

BUILDING A STRONG ECONOMY

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, in just a few years we have had a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic, a worldwide energy crisis, and as a result, the fastest inflation in 40 years.

The cost of living is too high, and the financial strain on American families is real.

Americans just needed help; so last Congress, Democrats took action:

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is creating 600,000 good-paying union jobs next year alone, with many more to follow.

The Chips and Science Act is bringing manufacturing back to the United States.

The Inflation Reduction Act is reducing the deficit and lowering household costs from energy to prescription drugs.

While we acted, Republicans parroted misleading talking points, falsely claiming that this legislation somehow hurts Americans.

Instead, America sees progress. Annual inflation fell to its lowest in more than 2½ years. Gas prices have declined nearly 40 percent. The IRS collected \$122 million from wealthy tax evaders.

As we end this year better than we started, I urge House Republicans to reject the politics of disinformation and tearing down. Instead, join us and build this strong economy.

CONGRATULATING CORPORAL RON SLAGLE ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mrs. HINSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor U.S. Air Force veteran and Marion police officer, Corporal Ron Slagle for his 25 years spent protecting our Iowa communities.

Last month, Corporal Slagle signed off on his last shift with the Marion Police Department, my hometown, with a final 10-42 alongside his family and friends.

From his time in the Air Force to his dedication to the Marion Police Department, and his advocacy to ensure that law enforcement officers, first responders, and veterans have access to mental health care resources, Corporal Slagle embodies what it means to be a public servant.

It is no surprise that he has instilled the value of service in his children, who have also embraced careers to help others.

He has a true servant's heart, and I wish him all the best in his retirement. I congratulate Ron.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN BIG TEN CHAMPIONS

(Mrs. McCLAIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Michigan football team for winning the Big Ten championship.

This past weekend, the Wolverines capped off their dominant regular season with a Big Ten title, earning themselves the number one rank in the country and a trip to the coveted football playoffs.

However, this season for the Wolverines has been characterized by more than just victories on the field. This program has a saying: "Those who stay will be champions."

The team may be champions and are champions on the field, but they will also be champions off the field and forever in their personal lives.

This team faced challenges at every level with national ridicule of their program and their coach, Coach Harbaugh, yet they persisted. The young men of Team 144 took every bump in stride and held onto the words of former head coach, Bo Schembechler, and they took those words to heart: The team, the team, the team.

Team 144 is an embodiment of what it means to work as a team and overcome adversity both on and off the field. We are so proud of these young men and Coach Harbaugh and look forward to cheering them on in the playoffs. Congratulations, Team 144, and Go Blue.

HONORING GEORGE JOSEPH HIGGINS

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

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, silence your heart and look into the eyes of this young American. Tomorrow he would have been 101 years old.

On December 8, 1941, for his 19th birthday, he got World War II. Like millions of other young men across the country, when the attack on Pearl Harbor was announced the following day after that fateful morning on December 7, this young man stood up, went and joined the Navy.

The Navy sent him to flight school. He served his country as a pilot in World War II. He died many years later as I held his hand. This man is my father, George Joseph Higgins.

Happy birthday, Dad.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RELATING TO "IMPROVING INCOME DRIVEN REPAYMENT FOR THE WILLIAM D. FORD FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM AND THE FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN (FFEL) PROGRAM"

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 906, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 88) providing

for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program", and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 906, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 88

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program" (88 Fed. Reg. 43820 (July 10, 2023)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The joint resolution shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce or their respective designees.

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 30 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FOXX. 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 the resolution under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 88, a Congressional Review Act resolution authored by Representative McCLAIN of Michigan, that would bar the Biden administration from spending hundreds of billions of dollars by executive fiat.

On June 30 of this year, mere hours after the Supreme Court decapitated the administration's previous student loan scheme, the Department of Education unveiled its so-called Savings on a Valuable Education (SAVE) plan. Despite its deceptive name, this is without question the most expensive regulation in our Nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, how bad will the damage be? The Congressional Budget Office estimates this new IDR program will actually cost over \$260 billion over the next 10 years, over \$100 billion more than what the Department was telling the American people.

□ 0915

But wait. There is more. Outside experts estimate the cost to be as much as \$559 billion.

Clearly, this is not a repayment plan, and Democrats have not been shy about their intentions for reshaping postsecondary education.

Indeed, Democrats couldn't get their socialist free college fantasy through Congress, so they are attempting to shove it down the throats of Americans through the loan program by executive fiat.

