

policies of the Biden administration. The latest Consumer Price Index report was up 3.4 percent from last year, keeping interest rates high and making it tough on all Americans to get by. That is Bidenomics.

Today, I rise in support of the hard-working families I represent, who are having to make hard choices to stay afloat. If they are having to tighten their belts, the Federal Government should do the same. We don't have a revenue problem in this country. We have a spending problem.

In fiscal year 2022, the Federal Government collected \$850 billion more in tax revenue than just the year before, yet the Federal Government spent \$1.4 trillion more than we brought in. In fiscal year 2023, the government spent \$1.7 trillion more than it collected.

That is just one of the many reasons why I opposed the President's \$7.3 trillion budget. We cannot continue spending money we don't have.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday, in my hometown of Worcester, Massachusetts, I had the incredible honor of joining Congregation Beth Israel, under the leadership of Rabbi Aviva Fellman, to celebrate 100 years of faith, community, and service.

As Worcester's longest continuously operating synagogue, Beth Israel has been a beacon of hope, education, and charity. The congregants have made Beth Israel not just a place of spiritual renewal and worship but a hub of cultural activity and social justice. They represent the best of our community and all that is good.

Across faiths, Scripture teaches us that our values are not just theoretical but are lived through acts of kindness, community, service, and advocacy for justice. Congregation Beth Israel in Worcester exemplifies these values every day.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Congregation Beth Israel's centennial.

TRUMP VERDICT

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

Mr. TIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, the weaponization of our justice system has been the hallmark of the Biden administration, and the verdict handed down against President Trump in New York last Thursday is further evidence that the Democrats will stop at nothing to silence dissent, limit speech, and oppress their political opponents.

The fact of the matter is that these charges would never have been brought

with such vigor against any other individual. It is no coincidence that this trial took place in a district that voted against Donald Trump by nearly 90 percent. It is also no coincidence that this persecution was perpetrated by a judge active in Democratic fundraising and a prosecutor who campaigned on going after President Trump.

From top to bottom, it is clear that this case was politically motivated and was only brought to disparage President Trump, the leading candidate for the Republican nomination.

That is why I call on the Supreme Court to utilize its original jurisdiction in this case and finally bring an end to these sham proceedings.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NUNN of Iowa) laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable STEVE SCALISE, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 4, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117-263, and jointly with the Senate Republican Leader, I hereby appoint the following individual to serve as Co-Chairperson of the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State:

The Honorable Bill Hagerty of Tennessee
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

STEVE SCALISE,
Republican Leader.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8580, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025 AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8282, ILLEGITIMATE COURT COUNTERACTION ACT

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1269 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1269

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. 8580) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, 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. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-35, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived.

SEC. 2. (a) No further amendment to H.R. 8580, as amended, 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 3 of this resolution, and pro forma amendments described in section 4 of this resolution.

(b) Each further 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 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 further amendments printed in part B 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 his designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of further 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 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. 8580 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. 8580 for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommend.

SEC. 6. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 8282) to impose sanctions with respect to the International Criminal Court engaged in any effort to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute any protected person of the United States and its allies. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-37 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be

considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further 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 Foreign Affairs or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. 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

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this rule and in support of the underlying legislation. Before I talk about the rule, I want to recognize our staff director, Kelly Dixon.

I recognize the staff director of the House Rules Committee, Kelly Dixon Chambers.

I first met Kelly as a freshman Member of Congress. She has been a mentor of mine and, most importantly, she has been a friend. This is before I even joined the Rules Committee. Kelly has been a vital member of the House of Representatives for over 25 years.

From Congressman KEN CALVERT's office, to the House Judiciary Committee, to the New York delegation, to the former offices of Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY when he was whip and leader, to today where she is a staff director of the Rules Committee majority staff under Chairman COLE and Dr. BURGESS, Kelly has always been a leader in the House during some of the most consequential decisions over the past two decades.

Mr. Speaker, the House owes Kelly a debt of gratitude, and I look forward to working with her in the years to come.

Now back to the rule.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 1269 provides for consideration of H.R. 8580, the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2025.

This is under a structured rule with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, and it provides for one motion to recommit.

The rule makes 47 amendments in order.

Additionally, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 8282, the Illegitimate

Court Counteraction Act, under a closed rule, with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees, and provides for one motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, on October 7, 2023, Hamas launched the largest mass killing of Jews that we have seen since the Holocaust. This horrific assault attacked Israel by land, sea, and air, killing over 1,200 innocent civilians, including dozens of Americans. For perspective, this would be the equivalent of over 40,000 American dead and nearly 9,000 Americans being taken hostage.

In the aftermath of that atrocious attack, we have learned that families were burned alive, infants were decapitated, women were sexually assaulted, and other unthinkable acts of violence were committed.

To date, Hamas continues to hold as many as 130 hostages. Since those attacks, we have seen a clear divide in the United States and around the globe between those who stand with our ally, Israel, and those who stand with Hamas.

One of the organizations that stands with Hamas is the international kangaroo court, also known as the ICC. This court is anti-American, anti-Israel, and anti-Semitic. The United States and Israel are not members of the ICC, and the court has absolutely no standing and no jurisdiction over our Nation or the nation of Israel.

