBO analysis.

Republicans—dead set against strengthening the IRS, which has been in long-term decline—have claimed without evidence that the agency would use new funds to shake down middle- and working-class Americans at their doorsteps.

But the IRS's enhanced enforcement efforts are so far concentrating on wealthy individuals, major corporations, and complicated partnerships that are often used to reduce tax burdens.

As part of an unwritten agreement reached over the summer with Democrats to raise the debt ceiling, Republicans planned to hack \$20 billion off the initial \$80 billion IRS funding boost through the normal appropriations process.

Democrats panned those cuts, pointing to CBO's projection of tens of billions of dollars in lost revenue.

Some Senate Republicans critical of the IRS funding increase have backed the House GOP bill but acknowledge the budgetary impact could be a hurdle.

"If you're looking for a pay-for, which they clearly are, I think it's as good as one as there could be," Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.).

"The challenge you're gonna have is a CBO score."

While Cramer argued the CBO "doesn't consider the ramifications to the economy," he said he expects the CBO could score the proposed cuts as "a net positive, albeit not a very big one."

David Wessel, senior economic studies fellow at the Brookings Institution, argued the budgetary impact of the IRS cuts is "not that big," particularly when taking into account the trillions of dollars the nation spends annually.

But that's also partly why Wessel thinks "dynamic scoring isn't really an issue here."

"Dynamic scoring is about how will a proposal affect the GDP, how will it increase labor force participation, how will it affect productivity," he said. "There's no reason to believe that the kind of money we're talking about with the IRS funding, if you dynamically scored it to death, would show anything."

"I just think this is the ultimate in cynical Republican bullshit," Wessel added.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, aid to Israel should not be conditioned on giving greater tax breaks to the rich, let alone a fake offset that adds to the deficit. Again, it is not me who is saying that their budgetary gimmick, their fake offset, is a fake offset. It is the Congressional Budget Office that says it will add \$12.5 billion to the deficit.

It doesn't pay for anything. It adds to the deficit. That is according to CBO. That is the office we use to figure out how much things are going to cost. They know that, and they come here and they deliberately distort the facts and distort the truth.

They are conditioning aid to Israel on helping out the richest tax cheats in America. I mean, it is mind-boggling. It is mind-boggling. Again, maybe they will raise money at a fundraiser or something, but it is not the way we should proceed here.

By the way, it is going to delay aid to Israel. The Senate, in a bipartisan way, wants no part of this. The President wants no part of it; therefore, we are wasting time. We are spinning our wheels for no reason at all.

When people come down here, like the gentleman just said, oh, we want to stand by our ally Israel, you know, we are a friend of Israel, I will repeat what I said before: If I were Israel, I would unfriend you because you are delaying the aid package.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, surrendering to Russia. Weak on China. Are we serious about Israel? We are ignoring the humanitarian crisis which exists there. This is strong for millionaire tax cheats. These are the House Republican priorities.

Madam Speaker, I am tired of listening to the attempts to divide us more. The last speaker is a perfect example. I have great respect for the gentleman, but it simply divides Americans more. I am sorry he left. He is saying that basically Republicans care about what happened on that terrible day when Hamas attacked; and that Democrats, where are they really? We have been very specific, and the Senate has been very specific. We have matters at hand. The catastrophe that happened affected so many Israelis and, as a consequence, many, many Palestinians. Very few belong to Hamas. But that is simply a footnote, right?

House Republicans are using an international crisis, and I agree with the ranking member of the Rules Committee, but they want to pass a millionaires' tax break. The toxic political document would let rich tax cheats off the hook.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey.

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, it will increase the deficit while our al-

lies need help. That makes a lot of sense. Israelis and Palestinians need our help. Humanitarian and defensive aid is a bare minimum.

Ukraine needs our leadership. Russian soldiers have been butchering women and children for almost 2 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD a BBC article titled: "Whole family shot dead in Russian-occupied Ukrainian town."

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

There was no objection.

[From BBC News, Oct. 30, 2023]

UKRAINE WAR: WHOLE FAMILY SHOT DEAD IN RUSSIAN-OCCUPIED UKRAINIAN TOWN

(By Vitaly Shevchenko, BBC Monitoring, and Jaroslav Lukiv)

Nine people, including two young children, have been found shot dead in their house in the Russian-occupied eastern Ukrainian town of Volnovakha.

Ukrainian officials say they believe Russian soldiers killed the whole of the Kapkanets family on 27 October for refusing to give them their house.

Russian investigators say two male suspects have been held, saying they are Russian soldiers from the Far East.

Ukraine and Russia have begun separate investigations into the attack.

Photographs have emerged on social media showing blood-splattered and bullet-riddled bodies lying in beds, some of them still locked in an embrace.

Ukrainian ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets said on Monday that "Russians' bloodied hands were involved" in the Volnovakha killings.

"According to preliminary information, the occupiers have killed the whole of the Kapkanets family, who were celebrating a birthday and who had refused to hand their own house over to occupiers from Chechnya," he said on Telegram.

The Ukrainian-controlled Donetsk prosecutor's office, citing preliminary information, said the attackers in army uniforms shot the family dead after their demand to vacate the house had been rejected.

Two children, born in 2014 and 2018, were among the victims, the office added.

Russia's official Investigations Committee described those arrested as Russian soldiers from the country's Far East, who had signed contracts with the Russian military.

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, nine members of one family were killed because they would not give up their house to Russian troops so they could stay there. Yet, we are finagling and we are dividing while Ukraine burns. What are you doing for Ukraine? What are Republicans doing today? What would they tell the President of Ukraine if he were here today while they are sitting on their fannies and not doing anything about them.

Ukraine needs our leadership. Russian soldiers have been butchering women and children for almost 2 years. House Republicans are acting like Putin's bodyguard by blocking Ukraine aid.

This bill aids the PRC by ignoring the President's request to support Taiwan.

The funding President Biden requested for nonprofit security grants

to protect schools and houses of worship is nowhere to be found. That is disgraceful. I hope we think better of it. I hope we come together. I hope this tragedy can unite us.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have promised the American people that they won't cut a single dime from Social Security and Medicare. However, this past September, Budget Committee Republicans passed a budget that favors the wealthy and well connected over working families and makes massive cuts to critical programs that Americans rely on. They even rejected amendments to protect Social Security and Medicare earned benefits.

Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer a resolution to state unequivocally that the House won't cut a single cent from these crucial programs that so many of our constituents rely on.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment into the RECORD along with any extraneous material immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Look, the decision here is simple. The two appropriations bills that we are talking about today literally strip billions and billions of dollars that fund essential agency functions and services. Members are either for these extreme funding cuts or they are not.

I would say to my friends on the Republican side who like to masquerade as moderates that they can't get away with saying, oh, I just wanted to move the process along. The bottom line is, you vote for these bills, you own what is in them. Please understand that.

On the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, they cut \$26 billion below the 2023 levels. It raises costs while threatening to damage our Nation's economy. It makes travel and communities less safe. Who does that?

It further harms our environment and ignores the impact of climate change. I mean, open your eyes. I would say to my Republican friends: If Republicans don't believe that climate change is real now, then they are hopeless. They are hopeless. They should go retire. They are not fit to be here.

It strips away equal access to housing and community development investments. Who does that?

On the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, again, there are deep, deep cuts. Cuts

aimed at trying to undo attempts to deal with the climate crisis. We are having wildfires all over the world and in this country; extreme weather conditions, floods and droughts. I mean, talk to your farmers, talk to people in your community. Everybody gets it, except the Republican Conference here has its head in the sand.

On these appropriation bills, it is clear. I mean, read the bills. Read the bills. I don't know how anybody could come here with a straight face and say that this is good legislating. The only thing that is good is the fact that they are so extreme that even Senate Republicans are not going to take any of this garbage seriously.

The supplemental aid bill is as disastrous as it is disgraceful. Everybody in this House, everybody is horrified by the events of October 7. A terrible tragedy occurred that day. Israeli civilians were massacred that day. My Republican friends say they want to help Israel, and so what do they do? They condition the aid to Israel on essentially a tax break for millionaires, billionaires, and corporations that cheat on their taxes. Really? That is what they are thinking about? That is the focus? Don't miss an opportunity to help the well off and the well connected. Don't miss an opportunity to help tax cheats.

Let's not miss an opportunity to help millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations to try to cheat on their taxes. They may be big donors, but I am going to tell you what they do is not right. It is illegal. They ought to be held accountable, the same way that average working people are held accountable.

Rich people in this country do not pay taxes anywhere near as much as average workers in this country. Rich people don't pay as much taxes as nurses, teachers, laborers, and people who work hard every day just to make ends meet. Come on, we ought to be able to agree on that. However, to condition any aid on helping protect these tax cheaters? Boy, that is cynical. It tells you where their priorities are, Madam Speaker.

The question is, Members either want to provide the aid to Israel or they don't. If Republicans really were serious about this, they wouldn't politicize it. If Republicans were really serious about this, they would be working in a bipartisan way not only with Democrats in the House but with Republicans and Democrats in the Senate and with the White House, and let's get this thing done quickly but they can't do it.

They decide that they can't bring themselves to support any kind of humanitarian aid. Half the people who live in Gaza, half the people are children. Children. They are not Hamas. They are just innocent children. The idea that we will get to a humanitarian aid package, oh, whenever we feel like it, I mean, really? Are you watching the footage on TV? Are you reading

anything about the reports, about the suffering? These children need help now. They needed help a week ago. The idea that, oh, we just can't talk about that right now, is inhumane. It is inhumane.

There is nothing in here to help Ukraine. By the way, there is a humanitarian crisis unfolding in Ukraine as well. That humanitarian aid package would help those innocent people caught in the crossfire in Ukraine, but can't be bothered. We have to help protect tax breaks for rich people. That is the priority. Not the suffering people of Ukraine.

No security package for Ukraine, nothing. Vladimir Putin is celebrating as we speak. That is exactly what he wants. I am sure my friends will get great coverage on Moscow TV because this is exactly what Putin has been hoping for, that Congress will walk away from helping the Ukrainians defend their sovereignty.

Russia attacked Ukraine, tried to invade Ukraine with only provocation, and you are acting like it is no big deal; and the people that are being caught in the crossfire, well, we can't be bothered with giving you any humanitarian aid.

□ 1000

Other national security priorities the President asked for will be put on the back burner.

What is this Republican majority thinking? What world are they living in?

Again, please don't repeat the lie that the majority is paying for things with these offsets. These offsets are not real. The Congressional Budget Office says it. I get that Republicans don't like that the CBO says it, but CBO tells the truth. The majority can either ignore it or not, but don't say that somehow we are offsetting the costs of our foreign aid package here. We are not. It is a joke. It is an insult to the intelligence of the American people. It is an insult to the Members of Congress who serve in this institution. Plus, my Republican colleagues say it with a straight face. What is going on here?

The chaos of the Republican Party is no longer just about the Republican Party. It has become an international embarrassment for our country. The way they are handling legislation today is an international embarrassment for our country.

The insensitivity that is being demonstrated for innocent civilians being caught in the crossfire of these conflicts is an embarrassment for this country. It is a failure of government, and this is a national security threat.

The Grand Old Party, the once-great party of Lincoln and Eisenhower, is no longer fit to govern. They are no longer fit to govern. It no longer represents a coherent political philosophy or ideology. It relies on scandal and spectacle to mask sedition, selfishness, and greed. How else do we explain the giveaway to tax cheats in their Israel aid package?



I am pleading with normal Republicans, traditional Republicans, with courage, integrity, and guts. We need them to retake their party. I want a strong Democratic Party, but we need a strong, principled Republican Party if this country is going to work. Right now, we do not have that.

What is happening here today is wasting our time on appropriations bills that are so extreme in terms of what they cut that they are going nowhere. We are wasting our time on that and the cynical attempt to help big donors who cheat on their taxes by conditioning aid to Israel on protecting them. Who thought that one up? I don't even know where that idea came from. Who thought it was a good idea to do this?

At a time of an international crisis, it would be nice if we all spoke with one voice. Wouldn't it be great if everybody could stand up here and say we are together and meeting the challenges appropriately, properly, and decisively? That is not what we are doing today.

I have to say, Madam Speaker, just when you think it can't get any worse around here, it does.

I will close with this: I still can't get out of my head the ease with which my Republican friends on the Rules Committee voted to not even allow us to consider the amendments by Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, especially the one on humanitarian aid.

There was no discussion. There was no debate. Let's quickly all reject it as if it was no big deal.

Look at those pictures. Look at those pictures of not only what is happening in the Middle East but what is happening in Ukraine.

We have to start asking ourselves why we are here. We are supposed to be about helping people in this country. We are supposed to be about standing for human rights all around the world. Yet, we are dealing with these garbage appropriations bills that are a disgrace. We are dealing with a supplemental aid package that is insufficient in so many ways in terms of what it doesn't fund, and it is so cynical. It is so cynical.

Again, I urge my colleagues, Madam Speaker, to vote "no" on this rule. I urge them to vote "no" on all the underlying bills. I urge my Republican colleagues to go to one of their many conferences that they seem to have five times a day to try to work out their problems within their Conference and actually come to an agreement that maybe we ought to put the country and doing what is right ahead of everything else.

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I will bring the discussion back to the real issues at hand and talk about the fact that the American people and my constituents sent me to Washington to responsibly fund government and to stop overregulation

and unnecessary interference from Washington. Overturning WOTUS, reining in the EPA, and investing in transportation safety, these bills do exactly that.

The appropriations bills we are debating today cut unnecessary programming and prioritize the programs that serve the American people while allocating critical funding for vulnerable populations.

I am proud of the work that my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee have done to take an honest look at government spending and make the sometimes hard decisions about where realistic cuts can be made. It is especially important because the national debt continues to rise and burden the next generation.

I support the rule and the underlying bills, and I encourage Members to do the same to make sure that we are responding responsibly to the national debt and the crisis that we are facing.

The material previously referred to by Mr. MCGOVERN is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 838 OFFERED BY  
MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 12. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the resolution (H. Res. 178) affirming the House of Representatives' commitment to protect and strengthen Social Security and Medicare. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means or their respective designees.

SEC. 13. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 178.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1016

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Mr. DUARTE) at 10 o'clock and 16 minutes a.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 838; and

Adoption of House Resolution 838, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4821, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; H.R. 4820, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; and H.R. 6126, ISRAEL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 838) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4821) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4820) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6126) making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 213, nays 200, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 565]

YEAS—213

Aderholt	Balderson	Bishop (NC)
Alford	Banks	Boebert
Allen	Barr	Bost
Amodel	Bean (FL)	Brecheen
Armstrong	Bentz	Buchanan
Arrington	Bergman	Buck
Babin	Bice	Bucshon
Bacon	Biggs	Burchett
Baird	Bilirakis	Burgess