Mr. Speaker, millions of Americans are grasping their wallets at this news—and rightfully so. They have already been pummeled by inflation for months on end, and now they are staring down an avalanche of debt this country cannot afford that will surely bury them if Congress doesn't put an end to this madness.

H.J. Res. 88 offers us the opportunity to send a clear signal to this administration that we will no longer tolerate a dictator in chief.

Here is the simple truth: Money cannot be printed out of thin air without consequences. We should pass H.J. Res. 88 and put an end to this reckless use of taxpayer dollars.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 88, the Congressional Review Act on Saving on a Valuable Education plan.

Last August, the Department of Education launched the SAVE plan, a new, generous, income-driven repayment, IDR, plan to significantly lower payments for many low-and moderate-income borrowers.

Additionally, if borrowers make their full payment but their full required payment is not enough to cover the accrued interest, the government covers the rest of the interest. This means that the SAVE plan eliminates the indignity of balances growing due to unpaid interest.

The improved application allows borrowers to have their income securely assessed through the Internal Revenue Service so that they don't have to recertify their incomes every year.

Finally, repealing the SAVE plan would be extremely disruptive for millions of Americans enrolled in this program.

In fact, the Department reported last month that 5.5 million borrowers have already enrolled in the program, including nearly 18,000 borrowers in my district and about 8,600 in the district represented by the gentlewoman from North Carolina. They are already enjoying the improvements in the plan and the lower payments.

Mr. Speaker, we are responsible for strengthening support for those seeking a college degree, not just because everyone should be forced to get one, but because those who want a college

degree should have access to that opportunity.

As President Johnson noted when he signed the Higher Education Act into law in 1965, he said that it meant that a high school senior anywhere in this great land of ours can apply to any college or university in any of the 50 States and not be turned away because the family is poor.

Repealing the SAVE plan does nothing to make higher education more affordable or accessible, and for that reason, Mr. Speaker, I oppose the bill.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. McCLAIN).

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman Foxx for yielding time.

I want to remind the American people that every time someone says the government pays, the government will pay, it is not the government because the government doesn't produce anything.

When they refer to the government, they refer to you, the American taxpayer, will pay. The government doesn't pay. The American taxpayer pays.

I want to clear that up just to make sure every time we hear the government will pay, that is really the hardworking American people. The government is just choosing how they spend the American taxpayers' money.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this H.J. Res. 88, a Congressional Review Act resolution of disapproval I introduced to block President Biden's extreme student loan giveaway.

This new regulation, ironically dubbed the SAVE plan, is the most expensive regulation in our Nation's history and is a backdoor attempt to ram the administration's socialist free college fantasy down the throats of hardworking taxpayers. It is their money.

According to the Penn Wharton Budget Model, this plan will cost as much as \$559 billion over the next decade, far exceeding the price tag of the President's illegal student loan bailout ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

Further, the Biden administration's plan would completely ruin our postsecondary education financing system, putting higher costs on taxpayers who never attended college in the first place.

I can't buy a house. I choose not to buy a house, but my neighbor chooses to buy a house, and then I get to foot the bill. That is what this administration is asking us to sign up for unconstitutionally.

Experts from across the political spectrum agree that Biden's income-driven repayment plan makes repayment the exception instead of the norm.

Just 2 in 10 undergraduate borrowers will fully repay their loans, and the average student will pay roughly half of what is borrowed from taxpayers in the first place.

Not only does this plan shift the cost of loans from the borrower, the person who actually took out the loan, it shifts the cost to the person who never took the loan out to begin with, the hardworking taxpayer.

It also will make college more expensive. Under the President's plan, colleges will continue to increase prices and force students to actually have to borrow more that they don't need to repay, knowing that this is ultimately the hardworking taxpayers who will foot the bill.

The Congressional Budget Office even estimates that the SAVE plan will increase student borrowing by \$100 billion over the next decade. Increasing costs by \$100 billion—I am not sure what is saved.

In other words, the President is forcing through the most expensive regulation in history, increasing prices to attend college—well, that doesn't make any sense—and then telling taxpayers, many of them who didn't attend college, or if they already did attend college, they get to pay off their loans and somebody else's loans. They need to subsidize the ones who went to college even if they didn't go to college. This is unfair and unconstitutional.

The Biden administration is more concerned with scoring political points with his base through executive rule than actually fixing the student loan issue.