Previously, the court has targeted American warfighters for defending our Nation in Afghanistan after the September 11 attacks. They are now targeting our ally and partner, Israel, and drawing a false equivalence and distorted moral equivalency between the leaders of Hamas and the democratically elected Government of Israel.

That is why House Republicans will pass the Illegitimate Court Counteraction Act introduced by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), my good friend.

This legislation would reimpose the Trump administration's sanctions against the ICC officials that investigate, arrest, detain, and prosecute U.S. citizens or allies, like Israel.

The choice is clear: Do you stand with our ally, Israel, or do you stand with Hamas?

Do you stand with this illegitimate court?

□ 0930

Additionally, as a Navy veteran and a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I am proud to introduce FY25 MILCON-VA bill, which was introduced by Chairman CARTER.

Under Chairman COLE's and Chairman CARTER's leadership, H.R. 8580 will fully fund veterans' healthcare programs and benefits. It provides for an extra \$75 million above the President's budget and \$30 billion above last year's enacted level for veterans.

Further, this legislation also provides for robust funding for the Indo-

Pacific region, invests billions in quality-of-life projects for our servicemembers and their families, and blocks the Biden administration from placing al-Qaida terrorists in our local communities.

This bill provides for an additional \$412 million over the President's budget for military construction so we can invest more in our national security.

As we approach the 80th anniversary of D-day, this week's vote will be an important step in supporting our Nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I begin as well to take a moment to recognize Kelly Dixon Chambers, the staff director for the House Rules Committee Republicans whose last week on the Hill is this week.

There is no doubt that she is an extraordinary, exceptional, incredible public servant. I said last night in the Rules Committee, she is a master legislative strategist. She knows everything about everything about rules and procedures. She spent her time here on Capitol Hill working to improve this institution and to uphold the traditions of the Rules Committee. She has also done a lot to foster an environment of mutual respect and camaraderie behind the scenes, which we all benefit from and appreciate, especially during these very polarizing times.

In short, she is one of the most effective people I have ever worked with on Capitol Hill, and all I have to say is that I love her and I respect her a whole lot. All of us on this side of the aisle will genuinely miss her.

I also said last night that my only problem with Kelly is that she isn't a Democrat, but I don't hold that against her. In fact, she has made me sharper and better at my job because I know she always brings her A-game to everything that she does.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Kelly for all that she has done for Congress and for this country. She has put people over politics. She cares. She has accomplished a whole lot up here. She should be proud of her time serving in the people's House. For the people here who call her a friend and mentor, as I know I do, we wish her all the very best as she steps into a new chapter in her life and her career.

Moving on, let me get to the rule here.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad to be managing this rule. I am glad that I am allowed to speak on the floor again. As you remember, I was silenced 2 weeks ago for simply speaking the truth.

That is right. I was muzzled from that very rostrum for daring to recite facts, and I can think of at least 34 new facts that could get my words taken

down today, but I won't go there because I want to be allowed to say a few things without being canceled by the Republican majority for the high crime of merely speaking the truth.

This rule contains two bills, both of which I think are lousy.

First, is the House Republicans' Military Construction appropriations proposal for fiscal year 2025. This should be one of the least controversial funding bills Congress passes each year, but, this year, House Republicans are loading their funding bills with more culture war nonsense: the same attacks on abortion access, attacks on the LGBTQ+ community, and attacks on diversity and inclusion efforts.

We are talking about more narrow-minded, hateful MAGA riders that inject partisan politics into what should be a bipartisan bill.

This bill also holds the VA back from protecting struggling veterans who may pose a danger to themselves or others. It would hamper efforts to prevent Veterans from dying by suicide. This bill zeroes out funding for climate change and resilience projects, something that will jeopardize our national security because it means our military installations will not be prepared for the realities of the climate crisis.

At the end of the day, this funding bill is full of poison pills that endanger our national security and threaten the quality of life for veterans, those who serve, and their families.

Again, this should have been easy. This should have been a bipartisan bill where there would be very little debate or little dissension, and they turned it into this horrific culture war bill filled with things that, quite frankly, are very divisive and have no business being in the Military Construction appropriations bill.

Second on the agenda is H.R. 8282, a bill that imposes sanctions on the good people who work for the International Criminal Court and their families.

I know Members have a variety of thoughts on this measure, but, frankly, I think this is a bad, bad bill. The idea that the ICC is some evil institution is totally contrary to fact. The International Criminal Court is an important institution, and it is not in America's moral or strategic interest to attack the court for doing its job.

The U.S. recognizes the jurisdiction and the legitimacy of the ICC and co-operates with the ICC in cases ranging from Sudan to Ukraine and Russia, to the Lord's Resistance Army led by Joseph Kony.

Fundamentally, this bill says that human rights don't matter. In fact, it totally undermines the rules-based international order that America helped build.

Let me be clear: I am already being challenged to explain U.S. double standards every time I meet with representatives of foreign governments. When I meet with human rights advocates from abroad, they are gutted, first, by the brutality and the inhu-

manity of the war in Gaza, and, second, by America's inexplicable abandonment of its commitment of human rights and justice for all.

What better gift to China or Russia, our most significant adversaries, than for us to undermine the international rule of law and gut institutions of accountability that the U.S. helped create and worked to consolidate for more than 75 years.