Republicans actually have a plan, one that is fiscally responsible like the FAIR Act that I introduced with Representative OWENS and Chairman FOXX, that would actually fix the Democrat-created problems with our loan repayment system.

President Biden has attempted to write off as much as \$1 trillion of student loans since taking office without congressional approval.

It is clear that President Biden and the unelected bureaucrats he has put in power have no respect for the hardworking taxpayers that he is forcing to foot the bill time and time again.

This administration has ignored the will of Congress and the Supreme Court, I might add, in his radical free college approach.

The Supreme Court said enough. The Education and Workforce Committee said enough. Now it's time for the House to say enough.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.J. Res. 88, reaffirm Congress' constitutional power of the purse, and defend taxpayers across the country.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. MCBATH).

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member SCOTT and his staff for their work on this issue.

I rise today on behalf of the thousands of working families in my district who are struggling under the burden of seemingly endless student loan debt.

A college credential continues to be the surest path to economic security, and we must help to make sure that every student, regardless of their background or their ZIP Code, has the resources necessary to achieve their dreams through education.

That means setting our students up for success, not confining them to a lifetime of making payments that barely cover the interest on their loans.

The American people who stand to be harmed by this bill are more than just numbers. They are not just statistics. These are real live human beings with real life experiences.

I would remind my colleague, Mrs. McCLAIN of Michigan, that in her district, there are at least 9,900 borrowers enrolled in the SAVE plan, which will significantly lower their monthly payments.

If Republicans succeed and this bill undoes the income-driven repayment plan, more than 5 million student loan borrowers enrolled in the plan will see their monthly payments go up.

These are real people. They are nurses. They are engineers. They are teachers with families and mortgages and groceries that they need to buy who are going to lose the opportunity to pay off their loans in a way that really fits their budgets.

The American people are tired of these empty and broken promises. They are tired of being asked to give more and more of themselves while it gets increasingly expensive to acquire the skills necessary just to make a decent living.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to oppose this bill.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

I think Mrs. MCBATH just made my argument for me. She said the American people are tired of being asked to give more, more, more.

Well, in her district, she has almost 300,000 people without a bachelor's degree, and the cost per person for what the Biden administration is doing is \$3,768.

In Representative SCOTT's district, 355,000 have no bachelor's degree. They are being forced to cough up \$3,768 for people who don't want to pay their bills.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for the time this morning.

I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 88, a resolution that will nullify President Biden's irresponsible student loan repayment plan.

It is no secret that President Biden wants to borrow and spend taxpayer dollars to force you and your children to pay for other people's education.

Earlier this year, Biden vetoed my bipartisan resolution that nullified his student loan transfer scheme.

Thankfully, the Supreme Court agreed with Congress that unilateral

Federal spending for outright forgiveness by the President is unconstitutional.

However, the administration lost no time in devising yet another scheme to transfer loan debt to taxpayers, this time under the guise of repayment.

The Biden administration's new repayment scheme would permit even more graduates to contribute even less money to loan payments.

These borrowers, who voluntarily took taxpayer money, will contribute just 5 percent of their monthly income to the loan.

They can also be exempt from paying interest, and if enough time passes, the loan will be forgiven altogether or actually paid for by other Americans.

The Biden administration sells this scheme by promising it will reduce many borrowers' loan payments to zero. However, the American taxpayer will foot the bill.

I am reminded of October of 2020, the vote-buying scheme that was the previous student loan transfer scheme, transferring that debt to other Americans.

Policies like this undermine personal responsibility and teach a generation to have little regard for the value of money.

Thanks to Bidenflation, the dollar has far less buying power today than when he took office. Americans feel this at the grocery store, the gas pump, and when paying their rent and utility bills.

Yet, this new scheme means that at least \$276 billion in loans paid out to students will never be returned to the Treasury as promised.

□ 0930

As he overspends by \$200 billion a month and drives us to \$34 trillion in debt, the President may personally be insulated from the impact of his reckless, wasteful borrowing and spending, but the American people are certainly suffering from his harmful policies.

Many of my constituents paid their way through college or didn't go to college because they couldn't afford it, and they should not have to cover Biden's \$276 billion in student loans.

As Dr. FOXX said just a moment ago, my district also has an example. I have 293,000 individuals in my district who don't have a college degree, and they should not have to pay their share, \$3,800 each, for this latest student loan transfer scheme by the President.