What better gift than to say: Yes, it is just fine to ignore or redefine human rights and international humanitarian law for reasons of political convenience.

What should our reaction be? First, we should read the evidence contained in the ICC filing. Second, we should wait for the judges to actually rule on the warrant applications. We don't know what their decision will be. When it comes down, if we disagree with it, we can say so.

What is not okay is to attack the court's existence or threaten its personnel and their families.

Republicans are already doing that in New York. It is wrong there and it is wrong here.

Finally, we should insist on credible, independent investigations of the crimes the ICC has alleged, which include, by the way, the unspeakable crimes committed by Hamas on October 7. Surely, I hope everybody here supports the ICC's effort to hold Hamas accountable.

We should also recognize the ICC's action for what it is. It is an urgent attempt at prevention. The ICC is urging Israel to change course and to stop the carnage against Palestinian civilians. It is calling upon the independent Israeli judiciary to investigate these alleged crimes and follow the evidence, no matter where it leads, before the worst unimaginable criminal charges become inevitable.

Should this bill pass, it would completely isolate us internationally, including and especially from our closest allies. It would deepen accusations of hypocrisy that have already caused a mind-boggling level of damage to the reputation of the United States, our diplomacy, and the entire range of our soft power capabilities.

I am just completely astounded by how little my Republican colleagues seem to even care about the massive ramifications of this bill. There was no hearing. There was no hearing at all. There were no witnesses, no markup, no nothing.

The Republican who testified last night in the Rules Committee had no clue what was even in the bill. He told us he wasn't on the committee of jurisdiction but he is. He didn't even know what the text of the bill was because the text kept on changing multiple times.

Is that how you conduct business in the people's House?

My Republican colleagues have turned this place into a joke. They are making a complete and total mockery

of the committee process. On top of it all, we have another closed rule. How pathetic.

I mean, I get that the Republicans may not care about the implications of some of the things that they say or what they bring on the floor, but at least try to go through the motions. Let's at least have a hearing. Let's have witnesses. The Republicans could make believe they care about the facts and that they are serious about legislating.

Again, it is sad that this is the process that brings this bill to the floor.

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

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, good luck hiding behind procedural arguments when talking about defending the ICC. This is a kangaroo court, and to defend it is to defend an institution that is anti-American, anti-Israel, and anti-Semitic, but we shouldn't be shocked that this is coming from the left and the Biden administration.

This administration has been weak. They have been feckless. They have been incompetent on foreign policy from now going back to when Joe Biden was sworn into office.

What are we seeing? The world is absolutely on fire.

In his first year alone, President Joe Biden green lit the Nord Stream 2 pipeline to provide Russian gas to Europe while at the same time blocking the Keystone XL pipeline that would have actually led to energy exportation from this country.

He also issued 94 executive actions on immigration which led to an unprecedented invasion at our southern border. The President and his unelected bureaucrats in the administration are also directly responsible for the failed withdraw of the U.S. from Afghanistan, giving up the Bagram Airbase before we even evacuated, which led directly to the death of 13 American service-members, it stranded thousands of American citizens abroad, and it brought the Taliban back into power, something that we were there to counter for the last 20 years.

Let's talk about President Biden making the decision to delist the Houthi rebels from the terrorist watch list. What did that do? It led to a crisis in the Red Sea. He also placed an indefinite pause on LNG exports, which benefits—I can't make this up—Russia and Iran, rather than helping ourselves and our allies in Europe and the Indo-Pacific.

That is just the start of the blunders of the Biden administration on Foreign Affairs. He also waived the billions of dollars in sanctions on Iran so their energy sector could grow and they could export energy, which, of course, led to Iran being able to fund Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthi rebels, which has led to all the chaos in the Middle East.

Since October 7 alone, our service-members in the Middle East have been attacked over 100 times, including the deaths of three Americans in Jordan.

It just doesn't stop there. I just got back from a trip to Turks and Caicos, an official trip, a congressional delegation. There you have a small island nation that has roughly 60,000 citizens, and they are allowed to commit human rights violations on Americans, holding American detainees in a North Korean-style court system and legal system there. All it would take to bring the Americans that are wrongfully detained in Turks and Caicos home would be a do not travel order from Antony Blinken.

Do you think Secretary Blinken has issued an order? Of course he hasn't.

We have seen weakness. We have seen indecisive action from the State Department and that has emboldened these banana republics like Turks and Caicos to have draconian laws on their books that target American citizens.

Biden's weakness has done nothing but embolden our adversaries. It has emboldened Russia. It has emboldened China. It has emboldened Iran, and now you are seeing it embolden banana republics that are holding American hostages in basically the North Korea of the Caribbean, Turks and Caicos.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), my very good friend and fellow Rules Committee member, to talk more about the ICC.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Pennsylvania for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, before I start, I will join in a bipartisan moment of agreement with my friend from Massachusetts about Kelly Dixon.

I too wish her well. I wish her all the best in her next endeavors. The gentleman is correct about her intellect and her commitment to the institution. We have debated numerous times on the floor. As a former staffer, chief of staff to a senator, it is not always easy to walk the line and intellectually engage and spar with Members of Congress, for those without the election certificate, but to do so with the proper amount of respect in going toe to toe with Members in the right way. Kelly has always done that.