Over the last 3 years, our government has nearly destroyed the student loan system by freezing payments, promising forgiveness, and changing loan terms. It has to stop. Americans cannot afford it.

Mr. Speaker, we can help today by voting in favor of this legislation.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that in my colleague from Virginia's district, there are over 11,000 borrowers

already enrolled in the SAVE Plan, which significantly lowered their monthly payments.

I will quote from a letter that we received from the AFT, the American Federation of Teachers, which says, in part: "For decades, students have been told that a college education is one of the most important vehicles to get ahead, but years of disinvestment and the actions of predatory loan servicers drastically tightened the shackles of debt, destroying students' budgets. And COVID-19 made that predicament far worse. Fortunately, the Biden administration stepped up with a plan to help student loan borrowers."

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD this letter from AFT and another letter from the National Education Association.

AFT,
December 4, 2023.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the 1.7 million members of the American Federation of Teachers, I strongly urge you to reject H.J. Res. 88, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the Saving on a Valuable Education student loan repayment plan, the Biden administration's improvement to income-driven repayment plans.

The SAVE plan is the most affordable student loan repayment plan ever—and is sorely needed.

For decades, students have been told that a college education is one of the most important vehicles to get ahead, but years of disinvestment and the actions of predatory loan servicers drastically tightened the shackles of debt, destroying students' budgets. And COVID-19 made that predicament far worse. Fortunately, the Biden administration stepped up with a plan to help student loan borrowers.

Even as some members of Congress and outside groups have moved to undermine efforts to achieve a more permanent solution for the broken student loan system and its wide-ranging impacts, and have refused to move forward on bold solutions to make college more affordable on the front end, like free college, the president has recognized that there must be a relief valve for those drowning in student loan debt. We fully support the administration doing what is in its power and building on the tool of income-driven repayment to create the SAVE plan.

This plan is the result of a thorough negotiated rulemaking process and of the administration's commitment to helping student loan borrowers who've had their lives derailed by overwhelming student debt. Congress should be building on the Biden administration's actions to make student loans affordable, not undermining those actions.

The SAVE plan will ensure that borrowers never see their balance grow because of accruing interest, as long as they keep up with their required payments; this is particularly significant for public service workers, who all too often nervously watch their balance balloon while working toward Public Service Loan Forgiveness, even as they work hard to make their monthly payments.

The plan also cuts payments on undergraduate loans in half (from 10 percent to 5 percent of a borrower's discretionary income), updates the formula for determining a borrower's discretionary income (to 225 percent of the federal poverty guidelines based on family size), and provides a shorter time to earn forgiveness (10-24 years) for those borrowers who've carried low-balance loans for at least a decade.

Tens of millions of families are struggling under the yoke of \$1.7 trillion in student debt, and Congress and the administration must do all they can to provide a lifeline to those drowning in student loans. The SAVE plan is an important piece of that relief, which we fully support. This resolution will show Americans which members of Congress are going out of their way to support loading them up with additional student debt. I urge you to reject this callous resolution.

Sincerely,

Randi Weingarten,
President, American Federation of Teachers.

DECEMBER 5, 2023.

Hon. ROBERT C. SCOTT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN SCOTT: On behalf of the National Education Association's 3 million members and the 50 million students they teach and support in public schools and colleges, we urge you to vote NO on H.J. Res. 88, as the Senate has already done. The resolution would use the Congressional Review Act to overturn the Biden-Harris Administration's new rule implementing the Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE) Plan for federal student loan borrowers. Votes on this issue may be included in the NEA Report Card for the 118th Congress.

Millions of borrowers—many of whom are facing significant financial struggles—are coping with their first student bills since the COVID-19 pandemic. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau found that about 1 in 5 borrowers has risk factors that suggest they will struggle with the resumption of payments. Income-driven repayment (IDR) plans are a key safety net; borrowers enrolled in IDR plans default at much lower rates than those in non-IDR plans. However, for too many borrowers, these plans were not working well enough to protect them from hardship. Many borrowers struggled to navigate the bureaucratic hurdles of enrolling in and staying enrolled in a plan. Even for those who were enrolled, their monthly payments were often too high. In addition, due to interest accrual, many borrowers watched their balances balloon despite making on-time payments for years.

NEA's 2021 report on student loan debt found that no segment of the educator workforce is spared the burden of student loan debt. Four out of 10 educators said struggling to pay off their loans and financial worries about the loans were negatively affecting their physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

The Biden-Harris administration created the SAVE Plan to provide meaningful financial relief to borrowers and help ease their transition back to repayment. More than 4 million borrowers are already enrolled and tens of millions more, including educators, are eligible. The SAVE Plan is crucial for educators and other public sector workers, because being enrolled in an IDR is an essential requirement for those seeking Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

The SAVE Plan targets benefits to low- and moderate-income borrowers by lowering their monthly loan payments and protecting more of their income—up to 225 percent of the federal poverty level—to enable them to better cover basic needs such as food, housing, and child care. It also ensures that borrowers never see their balance grow as long as they keep up with their required payments. The White House estimates this change will mean that 85 percent of community college borrowers will be debt-free within 10 years. That would not only improve the lives and financial future of the borrowers themselves; it has the potential to change the trajectory for their entire families.

Most Americans—even those without student loans—understand the severity of the student debt crisis and how it affects those

they love. Please vote NO on H.J. Res. 88 and support the administration's efforts to protect millions of current and future borrowers from financial harm.

Sincerely,

MARC EGAN,
Director of Government Relations,
National Education Association.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS).

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 88, which I am a cosponsor of.

This Congressional Review Act would stop President Biden's radical SAVE Plan that alters the income-driven repayment program to redefine the vast majority of borrowers as financially distressed.

It saves nothing. In fact, in my business, it is called false advertising, and costing the taxpayer an estimated \$559 billion is effectively a loan cancellation program in disguise.

Who is talking about the lenders? Who is talking about the people who loaned the money, the people of America?

In June, President Biden's unconstitutional plan to cancel outstanding loan debt was struck down by the Supreme Court, which stated that the authority to cancel student loans lies with Congress and Congress only, not with President Biden.

This latest plan by President Biden is yet another attempt to ignore the Supreme Court and sidestep Congress even after members of his own party have admitted the executive branch lacks the authority to do so.

Yesterday, the President announced that his administration approved another \$4.8 billion in student loan cancellation, bringing the current total to over \$130 billion, basically sponsoring deadbeats.

This is a slap in the face to the taxpayer, forcing the 87 percent of Americans who do not hold any Federal student loan debt and who have made sound financial decisions to foot the bill for those unwilling to pay off the debt they chose to rack up.

What this administration refuses to admit to the American people is that this is not debt cancellation or debt forgiveness but a shift in responsibility from the borrowers to the pocketbooks of hardworking families.

In Texas, where I come from, a deal is a deal. You pay your debt back, and a handshake still works.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.J. Res. 88 and put a stop to this administration's unlawful attack on the American taxpayer. In God We Trust.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that in the gentleman from Texas' district, there are over 8,000 borrowers already enrolled in the SAVE Plan. They are already saving money, and the passage of this resolution would increase their monthly payments.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for her leadership on this.

I rise in strong support of H.J. Res. 88 to block President Biden's taxpayer-funded student loan bailout.

Here we go again. If you don't succeed, and the Supreme Court says it is not constitutional, well, let's find another way, find another mechanism.

That is exactly what we are facing today.

We are standing in the gap, Mr. Speaker. This rule unjustly imposes an excessive burden on hardworking American taxpayers, who should not be forced to shoulder the responsibility for student debt that is not their own.

It is not a coincidence that on the same day the Supreme Court found the Biden administration's first attempt at loan forgiveness unconstitutional, the Department of Education announced this final rule to allow a majority of bachelor's degree student loan borrowers to avoid paying back even the principal on their loans.

Let me be clear: This rule does not offer genuine debt forgiveness. Instead, it shifts the weight of \$559 billion in Federal student loans onto the shoulders of almost 90 percent of Americans who don't have those student loans. This includes individuals who may earn significantly less than those who took out the loans in the first place.

Rather than addressing the root causes of a student loan debt crisis, the administration would rather transfer the financial burden onto taxpayers, exacerbating our ongoing issues with inflation and contributing further to our staggering \$33 trillion of national debt. This approach is not only flawed but fundamentally unfair to those who opted not to attend college, who diligently paid their own way through school, or who have already successfully paid off their own student loans.

This is what the White House is pushing. By the way, they are also pushing dollars into institutions like Harvard, Penn, and other schools where, as we found out this week, the presidents can't even admit there are anti-Semitic, anti-Jewish hatred messages in their own institutions happening. They can't even admit it.