She does very much believe in keeping the traditions of this institution moving forward in the right way. I am deeply appreciative of that and of her service, and we will be wishing her well going forward and will miss her.

□ 0945

Here we are talking about the issues before us in this rule, the MILCON-VA funding and the International Criminal Court.

Just a quick moment on MILCON-VA funding—I note that this legislation that we put forward we have done so in good faith to increase spending for veterans—yes, increase spending for veterans—because it is higher than that which has been put forward by the President in the President's budget. It is also, in aggregate, the total amount of spending that we are spending on veterans when you factor in mandatory

spending and discretionary spending, will be greater under our spending than it would be last year.

Yes, we are trying to figure out how to do this in a fiscally responsible manner. We believe we have done that, and we have put forward the policy initiatives that we believe are important to constrain the administration to ensure that we are not advancing a radical agenda through the executive branch's actions.

The President has been aggressive in disagreeing with the United States Supreme Court and Congress in advancing a radical agenda, whether it is DEI, CRT, or student loans. We believe it is our power of the purse in Congress to be able to constrain that.

The thing I want to most talk about here is the International Criminal Court. This is an issue that really shouldn't be partisan, I agree. I have had numerous conversations with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, and they have been good conversations. They have been healthy conversations with leadership on both sides of the aisle.

At stake right now is the critically important issue of ensuring that we protect America's interests. That is what is at stake right now in the International Criminal Court. It isn't just about Israel. In fact, it is not even specifically about Israel.

This would be a permanent change, a change to the law to ensure that if the International Criminal Court targets Americans or targets our allies, that we would sanction the International Criminal Court.

Now, let's be clear. This is an unprecedented action being taken by the International Criminal Court, seeking arrest warrants for the sitting Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of Israel. Say that out loud. That is what is happening with the International Criminal Court.

Neither Israel nor the United States is a party to this organization, yet this entity, the International Criminal Court, is trying to issue a warrant against the Prime Minister of Israel.

There have been longstanding bipartisan concerns about the ICC's undermining of the United States' sovereignty. Since the founding in 2002, every U.S. administration, both parties, has refused to join the court, fearing its politicization and misuse.

On April 2, 2021, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said: "We maintain our longstanding objection to the Court's efforts to assert jurisdiction over personnel of non-States Parties such as the United States and Israel."

NSC spokesperson John Kirby said, on April 30: "We don't believe the ICC has any jurisdiction here."

Both the Biden and Trump administrations and over 330 Members of Congress from both parties have rejected ICC investigations of the United States and Israel in the past.

Last night in the Rules Committee, talking about the Democratic witness:

Do you believe the ICC should be able to target American servicemen? The answer was no.

The fact here is if you allow this to happen, you are opening the door. We need to make it crystal clear to our men and women in uniform that we will not tolerate the ICC going after them or our allies for simply performing their job.

This is not unprecedented in the sense that the ICC has tried to investigate U.S. servicemembers before, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania noted, but the reality here is this is pretty simple. This bill would sanction the ICC. Yes, it has teeth. Yes, it would cause some concerns and some pain for the members of the ICC. That is intentional.

We want to make them think twice, and we modeled it after existing legislation. We used a model. This is not something new. We believe this is critically important. This country, the United States, should stand united and hold the ICC accountable.

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

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Pennsylvania made a point when he got up that I was somehow trying to hide behind process. It is clear he wasn't listening to my very substantive speech in which I actually talked about the policy implications of what my Republican friends were doing.

Since he brought up process, and I think this is an important point to emphasize here because we are on the Rules Committee, I want to point out that sometimes I call the Rules Committee, under the Republicans, the break the rules committee.

Let's look at some of the rules that are being ignored today. This is from the official Republican Committee Report. Maybe the gentleman doesn't read it, but I do.

Let me quote: This waives "all points of order against provisions in H.R. 8580, as amended," which includes "Clause 2 of rule XXI, which prohibits unauthorized appropriations or legislative provisions in an appropriations bill."

The gentleman who just spoke routinely talks about how he is opposed to unauthorized appropriations and appropriations bills, yet that rule was waived by the Republicans.

"Clause 5(a) of rule XXI, which prohibits a bill or joint resolution carrying a tax or tariff measure from being reported by a committee not having jurisdiction to report tax or tariff measures." That was ruled waived.

Here is the big one: "Clause 12 of rule XXI, which prohibits consideration of a bill or joint resolution pursuant to a special order of business reported by the Committee on Rules that has not been reported by a committee." That is what is known, for my friends on the other side of the aisle, as the McGovern rule.

When I was chairman of the Rules Committee, we actually put this in

place, that bills that come before the Rules Committee ought to have a hearing and a markup by a committee of jurisdiction. We weren't always perfect, but we really tried to be. We really tried to be.

Why did they waive the McGovern rule? The reason why is because they short-circuited the legislative process. There were no hearings and no markup on the ICC bill, none, not at all, and no one can amend it, as well. No amendments are made in order.

Again, what was really puzzling to me was the Republican witness who came before the Rules Committee couldn't even tell us what the accurate text of the bill that we were considering was because it had been changed so many times. It was astonishing to watch this in action.

Rules and process matter because when you ignore the process, you get lousy bills, and nobody even knows what the implications of the ICC bill are.

Again, you didn't have time for a hearing? You could have done an emergency hearing in the committee of jurisdiction. You could have done an emergency markup before it came to the Rules Committee. You bypassed everything and kept on changing the text of the bill.

That is a lousy way to legislate. I will tell you, I can't wait until after November and my friends are no longer in charge because we can then demonstrate not only to my Republican friends but to the American people how a legislative process should work, how to get things done, how to be effective. This is irresponsible legislating.

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

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

You can't make this stuff up. It is amazing. I am being gaslit in real time here, and so are the American people. I often say if it weren't for double standards, the Democrats would have no standards at all. Here we are, talking about process and procedure and totally ignoring the fact that the Democrats ran roughshod over process and procedure last Congress when they were in control.

Don't believe me? Let's look at the facts. Last Congress, the Democratic-controlled Rules Committee considered 30 pieces of legislation that did not go through regular order. That includes 28 McGovern waivers for unreported bills. You might say, oh, 28 out of 30, what about the other 2? Well, the other two were reported but without hearings.

It is amazing and so rich, being attacked for having a bill not going through regular order on a few occasions when the Democrats themselves had it 30 separate times in the last Congress. That is quite amazing.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. ALFORD).

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Pennsylvania for yielding.

I rise today in favor of this Military Construction, Veterans Affairs appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to share my appreciation for Kelly Dixon, who is leaving the Rules Committee. She is one of the first persons we met as freshmen. Mr. Speaker, you remember us going to the Rules Committee office and Kelly running us through how things operate here on the House floor. I had no experience in politics, and it was all new to me. She made the rules clear, and decorum, as well, which is such an important part of this institution. We wish Kelly well.

I want to say a special thank-you to the Appropriations Committee, in particular, Chairman COLE and Defense Subcommittee Chair CALVERT, for the \$144 million in this bill, which is going to go to the advanced individual training barracks for prestigious Fort Leonard Wood in the southeastern part of the Fourth Congressional District of the great State of Missouri, which I represent.

Fort Leonard Wood is a wonderful center of excellence, training the men and women who are tasked with protecting our great Nation. I was down there last year to visit and saw the need for new barracks on this great facility. It was real, Mr. Speaker.

I also thank Secretary Wormuth of the Army for making this a priority in the President's budget because, together, we are working to increase our retention and recruitment for the armed services.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, we have issues with recruitment. Only 9 percent of Americans, young people, right now have any interest in joining the military. At Fort Leonard Wood and other areas where we are going to provide military construction through this appropriations process, we are not building the Taj Mahal, but we are building barracks and privatized housing that is going to make living and working on these facilities not necessarily a joy but someplace where they can rest their heads at night and feel comfortable and safe. I thank the chair and subcommittee chair for that addition to this package.

I want to talk now specifically about H.R. 8282, the Illegitimate Court Counteraction Act. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the rule to provide consideration of this act.

To be honest, I am a little disappointed. I am a little bit disgusted that, once again, we are having to have these discussions about what we stand for as a nation, in particular in protecting the Nation of Israel. It is unfortunate, but it is something that we must do.

Israel is our strongest ally in the Middle East, and it is under attack. It has been since October 7. Israel was living in peace until they were attacked on October 7.

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

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, this time, the attack is coming from the International Criminal Court, which went as far as seeking an arrest warrant against Prime Minister Netanyahu for the rightful act of defending his country against the horrific terrorist attacks of October 7.

Mr. Speaker, this is an unprecedented move, and even President Biden called the arrest warrants "outrageous." The commonsense response to this outrageous action by the ICC is to pass H.R. 8282.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we will see just how much common sense our colleagues on the other side of the aisle actually have.

H.R. 8282 would impose sanctions against ICC officials who investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute a U.S. person or our allies, including Israel, giving Prime Minister Netanyahu and the Israeli people the support they truly deserve.

Let me be clear, Mr. Speaker, as some of my colleagues across the aisle seem to not understand this very simple concept: We must always stand with our ally Israel, and we must always stand against any terrorist organization like Hamas. We must support Israel in their efforts to eradicate Hamas, which could end this war today, Mr. Speaker, by releasing all the remaining hostages and surrendering.

Mr. Speaker, recently, we were in Israel visiting with President Herzog, Prime Minister Netanyahu, and the family of Hersh Goldberg, an American still held hostage by the Hamas butchers in Gaza. What they are dealing with is a frightening scene, Mr. Speaker.

□ 1000

Prime Minister Netanyahu says: We appreciate the help and support of the U.S., but let me make one thing clear—Mr. Speaker, this is what Prime Minister Netanyahu says—we will fight with our fingers if necessary to win this war.

Mr. Speaker, war is not pretty. We stand with Israel. We will always stand with Israel, and that is why I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this rule.

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

Mr. Speaker, let me respond to the gentleman from Pennsylvania who commented on my last comments where I conceded that we weren't perfect in following the McGovern rule, but I thank him for conceding that we followed it the overwhelming majority of the time.

Again, I find it really stunning that on a bill that has implications that my friends can't even respond to, they decided to not only forgo a hearing and a markup, but they kept on changing the text at the last minute.

He also was critical of President Biden and his foreign policy, but I want

to correct the record on that as well. When the other guy was President, I will remind the gentleman, Iran didn't just attack Israeli troops, they attacked U.S. troops. They attacked us.

The gentleman wants to talk about supporting our allies. His side held up aid for Ukraine for 9 months because their side bought into Kremlin propaganda. They were more interested in pleasing Vladimir Putin than they were in standing by our allies in Ukraine.

It was their side, a Republican President, who went to North Korea and tried to get a brutal dictator to like him. He tried to kowtow to Kim Jong-Un. It was their side, a Republican President, who tried to extort our Ukrainian allies by withholding U.S. aid, and then he was impeached over that.

It was his Republican candidate for President who praises Putin, fawns over Xi Jinping, says Viktor Orban is fantastic, and sends love letters to Kim Jong-Un.

It was a Republican President, the previous guy, who stood with America's adversaries. Contrast that with President Joe Biden. President Biden rallied the world to Ukraine's defense. President Biden has defended our ally Israel and their airspace, and President Biden has rebuilt America's image on the world stage by standing up for democracy and human rights. I am happy to compare President Biden's record to the other guy who they seem so in awe of and afraid of every single day of the week.

I would, again, remind my colleagues that the bill on the International Criminal Court had no hearing, no markup, no witnesses, no amendments, closed rule, nothing, and they can't even explain it. They couldn't even explain it in the Rules Committee last night.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania). The Chair would also remind Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward presumptive nominees for the office of President.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MCGOVERN for pointing out the importance of choosing our leaders wisely and choosing those who would reject tyrannical tendencies themselves or to ally themselves with tyrants. This reminds me that 250 years ago when the revolutionaries of our American soil decided to fight to escape the tyrannical and authoritarian rule of the king, some pushed back. They were concerned that the people of the beautiful experiment we call America would not be able to choose the right leader.

Samuel Adams believed that virtue was the soul of democracy. He said these beautiful words: A moral people will elect moral leaders. A moral people will elect moral leaders.

I have incredible faith in our American people. I know that they honor and cherish our Constitution. I know that the American people will honor the rule of law. Today, I will not speak of the 34 reasons why I know that the American people are moral people and will elect moral leaders.

Today, instead, I will speak about the manner in which Americans not just cherish virtue, rule of law, and our Constitution, Americans also cherish our veterans and our military. The appropriations bill the Republicans have presented today does not cherish or honor the sacrifices our servicemembers made in battle for this country. Instead, it sacrifices our national security to industries and lobbyists who don't want us to even acknowledge climate change.

The Republican Speaker last night actually recognized that it would be common sense to protect our bases from sea rise and flooding, but this bill strips funding for climate resilience. They would sacrifice our military readiness for climate denialism.

This bill is a kitchen sink of culture wars rather than one that honors our servicemembers and veterans. Instead of focusing on what our military bases need for readiness, Republicans are attacking women's healthcare, promoting discrimination against LGBTQ veterans, and denying climate change. This appropriations bill will prevent women veterans from receiving reproductive healthcare wherever they may live.

If a female veteran's health is at risk during her pregnancy, Republicans don't want her to get VA care in the full array that she may need it. If she lives in Texas, Alabama, or a State that took away her reproductive healthcare, she might find herself waiting in an emergency room parking lot until she is near death.

I have made difficult decisions about life-threatening conditions during my own pregnancies. I enjoyed the right to make decisions about my health with the people I trust and love, my doctors, and my own faith in God. I want every woman to have the same right, to have access to healthcare if her health is at risk during pregnancy, especially if she is a veteran who has served our country.

All veterans deserve our respect wherever they live. That respect is measured by action, actions that protect healthcare access. This bill does not show that respect. I urge my colleagues to oppose the rule.

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

Again, it is amazing that I am hearing my friends across the aisle complain about closed rules and going through regular order. Again, we are being gaslit in real time by the left.

I remind my friends across the aisle that at this point in the 117th Congress—again, when Democrats were in control, this is when Chairman McGov-

ERN ran the Rules Committee—Democrats had made 61 percent of their rules closed. In this Congress, the GOP has passed 66 more measures out of the Rules Committee compared with the Democrats at this point in the 117th.

The GOP is legislating in this Congress. We have proportionally fewer closed rules over a much larger pool of bills, and 33 percent of our closed rules were because no amendments were submitted. They were closed because no one even put forward amendments. In the 118th, 81 percent of the Rules measures that have gone to a floor vote have garnered bipartisan support for final passage.

Again, Mr. Speaker, my friends across the aisle like to complain about amendments being made in order and they like to complain about regular order, but facts don't lie. They had 61 percent of their bills with closed rules. I just had a litany of bills that did not go through regular order. You can't hide from the stats.

Let's not fool ourselves. The American people don't care about arcane rules of procedure in the House. No one cares about this. What they do care about are things like foreign policy. It is amazing, like I am being gaslit on procedures in the House, I am being gaslit about the last administration's position on foreign policy.

I am sure if you would ask people around the world if they would rather have President Trump or President Biden, it would be President Trump, and here is why: President Trump actually killed al-Baghdadi, and he dismantled ISIS.

When it comes to Iran, he neutralized Soleimani. He also targeted proxy groups that were controlled by the Iranians in the surrounding area. He put the Quds Force and the Houthis on the terrorist watch list, actions the Biden administration has tried to reverse.

He blocked the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, which weakened Russia. He had the Abraham Accords.

We had zero attacks from Russia during the period. Remember, it was under Obama that Russia came into the Crimea, and then Russia didn't do anything for 4 years. Then, magically, when the Democrats came in, showing weakness and vacillation in the face of aggression, then the Russians invaded more parts of Ukraine.

Also, when it comes to China, it was President Trump who put tariffs on China and held China to account. The Biden administration has done very little on that front.

The list goes on and on, but I will leave it at that for the sake of time.

Talking about being gaslit, we are being gaslit on the ICC, this international kangaroo court. There is so much disinformation out there about the ICC, especially regarding their actions on Israel.

Let me just clear some things up. One, the ICC's warrant filings are factually wrong; two, Israel has conducted itself consistently with international

law and its humanitarian obligations; three, the ICC does not have jurisdiction over Israel as the nation is not an ICC member; and, fourth, the ICC warrant applications for Israeli leaders threaten U.S. national security. Let's just get the facts out there. Those are the facts, and you can't hide from them.

It is amazing how many of my friends across the aisle, beholden to the extreme far left, want to talk about these make-believe Israeli transgressions, when they wholeheartedly ignore the transgressions of international law by Hamas. You want to go through a list of all the international law that Hamas has broken? Let's do it.

Let's start with targeting civilians; not wearing a uniform; hiding among civilian populations; storing weapons in places like mosques and schools; having their military headquarters in a hospital; using torture, and rape; and deprivation of food, water, and medical aid for their hostages. This is just a short list, but it is amazing how the left, controlled by radical, dangerous extremists, refused to call out Hamas and their violations while latching on to these false perceived notions that the Israelis are somehow the ones in violation of international law.

I am sick and tired of the gaslighting. The American people know the truth, and we are going to see the results of that in a few months.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to tell my friends across the aisle that I have no further speakers at this time and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we are different. I would just say to the gentleman that is why I am glad the ICC is actually going after Hamas and holding Hamas accountable. That is a good thing. I am sorry the gentleman doesn't agree with that.

As far as his numbers go on the rules, that was the most roundabout, crazy characterization and reconfiguration of numbers to essentially say and justify the fact that the Republicans are so ineffective and incompetent in the Rules Committee. I mean, they have lost seven rules. That has got to be a record. Seven of their own rules—they are in charge—have gone down. It is amazing when you listen to the gentleman try to rationalize all that is so irrational about the way the Republicans are running this place.

I would also say, Mr. Speaker, I am very concerned now because I was admonished, again, for referring to the former President and mentioning a process that the United States Congress actually put forward. I don't even know what I can say anymore when it comes to the former President because everything is out of order. My friends on the other side of the aisle can say whatever they want about President Biden. They can say whatever they want about anything they want, and

there seems to be no accountability. I am just referring to facts, and I get admonished. I don't understand this.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to make in order an amendment from the gentleman woman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) which is germane and is compliant with the rules. That amendment would strike anti-trans, antigay, and anti-veteran provisions from the MILCON-VA appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that over 1 million American veterans are part of the LGBTQ+ community, including 134,000 veterans who are transgender. We know the Republicans have been fighting to kick trans people out of the military. Now it is 2024, and it is Pride Month, and what are House Republicans focused on? They want to deny these veterans, after they have selflessly defended our Nation, from receiving the medical care and support that they need.

□ 1015

They are spending time trying to prevent the VA from flying Pride flags. With all the discrimination members of the LGBTQ community have had to endure, Republicans in this bill protect those who discriminate against same-sex marriages. Of course, this is happening during Pride Month. The cruelty is the point, Mr. Speaker.

My amendment would simply allow a vote in the House to strike these backward policy riders from this legislation.

Mr. 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. Mr. Speaker, enough with these Republican attacks on the LGBTQ+ community. Enough with the bigotry. Enough with the hate. Enough with the MAGA extremism. We are better than this.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is amazing. I continue to get gaslit up here. At the end of the day, facts don't care about your feelings, and numbers don't lie.

I will distill this argument into two facts right now to show you the hypocrisy from the other side. Last Congress, the Democrats had 30 pieces of legislation that came outside of regular order.

At this same point in the 117th Congress compared to this Congress, the 118th, the Democrats had 61 percent of their bills come to the floor under closed rules. Again, numbers don't lie. Don't sit here and try to gaslight me.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I say to the gentleman, again, we are talking about today, and my point was that we have a bill that the witnesses that came before the Rules Committee couldn't even accurately describe what was in the bill.

They had no idea because it changed so many times, couldn't really respond to questions about what the implications of the bill would be, and we are simply pointing out the fact that there was not a single hearing in the committee of jurisdiction on the legislation, not a single markup, no witnesses.

My friends bring this to the floor under a completely closed process so nobody can amend it. Nobody can change anything. Nobody can change a comma.

That is how the Republicans are running this House of Representatives, and it is pathetic, quite frankly. It is not the way the people's House should be run, and it shows disrespect for this institution. They do that day in and day out.

Mr. Speaker, once again, the contrast is very clear for the American people. Democrats stand up for traditional American values like freedom, and Republicans are going all in on authoritarianism.

Democrats want to fight for our democracy. We believe it is worth fighting for and preserving. Republicans want to attack LGBTQ rights, women's rights, civil rights, and voting rights. Now they even want to attack IVF in their quest to control women's bodies. We had a Republican come before the Rules Committee advocating for that last night. It was scary, quite frankly.

Democrats believe in science, and Republicans spent the day yesterday spreading conspiracy theories about COVID and attacking Dr. Fauci.

Democrats stand for our Constitution and the rule of law. Republicans are falling over themselves to get in the good graces of their presumptive nominee, a candidate for President who brags on social media about how he wants a unified Reich. Who says that?

This is a candidate I can't even tell the truth about on the House floor because he is being treated like a king.

Now, we know someone was convicted of 34 felonies, but we aren't even allowed to say who. Republicans are spending so much time circling the wagons around he who must not be named that they are neglecting the job that the American people sent them here to do.

This Republican Party is totally lost. They are totally disconnected from what this country is about, and it is a national embarrassment.

Democrats are putting people first. It is as simple as that. Republicans are putting politics first, and they are running one of the most incompetent, ineffective sessions of Congress, maybe in American history, and certainly since I have been here.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know what else to say. I am afraid to say anything more because I am afraid my words will be taken down, and I will be silenced because this place is becoming so controlled, we have to be very, very careful of every single word we say here.

I will just conclude by saying this is an awful process. These bills that are being brought before us are not worthy of all this time and attention.

They are poorly drafted, and the appropriations bill, which should be totally bipartisan, they have loaded up with all kinds of MAGA extremist garbage, and we know it is going nowhere. What a waste of time. What a waste of time.

I urge a "no" vote on the rule, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

In closing, I don't even know where to begin, describing closed rules as threats to the institution, as disrespectful, as shameful.

Again, I remind the gentleman that last Congress, they brought 30 pieces of legislation to the floor that had not gone through committee.

At this same time last Congress, 61 percent of their rules were closed rules. The gaslighting has got to stop.

We are here today to talk about MILCON-VA and the international kangaroo court known as the ICC. This week when it comes to these two bills, Americans will see a stark difference between House Republicans and the dangerous far-left extremists on the other side of the aisle.

Some are saying that the bills are partisan exercises, and they are full of culture war issues. It is the Republicans that are taking the culture war issues out of these bills, at least out of MILCON-VA.

If you don't believe me, look at the actions of the VA. Under President Biden, the VA has gone far left and woke. These include initiatives in the VA like DEI and CRT. They just waste taxpayer-funded resources on these far-left culture wars that are coming from the left.

If you don't believe me, just look at the actions of the VA. The Department backtracked not too long ago after removing the iconic V-J Day picture from Times Square.

The iconic picture of V-J Day, for whatever reason, wasn't woke and had to be removed. That is quite amazing coming from the VA.

The VA also removed from their mission statement a quote from Abraham Lincoln. Why? Because that quote used male pronouns. You can't make this stuff up.

The Department uses a gender gingerbread person that teaches veterans and employees that gender is a spectrum, and it is fluid.

How about the Department's focus on the backlog of thousands of veterans' claims and veterans who can't receive

timely care? Maybe they should focus on that instead of gender-neutral gingerbread men.

That is why House Republicans will pass FY25 MILCON-VA that will focus the Department's mission back to its core mission, which is taking care of veterans; not fighting culture war issues.

We protect veterans' Second Amendment rights. We prohibit DEI. We prevent critical race theory, and we put the Hyde amendment into the bill.

We are making this bill neutral and bipartisan. We are stripping out culture war issues that the far-left extremists have put in it.

Lastly, let's talk about the rule before us bringing up the piece of legislation that will protect U.S. citizens and servicemembers and our allies, including Israel, and that is to make sure we are working against the illegitimate sham court, the kangaroo court known as the ICC.

H.R. 8282 will reimpose the Trump administration sanctions against the ICC and demonstrate to the world that the United States supports our number one ally, Israel, and Israel's right of self-defense.

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

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1269 OFFERED BY
MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this solution, the amendment specified in section 8 shall be in order as though printed as the last amendment in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution if offered by Representative Wasserman Schultz of Florida or a designee. That amendment shall be debatable for 10 minutes equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent.

SEC. 8. The amendment referred to in section 7 is as follows:

"Page 77 beginning on line 9, strike section 256.

Page 77 beginning on line 12, strike section 257.

Page 87 beginning on line 12, strike section 416."

Mr. RESCIENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the previous question, and I urge them to vote "yes" on the rule. 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. 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 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 24 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1030

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BICE) at 10 o'clock and 30 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:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1269; and

Adoption of House Resolution 1269, if ordered.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8580, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 8282, ILLEGITIMATE COURT COUNTERACTION ACT

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. 1269) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8580) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 8282) to impose sanctions with respect to the International Criminal Court engaged in any effort to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute any protected person of the United States and its allies, 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 205, nays 193, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 235]

YEAS—205

Aderholt	Baird	Biggs
Alford	Balderson	Blirakis
Allen	Banks	Bishop (NC)
Amodei	Barr	Boebert
Armstrong	Bean (FL)	Bost
Arrington	Bentz	Brecheen
Babin	Bergman	Buchanan
Bacon	Bice	Bucshon