As a Texan, I can confidently tell you that no hardworking constituent in my district wants to pay for any degree at Harvard using taxpayer money, certainly not ours. By the way, until the presidents of those universities acknowledge the anti-Jewish messages and hatred that has occurred on their college campuses, I urge Congress not to send another dollar of Federal money to any of those institutions.

House Republicans are blocking the Biden administration's illogical and

unreasonable student bailout program, and I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort.

Let's be clear: It is not fair and not American, and the Supreme Court has said it is unconstitutional that Americans should bear the burden of student loans that they did not incur themselves.

Mr. Speaker, for that reason, I urge a strong stance on this, and I urge my colleagues to protect the hard-earned dollars of American taxpayers and prevent further financial strain.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I remind my colleagues that in the gentleman from Texas' district, over 6,600 borrowers have already enrolled in the SAVE Plan. They are already saving money, and the passage of this legislation would significantly increase their payments.

Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, my Republican colleagues clamored and complained about President Biden's plan to provide debt relief for millions of borrowers. Now, House Republicans are trying to saddle millions of Americans and future borrowers with more debt by repealing the SAVE Plan, which has already significantly lowered monthly payments for many low- and middle-income borrowers.

Repealing the SAVE Plan would cause significant disruption, but that seems to be the theme for my colleagues in this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it is imperative and important to know how we got into the student loan crisis. It was created because the buying power of the Pell grant has fallen dramatically over the years. Originally, it covered about 80 percent of the cost of the tuition, room and board at a State college. Now, it covers less than 30 percent. All of that cost has been shifted over to the students.

The people who are debating today went to college when the Pell grant covered 80 percent, and you didn't have to take out a student loan. Now that we have shifted the cost to students, that is where the student loan problem comes from.

The States are supporting a significantly lower portion, covering a lower portion of the cost of the college—again, putting more of the burden on students.

We should be covering more of a percentage for students, and this is one of the ways to do that. By helping them pay their student loans, we can help pay their way through college.

We should pass proposals to make college more affordable for current and future students, not less. That is what the Biden administration has been doing.

We have heard complaints about the shift of this burden onto the taxpayer. I will tell you that we didn't hear any of that during the debate on the PPP loans, where businessmen got millions of dollars of PPP loans with handshakes and everything else and didn't

have to pay them back. We didn't hear any complaints about that, about the people who didn't own businesses. Yet, when a student tries to get an education, all of a sudden, we can't help them pay their loans.

We should be passing proposals to make college more affordable for these students and future students, yet here we are, wasting our time with passing this resolution. Everybody knows this isn't going anywhere.

In fact, the Senate last month took up a similar proposal, and it didn't pass. Whatever happens here, it is not going to pass the Senate, and the President is going to veto it anyway.

Again, the bottom line is that we are responsible for strengthening the support for those seeking a college degree, not because everybody should be forced to get one but because those who want a college education and to move up in life should be able to have access to that opportunity, not just the privileged few that can write the \$50,000 a year checks.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose H.J. Res. 88, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration knows that its so-called SAVE Plan is illegal, yet it has no problem putting its foot on the gas pedal.

As my colleague has admitted, this is helping them pay their way through college, which is what we have been saying. This is a radical plan by the Biden administration to pay for college expenses.

Let's make one thing perfectly clear: The so-called SAVE Plan is the administration's game of ruling by executive decree and pinning the tab on the taxpayer. The Biden administration is transferring debt from those who willingly took it out to those who didn't have a chance to go to college. This is unfair.

America's student loan system is broken, and this reckless, inflationary, and illegal expansion of executive authority will all but ensure it is doomed beyond repair.

This plan isn't about helping borrowers, and it sure isn't protecting taxpayers. It is about an upcoming election and an administration dead set on using the executive pen to reshape our country. That is the stone-cold truth of this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.J. Res. 88, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 906, the previous question is ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the joint resolution.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. 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 will be postponed.

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 9 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1015

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FLOOD) at 10 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Passage of H.J. Res. 88; and

Adoption of H. Res. 914.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RELATING TO "IMPROVING INCOME DRIVEN REPAYMENT FOR THE WILLIAM D. FORD FEDERAL DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM AND THE FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN (FFEL) PROGRAM"

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the passage of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 88) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program" on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the joint resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 210, nays 189, not voting 34, as follows: