The House met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PANETTA).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC, February 3, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JIMMY PANETTA to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day,

NANCY PELOSI, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, whose way is in the sea and whose paths are in the great waters, we lift up our prayers in memory of four men who faced the violent storm that overcame the USAT Dorchester and her crew 78 years ago today.

Remind us of the example of these four chaplains, who, though distinctly different in their faith traditions, in the face of mortal peril, united in a higher purpose and gave up their own chance for survival to save the lives of their shipmates.

As we reflect on the actions they took, offering life jackets and last rites, sharing words of hope and dispelling fear, and as we honor today Officer Sicknick, in bravery in this very place, may we so dare to sacrifice everything in order to unify our efforts for the safety and well-being of our democracy and the welfare of its people.

If we are inclined to doubt, steady our faith; if we are tempted, make us strong to resist; if we should miss the mark, give us courage to try again. Guide us with the light of Your truth.

We pray trusting in the strength of Your name to answer our prayer.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(A) of House Resolution 8, the Journal of the last day’s proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. GOTTHEIMER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REMEMBERING ANTHONY GALLOPO

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

Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Anthony Gallopo—a dear friend, a wonderful, caring family man, a leader in Sussex County, and a tireless fighter for his fellow veterans—who recently passed from COVID-19 complications.

A Navy veteran, Tony served as vice commander of the New Jersey American Legion and commander of Post 86 in Newton. For more than 5 years, Tony and I worked together to deliver the care and services that our veterans deserve: securing the long-awaited goal of the community’s first VA outpatient clinic, boosting in-person psychiatric care at the clinic, and serving on our district’s service academy selection committee, all focused on improving access to care for those who fought for our country and preparing the next generation.

Tony lived a life of service that will truly never be forgotten. We are indebted to this selfless patriot, all of us in northern New Jersey and the country.

As we mourn Tony’s loss, we think of his daughters, Sarah, Alexandra, and Ashley, and we pray for his beloved wife, Betsy, who remains in the hospital.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering my friend, Tony Gallopo.

OBSERVING NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK

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

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe National Gun Violence Survivors Week.

During this pandemic, gun violence has increased in many communities, including my city of Philadelphia. We suffered 50 homicides last month alone. We must pass reforms like universal background checks and closing the Charleston loophole. The House acted in 2019, but the Senate did not. While these bills would not stop 100 percent of shootings, they would certainly save some lives.

We must also help the victims and the survivors of this violence. Too often, they don’t know where to turn or what kinds of things or help are available. That is why Senator CASEY and I will soon reintroduce our Resources for Victims of Gun Violence Act.

In the last session, we had nearly 80 cosponsors in the House. I invite you
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 85, I call up the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 11) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2021 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2022 through 2030, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 11) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2021 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2022 through 2030, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The text of the concurrent resolution, as amended, is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 11

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021.

(a) DECLARATION.—Congress declares that this resolution is the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2021 and that this resolution sets forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2022 through 2030.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this concurrent resolution is as follows:

Sec. 1. Concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2021.

TITLES I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

Subtitle A—Budgetary Levels in Both Houses

Sec. 1101. Recommended levels and amounts.

TITLES II—RECONCILIATION

Sec. 2001. Reconciliation in the House of Representatives.

TITLES III—RESERVE FUNDS

Sec. 3001. Reserve fund for reconciliation legislation.

TITLES IV—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 4001. Enforcement filing.

Sec. 4002. Budgetary treatment of administrative expenses.

Sec. 4003. Application and effect of changes in allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels.

Sec. 4004. Adjustments to reflect changes in concepts and definitions.

Sec. 4005. Adjustment for changes in the baseline.

Sec. 4006. Limitation on advance appropriations.

Sec. 4007. Exercise of rulemaking powers.

TITLES I—RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

Subtitle A—Budgetary Levels in Both Houses

Sec. 1101. RECOMMENDED LEVELS AND AMOUNTS

The following budgetary levels are appropriate for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2030:

1. FEDERAL REVENUES.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution:

(A) The recommended levels of Federal revenues as follows:

Fiscal year 2021: $2,303,274,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $2,768,717,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $2,971,083,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $3,092,643,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $3,175,559,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $3,256,207,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $3,326,650,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $3,392,900,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $3,497,950,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030: $4,121,665,000,000.

(B) The amounts by which the aggregate levels of Federal revenues should be changed are as follows:

Fiscal year 2021: -$15,670,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: -$17,290,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: -$102,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: -$226,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: -$216,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: -$181,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: -$99,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: -$106,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: -$121,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030: -$128,000,000.

(2) NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total new budget authority are as follows:

Fiscal year 2021: $931,654,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $847,993,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $868,011,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $847,993,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $828,950,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $804,311,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $773,777,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $766,960,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $753,410,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030: $741,068,000,000.

2. BUDGET AUTHORITY.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of total budget authority are as follows:

Fiscal year 2021: $6,140,857,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $5,068,011,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $4,052,855,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $3,072,784,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $2,864,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $2,986,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $3,092,900,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $3,253,559,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $3,440,497,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030: $3,628,950,000,000.

3. DEBT HELD BY THE PUBLIC.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the appropriate levels of debt held by the public are as follows:

Fiscal year 2021: $6,140,857,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $5,068,011,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $4,052,855,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $3,072,784,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $2,864,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $2,986,407,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $3,092,900,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $3,253,559,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $3,440,497,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030: $3,628,950,000,000.

4. DEFICITS.—For purposes of the enforcement of this resolution, the amounts of the deficits are as follows:

Fiscal year 2021: $3,837,583,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022: $1,529,527,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023: $1,089,260,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024: $977,390,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025: $1,014,237,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026: $911,123,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027: $844,310,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028: $773,777,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029: $741,068,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030: $709,022,000,000.
 Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $85,042,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $47,310,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $64,249,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $58,941,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $60,410,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $50,004,000,000.
 Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $61,722,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $59,578,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $63,114,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $60,371,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $64,518,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $61,851,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $66,053,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $63,271,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $67,608,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $64,814,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $69,140,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $66,100,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030:
(A) New budget authority, $70,703,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $67,498,000,000.
Fiscal year 2031:
(A) New budget authority, $71,342,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $67,267,000,000.
Fiscal year 2032:
(A) New budget authority, $72,909,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $68,817,000,000.
Fiscal year 2033:
(A) New budget authority, $74,471,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $69,396,000,000.
Fiscal year 2034:
(A) New budget authority, $76,042,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $70,381,000,000.
Fiscal year 2035:
(A) New budget authority, $77,614,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $71,476,000,000.
Fiscal year 2036:
(A) New budget authority, $79,189,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $72,460,000,000.
Fiscal year 2037:
(A) New budget authority, $80,764,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $73,564,000,000.
Fiscal year 2038:
(A) New budget authority, $82,342,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $74,758,000,000.
Fiscal year 2039:
(A) New budget authority, $83,920,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $76,015,000,000.
Fiscal year 2040:
(A) New budget authority, $85,505,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $77,367,000,000.
Fiscal year 2041:
(A) New budget authority, $87,100,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $78,806,000,000.
Fiscal year 2042:
(A) New budget authority, $88,700,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $79,986,000,000.
Fiscal year 2043:
(A) New budget authority, $90,318,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $81,359,000,000.
Fiscal year 2044:
(A) New budget authority, $91,947,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $82,790,000,000.
Fiscal year 2045:
(A) New budget authority, $93,586,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $84,227,000,000.
Fiscal year 2046:
(A) New budget authority, $95,236,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $85,658,000,000.
Fiscal year 2047:
(A) New budget authority, $96,906,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $87,112,000,000.
Fiscal year 2048:
(A) New budget authority, $98,598,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $88,573,000,000.
Fiscal year 2049:
(A) New budget authority, $100,300,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $89,978,000,000.
Fiscal year 2050:
(A) New budget authority, $101,905,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $91,352,000,000.
Fiscal year 2051:
(A) New budget authority, $103,518,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $92,740,000,000.
Fiscal year 2052:
(A) New budget authority, $105,141,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $94,127,000,000.
Fiscal year 2053:
(A) New budget authority, $106,776,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $95,550,000,000.
Fiscal year 2054:
(A) New budget authority, $108,408,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $96,945,000,000.
Fiscal year 2055:
(A) New budget authority, $110,065,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $98,235,000,000.
(A) New budget authority, $121,803,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $114,105,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $125,194,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $133,645,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $128,638,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $130,729,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $132,003,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $131,492,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $134,674,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $132,652,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030:
(A) New budget authority, $137,812,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $135,558,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(12) Medicare (570):
(A) New budget authority, $955,814,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030:
(B) Outlays, $74,900,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(B) Outlays, $858,986,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(B) Outlays, $177,767,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(B) Outlays, $641,962,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(B) Outlays, $587,366,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(B) Outlays, $527,382,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(B) Outlays, $490,594,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(B) Outlays, $418,442,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(B) Outlays, $367,269,000,000.
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $345,959,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $345,959,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030:
(A) New budget authority, $336,379,000,000.
(B) Outlays, $336,379,000,000.
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(B) Outlays, $727,019,000,000.

(19) Allowances (920):
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $-25,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-25,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $-33,933,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-27,630,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $-34,668,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-31,376,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $-35,495,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-33,380,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $-36,367,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-34,806,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $-37,240,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-35,338,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $-38,152,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-36,542,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $-38,991,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-37,890,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $-39,927,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-38,847,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030:
(A) New budget authority, $-40,906,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-39,817,000,000.
(20) Undistributed Offsetting Receipts (950):
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $-91,066,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-81,393,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $-109,306,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-97,825,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $-102,509,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-92,374,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $-106,423,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-94,920,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $-102,059,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-95,117,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $-105,714,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-98,421,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $-108,307,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-102,595,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $-111,817,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-105,312,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $-114,832,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-113,270,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030:
(A) New budget authority, $-118,974,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $-117,619,000,000.
(a) SOCIAL SECURITY REVENUES.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633 and 642), the amounts of revenues of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund are as follows:
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $913,055,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $904,023,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $912,705,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $905,021,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $912,921,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $909,055,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $917,023,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $911,713,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $912,258,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $911,320,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $917,979,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $917,018,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $924,568,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $920,974,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $932,000,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $928,500,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $936,000,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $932,000,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030:
(A) New budget authority, $943,000,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $940,000,000,000.
(b) SOCIAL SECURITY OUTLAYS.—For purposes of Senate enforcement under sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 633 and 642), the amounts of outlays of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for administrative expenses are as follows:
Fiscal year 2021:
(A) New budget authority, $32,650,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $31,650,000,000.
Fiscal year 2022:
(A) New budget authority, $34,668,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $33,668,000,000.
Fiscal year 2023:
(A) New budget authority, $33,451,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $32,749,000,000.
Fiscal year 2024:
(A) New budget authority, $32,870,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $32,309,000,000.
Fiscal year 2025:
(A) New budget authority, $32,435,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $32,035,000,000.
Fiscal year 2026:
(A) New budget authority, $32,035,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $31,924,000,000.
Fiscal year 2027:
(A) New budget authority, $31,745,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $31,658,000,000.
Fiscal year 2028:
(A) New budget authority, $31,507,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $31,499,000,000.
Fiscal year 2029:
(A) New budget authority, $31,259,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $31,252,000,000.
Fiscal year 2030:
(A) New budget authority, $31,000,000,000.
  (B) Outlays, $31,000,000,000.
SEC. 4002. BUDGETARY TREATMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 302(a)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 631(a)(1)), in the case of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 632 note), and section 209aa of title 39, United States Code, the report or the joint explanatory statement, as applicable, accompanying this concurrent resolution on the budget shall include in an allocation under section 302(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 631(a)) to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Congress amounts for the discretionary administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration and the United States Postal Service.

(b) SPECIAL RULE.—In the House of Representatives and the Senate, for purposes of enforcing section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 631(f)), estimates of the level of total new budget authority and total outlays provided by a measure shall include any discretionary amounts described in subsection (a).

SEC. 4003. EFFECT OF CHANGES IN ALLOCATIONS, AGGREGATES, AND OTHER BUDGETARY LEVELS.

(a) APPLICATION.—Any adjustments of allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels made pursuant to this concurrent resolution shall—

(1) apply while that measure is under consideration;

(2) take effect upon the enactment of that measure; and

(3) be published in the Congressional Record as soon as practicable.

(b) EFFECT OF CHANGED ALLOCATIONS, AGGREGATES, AND OTHER BUDGETARY LEVELS.—Revised allocations of budgetary levels resulting from these adjustments shall be considered for the purposes of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621 et seq.) as the allocations, aggregates, and other budgetary levels contained in this concurrent resolution.

(c) BUDGET COMMITTEE DETERMINATIONS.—For purposes of this concurrent resolution, the levels of new budget authority, outlays, direct spending, new entitlement authority, revenues, deficits, and surpluses for a fiscal year or period and specifically, for fiscal years 2021 through 2030, prevailing estimates shall be the basis of estimates made by the chair of the Committee on the Budget of the applicable House of Congress.

SEC. 4004. ADJUSTMENTS TO REFLECT CHANGES IN CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS.

(a) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—In the House of Representatives, the chair of the Committee on the Budget may adjust the appropriate aggregates, allocations, and other budgetary levels in this concurrent resolution for any change in budgetary concepts and definitions consistent with section 251(b)(1) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(1)).

(b) SENATE.—Upon the enactment of a bill or joint resolution providing for a change in concepts and definitions, as applicable, the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may make adjustments to the levels and allocations in this resolution in accordance with section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)).

SEC. 4005. ADJUSTMENT FOR CHANGES IN THE BASELINE.

The chair of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate may adjust the allocations, aggregates, and other appropriate budgetary levels in this concurrent resolution for changes resulting from the Congressional Budget Office’s updates to its baseline for fiscal years 2021 through 2030.
recovery is painful and the most unequal on record. We are still deep in the trenches. We have to do more, a lot more.

As chairman of the Budget Committee, I promised that we would do everything our committee could to support our recovery, which is why I introduced the 2021 budget resolution being considered today. This budget resolution was designed solely for one task: providing Congress with the option to reconcile the American Rescue Plan and deliver the critical relief we need.

President Biden’s American Rescue Plan lays out an aggressive legislative package to change the direction of these crises, including a national vaccine program; testing and tracing, paid sick leave to stop the spread, an extension of lifeline unemployment benefits that are set to expire in March; direct financial support for families; and support to ensure safe schools.

Our country desperately needs this relief, and economists across the ideological spectrum agree. Past crises have made it clear that doing too little will cost us more. Weak support will lead to a weak, prolonged, and K-shaped recovery, posing more severe risks to our economic and budget outlooks than any deficits we might incur.

With the American Rescue Plan, CBO estimates that it will take at least 3 years before employment returns to prepandemic levels. But with this vital support, economists estimate that we can bring the economy back to near full employment in a little over 12 months.

We have the plan and the ability to do this. And, thankfully, we can also afford to do it. Interest rates and inflation are at historic lows, lower today than even before the pandemic, and the return on smart investments in the economy has never been higher.

Economists of all stripes are telling us, begging us, to use the fiscal space we have. They are warning that if we don’t go big, we will be responsible for a long, painful, and unequal recovery, one that will cost more lives and more jobs, that will cause more businesses to close and result in more damage to our Nation’s economy, both in the short- and long-term.

The resolution’s budget reconciliation framework sets a budgetary target of up to $1.9 trillion, the estimated cost of the American Rescue Plan, allocated across the 12 committees that have jurisdiction over some portion of the plan. The resolution instructs these committees to report legislation consistent with these budgetary targets to the Budget Committee by February. The Budget Committee will then combine the legislation and prepare it for floor consideration.

There will be plenty of opportunities for my colleagues across the aisle to engage in this process and offer amendments, but we cannot afford to slow down our response to these urgent crises while Republicans decide if they want to help or not.

The American Rescue Plan can be the difference between getting a vaccine or a virus, advancing to the next grade or falling behind, keeping the doors open or shutting down businesses for good.

The choice is clear. I look forward to passing this resolution and ensuring Congress delivers the American Rescue Plan to the American people.

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the so-called budget before us “squanders the opportunity to start this new Congress working together to address the concerns and priorities of the American people in a constructive and bipartisan manner.”

Mr. Speaker, those are not my words. That is what was said at this very same moment in 2017 by my colleague across the aisle who is now chairman of this committee. You know he found the very same process they are starting today to be so objectionable, so one-sided, so partisan, such an abuse of power, that he spoke in opposition for an hour to the very same thing the House Democrats are doing today.

The truth is, I look forward to the time my colleague on the other side and I can actually formalize our committee, welcome our members, organize, and develop an oversight plan for the new administration, but that has yet to happen.

But here we are on the floor with a bill already: a so-called budget resolution; a resolution which, in reality, isn’t any sort of budget. It is simply a mechanism for the Democrat leaders to enact a radical agenda rejected by Americans this fall. They know it. It was rejected because their caucus is much smaller now today than it was before the election.

So why are they doing this?

While five different COVID stimulus packages were negotiated and ultimately signed into law on a bipartisan basis over the last year, they apparently now need a more one-sided approach, one which is much more partisan and bends the rules to radicalize this Congress and the policies it produces. Quite the opposite of the speech we all heard from out front of this building 2 weeks ago today.

The power of our example, isn’t that what we were told?

Well, what is the example here?

That the unification, the bipartisanship, and work-together attitude that the President called for were just empty words for the House majority. Though I suppose with this partisan process, our House Democrat colleagues are, in a sense, following the example of President Biden from his first days in office.

President Biden has spent his first few days signing one executive order after another and pushing policies that will destroy American jobs, make our country less secure, and raise the cost of living for American families. I will just name a few:

- Canceling the Keystone XL pipeline directly eliminates an estimated 11,000 jobs, including 200 in my State.
- Enacting a 60-day moratorium on new mining, oil and gas leasing, and permitting on Federal lands will cause severe damage to America’s economy and energy independence, and will reverse the loss of over 100,000 jobs.

Mr. Speaker, 100,000 Americans are fired by the stroke of a pen.

Returning the U.S. to the failed Paris Agreement of 2015 will reduce U.S. competitiveness in manufacturing and next-generation technologies, as industries move to China.

Terminating a national emergency declaration which immediately stops all wall construction at the Southern border leaves American taxpayers with an incomplete government project and the loss of thousands of jobs.

Mr. Speaker, thousands of Americans are, once again, fired, again, by the stroke of the President’s pen. That is a powerful example by the President of how to make life harder for the working class and to weaken America.

Again, I come back to: Why is this happening today?

I think the American people deserve to know, and the answer is simple: Democrats in Washington are setting up a partisan process to which the Vice President cast the decisive vote in the Senate on an array of radical policies.

At worst, their plans are to try and use this pandemic to seize more government control of your life; to grow government power over your healthcare choices; to place new rules, mandates, and regulations on your small businesses; and to grant citizenship to millions here illegally.

At best, their plan is to actually award hundreds of billions of dollars to the very same State governments which are shutting down our schools, telling restaurants they can’t open, and keeping families locked inside.

They want to bail out their political allies who are telling small businesses they can’t open, who are blocking Americans from going into their houses of worship, and who are ruining more families by the day.

America is suffering right now, but the suffering is not by the hundreds of billions of dollars to the very same State governments which are, once again, fired, again, by the stroke of the President’s pen.

Well, I think there are about 3,800 more families who have loved ones in New York nursing homes, who would agree with that statement right now.

Government harm has gone on long enough. It needs to stop, yet we are setting up a process today to give hundreds of billions more to those very same State governments. The numbers...
Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the gentleman from Massachusetts. I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I have to hand it to my colleagues on the other side. In the infamous words of Obama Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, they ‘never let a crisis go to waste.’ When the unemployment rate is up and incomes are down, when the job openings are few but the food lines are many, when the American people need their representatives to put aside partisan politics, my colleagues on the other side put forth this boondoggle proposal.

This partisan $1.9 trillion bill is being forced through Congress when more than $1 trillion from previously passed laws remain unspent. How about let’s get that $1 trillion out the door before we come back to the trough?

Mr. Speaker, they can’t let this crisis go to waste, so they are going to force- feed leftist policies to the American people and do their best to disguise it as COVID relief.

My constituents back home are asking me: How does killing more jobs by doubling the Federal minimum wage help reopen our economy? What do climate change policies have to do with stopping the spread of COVID? How does expanding ObamaCare help reopen our economy? What do climate change policies have to do with stopping the spread of COVID? How does expanding ObamaCare help reopen our economy?

The answer is none of these policies have anything to do with stopping or addressing the China virus. They are unnecessary and radical. This budget is just Democrats doing what Democrats do, trying to score political wins on the backs of Americans in crisis.

So we will vote on this bill, Democrats will claim their political wins,
and America will go further into debt. But the real relief that Americans need, the relief of a job, an open school, and a thriving economy, will once again go unaddressed.

I urge my colleagues to get real and scrap this pipe dream. I urge a “no” vote on this bill.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to respond to the notion that this is a radical plan. The radical, very radical chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Trump, Kevin Hassett, said:

But I think we need to be risk-averse and pass another relief package. There are so many businesses treading water, barely hanging on. Now they are getting hit by another shock. You could end up in a negative spiral for the economy.

January 22, 2021, the radical Kevin Hassett.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to yield 2 1/2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. Grijalva), the distinguished chairman of the Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the budget resolution and reality that is before us today. This resolution provides relief to the American people that has been needed and required for over a year.

I want to thank Speaker Pelosi, leader of the Clyburn, and, of course, Chairman Yarmuth for the fine work he and his committee did in preparing this resolution to respond to the urgency before the American people.

As we have seen in the Natural Resources Committee, the effects of the pandemic, COVID–19, have been devastating to many populations across this country. It has particularly and severely impacted indigenous people and Tribes across this country disproportionately, four times greater than the national average in people that have been infected, and the mortality rate is reflected in the same way.

This resolution provides $20 billion for Tribal Governments, $5.6 billion for Indian Health Service, $900 million to assist Tribal Governments to develop culturally and linguistically appropriate programs for their communities, and provides adequate and necessary funding to Indian Health Service and providing a level of equity to the question of relief that has to be central in everything we do.

In addition, at the recommendation of the House Natural Resources Committee, to ensure that we can deal with a pandemic in the making, the package contains funding for tools to limit dangerous wildlife trade and monitor wildlife-borne diseases at home and abroad. I urge a “yes” vote, and I thank the chairman for the time and his hard work.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Cline), who proudly represents their Sixth District, a wonderful new addition to the Budget Committee.

Mr. Cline. Mr. Speaker, I would agree with the gentleman. Our families are hurting. Our farmers are suffering, and our small businesses are falling from the shut down of Republican governors like mine in Virginia. They need our support as we manage through this pandemic.

But what they don’t need is a $1.9 trillion package packed full of Democrat wish list items that will cripple our economy, including a minimum wage increase that would destroy 1.3 million jobs, according to the CBO, and hundreds of billions of taxpayer dollars to bail out poorly run State governments.

Mr. Speaker, 1 month ago the last COVID relief bill, nearly $1 trillion, was signed into law and, together with previously enacted stimulus laws, over $3 trillion remains unspent. In fact, the CBO, just this week, announced that they project our economy to bounce back over the next several months, without trillions of dollars in additional stimulus aid from Congress, and that much of our recovery hinges on the removal of these shutdown requirements and the pace of vaccinations. That is where our focus should be, ensuring that those who want to be vaccinated receive it, and ensuring that we reopen our businesses and schools as soon as possible.

As a new member of the Budget Committee—or I hope to be a new member of the Budget Committee; we haven’t even organized yet for this Congress—I am outraged by the slipshod way this resolution is being rammed through the House. It is like being a member of the Judiciary Committee and having impeachment rushed directly to the floor without hearings. Whoops, did that.

I see the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. I don’t know that he would like it so much if we had tax bills that came directly to the floor without going through Ways and Means.

What is next, a farm bill that doesn’t go through the Agriculture Committee? A transportation bill that doesn’t go through the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee?

You know, the circus being run by House leadership gives a bad name to circuses everywhere. I don’t know that he would like it so much if we had tax bills that came directly to the floor without going through Ways and Means.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to yield 2 1/2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Meeks), the distinguished chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. MECKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this COVID supplemental package. This has been a dark and difficult past year for our world. More than 2 million people have died around the world, including more than 400,000 in our great country. Economies are in crisis, one in four children in America for a billion children are out of the classroom.

Our country’s health and economic challenges require a bold response in scale, and more delay is not an option. We must work to beat back this virus, shore up our economy, and ensure the most vulnerable are prioritized and protected.

But we cannot solve this problem without addressing the outside world also. Pandemics do not respect borders, and they don’t care about nationalities.

As chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I firmly believe that the health and economic wreckage caused by the COVID–19 pandemic will only end once it ends everywhere. We are currently addressing the monumental task of vaccinating our country, but afterwards we must turn our attention to the remainder of the world. Only then can we fully put this worldwide pandemic behind us and put ourselves back on the path to economic prosperity.

Crucially, this package includes support for health systems, vaccine delivery, and sustained engagement to build the capacity of health systems throughout the world. It supports organizations like the World Food Program, UNICEF, and the WHO, that the United States must partner with in order to succeed.

COVID–19 did not begin on our shores, but America’s innovation and global health leadership can end it. The cameras of history are rolling. The time to act is now.

We must join with what Chairman Yarmuth is doing and make sure that we help those who have suffered as a result of this pandemic. Extending unemployment insurance, helping those who can’t pay for their rent or mortgage, putting our children back into schools, helping our small businesses; this is what this bill does.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from New York. I will remind him that his State government has already received $28.5 billion in bail-out money and, under this proposal, would receive $20.3 billion under the plan; while that very government has enacted some of the strongest lockdown policies in the Nation, resulting in the closure of more than 6,500 small businesses in the State of New York, with an unemployment rate currently at 8.2 percent. And the State of New York also has the second highest COVID-related deaths per capita in the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. Gross), an excellent member from California, a leader in his State legislature on budgetary issues, and a new member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. OBERNOLT. Mr. Speaker, the House Budget Committee was constitute—[stated incorrectly] in 1974, and since then, not a single budget resolution has passed out of this Chamber without hearings and reasoned debate, until today.
Should H. Con. Res. 11 pass, it will be the first budget resolution in almost 50 years to pass this Chamber without a single hearing, without a single vote, without a single witness. We are being told that the reason for this is the need for quick action in response to additional stimulus and relief for the coronavirus crisis.

But Mr. Speaker, I have read this resolution. It is 55 pages. I can’t find a single item in this resolution related to the coronavirus crisis.

Now we are being told that might be true. You see, this is just a shell that we pass this to the Senate, which triggers a lengthy and complex process of budget reconciliation.

But, Mr. Speaker, if our intent is to pass quick relief, and I think it should be, we could do that today. This Chamber has passed in the last 12 months almost $4 trillion of relief. Mr. Speaker, of that, over 25 percent, over $1 trillion, remains unspent. We could fix that today. I could fix that now, instead of relying on this lengthy and complex process of budget reconciliation.

Mr. Speaker, this is a serious topic. It deserves serious consideration, and not to pass of almost 50 years of protocol and procedure in this Chamber. I urge a “no” vote.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I welcome the gentleman from California to both Congress and the Budget Committee. I look forward to working with him. I will advise him that in just a few weeks he will have the opportunity, as a member of the Budget Committee, to go through a markup, offer amendments to the plans that will be proposed in another budget resolution that will actually come to the floor. So I look forward to that discussion and hope that will satisfy the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 1⁄2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO), the chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I know Mr. OBERNOLTE is a new member of the committee; he might even be brand new to the House. But he said he couldn’t find a single thing in this package that related to COVID?

Oh, well there is $10 billion for vaccines which has been inept under the Trump administration with no help. Oh, and personal protective equipment, but I guess those things don’t have anything to do with COVID and the pandemic.

Now, let’s get real here. The first gentleman spoke and said, We want to help schools, and this bill doesn’t help schools.

Well, actually, yesterday they tried to cut our funding for schools. We are putting in $170 billion to reopen the schools. It is going to be very expensive, new HVAC systems, a whole bunch of new furniture, all sorts of stuff to get kids safely to school for this and future pandemics, to be ready to prepare. And they wanted to cut our $170 to $54 billion. But they are for schools and we are not. Oh, by the way, they didn’t do anything for childcare assistance which is a huge problem for people during this pandemic.

Now, let’s talk about a few things that are in here: Cash payments promised by President Biden and the two people who helped us flip the Senate, they are in here. Extended unemployment, if we don’t do that—you don’t want to do it—20 million Americans will have no income and no job on March 14: 100,000 people in my State. Assistance for small businesses. Food, well, I think that is pretty critical stuff on a day-to-day basis. Rental assistance, and that is something else the Trump political hack running OSHA wouldn’t do.

We are going to have standards for protection of workers. We have had huge outbreaks in meatpacking plants and in transportation—people have died—and everywhere else because there are no Federal standards to protect workers. We are taking care of that in this bill and with some funding.

And they say this is unprecedented. You used reconciliation for $3 trillion of tax cuts for the wealthiest among us and the biggest corporations in the world, to drill for oil in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuges, and then you used it again to try and take away healthcare from tens of millions of Americans and their protection for pre-existing conditions and other things. Yeah, unprecedented. Malarkey. Let’s talk about the issues and cut the BS.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond to the gentleman from Oregon saying things that the gentleman from Oregon said that is unprecedented is that this is the first time that a budget resolution that originated in the House bypassed the Budget Committee.

Reconciliation has been used numerous times, but this is the first time in the history of this country that the Democrats bypassed the Budget Committee in a budget resolution that originated in the House. The people are watching, Mr. Speaker.

I also appreciated the gentleman from Oregon. I will remind him that his State government has already received $4.5 billion in bailouts, and they will receive another $4.5 billion in bailouts while their State has locked down small businesses, costing more than 1,000 small businesses to close their doors.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), a true defender of commonsense, conservative values and a good friend. Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the budget resolution.

The American people have suffered. They have suffered greatly from this pandemic, and this body has taken action to support those efforts. It should be noted that Republicans have voiced support for targeting relief where it is needed, and we get it. We know there are still needs out there. We know there are still people hurting. We understand that, and we agree that we need to have targeted relief.

Thus far, Congress has passed nearly $4 trillion in COVID relief funding on everything from the PPP program to direct payments to money for testing and for vaccinations.

However, a significant amount of funding has yet to be utilized, with more than $1 trillion of available resources waiting on the sideline to be spent. Of that $1 trillion, there is $280 billion left in the PPP program, $259 billion in unused in employment insurance assistance, and $58 billion in State and local aid, to name a few areas with leftover funding.

Now, we are discussing ramming through this budget resolution so that the Democrats can pass a $1.9 trillion COVID package without any bipartisan input or work. After weeks of talk of increasing bipartisanism and working together on big issues for our country, this resolution runs contrary to that. Not only does it do our budget process a disservice, but it moves forward with the idea that the bipartisan consensus of Congress should be cast aside.

As I said earlier, there is more than $1 trillion that has been passed in COVID relief that is just sitting there unused. Unfortunately, this budget resolution doesn’t address that point or build upon that point.

For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 1⁄2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON).

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when the COVID–19 crisis hit, the National Science Foundation rose to meet the challenge. The agency has already invested $200 million in research to understand the coronavirus, understand and model how the virus spreads, and enable approaches that lessen the harm of COVID–19 to public health, society, and the economy.

The additional funding provided for in this budget resolution will enable our Nation’s best and brightest researchers to continue to help us through this crisis and will contribute to our much-needed preparation for one.

Similarly, the National Institute of Standards and Technology reacted quickly as the pandemic unfolded, asking Manufacturing USA institutes to submit their best proposals for rapid, high-impact projects to help with the crisis. Several institutes had already redirected their efforts, but more funding was needed.
Countries provided $10 billion in the CARES Act. The additional funding provided for in this resolution will support important manufacturing innovations across a range of needs, including therapeutics, accelerating production of critical supplies, and ensuring supply chains for the pandemic, NIST, and other science agencies in helping the Nation through this pandemic. $750 million represents just a fraction of what is needed, including to recover all the science and, more importantly, the talent that is hemorrhaging from the STEM pipeline as a result of this crisis. I will continue to push for such funding as part of the stimulus discussions.

Finally, while I do support the entire package, I want to lend my voice in particular to the support of vaccinations and immunizations, another topic my committee has spent considerable time on. We will not begin to move beyond this until we have widespread immunization and vaccination.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman from Texas. I will remind her, as we debate how to improve the economy, the administration's hostility to the energy industry, as demonstrated by his executive orders, threatens at least 120,000 jobs in the State of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. FEESENSTR). As a freshman, he has already shown leadership as a true defender of conservative principles.

Mr. FEESENSTR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the H. Con. Res. 11, which paves the way for our national deficit to increase by $2.1 trillion.

Our current debt is $23 trillion. Let's put that in perspective. This budget that we have here will never balance. It will put our national debt to $41 trillion by the end of its forecast. Let me say that again: $41 trillion by the end of its forecast.

This out-of-control spending is jeopardizing the very future of Social Security and Medicare. Every senior should be deeply concerned about the possibility of losing Social Security based on this out-of-control spending by the Democrats.

Currently, our country pays about 2 percent on the debt that we have. It will not stay at 2 percent because 2 percent is currently low. If our interest rate increases, we are going to struggle to try to fund our discretionary programs and infrastructure projects because the money will go toward interest. This is dangerous, fiscally irresponsible, and reprehensible.

Just like a business or a family, when the credit card bill comes due and there is not enough money, you have to cut. The Democrats have put our Nation in a perilous situation with this out-of-control spending.

We must take our growing national debt crisis seriously and not look at this laundry list of progressive ideas put forth by the Democrats.

We are saddling our children and their grandchildren with this debt, focusing on the politics of today, and not worrying about our future. This budget must be stopped.

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

Mr. Speaker, once again, I welcome the gentleman from Iowa to the House of Representatives, and I will correct him.

There is no 10-year budget outlook in this budget. This is a single budget resolution, only for this fiscal year, designed to facilitate the use of the reconciliation package to implement the President's American Rescue Plan, which, by the way, he campaigned vigorously on throughout his campaign.

While Republicans were saying, “Oh, it is too early to do something. Let's pause. Let's havecene to do this,” the President was aggressive. The President was creative, forceful, and the American people rewarded him with a victory.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was struck about 15 minutes ago when one of the speakers on the other side made the claim that the Democratic agenda was rejected by the American people in November. It was so rejected, Democrats won the House, the Senate, and the White House for the first time in a dozen years. That is rejection I can take.

The reality is, the American people put us in charge because the previous administration's response to COVID was so weak and so ineffective. It is a sad fact that more than 400,000 Americans have died from COVID. This is now one of the four most deadly events in American history. We have 20 percent of the COVID deaths and 20 percent of the COVID cases worldwide.

To deal with the enormity of the crisis, we need a big, bold plan, such as the Biden 1.9 plan.

Mr. Speaker, economists are famous for not agreeing. Because economists were so famous for saying, “Well, on one hand,” Harry Truman, when asked, said the one thing he wanted was a one-handed economist. So it is striking that economists all across the ideological spectrum—liberal, centrist, conservative—all favor going big in this moment. That is what this plan does.

I am also struck by the fact that there must be a Democrat in the White House because the other side is suddenly talking about the deficit and the debt again. When there is a Republican in the White House, it is not a big concern.

Again, Mr. Speaker, economists agree: This is not a moment that we should be concerned about the deficit and the debt. This is a moment when, once and for all, we need to finally tackle this pandemic.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Pennsylvania. I will remind him that his State government already received $14 billion in bailouts. They will receive another $13.5 under this plan while that very same State government has enacted lockdown policies, causing the closure of more than 3,000 of their small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DONALDS), a great addition to the Budget Committee and a true leader.

Mr. DONALDS. Mr. Speaker, as I walked into the House floor today, I heard the talk from the other side, talking about wanting to share in good ideas. But what is interesting is, as this budget resolution has come forth, there has been no sharing of ideas.

Now, my career before politics was actually in finance and economics. I spent 6 years in that field. If you are going to talk about stimulating an economy, the first thing you want to do is actually study the current state of your economy. One of the metrics we always like to use in financial services is the unemployment rate. It is a pretty popular statistic.

Let's talk about the unemployment rates going on around the country. In my State of Florida, it is 6.1 percent. In Alabama, it is 3.9 percent. In South Carolina, it is 4.6 percent. In Texas, it is 7.2 percent.

Compare that to blue States in our country. New York and California, where they soar over 8 percent.

Why is that happening? Because their governors and their mayors have refused to reopen their economies.

If you want to stimulate something, actually let the American people get back to work. Let them run their businesses, and you would be surprised at what actually would happen in our economy.

Let's talk about the $15 minimum wage, which is in the Biden plan. I don't know how a $15 minimum wage is going to help struggling small businesses continue to thrive in the current environment. Furthermore, what we have already seen with the $15 minimum wage is that it has led to workers actually getting less hours, less hours at the jobs that they have. I don't see how that is actually helping anybody stimulate an economy.
Let’s talk about education. In this plan, right now there is $170 billion, give or take, to go to local school districts to reopen.

But guess what? If they are picketing outside of the school district’s school board to say “we should not go back into the classroom, what is this additional money actually doing?”

In Florida, we have been open in our schools. We have done this. There are tens of billions of dollars already available to us to reopen our schools. They should open up. They should not come back to this Capitol and get money.

Why should Florida pay for New York?

Except for the fact that the only thing New York has done is help the real estate markets in Florida because New Yorkers are fleeing New York to come to the great State of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, let’s be clear. This budget resolution is not about politics. It is not about COVID–19. It is not about helping our schools reopen. This budget resolution is purely politics. It is an opportunity to push through an agenda through budget reconciliation where, if you actually studied our economy and studied the fact that now close to 40 million Americans have been vaccinated with the vaccine from the previous administration, we are on track to getting reopened. We should study this. We should be more targeted. We should not be putting forward a massive spending bill where no study has ever been given.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, once again, I welcome the gentleman from Florida to the House of Representatives. I really think that we ought to stop talking about States bailing out other States out. The next time that a major hurricane hits Florida, we are not going to say that New York and California don’t want to help them. That is not the job and body that I hope we are.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 1⁄2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Education and Labor.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the budget resolution. The COVID–19 pandemic is continuing to inflict widespread harm across our communities. In addition to the thousands of people who are dying every day from this virus, millions of workers remain unemployed, students are falling further behind, and an unprecedented number of American families are facing hunger and homelessness. Anyone who doubts the need for urgent and immediate COVID–19 relief is not paying attention to the multiple ongoing crises affecting people across the country.

We will continue working with our Republican colleagues to find areas of agreement and provide our constituents with the support they desperately need, but we can’t put the label of bipartisanship ahead of the urgent needs of our communities. Our constituents don’t want us to say that we can’t give relief checks in the amount of $1,400, but we needed to work with the Republicans, and now they are only $1,000.

The upcoming COVID–19 rescue package must extend assistance for the unemployed Americans, protect all workers from COVID–19 infections, and support frontline workers who have cared for our loved ones and kept food on the table during the pandemic.

The rescue package must also provide schools the additional resources to open safely to help institutions of higher education cope with severe financial strain, and to keep childcare providers afloat. We must also expand nutrition assistance to ensure that our children and families do not go hungry.

Finally, the COVID–19 rescue package must help close the massive State and local budget shortfalls, which will inevitably force painful cuts to education and other public services if left unaddressed.

Mr. Speaker, we are at a critical moment in the fight against COVID–19. We have the responsibility to do everything in our power to meet the basic needs of the American people. This budget resolution gives Congress an additional tool to pass a COVID rescue package that will confront the pandemic and deliver the immediate relief that our constituents deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Virginia. I will remind him that his State government has already received $6.5 billion in bailout money, and they will receive another $9 billion under this plan while that very same government has enacted lockdown policies directly leading to the closure of more than 2,000 small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the great Commonwealth of Virginia (Mr. GOOD), who already is a leader in this conference.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H. Con. Res. 11, the House Democrat budget for fiscal year 2021.

Mr. Speaker, in response to a previous speaker, it is always time to talk about the deficit. Our national debt has already climbed to $28 trillion, representing about $85,000 per American citizen. This is over $300,000 per American family or households old.

How can we ever hope to repay that? The spending on our interest payments alone on this debt, even with the current artificially low interest rates, amounts to about 8 percent of our annual budget as recently as fiscal year ’19. It is projected to rise to 26 percent of our budget over the next 30 years or so, by fiscal year ’50.

The math of fiscal insanity is simply not sustainable. Without our currently artificial rates, we simply couldn’t even afford to pay our existing debt right now. Our national debt and current fiscal situation truly represents one of the greatest threats to our country. The science, as we like to say, or more specifically the math, confirms this reality because a day of reckoning is coming.

We are the first generation to ever leave a legacy of debt to our children and grandchildren. The Greatest Generation, the World War II generation, who also faced down the Great Depression crisis, didn’t even do this to us.

So where do we find ourselves today? We are contemplating a $2 trillion spending package that will cost every American citizen an average of $6,000 apiece, or $15,000 per family.

For what? What will they be getting for their share of this billion-dollar bailout?

Some will get a $1,400 check in return for their $6,000 share of the debt. That is not a very good deal.

This proposal comes from the same folks who continue to unjustifiably clam up on our freedoms, economically and otherwise. In fact, in my own home State of Virginia, 25 percent of businesses have permanently closed since the lockdowns began. There is simply no substitute for the American economy, and no spending package will ever be sufficient.

When has government spending ever truly fixed a problem or not made it worse?

We have to turn the American worker, the American businessperson, and the American economy loose. We have to stop spending our citizens’ futures.

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

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Virginia.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will put his mask on.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. We have to stop spending our citizens’ financial future. Instead, we have to empower them to chart their own economic destiny.

To paraphrase the words of a famous young environmentalist: How dare you? And how dare we?

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I know it is fascinating, and I have heard this argument now year after year after year talking about how much every individual in this country is overburdened because of the debt—the national debt. We have been accumulating debt in this country for most of our 240-year history.

I ask the gentleman: Has there ever been one American citizen or one American citizen’s ancestor who has ever paid any of that debt or who has ever been asked to pay for that debt?
Of course not. That is because we are a sovereign currency nation. We don’t pay attention to that.

And just to clarify one thing he said, he said spending money has never helped in a crisis. Well, you will find virtually no economist who will not say that what we did last spring when we passed the CARES Act helped us mitigate the very first few months of this disaster. We didn’t do enough then. We can’t make the same mistake now.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO), the distinguished chair of the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kentucky for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, I am painfully aware of the toll this pandemic has taken on our Nation’s veterans. I hear from veterans who are struggling to find work as unemployment numbers rise. I hear from veterans who have had their critical compensation and pension examinations postponed, delaying much-needed benefits.

Sadly, we have lost over 8,900 veterans and 120 VA staff to the pandemic so far.

Across the Nation and at the height of the pandemic, veterans have stepped up to serve their country, a trait not uncommon for the thousands of veterans whose services continue even after they pack away their uniforms. Their service as first responders and health care workers battling COVID–19; as essential employees keeping our economy moving, packages delivered, and hospitals sterilized has served as an example of how strong America can be when we act together.

Despite all of the setbacks our Nation has faced, it is our duty to be optimistic. Our veterans have shown the way.

Mr. Speaker, VA has responded to crises across the country through its Fourth Mission, even landing on the Capitol Grounds yesterday to deploy mobile vet centers to support U.S. Capitol Police, members of the National Guard, and the congressional staff after the Insurrection on January 6.

Throughout this pandemic, veterans and VA have continued to step up and serve their communities, not just their fellow veterans.

The time for decisive action is now. Passing this resolution does not negate the need for bipartisan cooperation. The need now is real, and the pain caused by this pandemic is deep. The best way to provide direct relief to the American people and continue serving all those who have served is to act fast and to do it now. We cannot afford to wait for higher case counts, for additional variants of the virus to emerge, for more Americans to go without work or watch their savings dwindle. We must act fast, and that is why we are here today.

I just will say to the gentleman from Missouri that I know that we have billions of dollars that came to the State of California, but I would like to remind the gentleman that California is a net donor State, including money that I am sure has gone to the State of Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from California. I will remind him that his State government has already received $35 billion in taxpayer bailouts and will receive another $42 billion in taxpayer bailouts if this bill passes. But let’s talk about California. This is the State that has some of the most stringent lockdowns in the entire country. In fact, their lockdowns are so significant that more than 16,500 small businesses will never open their doors again. That is government that believes that it is okay to tell you to go to your house of worship and to eat out in an outdoor restaurant, but you can go to a strip club or get a tattoo. That is California.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the great State of Georgia (Mrs. GREENE), a small businesses owner who proudly represents the people of the 14th Congressional District.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the blue State bailout budget. The Democrats know they don’t have the votes to pass these radical policies in the Senate, so they are doubling down on reconciliation to destroy our economy with a $2 trillion taxpayer-funded spending spree.

Democrats are using reconciliation for the exact opposite purpose for which it was created. With this budget, Democrats run States like Illinois and New York, expanding the welfare state, exploding the deficit, groveling to teachers’ unions and hiking taxes on businessowners from complying with the higher minimum wage standard. This is just the beginning.

They want to pay people more money to stay home rather than allowing them to go back to work and earn a paycheck. They are fine letting schoolchildren and parents suffer while teachers’ unions ignore them and still collect taxpayer-funded paychecks.

American politicians sent millions of children and young adults home, closed their schools, and banned them from going to their jobs. They forced them to stay in isolation from their peers. They canceled prom, canceled sports, and canceled graduation.

They claim this was for their safety, but the results have been horrific. Suicide and depression have been on the rise. Do you think any family will feel like a consolation prize of $1,400 will make them feel good about their teen that committed suicide because of the shutdowns? I don’t think so.

Democrats are trying to raise the minimum wage for jobs that they won’t even let people go to work in. Democrats closed their States while Georgia stayed open. Why are we supposed to bail them out? Why are my hardworking constituents being punished for wanting to go to work and support their families?

Democrat Governors have run their States like tyrants of third-world countries, not like free Americans. They are oppressing the American people and robbing the Treasury. They refused to support the development of community vaccination units, as well as mobile vaccination units that can go into hard-to-reach areas that are often underserved.
The American Rescue Plan invests in a national testing strategy with funding for rapid tests, expanding lab capacity, and assisting States. Expanded testing will ensure that schools can support safe reopening, that vulnerable settings like long-term care facilities can be safely staffed, their populations, and that any American can get a test for free when they need one.

Mr. Speaker, we will also provide specific funding for health services and underserved communities. This includes funding to hire 100,000 new public health workers. They will perform vital tasks like vaccine outreach and contact tracing for underserved populations. The American Rescue Plan provides additional investments in community health centers and health services on Tribal lands, and these funds will support the expansion of COVID vaccinations, treatment, and care for underserved populations.

Mr. Speaker, this plan delivers bold relief to the American people. It deserves strong, bipartisan support here in the House. I urge my colleagues to act with the urgency of the moment and support this solution.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON), who represents the 19th Congressional District and has been an active participant in the budget process for some time. He has been a true defender of fiscal responsibility.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, thank you to my friend from the Show Me State and the ranking member and our fearless leader on budget.

Speaking of show me, I would like for somebody to show me why this is good for the American people, Mr. Speaker.

We all want to help our fellow Americans. We all want to help our country get back from this pandemic and the unintended consequences from government actions, but this resolution is a disaster in and of itself on so many levels, Mr. Speaker.

Let's start with this spirit of unity and success and bipartisanship. This President, one after another, has taken more executive actions than all three Presidents combined that have killed jobs, that have undermined the security of the American people, and now, the first major legislation is to use reconciliation to ram this through.

This isn't about relief and recovery, Mr. Speaker. This is about a Trojan horse to sneak policies that would not otherwise go anywhere in this Chamber because it couldn't. There are Federal wage mandates, when our small businesses are sucking air trying to get on their feet, make payroll, provide a service. And we want to kill 4 million more jobs through a CBO estimate. That is in healthy times. That is in good times.

This isn't a recovery relief bill. It is a massive bailout and a windfall to poorly managed State and local governments. My colleagues are asking $350 billion. Census data shows that we have lost State revenue to the tune of $37 billion. What is the $350 billion going to go to, Mr. Speaker? I ask my colleagues. It is to bail out cities and States with poor management who have been reckless and irresponsible in their behavior and they want the taxpayers to bail them out.

These are 10 times the amount of what they need. It is irresponsible. This is a series of bad policies. These are barriers, not incentives, to recovery.

There is $500 billion, a massive redistribution of wealth to people who are unaffected by COVID, to people who are in this country illegally, Mr. Speaker.

This resolution increases the unemployment insurance so that 80 percent of the people are actually being paid more on unemployment than at their previous job. Are you kidding me?

Please, tell me this is not a recovery bill, Mr. Speaker. Look, we don't need another job-killing Federal mandate, reckless spending, liberal, partisan wish list. We need to open up this great country's economy, get our kids back to school, and bring America back.

Please work with us to do that for the sake of this country.

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

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments from my friend from Texas, and I appreciate the comments from the gentleman from Georgia. I think that the opening statement, is plan B. We would prefer not to do this. We would prefer to have a bipartisan, regular order solution to this. We could do it actually more expeditiously than the reconciliation process.

But when Republicans, in an effort to be supposedly bipartisan, offer $600 billion—when virtually everyone says we need relief and rescue money approaching the $1.9 trillion figure—it is not genuine, it is not genuine, genuine, a good faith negotiation. That is posturing.

We will have several weeks to reach a bipartisan agreement. I hope we can. But this is plan B. And we will proceed with it because the American people can't afford more delays. The time for us to be bold is now. This is the time to be decisive, to move confidently, and most importantly, to move Democrats and Republicans together to save our great Nation; not tomorrow. The time is now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight that just in the last couple of days, the Congressional Budget Office released a report that, in fact, the economy will strengthen, grow, and recover without any additional stimulus dollars by the middle of 2021. You are looking at just 5 to 6 months, the Congressional Budget Office said that the economy will recover without one single penny being spent of stimulus money.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCLINTOCK), a leader on the Budget Committee.

Mr. MCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, $2 trillion in revenues, $6 trillion in spending. This is madness. This is how countries commit fiscal suicide: force
the economy to shut down, and then hand out government checks.

The problem, of course, is that the government does not finance the economy. It is the economy that finances the government.

And so we want only destroy millions of jobs by forcing small businesses to shutter, by canceling construction and energy production across the country, when you flood the labor market with millions of illegal immigrants at a time when millions of Americans are working, you shut down the economy, and you shut down the tax revenues that the economy produces and that the government spends.

And so we borrow instead. Now, this budget requires $4 trillion in borrowing. Now, where will it borrow this $4 trillion from? The future earnings of your family, of course.

Let's add this up. There are 129 million households in the United States. $4 trillion comes to $31,000 added to the debt of every household in America, at the average.

Now, this isn't theoretical. That is real money that will be repaid by every family through its future taxes, tax-driven price increases, lower wages, and inflation. That is the future for our families that the Democrats set in motion today while they promise to help us through tough times with this sorry excuse for a budget resolution.

Mr. Speaker, it is not just our future that is being robbed. That money must be repaid in the future, but it must be borrowed in the present from the same capital markets that would otherwise be available to loan to consumers seeking to make consumer purchases that drive two-thirds of our economic growth, or businesses seeking to recover, or to home buyers seeking to buy homes. That money will not be there for them because the government has borrowed it instead.

Now, remember, the government cannot put a single dollar into the economy that it has not first taken out of that very same economy. If I take a dollar from Peter and give it to Paul, it is true, Paul has an extra dollar to spend. That is what the Democrats are calling stimulus. But it is equally true that Peter now has one less dollar to spend in that same economy, which is why these stimulus schemes never work in the present and always diminish our future.

Mr. Speaker, our country is in desperate condition because of government-mandated lockdowns that have failed to slow the coronavirus while they have laid waste to our economy and the livelihoods of millions upon millions of Americans.

There is only one relief measure that will rescue our Nation from this dystopian nightmare: End the lockdowns.

History is screaming this warning at us. Countries that bankrupt themselves and destroy their economies simply aren't around very long. Let that be the epitaph of the United States of America.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), the distinguished chair of the Committee on Small Business.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of this budget resolution because small businesses need help now. This pandemic has already darkened hundreds of thousands of storefronts on Main Streets throughout America. A recent study found that 800 businesses closed daily between April and September last year.

Every day without Federal relief, this pandemic shuts down businesses, destroys lives, and wipes out good-paying jobs. COVID is devastating Black and Latino entrepreneurs, dropping the number of businesses by 41 and 32 percent, respectively. Small businesses do not have time for drawn-out negotiations or debates over process. They need help immediately.

Mr. Speaker, today's budget resolution gives us a critical tool to deliver urgently needed aid to small firms and the American people by passing President Biden's American Rescue Plan.

This resolution will grant us the means to provide small businesses, particularly those that are underserved, with billions in new funding for loans, grants, and support programs.

This resolution will enable us to appropriately desperately needed funds for the national strategy to crush the virus.

This resolution would allow us to make a difference in the lives of millions of Americans who have lost their jobs by expanding unemployment benefits and extending the eviction moratorium.

I welcome Republican support for these efforts.

Mr. Speaker, what we are proposing are commonsense measures to offer a lifeline to struggling Americans. We must prepare to move forward. The price of inaction is too steep. The longer we wait, the more lives COVID will take. The longer we wait, the more businesses this pandemic will destroy. The longer we wait, the more people in my district suffer.

We need a bold package. That is why I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I wish that the other side would care about the $2 trillion tax cut package.

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, when we look at how much businesses in this country are suffering today and how many businesses are shuttering their doors, it is our responsibility to help them get whole. The only way that consumers are going to go into the malls and the restaurants is when they have peace of mind that we have done everything to protect them.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's comments, and the best way to help her constituents and to help those small businesses in the State of New York is to stop the lockdowns.

Mr. Speaker, we have more than $1 trillion that is still there that has been appropriated to help these small businesses, to help healthcare professionals, to help with vaccinations. They are still hurting, but the money is still there.

Mr. Speaker, who is happening so bad in the State of New York is that they are not using science. They are using arbitrary items that have shut down more than 6,500 small businesses in the State of New York. Open up the State of New York so small businesses can operate and grow.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BANKS), a distinguished Navy veteran, our leader on the Republican Study Committee, and a rising podcast star.

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member, and I congratulate my friend in his new leadership role in addressing what is one of the most important issues in our country today, which is fiscal irresponsibility and a now nearly $30 trillion national debt. I appreciate his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, that is why today I rise in opposition to this, the Democrats' $1 trillion parody of a budget. Democrats, in their own words, having failed again to pass a budget last year, now say: "The 2021 budget resolution has a single purpose. It gives Congress the option of using a budget reconciliation method."

However, this is a very different tune than what my Democrat colleagues said just a few years ago. In August 2017, Senate Majority Leader SCHUMER said just a few years ago. In August 2017, Senate Majority Leader SCHUMER said: "The 2021 budget resolution has a single purpose. It gives Congress the option of using a budget reconciliation method."

Democrats are once again shirking their duty to produce a budget while intending to ram a partisan spending bill down the throats of the American people.

However, in 2019, the Republican Study Committee, which I chair, produced a budget that balanced in 6 years and reduced taxes on American families, limited the Federal Government to our core constitutional responsibilities, and prioritized individual liberty.

Speaker PELOSI once infamously said: "Show me your values. Show me your budget."

Well, now we know what those values are. At a time when most small businesses are fighting for their lives, they would proudly impose minimum wage hikes and Green New Deal sanctions that would starve our economy.

What they won't tell you, though, is where they plan on getting this money
from—from American workers, American families, and robbing future generations. That is where.

Mr. Speaker, every dollar taxed, borrowed, or printed by the government is a dollar taken from a hardworking family. It is a credit on a small business, or it ends up creating price bubbles that wipe out a lifetime of savings.

Mr. Speaker, we know these are their values, but I ask: Are these America’s values?

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), the distinguished chair of the Committee on Financial Services.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I happily rise in support of this joint budget resolution for fiscal year 2021 to enact our President Biden’s American Rescue Plan and provide urgently needed COVID relief.

Thank God for President Biden. We have been without a plan with a President who was busy trying to steal votes and abandon the American people when he knew that we were suffering.

Congressmen across the Nation continue to suffer during this pandemic crisis. Congress has a duty to act and come to the aid of struggling individuals, families, and small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, this is not about giving tax breaks to the richest people in America the way the past President and the Republicans are intent on always doing.

President Biden’s plan provides the relief that America needs so badly. The plan increases the stimulus payments to individuals in December to $2,000, adding $1,400 for every individual; extends enhanced unemployment assistance; and provides nutritional assistance to address growing hunger.

Mr. Speaker, people are hungry all over America. They are hungry in the cities, in the little towns, in the rural areas. This plan provides nutritional assistance to address this growing hunger and includes $350 billion in funding for State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments.

Mr. Speaker, as chairwoman of the House Committee on Financial Services, I have been sounding the alarm about the urgent need for emergency rental and homeless assistance during this crisis, as millions are at risk of losing their homes. They don’t care on the other side whether families will be set out on the sidewalks with their children. President Biden turned a blind eye to the fact that people have not been able to pay their rents since March.

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to this resolution, my committee will quickly consider an additional $25 billion to support renters and their landlords, including by funding emergency housing vouchers, Tribal housing assistance, and rural housing. We will provide another round of funding for people experiencing homelessness, who are often the most vulnerable to the pandemic.

Mr. Speaker, my committee will also quickly respond to the urgent needs of small and minority-owned businesses by establishing programs used successfully during the financial crisis to promote growth in the economy.

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Iowa.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, importantly, my committee will support our President’s effort to roll out a comprehensive Federal plan to address the pandemic. How has he done it? The authorities under the Defense Production Act to ensure our frontline workers have the medical equipment and supplies they need to fight this pandemic.

Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased we finally have a plan for America.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, the last 2 weeks, working-class Americans have faced a great target on their backs from the new President. By the stroke of a pen he has fired hundreds of thousands of American workers. Where is their next paycheck going to come from, who are wondering how they are going to pay their mortgage, who are wondering where they are going to survive in South Dakota, North Dakota, Texas, Wyoming, Colorado.

Just because this President was trying to unify his liberal base, he fired hundreds of thousands of American workers. It is war on the working class.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. Hinson), a distinguished journalist.

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this sham budget resolution. When I came to Congress, I said I would work with anybody to get things done and deliver for Iowans. I know there will be opportunities to do that, and I hope there are across the aisle.

But today, I have to say I am disappointed that we are debating a hyper-partisan resolution instead. It is a disgrace to taxpayers. It was crafted in the back rooms. And Iowans’ seat at the table was taken away through this process today.

As Congress finalizes this budget resolution, they would have to lay off workers, the Iowans who make up these statistics.

This would absolutely decimate our rural economy in Iowa and would destroy livelihoods in our district. The Congressional Budget Office estimates a $15 minimum wage would kill at least 1.3 million jobs. So let’s talk about the real people here, the workers, the Iowans who make up these statistics.

Cubs Auto Shop is a small business in Brooklyn, Iowa, in my district. The owner built his business from the ground up, and he told us that a $15 Federal minimum wage would make it hard to expand his business at all.

We need economic growth now more than ever before. He is just one of my many constituents who have told me they would have to lay off workers, raise prices, or even shut down permanently if a $15 minimum wage becomes a reality. This might be right for California and New York, but one-size-fits-all Federal minimum wage mandates would destroy small businesses and rural communities in my district.

It is unacceptable that the budget would be used to push this through. Instead, we should be using it to stop Washington’s pork spending.

So, today, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to oppose this faux budget resolution and stand up for taxpayers.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Suozzi), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to this resolution, my committee will quickly consider an additional $25 billion to support renters and their landlords, including by funding emergency housing vouchers, Tribal housing assistance, and rural housing. We will provide another round of funding for people experiencing homelessness, who are often the most vulnerable to the pandemic.

Mr. Speaker, my committee will also quickly respond to the urgent needs of small and minority-owned businesses by establishing programs used successfully during the financial crisis to promote growth in the economy.

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I want to welcome the gentlewoman from Iowa to the House of Representatives and to remark that she said that this is a plan that was crafted in secret, this plan was crafted during the 2020 campaign. It was part of President Biden’s agenda, and every American voter had a chance to register his or her support for that plan.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the Chair as to how much time remains on both sides.

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. Higgins), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, the past year has tested America’s resolve and steeled our character. We enter a new year optimistic with still much work before us.

The pandemic has taken much from us, but it has also shown the best of our country: Americans helping one another through acts of charity and kindness; health workers going non-stop to treat, test, and vaccinate teachers, firefighters, police, and sanitation workers serving the public at great risk to their own health.

Vaccines are being distributed and administered. Hope is in sight. But many Americans are still in peril, and Congress must act.

President Biden’s American Rescue Plan is the bold initiative which meets this critical moment. Now is the time to go big, to guarantee every family has food and shelter over their heads; to safely get our children back into the classrooms; to protect our small businesses, restaurants, and workers who braved this pandemic; and to invest in
our State and local communities that have fought this virus on the front lines. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this budget resolution. Only through bold action can we crush this virus, return to normal, and build a stronger Nation.

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this budget resolution, which gives Congress the additional legislative tool it needs to pass the urgently needed coronavirus relief for our constituents and for our communities. I am very pleased that President Biden has made defeating this virus his top priority.

This pandemic is not over. COVID-19 continues to pose a health and economic crisis, so we have to respond with solutions that are scaled to the size and scope of this problem. By passing this resolution, Congress will be able to get relief to people more quickly: more resources for vaccine distribution; more resources to open schools safely; additional support for families, for seniors, for small businesses that are hurting.

I know that Republicans and Democrats share these common goals. In fact, I talked to Republicans, and the bipartisan group of 10, including the gentleman from New York (Mr. JACOBS), a great addition to the Budget Committee.

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the budget resolution put forth by the majority.

Rather than seek bipartisan consensus, Democrats are effectively shutting out Republicans through this recalcitrant process. The Democrats are proposing to spend $3.5 trillion, one of the largest single expenditures in U.S. history.

They will be funding this historic expenditure by dramatically increasing our national debt, and these unprecedented debt levels are being undertaken without engaging in the Budget Committee at all.

Just because the Democrats have control of both Houses and the Presidency does not mean they should be able to bypass the important and deliberative role of the legislative process instead of working in earnest with the Republican Members.

In the 116th Congress, we were able to pass the American Rescue Plan for all families, for workers, those families, and those small businesses.

We want to crush the virus, but in my home State, we can’t recover and reopen our economy until we crush this virus. So, I need you to work with us. This go-it-alone approach is very unfortunate because there are many provisions in President Biden’s proposal that I would support. I have been calling for additional aid to local governments since I arrived here in Congress this summer. Further, we most definitely need more resources to ensure a more robust deployment of vaccines throughout the Nation.

This bipartisan approach to relief legislation is damaging and unproductive. I hope the majority will reconsider this process.

I want to believe President Biden’s calls for unity, bipartisanship, and cooperation. I was encouraged to see the talks between the White House and the Senate Republicans. This is exactly how we should be working to address the needs of the American people.

During these very challenging times, I stand ready and willing to work with the Biden administration and any of my colleagues across the aisle to help the American people.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 11.

And before I start, I want to just let the ranking member know, my job is to get as many resources to my State as possible from this COVID relief. So, I hope you report how much money my State has received, and please say “Nevada” correctly when you do it.

That money is needed to help workers, families, and small businesses who are struggling during the worst pandemic that we have experienced in a generation.

Now, 3 years ago, Republicans pushed through the biggest tax cuts in American history for the wealthiest Americans and the biggest corporations. Those tax cuts added nearly $2 trillion to the national debt without a whisper about fiscal conservatism from my colleagues on the other side.

Now, in the middle of a pandemic, one that has resulted in more than 400,000 deaths of our fellow Americans, there is no joy in this resolution that, and countless small businesses that have been shuttered, my colleagues on the other side want to talk about the deficit.

Well, I am calling your bluff. This isn’t about the deficit; it is about obstruction. And if Republicans would rather watch their constituents—to the ranking member, you have the same constituents. You have talked to me about the fact that our district is one of the poorest districts in the country. You and I have talked. You are a member of the Ways and Means Committee. I have relatives in Missouri, so I am just as concerned about those workers, those families, and those small businesses.

We want to crush the virus, but in my home State, we can’t recover and reopen our economy until we crush this virus. So, I need you to work with us. This go-it-alone approach is very unfortunate because there are many provisions in President Biden’s proposal that I would support. I have been calling for additional aid to local governments since I arrived here in Congress this summer. Further, we most definitely need more resources to ensure a more robust deployment of vaccines throughout the Nation.

This bipartisan approach to relief legislation is damaging and unproductive. I hope the majority will reconsider this process.

I want to believe President Biden’s calls for unity, bipartisanship, and cooperation. I was encouraged to see the talks between the White House and the Senate Republicans. This is exactly how we should be working to address the needs of the American people.

During these very challenging times, I stand ready and willing to work with the Biden administration and any of my colleagues across the aisle to help the American people.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 11.

And before I start, I want to just let the ranking member know, my job is to get as many resources to my State as possible from this COVID relief. So, I hope you report how much money my State has received, and please say “Nevada” correctly when you do it.

That money is needed to help workers, families, and small businesses who are struggling during the worst pandemic that we have experienced in a generation.

Now, 3 years ago, Republicans pushed through the biggest tax cuts in American history for the wealthiest Americans and the biggest corporations. Those tax cuts added nearly $2 trillion to the national debt without a whisper about fiscal conservatism from my colleagues on the other side.

Now, in the middle of a pandemic, one that has resulted in more than 400,000 deaths of our fellow Americans, there is no joy in this resolution that, and countless small businesses that have been shuttered, my colleagues on the other side want to talk about the deficit.

Well, I am calling your bluff. This isn’t about the deficit; it is about obstruction. And if Republicans would rather watch their constituents—to the ranking member, you have the same constituents. You have talked to me about the fact that our district is one of the poorest districts in the country. You and I have talked. You are a member of the Ways and Means Committee. I have relatives in Missouri, so I am just as concerned about those workers, those families, and those small businesses.

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Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 11.
Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Nevada for his comments and how we are eager to work in a bipartisan approach in this package. That is a kind of frustration because our committee has not even organized so that we could even have a discussion on a bipartisan approach.

Instead, the majority’s side decided to force through this reconciliation with no even going through the Budget Committee because they have not even organized.

So, I would love to work with them, but you have already closed the door. Hopefully, you will reopen it so we can discuss this, and I would love to work with him.

Also, in my State, in my congressional district, we have operated under what I believe are the best processes in fighting COVID, not locking down and shutting the doors on your small businesses.

We have some of the lowest unemployment rates in the State of Missouri, thanks to the leadership of Governor Mike Parson. Also, we have the lowest death rates of COVID in our State, thanks to the leadership of Governor Mike Parson.

I wish the States of Nevada, California, and New York, and a lot of other States, would open up and stop shutting the doors on your small businesses.

Some people would say M2, which is a more narrow definition, including things like certificates of deposit, is better; but even that amount is shooting up 25 percent a year. It’s a little bit boring, but sometimes it is forgotten that in both 1980 and 1990, we changed the definition of inflation. But I am old enough to remember the Jimmy Carter years and how devastating it was when we used to have inflation of over 15 percent.

Right now, if you had that definition back then, inflation would already be running at about 10 percent a year. Even if you looked after 1990, when, again, the definition changed, we ran inflation at about 5 percent a year. Now, you can only imagine what would happen if we throw another $2 trillion of money and the amount of inflation will go up.

Look at the cost of housing in the supposed economic downturn. Already the cost of housing is going up. That should be a danger sign for everybody.

I was critical of the past administration on a variety of things. I was opposed to President Trump’s $2,000-a-person payment; for this reason. I think there is still time to turn back before we have a huge problem with the money supply and the overall stockmarket, and we can still show that this Congress has a little bit of fiscal responsibility.

I ask the chairman to please have a hearing on monetary supply and inflation.
Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), who is the chairman of the Democratic Caucus and a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chair of the Budget Committee from the Commonwealth of Kentucky for yielding, as well as for his tremendous leadership in connection with this resolution and the effort to deal with this moment that we find ourselves in this country.

These are challenging times in the United States of America, filled with pain, suffering, and death. More than 420,000 Americans have died. Over 26 million Americans have been infected by the coronavirus. More than 100,000 small businesses have permanently closed. Tens of millions of Americans have been grappling with unemployment or food insecurity. Many are on the brink of homelessness.

These are challenging times in the United States of America, filled with pain, suffering, and death. Now is not the time for obfuscation or modulation. Now is the time to go big and to decisively deal with the problems that everyday Americans are confronting.

COVID-19 is a once-in-a-century pandemic. It requires a once-in-a-century, comprehensive, continuing, and compassionate congressional response. That is what the American Rescue Plan put forth by President Biden is all about.

We must crush the coronavirus through testing, tracing, treatment, and vaccinations for every single American. We must provide direct relief to everyday Americans by increasing survival checks to $2,000 per person. We must lay the foundation to supercharge our economy so we can build back better for the people. That is what the American Rescue Plan is all about. That is what today’s vote is all about.

Vote “yes” so we can move America forward and put this virus behind us once and for all.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), who is a true defender of conservative principles.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Missouri for yielding. I enjoyed working with him on the Budget Committee the last 2 years. I wish I was here this time. Maybe we will do it in a couple of years.

I enjoy working with the distinguished gentleman from Kentucky, but I find it interesting that after 2 years on the Budget Committee I am finally seeing a budget resolution, because I sure didn’t see one for the last 2 years.

But here we are. We are on the floor of the House of Representatives, allegedly the people’s House. Do I get to offer an amendment? Do I get to say a single word about what is in this $2 trillion bill? No, that is fake.

The American people are looking at the people’s House. They are asking: What are we doing?

We are surrounded by fences and razor wire. We are going through magnetometers. I am sitting here on the floor of the House with a $2 trillion bill larded up for political purposes that I never had a chance to amend, debate or have any discussion about behalf 2 minutes or 3 minutes here with a prepackaged bill done in smoke-filled rooms, brought to the floor, and I am told to vote “yes” or “no,” push the green button, push the red button.

That is what we have taken the people’s House as to.

We have $4 trillion that we have spent on COVID relief. With all due respect to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who are saying go big, we have spent $4 trillion.

I have worked on a bipartisan basis with my friend, DEAN PHILLIPS, to pass the PPP Flexibility Act. We are all working hard to help the American people, but this resolution is a sham.

When are we going to get in committee to roll our sleeves up and offer amendments? When are we going to do the work that we were sent here to do?

The distinguished leader from Maryland has been here a while, respectfully suggesting the gentleman from Maryland and I have talked about this.

When are we going to offer amendments? When are we going to debate and vote on those amendments?

That is obfuscation, is not throwing a $2 trillion reconciliation measure to use as pressure with the Senate to play games so that you can try to force the hand of the Senate to get the 60 votes, and then come down here and say: Oh, yeah, we have done something great with some budget reconciliation.

Have we had any debate down here about what is actually affecting the people of this country? Or do we have a bunch of show speeches?

When are we going to turn this body back into the people’s House? When are we going to turn this into something the American people can be proud about, that we are sitting here debating something serious?

Should we have $300 billion for local governments? Should we have some help for small businesses? Should we have something?

Let’s debate this out. No one over here wants the people suffer in the States that they represent. But we want businesses open. We want economic growth and opportunity. We don’t want to point fingers. We have 30-something million vaccines distributed. Let’s not point fingers. Let’s take the work that has been done by the previous administration, by this body on a bipartisan basis, and let’s move forward and get this country working again.

China is about to roll right over us if we don’t do our job, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to respond to my friend from Texas, to say that, in about 3 weeks or a little less, the Budget Committee will have a piece of legislation which actually goes into the details of the American Rescue Plan and includes those. There will be a markup. The gentleman will have opportunity to come to the floor with amendments, and then that bill will come to the floor as well. So don’t give up hope.

Mr. ROY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. I am no longer on the Budget Committee. So will I have the ability to offer amendments?

Mr. YARMUTH. We will have a floor debate as well. In regular order, the gentleman will go through the Rules Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, Mr. ROY is walking off the floor, but I am one of those Members that pay for his frustration. I have sympathy for his frustration because I have served here for a long time when we did things in a bipartisan, regular order way.

But I hope the gentleman shared the same frustration we passed a tax bill that did $2 trillion, at a time when the economy didn’t need a tax cut and the people who got the tax cut clearly did not need it. And I had the same frustration the gentleman has expressed.

As the gentleman who chairs the committee pointed out, this is the first step, however, in giving instructions on what committees ought to do, and doesn’t tell them exactly how to do it.

Next week is going to be an entire committee week in which 12 committees will consider how to achieve the objectives set forth in the budget resolution. But I do share, and we ought all share that we don’t act in the bipartisan fashion in which we ought to.

The President met with 10 Republican Senators. They are pretty far apart. I am going to speak a little bit about the substance of this, but I want to assure the gentleman that I am a big supporter of regular order. I think we ought to pass all 12 appropriations bills and not do these omnibus bills that nobody knows what is in them: not you, not me. I am the majority leader. You think, well, he knows all this. But that is because they are so massive that you really don’t have an opportunity and we don’t debate them fully. So I want to say that I share the frustration.

On this, I think we need to move quickly, and I am going say why in the comments that I make. But I didn’t want the gentleman to go off the floor thinking that everybody was simply dismissing, not so much the substance, but the frustration he feels, I feel, and I think so many of our Members feel, the process, whether it is too quick or too slow, too comprehensive, too incomprehensible. So I just wanted to say that to the gentleman.
Mr. ROY. Will the gentleman yield?  
Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. I would just ask if we might be able to at least meet in private and have discussions about how to restore order and offer amendments on the floor because to the distinguished chairman of the Budget Committee that is great to debate it in committee, but I am no longer on the Budget Committee, so I would love to have the ability to debate at the floor and have regular order. And I just think if we could just have a conversation, sit in a room and figure out how we can do that going forward, no matter who is in charge of the Chamber.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, we have passed four major pieces of legislation. They weren't partisan pieces of legislation. They weren't rushed through by Democrats and, in fact, a Republican President had to sign all four of those bills. The $2 trillion bill, four times what the President asked for, but ultimately, he said, yes, we need that much, and that was way, way too little. But we thought it was a huge sum of money at that point in time. It passed 81-19.

On March 14, we passed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, 363-40. On March 27, just a few days—this is all within weeks of one another, we passed the CARES Act, about $2 trillion, the $2 trillion bill, all of the same amount as this bill suggests. Frankly, since that time, we have had hundreds of thousands of Americans die from COVID, and our economy go up and down, but now it is tanking, and we are all concerned about that.

George Bush came to the House when I was majority leader the first time and said, we need $700 billion, actually, a little more than that, $700 billion to go to big banks. Loan to big banks? And I asked Mr. Bernanke then the chair of the Federal Reserve said, if you don't do it, we are going to go into a depression.

So what happened, Mr. Speaker, was Democrats carried that bill for George Bush, a Republican President, and Republicans gave him one-third of their votes, their President—he was our President, but theirs in the sense he was a Republican.

So I am a little frustrated when I hear, well, we can't do this because we passed the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, very controversial, a big bill, 388-5. Now, what does that tell you? What does it tell the American people? That there was a consensus that it is a crisis in America that there is no example of it in the past. And so we need to move.

We had an election. The President of the United States said we had to move, and we passed a $900-plus billion bill, and the President said, by the way, it wasn't enough. He wanted to see more. He wanted to see substantially more in payments to the American people because they were struggling.

So, Mr. Speaker, this is a continuation of what has, throughout the year—we are not yet at the year, the first year of COVID, and so far, we have dealt with it in a bipartisan way, and robustly, because of the magnitude of the challenge.

People are suffering from the most severe public health emergency in our lifetimes and the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, and they are looking to Washington for help.

After we enacted, Mr. Speaker, the CARES Act in March 2020 to get American workers, businesses, and communities through the spring and summer months, the Trump administration and Republican-controlled Senate hit the pause button.

We passed the Heroes Act May 15. We then waited and waited and tried to negotiate. Mr. MCGOINNELL said, no, let the States go bankrupt. And Mr. McCARTHY said, let's see what happens. And tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of Americans died, and the economy has regressed.

That pause crippled our Nation's response, both to the public health emergency and the economic one as supported by the CARES Act faded.

While we were finally able to reach bipartisan agreement on COVID-19 relief at the end of December, December 16, to be exact, much damage had been done and we knew, we knew, all knew how much the December legislation would not be enough, Mr. Speaker, and that we would have to act again. Now we are doing so.

Now, very frankly, when we were at the greatest recession, not depression, in December of 2007, and then 2008, and then when we took over and could act on a relief bill, we passed a $787 billion bill, relatively small by the kinds of sums we are talking about now, and it saved us from depression, and not a single Republican in the House of Representatives voted for that.

Now, remember, 172 Democrats voted for George W. Bush's TARP legislation. Not a single Republican stepped in to help the American economy, not one. So when I hear about bipartisanship, I think to myself, gee, I am for bipartisanship, and we will all be for it. And I will tell you, the proof of the pudding is those 172 votes that voted for TARP; and without TARP, I think the country would have gone into depression.

Now, President Biden has outlined the next steps we need to take as part of the American Rescue Plan. The budget resolution before us today provides us with one path to put that plan into action with the next round of major relief for our people.

The gentleman from Texas lamented, well, this is a farce. Let me tell you, if this farce passes, millions of families are going to get thousands of dollars to support themselves and buy food and pay their mortgage and pay their rent. This is very real.

Now, this is not the only path. Let me be clear, Mr. Speaker, we want this to be a bipartisan endeavor. Joe Biden's entire career, which is an extensive career, shows his bipartisan ship, and I hope the discussions between the President and a small group of Senate Republicans will lead to a reformative and effective bipartisan compromise that can pass the Senate with 60 votes and get to the President's desk in the coming weeks.

But make no mistake; we will not seek compromise at the expense of necessary action. The American people cannot wait for Republicans to work their way through another pause.

Democrats are taking this step today to ensure that we have all the procedures necessary to move forward with the relief so sorely needed for the American people in case the preferred path of bipartisanship is unsuccessful, particularly because expanded unemployment benefits expire on March 14.

So, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me, to join the chairman in a bipartisan way in voting for this resolution so we can assure the American people that Congress is moving forward with the need and in the timely manner they ought to expect.

If we care about American families, if we care about children who are going hungry, if we care about renters who can't pay rent and landlords who need that rent to pay their bills—now, some of them may be giants, but most of them are small—this bill cannot wait. This bill needs to pass as soon as we can possibly pass it.

I urge all my colleagues, vote for this resolution, and let's take a first, critically important step to passing this bill that will be constructed by 12 different committees here, committees in the Senate, and put together, as the chairman has just pointed out, and we will have to vote on it again as a final product, for the people.

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the distinguished chairman of the Budget Committee for the masterful way that he has led the Budget Committee and the masterful way that he has led this debate.

In the next couple of months, close to 600,000 Americans will die; loved ones will be forbidden from going to their bedside; and some of them will find themselves lodged in refrigerator trucks.

Individuals in our districts, like the woman in my district, will report that she has $8 in her bank account and the potential for being evicted.

Mr. Speaker, what we are doing today is a rescue mission, like we needed to do for the fires in California, or...
Hurricane Harvey, or like we needed to do when I flew the United States Capitol as the planes were hitting the Pentagon in 9/11. This is a rescue mission.

And I will not take a back seat all the years that I have known President Biden to ever deny his sincerity about bipartisanship. He is the leader who brought us out of the depths of depression with the automobile collapse. He is the one that led us in the recovery act after the debacle of the collapse of Wall Street in 2008.

I was here when the Secretary of the Treasury said, America will not be the America that it was, we are going down. And so, we need to go big. The Secretary of the Treasury says—a renowned economist—says we need to go big.

This is a time for our friends to listen to Abraham Lincoln: “The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is pitted high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew.”

Our case is new. We are needing the eviction moratorium. We are needing unemployment expansion.

And finally, let me say, Mr. Speaker, we are needing to ensure that this work is done on behalf of the American people. We need a rescue mission and we need it now.

Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, on Homeland Security, on the Budget, and as the Member of Congress for a congressional district that has experienced the worst of COVID–19 as a public health emergency and economic catastrophe, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 11, which reorders budgetary priorities to provide $1.9 trillion to allow Congress to take immediate and decisive action to crush the virus and vaccinate our people, build the economy back better, reopen schools, and provide needed support and assistance to state and local governments that have been asked to do too much with too little for far too long.

So if our Republican colleagues are amenable to reaching an agreement on a legislative response that is commensurate to the challenge facing Americans, nothing in the legislation before will preclude that from happening.

But have no doubt, if they refuse to be part of the solution, the unified and bicameral Democratic congressional majority, in coordination with the Executive branch’s administration, will take the lead and act boldly to address and overcome the present crisis.

I would urge my Republican colleagues to heed the words of the Republican Governor of West Virginia who said colorfully just a few days ago, “At this point in time in this nation, we need to go big. We need to quit counting the egg-sucking legs on the cows and count the cows and just move. And move forward and move right now.”

The same sentiment was expressed more eloquently by Abraham Lincoln in 1862 when he mentioned: “The dogmas of the past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is pitted high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew.”

Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan action we took last December was a step in the right direction but only a long-delayed down payment; we cannot afford any more delays, especially since Republican stalling already caused a permanent unemployment assistance deficit last year, and additional unemployment assistance is set to expire in March.

That why this resolution, which creates a failsafe alternative to debating, voting, and passing the American Rescue Act, is absolutely crucial and the right thing to do, right now.

The American Rescue Plan proposed by President Biden takes a multiprong approach to tackling the public health and economic crises stemming from the COVID–19 pandemic. Mr. Speaker, by an overwhelmingly margin (79 percent), the public wants and is demanding that we act to provide more economic relief to address the damage caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

Nearly two-thirds (65 percent) of Republicans and the public-leaning independents believe an additional relief package is necessary, while more than nine in ten (92 percent) Democrats and Democratic leaners say more coronavirus aid will be needed.

Even the most conservative Republicans favor more relief by a 56 percent–44 percent margin.

Nearly nine in ten of all adults (88 percent) in lower-income households say an additional package is necessary, while 81 percent of Republicans in lower-income households (81 percent) say additional relief is necessary.

Let me make clear at the outset Mr. Speaker, that nothing in this resolution precludes the reaching of a bipartisan and bicameral agreement to pass and fund the President’s American Rescue Plan, which in nearly all material respects mirrors the Heroes Act passed by the House Democratic majority on May 15, 2020, nearly nine months ago, only to languish on the Republican Senate Majority Leader’s desk while hundreds of thousands of our fellow Americans succumbed to the virus and millions of others lost their livelihoods and businesses, and everyone faced an uncertain future.

It would send a powerful signal to the American people if our colleagues across the aisle would join us in this effort because nothing would better show them that elected representatives can put partisanship aside and put America first.

And that bipartisan achievement would portend success for similar initiatives in the area of infrastructure, energy, national and homeland security, and immigration reform, all of which I am ready and willing to reach across the aisle to find common ground.

To beat the virus and safely reopen schools, the plan will mount a national vaccination program that includes setting up community vaccination sites nationwide and makes the investments necessary to safely reopen schools.

It will also take complementary measures to combat the virus, including scaling up testing and tracing, addressing shortages of personal protective equipment and other critical supplies, testing in high-risk communities, and addressing health care disparities.

The American Rescue Plan delivers immediate relief to working families bearing the brunt of the crisis by providing $1,400 per person in direct cash assistance to households across America, bringing the total (including the $600 down payment enacted in December) to $2,000.

Additionally, the plan will also provide direct housing and nutrition assistance to families struggling to get by, expand access to safe and reliable child care and affordable health care, extend and expand unemployment insurance so American workers can pay their bills, and give families with children as well as childless workers a boost through enhanced tax credits.

Mr. Speaker, the American Rescue Plan provides much needed support for communities struggling with the economic fallout, including hard-hit small businesses, especially those owned by entrepreneurs from racial and ethnic backgrounds that have experienced systemic discrimination.

Finally, the plan also provides crucial resources to protect the jobs of first responders, frontline public health workers, teachers, transit workers, and other essential workers that all Americans depend on.

The 2021 budget resolution is not a comprehensive fiscal blueprint for the next 10 years; it is designed solely to provide the option of using reconciliation to deliver critical relief and achieve the goals of the American Rescue Plan.

As such, the total spending and revenue levels in the resolution simply reflect current-law projections adjusted for the estimated costs of the American Rescue Plan.

Once the American Rescue Plan becomes law, Congress will begin its work on a forward-looking, comprehensive budget resolution for 2022 that will provide urgently needed economic support and address longstanding deficits in our communities and underlying inequities in our society, which have been so starkly revealed and exacerbated by COVID–19.

I strongly support this legislation and urge all Members to join me in voting for its passage.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAWSKY), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Ms. SCHAWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am so proud. Only 2 weeks into the new Presidency, we are now moving ahead, right now, boldly, to answer the cry of the American people and to ultimately pass and implement the American Rescue Plan. If you don’t hear the cry of your constituents, then you aren’t listening.

I want to focus on our communities, our states, our counties, our cities, large and small, that are in a crisis situation right now. They are starving for help to cover the basic costs that they have, and we have an opportunity to give them $350 billion in relief and flexible aid that can be used to make sure our communities are strong.

It is not just about budgets, and it is not just about employees. It is about our constituents who will find that if
we aren’t able to fund the essence of what our communities need, then we are going to see firefighters lose their jobs; we are going to see paramedics and police and nurses and teachers and sanitation workers not available for our communities and we will see towns go under that are simply not able to fund their transportation systems.

It is time for us to act. It is past time for us to act. Let’s do it.

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield ½ minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIRES), a distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, this resolution is a critical tool that we can use to provide relief to millions of Americans by passing President Biden’s American Rescue Plan.

COVID–19 has impacted every corner of our Nation, taken loved ones from us, sickened millions more, shuttered small and large businesses, and pushed hard-working families into dire straits.

As we look at the toll this pandemic has taken, we must pass an aggressive, large-scale response. We cannot continue in piecemeal relief that fails short of addressing the needs of our communities in every congressional district.

By setting a reconciliation framework across numerous House committees, we can craft a plan that will expand and expand vaccine distribution efforts; extend critical lifelines for those who have lost their job; support schools, local small businesses, and first responders; and send direct aid to those who are struggling.

The burden that our Nation has endured over the last year are far too high for continued inaction, and I hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this resolution.

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield ½ minutes to the gentleman from California (Ms. Lee), another distinguished member of the Budget Committee.

Ms. Lee of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman YARMUTH for his leadership in putting forth this budget resolution.

Ms. Lee of California. Mr. Speaker, I want us to act and get them the relief they need. I want us to act and get them the relief they need. I want us to act and get them the relief they need.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BEYER) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEICKERT) are recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BEYER) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEICKERT) are recognized for 30 minutes.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH), the distinguished chairman of the Budget Committee.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the names of the Budget Committee staff who worked so tirelessly and competently on this piece of legislation.

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BUDGET COMMITTEE MAJORITY STAFF LIST

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, for the record, nothing in this proposal should come as a surprise. The resolution’s budgetary target matches the estimated cost of the American Rescue Plan, every detail of which was put forward during President Biden’s campaign.

Further, many of these provisions have already passed the House but languished on Senator MCNELLIS’s desk.

Nothing we are doing here precludes a bipartisan deal. But let’s be clear, the American people overwhelmingly support President Biden’s plan.

And I can assure you they couldn’t care less about House procedures. They want us to act and get them the relief they need now.

January was the deadliest month yet for COVID. Every 28 seconds, an American died from the coronavirus. At that time is past time for us to act. Let’s do it.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. Mr. Speaker, if this Chamber really cared about helping the working class, we would first call on the schools to reopen immediately; end the small business lockdowns so Americans can get back to work; and stop the President’s job-killing executive orders, which are firing hundreds of thousands of Americans.

I stand ready, with my colleagues, on policies that will help support the working class. I look for the opportunity that we actually come into the Budget Committee, where we can work together and help the working class.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEICKERT) are recognized for 30 minutes.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH), the distinguished chairman of the Budget Committee.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the names of the Budget Committee staff who worked so tirelessly and competently on this piece of legislation.
rate. more than 350 Americans will have died while we are debating this resolution.

We cannot afford to slow down. We need to hurry the hell up.

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

I want to begin by recognizing Chairman YARMUTH, whose leadership of the Budget Committee is so routinely remarkable that we take it for granted.

This bill, the budget resolution we are voting on today will set us on a path to defeating the virus and providing urgent relief for millions of Americans.

It is a big moment for this country, and this Chairman and Chairman YARMUTH have handled it with characteristic skill and grace.

I also want to thank Speaker PELOSI for her extraordinary leadership, guiding the House through all the challenges since this pandemic began and now bringing up legislation that is urgently needed and will ultimately sustain millions of Americans during this crisis.

President Biden has called for a package that meets the moment, and Speaker PELOSI has laid out a path that gets us there. The Speaker has guided this Chamber brilliantly as we passed the Cares Act; provided additional support to families and businesses. It is a big moment for this country, and the Speaker has guided this Chamber brilliantly as we passed the Cares Act.

The budget resolution we consider today is a critical first step to achieving that goal.

Climate change. Secretary Yellen, in her confirmation hearing, called climate change an existential threat facing the globe. She is right, and we can’t wait any more time. Temperatures are rising. Glaciers are melting. The frequency of extreme weather is increasing, as is the frequency of once-in-a-century storms. Carbon emissions are out of control.

Soon, scientists say, we will reach a point of no return. Many believe we may already be there, and it doesn’t help that this administration spent 4 years pretending that climate change didn’t exist.

And infrastructure: Despite years of “infrastructure weeks,” we haven’t moved the ball on infrastructure at all. This harms our country in countless ways, not the least of which it makes the United States less competitive around the world. Bad for business, bad for consumers, harmful to the next generation.

Our roads are filled with potholes. Our bridges are falling down. Broadband doesn’t reach millions of Americans and is priced out of reach for millions more. And on and on.

We have the opportunity to build back better a more equitable, inclusive, sustainable, and green economy. But we need policies that are aligned with the needs of middle-class families, not geared toward the wealthy and the well connected.

This budget resolution reflects deeply held American values, preserving lives and health, and creating prosperity for every American. It reflects who we are, all Americans, and it deserves our complete support.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, first, because I don’t get the chance to do this very often, this is the Joint Economic Committee. We are basically here to talk about the economic impact of this piece of legislation. I am joyful to have Mr. BEYER as my opposite. He is someone who I truly respect intellectually. If he suggests you read a book, grab it.

But this is one of those occasions where, having sat through the Committee on the Budget’s testimony discussion, I am both frustrated and a little heartbroken on the number of things that were said that actually weren’t mathematically true or policy true or accurate. I am hoping that those of us on the Joint Economic Committee can actually raise the level of this argument and this discourse to being hyperfactual because we need to get this right.

Let’s do understand that a $1.9 trillion bill, if you do the interest, is $2.4 trillion to $2.5 trillion. So we need to start getting our understanding of the types of dollars we are talking about.

Mr. Speaker, I don’t intend to stand here and just do a bunch of responses, but here’s the quarterly from the Census Bureau about State and local revenues and resources: A 17.7 percent increase in receipts.

Now, your State might not be that, but 17.7 percent from the Census Bureau, their latest document.

And if you have one of the municipalities that is hurting, that has a ball, there is $7 trillion sitting in the account that hasn’t been spent, yet we are talking about adding another $1.9 trillion in spending.

Until we also take a moment and understand the almost $1 trillion still sitting in the accounts that haven’t been released or spent, part of this argument we are having today is absolutely absurd.

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I have a quick response to my dear friend from Arizona. While we acknowledge that many of the States actually had increased revenues last year, virtually no locally did. I represent Northern Virginia, a fairly wealthy part, yet every one of our local governments is getting creamed. We had 1.3 million job losses in State and local government in 2020.

That is not nothing.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. POCAN), the immediate past chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and the most distinguished politician in the U.S. House.

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, the American people are hurting, and they need our help now. Millions have lost their jobs over the past year through no fault of their own, and more than 100,000 small businesses have been forced to close forever due to COVID-19. The House has tried to do the right thing. We passed multiple relief packages last year that began to approach the scale needed to address the suffering of our communities and to meet resistance from Mitch McCon nell’s Senate and the Trump administration.

Let’s be honest, the Federal Government’s handling of this pandemic has been largely inept. The previous administration said it was just the flu, that it would pass before we knew it, that injecting ourselves with unproven substances would take care of the problem.

Extend that magical thinking to testing and vaccine distribution and it is easy to see why the American people and the economy are in crisis today. Now those same magical thinkers tell us that more aid for people suffering across the Nation is not needed.

The Congressional Budget Office told all of us on Monday that the Nation’s unemployment rate will not return to prepandemic levels throughout the rest of this decade. This decade.

We are at a critical juncture in our response to this once-in-a-century pandemic. Let’s follow the advice of almost every major economist who has
urged us to act big. Doing too little is the real threat we face.

State and local governments have been providing tests and assisting in vaccine distribution, all while losing tax revenue. They need our help.

The unemployed face the risk of losing their health care as working people are going hungry. They need our help. Small businesses have lost demand at a time they need it most to keep people employed. They need our help.

I am proud to support additional direct payments to individuals, aid for schools, aid for State and localities’ public health programs. I am proud to support more aid for struggling small businesses, addressing our long-standing need for widespread broadband access, and minimum wage that ensures no full-time worker in America lives below the poverty line.

Let’s do this. I urge all of my colleagues to support the resolution before us.

Mr. SCHWEBER. Mr. Speaker, just a couple points. There is still $280 billion sitting in the payroll protection account. There is still $239 billion sitting in the health spending account. I am someone who, on a personal level—and I'm a Republican side of the Joint Economic Committee—believes we need to probably spend more, but it needs to be properly targeted so we get the impact.

Mr. Speaker. I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. Kim).

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because people are hurting, small businesses are struggling to keep their doors open, and livelihoods are on the line.

The COVID–19 pandemic has taken more than 440,000 lives to date. It has taken the life of my mother-in-law, and I am sure many of my colleagues’ loved ones, too.

Now is the time for unity. Now is the time to come together. Now is the time to put down our partisan words and show that Congress can work together for the American people.

Bypassing the chance for bipartisan gridlock, but the reconciliation process drives us farther apart.

We should strive to focus on issues that we all can get done, like providing $160 billion targeted funding for vaccine distribution and to reopen our schools safely, not a wish list to advance our other priorities unrelated to the COVID–19 pandemic.

The Federal Government has also yet to spend about $1 trillion provided by the COVID–19 relief bills passed last year. Think about that: $1 trillion unspent.

So I ask my colleagues, before we rush through more trillion dollars, let’s first have a real bipartisan discussion so we can ensure that our communities with the most need are getting the relief right away.

Instead, Democrats are throwing away the chance to work with Republicans to get things done, provide our constituents with relief, and bring our country together. The only way we will get through this pandemic and get things done is by working together.

Our constituents across the nation, and the world are watching.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, let me just point out that we are not throwing away our chance to work with Republicans and the Biden–Harris administration bill, but if it’s not possible, we have to have this reconciliation process in place because it takes weeks to unfold.

Mr. Speaker, we are in a deep hole.

To build back better, we have to crush the virus, as Speaker PELOSI so beautifully captured. But make no mistake, the COVID–19 pandemic has plunged us into a very, very big hole.

Last week, we got the advance—or first—report on 2020 GDP, and it was ugly. The economy declined by 3.5 percent last year, the worst economic performance since 1946. Very few of us were even born the last time our economy declined by this much. Let me say it again, the U.S. economy is the weakest it has been since the end of World War II.

It could have been worse. It could have been much worse but for the actions we took in a bipartisan way in this Congress. We passed the CARES Act in May, and instead of the 5.6 percent decline the CBO had forecast, we only got 3½ percent. Just imagine if the Senate had taken up the Heroes Act in July, accounted for the $600 supplemental payment and the creation of pandemic unemployment assistance, accounted for more than $550 billion in personal income in 2020. These payments were a lifeline to individuals, and they bolstered the economy.

We lost huge amounts of ground in the spring when second quarter GDP declined at a record 31.4 percent rate. That 4 percent in the fourth quarter helped, but not nearly enough to get us out of the hole.

As Fed Chair Powell and others have made clear, the risk isn’t doing too much. The risk is doing too little. This budget resolution before us recognizes that reality and uses it as a starting point.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), the distinguished chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, a member of the Joint Economic Committee, and my dear friend.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, what I am going to say is for the American people because, for the past year, American people’s lives and livelihoods have been turned upside down because of the COVID–19 pandemic. While contracting the virus, losing their jobs, working on the front lines, at the risk of eviction or struggling to keep their businesses open, many of my constituents—Republican constituents, Democrat constituents—have been forced to make unimaginable decisions and sacrifices.

In response, Congress passed the strong bipartisan CARES Act. However, 10 months later, the virus is still with us—far more people are dying, in large part due to the failures of the prior administration.

So we are here to right the wrongs, and under the leadership of Speaker PELOSI and the Biden–Harris administration, we are doing just that. We must meet the moment and bookend this pandemic with a big, bold package to ensure workers, families, and small businesses have the support and resources to break through the dark winter and start the process to build back better.

Think about this, Mr. Speaker: The budget reconciliation will pave the way to doing just that.

Who is against extending emergency unemployment? Who is against providing another round of direct stimulus? Who is against offering rental assistance to ensure that no family is forced to live on the streets? Who is against instituting a quicker rollout and production of vaccines after the disastrous rollout, or lack thereof, by the previous administration? Who is against expanding funds for child care and increasing the child tax credit? Who is against giving aid to the very States that we represent and localities?

So I say to my colleagues: Think about what your constituents have called for. Think about what they are losing, and let’s give our constituents hope. Let’s join together to meet the moment; not for us, but for the American people, for the economy, and for the future.

Mr. SCHWEBER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that Congresswoman BEATTY has a great mask. It is wonderfully sparkly.

I did want to share one thing very, very quickly. This is our CBO projection of where we are at right now. With the moneys that have already been authorized right now, by the end of this year, we will be close to a 4 percent GDP growth. So last quarter wasn’t anywhere where we wanted it. The quarter before that was miserable. But you have to understand that this is where we are at.

We keep hearing our fellow Members make comments, saying the economists said, “Go big.” But if you actually listen to their second line, multiple economists said, “Go big, but go targeted.”

This document isn’t targeted. It is all over the board.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES).

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, in addition to treating and vaccinating for COVID, our highest priority should be getting people back to work. This legislation doesn’t do that. It is full of job-killing mandates and liberal special interest
handouts. So it keeps schools closed. Operation Warp Speed was such a great development to get the vaccine rolled out there so we can get the economy going.

But one of the things that this resolution does, it bails out States that help top off their tax revenue for 2020. However, in my State of Kansas, the 2020 revenues are already higher than the 2019 revenues, including in our just completed month of January, 10 percent higher than a year ago.

So the States aren’t suffering through the revenue loss because of the ability for people to still continue to grow and work as they can.

But the resolution does raise expenses for Main Street, nearly doubling the Federal minimum wage at a time when thousands of small businesses are already struggling to keep the lights on. The legislation also fails to recognize, as mentioned earlier, that there is nearly $1 trillion left from the previous COVID bills that Congress has already passed.

By the way, these were five bipartisan bills that were passed in 2020 in order to make sure that it addressed all of the issues that we reflect across our country. The Biden administration should instead be focused on families who are hurting the most, targeting, particularly, the more than 8 million people who have lost their jobs due to COVID.

Workers, families, and small businesses don’t need more Washington regulations or mandates. They need to have the economy up and running again. Republicans believe we must increase wages and job opportunities for all workers, and we have gotten real results with tax and regulatory reforms, achieving historic surges in jobs and wages.

Unfortunately, this legislation does not build off of that successful playbook, but, instead, shows that the Biden administration is far more interested in advancing a radical leftwing wish list over our common economic policies that will help our Main Street businesses and families.

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

I would agree with all of those economists who say go target, go big, and go targeted. This is exactly what Joe Biden has said again and again.

I think his speech on the American Recovery Act was extraordinarily targeted, and while this budget reconciliation bill is the big picture, we all know that by the time we pass these individual budgets, they will be targeted at the most granular level.

And to my friend, Mr. ESTES, with whom I serve on Ways and Means, I am glad that Kansas is doing well. I don’t know the answer to this, but I would go back and see how is going in Iowa and some of those local governments. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), one of the leaders in so many different ways of the U.S. House of Representatives, the former mayor of Providence.

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I rise in strong support of the budget resolution for fiscal year 2022.

It has been said that a budget isn’t just a series of numbers on a sheet of paper, it is a statement of your values. Well, if that is true, then this budget is extraordinary targeted. It is targeted at a big picture of our values as Democrats. This budget paves the way for a landmark COVID-19 rescue plan. It delivers a simple message to the American people: Help is on the way.

Mr. Speaker, since the start of this pandemic, tens of millions of Americans have been infected. Nearly half a million have died, with almost a quarter of all deaths happening in the last month alone. Millions of Americans can’t find work. It is getting harder at this cri to pay for food, housing, health care, and other necessities. Schools are closed. Kids are being left behind. The American people can’t afford any more delays or half measures. This is a time for bold action. That is why we have to pass this budget resolution and pave the way for President Biden’s American Rescue Plan, an aggressive proposal that tackles our public health and economic emergencies.

The President’s American Rescue Plan meets the crisis before us. It includes nearly $2 trillion for a new round of survival checks; a national vaccination program; the resources cities and towns need to safely reopen schools; direct housing and food assistance; expanded access to healthcare and safe and reliable childcare; extended and enhanced unemployment insurance; paychecks for the first responders, public health workers and teachers who are still on the front lines of this crisis; and support for the hardest-hit small businesses.

During this historic crisis, the American people deserve to know that help is on the way. This resolution does just that. We all know from listening to our constituents suffering is happening in this country, and that we need a response that responds to the gravity of the economic healthcare crisis that this pandemic has created. This resolution does it. Join us in this effort. Respond to the cries of the American people.

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

Once again—and I am probably going to keep making this point over and over, and over—I care deeply and am desperately concerned particularly for the poor and the working poor in this country. And this document, if we are going to be honest about it, does not target their suffering.

I will show a couple of boards here where, once again, we are going to be sending stunning amounts of money to places that it is just going to sit in a bank account. It is going to go to places where it is not actually creating that velocity, that multiplier effect of helping those who are suffering.

And do understand—this is important—there is still $172 billion sitting in the disaster loan accounts. There is another $172 billion still sitting in the unemployment insurance accounts from things we have already done together.

In that case, it is not completely—I don’t want to use the word “disingenuous”—but some of the things we are saying here that, yes, there is a crisis out there, and, yes, there is actually money sitting in the accounts. Get the damn money out those accounts to where the suffering is.

And with that I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER). Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the first time as a Member of Congress in complete opposition to the budget reconciliation act. Today, adding almost $2 trillion to the national debt and eliminating 1.3 million jobs is up for vote.

This partisan budget reconciliation package allows President Biden to shove $1.9 trillion of stimulus spending through Congress without any Republican consent. It is a blue State bailout to those States who have shut down their business, closed their places of worship, and prevented families from earning an honest living.

We don’t need bailouts. We need to get back to work. Taxpayers in States like Texas should not be left holding the bag for the failing governments in New York, California, and others who chose to close their economies.

Congress just passed a $900 billion stimulus package in December, and over $1 trillion in COVID relief has yet to reach its intended recipients. The U.S. is already over $26 trillion in debt and counting.

This is totally unsustainable and will have a disastrous consequence for our economy and future generations. We are talking about the future of our children and our grandchildren. Nothing could be more important in this decision.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to welcome our new colleague from Texas to the floor. An excellent speech.

I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS), a member of the Joint Economic Committee and a distinguished businessperson in his own right.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

When Congress passed the emergency COVID bill in December, we knew more resources would be needed to fight the virus and provide additional relief for many Americans who have been devastated financially. Now we are working to accomplish that by March 14 when the enhanced unemployment benefits will expire.

I fully support the beginning of the process of budget reconciliation because we need to start the clock. In my
experience in Congress, and yours, too, we all know that this place works much better with a deadline.

However, I would hope that we can respond to this challenge in a bipartisan way as we did last March and again in December. In that $900 billion proposal, I am encouraged by the $600 billion proposal of 10 Republican Senators. Some have scoffed at this offer, called it an insult, or dismissed it as not serious. But with that, $600 billion is a lot of money, but it is not adequate for the task at hand. We need more help to open schools and to keep people housed. State and local governments need assistance to prevent more layoffs and make up for lost revenue, and we should stop guessing how long we will need unemployment and food assistance.

As the New Democrat Coalition has advocated from the beginning, we should enact automatic triggers to keep big amounts of money from shutting off according to economic conditions.

Our biggest challenge as a nation is not one particular issue, but the deep division among us here in Congress and among citizens across America. Bipartisanism has intrinsic value and we should prioritize it. But today’s action will ensure that we have a relief package on time no matter the politics. This is a step we have to take.

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

Mr. Speaker, maybe I am going to break protocol, but I am finding that this will be the second time I think I have complimented someone on the Democratic side. Triggers make a lot of sense in this type of mechanism when you have, functionally, $1 trillion still sitting in the accounts, and we are seeing projections from CBO saying, functionally, by the fourth quarter—I am not going to have a chart that will print this large—but by the fourth quarter, unemployment—look, I am one of those who believes full employment is always the ultimate goal—but unemployment will be back to where basically we were in 2015–2016.

Can we do better? Absolutely. But to do better, it is going to require thoughtful, targeted, well-designed spending of our resources, our statutes. And one of the reasons I talk about this is there is something very unique going on. And I hope our chairman of the Joint Economic Committee will actually think about this because we haven’t figured out how to turn this one into being partisan yet. I am sure we will figure it out.

But right now, this is the sort of thing we should be talking about. There is this crazy renaissance going on in this country of people starting new businesses, filing new LLCs, starting new small businesses.

Now, it may be because of the tragedy of the business they have right now which has been crushed by the shutdowns and the virus, but there are a remarkable number of new concerns beginning.

Wouldn’t it be both elegant, but also very powerful, as we watch unemployment, to find ways to access capital; access to streamlined permitting, licensing; crazy things like allowing someone to do a microbusiness out of public housing, things that actually have impact.

And it turns out, those aren’t the sort of things you find in a $1.9 trillion—functionally $2.5 trillion, if you are going to be honest about the real cost—spending package. And I understand this is a piece of legislation that if you actually look at it, it is just line, after line, after line of numbers.

If this passes—which it probably will, you know, the Democrats are in the majority—the ethical, moral obligations we have heard from multiple speakers here that a budget is your values, is the value the fact you can spend $1 trillion of money even when there is $1 trillion still sitting in the bank unspent, or is the value that you are going to do it in a way where we impact the working poor; where we impact those who are truly suffering, and we can take someone like my 5-year-old daughter who is the one who is ultimately going to be paying this back.

So if we are going to make the moral argument, I hope we think about the whole, shall we say, continuum of what we do here, what is moral, what is right.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, can I ask how much time is remaining on our side.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 1 minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). The gentleman from Virginia has 15 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Arizona has 17 minutes remaining.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, to my new friend from Texas, I would point out that Texas and California and New York—two of the bluest States around—are all net exporters of Federal dollars mostly to red States.

Now, it tends to be the blue States who are helping out the red States in terms of our Federal allocations. I would also like to compliment the ranking member on the Joint Economic Committee for his optimism in having a 5-year-old daughter.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB), the distinguished Member who spent her life lifting people out of poverty.

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, this pandemic has taken the lives of nearly 16,000 Michiganders with 25 percent of the deaths from Wayne County and the city of Detroit.

Our communities are forever changed. The U.S. is on a course to reach 500,000 deaths by February 20. That is a half a million lives lost.

And in response to this record death toll, Congress has sent out one $1,200 check almost a year ago and another $600 check, for a total of $1,800. That is an average of $163 per month.

Mr. Speaker, there is not a single person in this Chamber or in my district who can survive on that little per month. My residents cannot afford to wait. We should not wait another 1 month; neither should the checks. The budget resolution ensures that we can do the work of delivering urgent relief to our families and every single district across the country.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, in many ways we are all saying the same thing: It is just, once again, trying to make the argument, if we do this smartly and well-targeted, we can do it for a dramatically more efficient cost and actually help more of the poor that we know are suffering, more of the people who have been crushed, more of the small businesses.

And a simple example, Opportunity Insights has predicted that, with a $2,000 check to functionally every household that makes less than $46,000, only $240, functionally, of what they receive will get spent in the bank. Maybe that is a good thing. Maybe that is the audience you want to target. But when you start doing the same thing to populations, and for some reason they use $78,000, only $105 gets spent. So think about that.

Mr. Speaker, increase the check another $1,400, a population that makes $78,000 or more, they are only spending $105. The rest is going in the bank account. Maybe that is wonderful, but that is not what we are debating. We are trying to create a multiplier effect of some stimulus in our society to get the economy going so we see those GDP numbers go up; the unemployment go down; and we get back to the miracle we were at in 2018 and 2019, where income and equality actually shrank for the first time in 2 years, where food insecurity shrank for the first time in decades and decades and decades, where the working poor actually were doing better than they had in decades and decades and decades.

How do we get back to, functionally, what was the miracle of 2018 and 2019?

And my argument is, the model that we are reading in this resolution, isn’t it. It doesn’t get you there. If we truly have the same goal, I desperately hope our friends and the right, who actually want to look at this almost like an economist of a laser beam, are saying: Let’s find those who are hurting and find out how to target the resources that are already appropriated and get those to them, and then appropriate more where necessary.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.
lead to a “V-shaped” recovery, in which the recovery would be as steep as the catastrophic decline.

Others predicted a “U-shaped” recovery, a more drawn-out version of the “V.” And even others predicted a “W-shaped” recovery, an uptick, followed by another drop due to a probable second wave of the coronavirus, and then hopeful improvement. Even Ian Bremmer talked about a scallped recovery.

Mr. Speaker, there has been recovery, but with two big caveats. It has been a “K-shaped” recovery. It has come at the cost of over 440,000 American lives.

As the Trump administration pressured States to relax measures needed to control the coronavirus, the virus exploded. And this does have incredibly long-term cost on families, on generations in the economy.

Budget recovery, which has really come into vogue right now, is some are doing quite well and some are doing pretty poorly. High-income workers have been able to work from home and save record amounts of cash—I think a 33 percent savings rate in the second quarter.

The savings rate has gone through the roof because the paycheck, the stock gains, have kept coming in for those folks; but they can’t spend it on restaurants or movies or travel, flights, entertainment.

American billionaires picked up $1.9 trillion in net worth in 2020. Just the increase in billionaires’ net worth alone would pay for this package. The personal savings rate more than doubled in 2020. Housing prices climbed 15 percent in the last year. Stock market went up about 15 percent in the midst of the crisis. But, remember, the wealthiest 10 percent own 85 percent of the stocks. So they walked away with a vast majority of the stock gains last year, as they do every year.

These factors probably explained why households with $75,000 in income saved their $600 payments from December rather than spent them, as revealed in recent Opportunity Insights’ data.

On the other side of the coin, low-wage workers have seen unemployment drop by 20 to 25 percent, and the unemployment rates for Black and Hispanic workers exceed 9 percent. The rich have gotten richer. The poor have gotten poorer. And the American Dream has become ever-less attainable for too many Americans. A “K-shaped” recovery is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Connelly), my friend of almost 40 years, my godfather.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend for yielding to me and for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, when I served in local government, I helped write and pass a lot of budgets—all balances. And what the budget writing process taught me was that a budget is a values document.

So what does the budget reconciliation process tell us about our respective values?

Well, the last two times the budget reconciliation process was used by Republicans, they used it on a $2 trillion tax giveaway to the wealthiest Americans and corporations and to take away healthcare for more than 20 million Americans. That was their value.

The budget we are debating today shows the Democrats in Congress are going to every bit of a fight we have in us to take decisive and comprehensive action to finally end this pandemic and alleviate the economic pain Americans are experiencing. We will not wait and see if another 100,000 Americans die in a single month in order to deliver vaccines and testing that we need. We will not wait and see if the United States loses another 20 million jobs, or if the American economy experiences another record-breaking year of GDP contraction. We will not wait as U.S. loses another 10 million jobs, or people continue to go hungry at record numbers.

We will enact an American rescue plan that saves lives and livelihoods. Those are our values.

Mr. Speaker, once again, back to facts over feelings: After the tax reform, what did we see in our society?

It was the first 2 years that we actually saw income and equality shrink in modern economic times. I thought that was the Holy Grail.

Did you see what happened to Hispanics, African Americans’ incomes, working poor incomes?

The factfinder is, if you tell the truth about the post-tax reform model—just maybe because I was in the room—the top 10 percent actually were paying more of the Federal income taxes than prior. Yet that somehow isn’t the folklore that we so often hear from this side.

Mr. Speaker, there are couple other points I would like to make. And a couple of this is important because Chairman BEYER actually did a terrific job touching on some of this. And he was making a very powerful point. And, actually, I hate to say this, he was reading part of my script, which actually is a little creepy.

The total deposits in commercial banks, if you take a look at this line, have grown up dramatically. It is because too much of the money that we have done bipartisan in the last year to help stimulate and save the economy ended up in pockets of those very, very wealthy, or even medium wealthy, and it ended up sitting in the bank and not circulating, rotating in the economy and helping the workers, helping the working poor, helping those who are just trying to survive.

My fear is this budget reconciliation document is going to be just a lot more of this. If you actually look. The other thing is—this is a tough one, and this is one I am hoping that the placeholder in this document isn’t what the Democrats really are heading towards because, if it is, you are going to hear those who are on our side scream that this is a payoff to, shall we say, a constituency that is very supportive of the Democrats.

Mr. Speaker, not been a great year—the year 2000, about 350,000 State municipal workers lost their jobs. This budget reconciliation bill has about $350 billion in the line item for that population. You do realize that’s $1 million a job. And if you do the total number, it is still 350,000 lives.

Is that compassion? Or is that lunacy?

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, to add to my friend’s charts, let me point out that the Congressional Budget Office has estimated, without additional resources, investment into the economy, it will take until 2043—3 more years—just to get back to where we were at the pre-pandemic level 1 year ago.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. Green), and not the singer.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in 2017, when my Republican friends had control of the House, the Senate, and the Presidency, they passed an approximately $1.5 trillion tax break for the very wealthy.

Mr. Speaker, the wealthy weren’t suffering. There was no pain. They went $1.5 trillion projected to be lost by the very wealthy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my dear friends on the other side to see this, if they will: As a tax break for the working class, let’slet people who are making $75,000 a year have an opportunity to acquire some money to help them. If it goes into a bank account, it will come out. They are not wealthy. At some point we have to realize that those who are among the working class cannot do more with less, while the wealthy need more to do more.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for us to save this country, save these people who are suffering. I will vote for this resolution. I will vote for reconciliation.
Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I had the great honor of attending the Arlington funeral service for Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick. It was moving and very sad, eloquent. I only bring this up because I was transported with my friend, the mayor of South Carolina, to the cemetery and back with two Capitol Police Officers who were talking about how much they love their job but how exhausted they were at ages 40 and late 20s.

I asked them, “What is your job?” They said, “We are security for the Speaker.”

And she is indefatigable, tireless, works around the clock, and, to my mind, is the best Speaker America has ever had.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman yielding. I thank him for his great leadership of the Joint Economic Committee, a place where we can really think in a way that is entrepreneurial and successful for the American people. His private sector experience, as well as respect for the public sector and the nonprofit sector, equips him well to lead that important committee and to take us to the floor on this bill, following the Budget Committee, under the leadership of Mr. JOHNSON, a tireless worker for the budget and this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that a budget should be a statement of our national values. What is important to us as a nation should be reflected when we put a budget together.

It is the floor to me to hear the distinguished gentleman on the other side of the aisle. It would be ludicrous if it weren’t so deadly serious.

Mr. Speaker, $1.9 trillion, the President of the United States has determined it is necessary to meet the needs of the American people at a time of a pandemic, at a time of consequences to our economy that are drastic—and I will go on to that in a moment. $1.9 trillion, which is almost exactly the cost of the Republican tax break that they gave to the richest people in America; 83 percent of the benefits went to the top 1 percent.

This legislation, which helps meet the needs of the American people, to be considered a tax break bill for the rich, it is pathetic. The fact of this Congress is that somebody can say things that aren’t true on the floor, but if you say that they said something that was untrue, you would be called out of order.

But I would just say, the facts are these. $1.9 trillion, when you add in the interest—Mr. GREEN from Texas referenced this—if you add in the interest, $1.9 trillion, $2 trillion, added to the national debt, national debt for our economy, only debt for our children.

Instead, here today, we have a bill that meets the needs of the American people. In the election, the American people cast their ballot for big, bold actions and decisive leadership to turn the coronavirus pandemic and economic crisis around. Since then, the need has accelerated drastically. The time for decisive action is now.

Mr. Speaker, that is why, today, we will pass a budget resolution to pave the way for a landmark coronavirus rescue, a rescue plan, which will do what is needed to save lives and livelihoods.

We hope that Republicans in Congress would support a legislative package that will bring real relief to people and to our communities.

Passing this budget does not preclude reaching a bipartisan agreement. I rather not work under reconciliation, but if that is the way we have to work in order to get results for the American people, we must use every option at our disposal. But I am hopeful that we can have bipartisanship.

That does not mean that Congress can move forward and meet the country’s needs. The need for this action could not be more urgent, and Americans cannot afford to wait. They cannot afford any further delay.

Tens of millions of Americans have been infected. Nearly half a million have died, with one-fifth of those deaths occurring over the past month. Meanwhile, tens of millions of workers are jobless; food and housing insecurity; the economy is skidding; and school closings threaten our children’s education.

And our most vulnerable communities are bearing the brunt of these crises, as the underlying health and economic disparities continue to grow.

President Biden’s American Rescue Plan will take a comprehensive, strategic, and science-based approach to tackling the public health and economic crises. Here is what it will do.

It will put money in the pockets of the American families, which will put vaccines in the arms of the American people. It will put children back in school and workers back to work.

It will crush the virus and help us safely reopen schools, mounting a national vaccination campaign that includes community vaccination sites, ramping and scaling up testing and tracing, addressing shortages of PPE, investing in high-quality treatments, and addressing health care inequities.

It is sinful, Mr. Speaker, to see how few people in our communities of color have had access to vaccines up until now, but that will change under President Biden and with this legislation.

We deliver immediate relief to working families bearing the brunt of the crisis, providing $1,400 checks per person to households across America and providing housing and nutrition assistance. Tens of thousands of people are food insecure in our country. Maybe 17 million children are food insecure in our country.

Access to safe and reliable childcare—let me say it again, safe and reliable childcare—and affordable medical care, expanded unemployment insurance, and enhanced tax credits for families, low-income working families.

Finally, the plan will support communities struggling with the economic fallout, providing a lifeline for the millions of Americans, especially those owned by minorities, and honoring our heroes. Yes, $350 billion to honor our heroes, about one-fourth of what you were giving to the top 1 percent in our country in your tax bill.

I would say this: because these are the entities, State and local government, towns, and the rest, that provide the services that the people need: healthcare workers, first responders, police and fire, transportation, sanitation, food workers, our teachers, our teachers, our teachers. They need the State and local governments to be funded. That is very important. In a bipartisan way across the country, it has bipartisan support. Yes, it is $350 billion.

Again, it is to meet the needs. These people risk their lives to save lives, and now they may lose their jobs because of the cost of the coronavirus and the lost revenue from the pandemic.

Finally, the plan would support communities struggling with the fallout, again, providing a lifeline—that is this point I am making now—for hardest hit small businesses, as I mentioned, that are owned by minorities, frontline workers, teachers, and workers, and other essential workers risking their lives to save ours. It bears repetition.

The cost of inaction is growing by the day. If we don’t enact this package now, we could end up with 4 million fewer jobs this year, and it could take a year longer to return to full employment. An entire cohort of young people may have lower lifetime earnings because they were deprived of another semester of school.

Millions of parents, particularly moms, can be forced to stay at home, reducing their wages and future job prospects. I believe the figure is 100
percent. But just about 100 percent of the jobs lost in December were women.

But if this package is passed and enacted in full by March, economic growth is projected to jump by nearly 8 percent this year and then by an additional 3 percent next year. At that pace, we will create 745 million jobs this year alone and a total of 10 million jobs by the fall of 2022, reaching full employment.

But don’t take it from me. Experts agree that this bold action is needed, especially as interest rates are at historic lows and the return on small investments has never been higher.

As Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, of whom we are very proud, stated:

Without further action, we risk a longer, more painful recession now and long-term scarring of the economy later. Right now, with interest rates at historic lows, the smartest thing we can do now is act big. In the long run, the benefits will far outweigh the costs.

Mark Zandi, the chief economist at Moody’s Analytics, said just last week:

It is better to err on the side of too much rather than too little. Interest rates are at practically zero, inflation is low, unemployment is high. You don’t need a textbook to know that this is when you push on the fiscal accelerator.

Also last week, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Jerome Powell, stated:

I am much more worried about falling short of a complete recovery and losing people’s careers and lives that they built because we didn’t get back to work in time. I am more concerned about that and the damage that will do.

Reconciliation bills have passed on a bipartisan basis 17 times in recent years, including one that I participated in to pass the Children’s Health Insurance Program, CHIP, which delivered lifesaving healthcare to nearly 10 million children.

As I said, the need for action could not be more urgent. Americans cannot afford further delay.

Listen, listen, listen to your constituents. We should all be listening to our constituents. They are our bosses. We must meet their needs.

Listening to our constituents, respecting President Biden’s proposal to meet their needs, we must work together to save their lives and their livelihoods.

I wish we could have a strong bipartisan vote on this budget bill because, as I said, this budget is a statement of our values, and our values are that we are here to meet the needs of America’s working families. It is about our children, their health, their education, the economic security of their families, a safe world for them to thrive, a world at peace in which they can reach their fulfillment. It is always about the children.

It is not about heaping mountains of debt on them, as they did in their tax scam, what they passed, and then to have the nerve to call this a tax break for the wealthy when it has low-income tax credits, childcare tax credits, refundability, billions of dollars for the working poor in our country.

Economists and the Treasury Secretaries of both parties have said, if you really want to turn the economy around, help the neediest the most, help the neediest first. We do this in this legislation as we bolster the middle class and crush the virus.

Mr. Speaker, I urge an “aye” vote.

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

Mr. Speaker, the comment of “look at this budget and see a party’s values,” this may be a little.ethereal, but have you all heard the term “blank check company”? It is one of the rages on Wall Street right now. Take basically a shell, have a bunch of money put into it, and then they promise, saying, we are going to find something to spend the money on.

This is essentially a blank check budget reconciliation with actually none of the very elegant and persuasive words said.

There is also one other thing, and I want to say this as respectfully as possible, so I am going to read someone else’s words. The well-worn and misleading talking points is 83 percent of the tax cuts go to the wealthiest 1 percent. Just not true. Since the day of tax reform until 2025, the wealthiest, and maybe it is too much, get 25 percent. At the very end of tax reform, when many of the different tax breaks and those things are expiring out, there is an anomaly in the year 2027. It is not 83 percent.

Please, I beg of my friends on the left, I know we like our talking points, but there is a reason the public is so skeptical. They are asking, are we really supporting, the public is so skeptical. They are asking, are we really supporting, are we really supporting, are we really supporting the neediest first. We do this in this legislation as we bolster the middle class and crush the virus.

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time we have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 6 1⁄2 minutes.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER), the distinguished chairman of the Trade Subcommittee on Ways and Means and, in my opinion, the most thoughtful Member of the House.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman’s courtesy and his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, the hardest hit sector of our economy is the 500,000 independent restaurants and their 11 million employees. That is why there are 2.3 million of those employees unemployed. And one out of six restaurants has closed permanently, with the prospect of up to 85 percent being lost in the year ahead. Sadly, the impact has been disproportionately on women, minorities, and immigrants.

The PPE program didn’t work for restaurants. They don’t need complicit loans. They don’t know, in many cases, whether they are going to be open in 2 or 3 months.

The restrictions across the country are such that most restaurants simply do not have a viable economic model. That is why I introduced the Restaurants Act. I am pleased that $50 billion has been designated for small business in this resolution, and I hope at least 50 percent of that will be dedicated to the bipartisan and bicameral Restaurants Act that we have introduced. It has over half the Members of the House of Representatives cosponsoring and over half the Senate.

We have an opportunity to move this forward in a way that will give a lifeline to our restaurants that are the cornerstone of our community. We give them that lifeline, and once the panic is over, they will get back to normal. They will get back to where the weather will change, and we will be able to return to that vibrant part of our communities. But they need the lifeline.

So I strongly urge support for the Restaurants Act which will be reintroduced and part of the reconciliation process that will make it possible to provide that necessary support to keep them afloat.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER) for his courtesy.

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

Mr. Speaker, there is one other thing I wanted to share. First, the Restaurants Act is a good piece of legislation. I think there are many of us on Ways and Means who look forward to it. Something very, very close to it.

Second, there is one other comment, Madam Speaker spoke earlier, I was actually somewhat enthused about her focus on kids in school. As Mr. BEYER teased me, I am 58, my wife is 58, and I have over a 5 year old. That is the ultimate definition of being optimistic for the future. That is funny.

But the fact of the matter is, I desperately hope that Madam Speaker will use her influence on the teachers’ union to encourage getting these kids back to school. I have some charts—I think there are many of us on Ways and Means who look forward to it. Something very, very close to it.

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But the fact of the matter is, I desperately hope that Madam Speaker will use her influence on the teachers’ union to encourage getting these kids back to school. I have some charts—I think there are many of us on Ways and Means who look forward to it. Something very, very close to it.
If that is where we are heading, great. As Republicans we are going to help make good things happen, getting these schools open, but we actually need the influence from the left, particularly with the teachers’ union to make that a possibility.

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCIA).

Mr. GARCIA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it has been almost 1 year since COVID hit the U.S., and the sick are still splitting pills, diabetics are still rationing their insulin, and families are doubled up in homes to keep relatives off the streets. I saw it in 2008, and I am seeing it again. Up and down the streets of my neighborhood on the southwest side of Chicago businesses are closed. Every week I am attending another wake. It is happening across this country.

This has been a failure of the American can do. But finally, we have a President willing to move a significant relief bill. Congress needs to pass this legislation and get people the relief that they need now.

Transit, stimulus checks for working people and immigrants, rental assistance and small business grants—we can’t nickel and dime our way out of this pandemic. Let’s do our job. Let’s get the vaccine out, and let’s save our economy. We need to pass the $1.9 trillion budget and get the American people back on their feet now.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close.

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

Mr. Speaker, this has been actually a reasonable conversation. I desperately hope we are going to have more of this. But back to some of the principal points from the Republican side we are trying to share about this budget resolution. Our friends have said, and I agree, but finally, we have a President willing to move a significant relief bill. Congress needs to pass this legislation and get people the relief that they need now.

Transit, stimulus checks for working people and immigrants, rental assistance and small business grants—we can’t nickel and dime our way out of this pandemic. Let’s do our job. Let’s get the vaccine out, and let’s save our economy. We need to pass the $1.9 trillion budget and get the American people back on their feet now.

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield my balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the ranking member, for this hourlong discussion. I will point out that his opening statement leaves the nearly 5 million workers who have given up looking for a job and left the labor force since February. That would push the unemployment rate almost at 10 percent. We cannot afford to be passive.

My friend, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, talks about the multiplier factor, and I am a huge fan of the multiplier effect. But the multiplier effect means putting money in the hands of people who will spend it that day, that Friday, and we are in defense of our $15 minimum wage. That is money that will go into the hands of people who will spend it that day, that Friday, that weekend.

Alan Blinder and Mark Zandi, two prominent economists, found that fiscal monetary responses in 2008 and 2009 substantially reduced the severity and length of the Great Recession. Our wonderful chairman of the Federal Reserve, Jay Powell, a Republican, has said that monetary policy has gone as far as it can. Interest rates are near zero. It is up to us now, those who control fiscal policy, to make this comeback.

The Hamilton Project found that the Biden proposal would return us to the CBO’s pre-pandemic projections after the third quarter of this year, not 2024 which would be where we were without it.

We face a once-in-a-generation challenge: a public health crisis caused a massive economic hit worse than the Great Recession, and responding to either one of these crises, the COVID or old days of spend lots of money, do some great virtue signaling, and, ultimately, the very people we talk about are no better off.

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 3% minutes remaining.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the ranking member, for this hourlong discussion. I will point out that those billions of dollars that apparently are still in coffers, one of the best things we can do is get new management at the executive level who will actually spend the money allocated by Congress, and I think the Senate is working on those confirmations right now.

There is nothing that has the sense of theater about the children in Virginia who are three times as food insecure as they were a year ago. We have millions of Americans out of work. We have this remarkable chart that shows that our unemployment rate hit an official 14.8 percent back in the spring, and we knew that was undercounted by all the people who left the workforce who weren’t counted at all. They said it was probably closer to 20 percent, the highest since the Great Depression.

Now, we are formally down to 6.7 percent, but, once again, that is double the pre-pandemic level and doesn’t capture the nearly 5 million workers who have given up looking for a job and left the labor force since February. That would push the unemployment rate almost at 10 percent. We cannot afford to be passive.

My friend, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, talks about the multiplier factor, and I am a huge fan of the multiplier effect. But the multiplier effect means putting money in the hands of people who will spend it that day, that Friday, and we are in defense of our $15 minimum wage. That is money that will go into the hands of people who will spend it that day, that Friday, that weekend.

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The Hamilton Project found that the Biden proposal would return us to the CBO’s pre-pandemic projections after the third quarter of this year, not 2024 which would be where we were without it.

We face a once-in-a-generation challenge: a public health crisis caused a massive economic hit worse than the Great Recession, and responding to either one of these crises, the COVID or
the economy, requires a smart, multi-faceted, comprehensive approach. It is not a blank-check approach. We have outlined piece by piece by piece how this money would be spent, and we still have much granularity to go. We have don't have the luxury of choosing which of this money is spent, so we have to overcome both of them to save the lives of hundreds of thousands of Americans and ensure the livelihoods of millions more.

Another luxury we don't have is time. We can't waste months and months and months trying to figure out whether we are actually going to spend that money in those coffers or whether bipartisanship will work. We have to set the structure up so that if we need to come back and change things, we can do so quickly.

We must do everything we can, as fast as we can, to get vaccines in arms, to get resources to struggling communities, and to get Americans back to work.

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

Pursuant to House Rule 85, the previous question is ordered on the concurrent resolution, as amended.

The question is on adoption of the concurrent resolution.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.
A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Anne (Stevens) (OMA)
Barkan (Beyer) (NY)
Boggs, Clark (MA)
Buchanan (Arrington) (AL)
Bengis (Cardenas) (AZ)
Cox (Gomez) (CA)
Crenshaw (Butterfield) (NC)
Cullen (Beyer) (MA)
Cooper (Gomez) (CA)
DeSaulnier (Gomez) (CA)
Deutch (Rice) (NY)
Fallen (Neb) (NE)
Fleischmann (Kustoff) (TN)
Frankel, Lois (FL)
Gallego (Gomez) (AZ)
Gonzalez (Velasco) (TX)
Hale (Gosar) (AZ)

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 92
Resolved, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE: Mr. Panetta, Mr. Yarmuth, Mr. Espaillat.
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES: Ms. McCollum, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Tonko, Ms. Tlaib.
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS: Ms. Slotkin, Mr. Trone.

Mr. JEFFRIES (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COUNTIES AND CITIES NEED ASSISTANCE

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, today, earlier on the floor, I made one important announcement of one important number. And I said that what we were doing with the budget reconciliation resolution was we were rescuing America. Because 594,000 Americans are predicted to die from COVID-19 by May 2021.

This is what is happening in Texas. Half of Texans face financial hardship because of the coronavirus pandemic. The new strain of COVID-19 has come to Harris County. We can’t do it alone. We need assistance for counties and cities. My mayor has been asking, and that is what this budget reconciliation will do.

In addition, we must realize that roughly 22 percent of Texas residents are facing severe hardship.

This is a catastrophe beyond our understanding. A pandemic. And my DELIVER Act is ready to provide a distribution structure so that all over America you can get vaccinated. That is why we voted on the budget reconciliation resolution; to save lives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BILL CLINE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend, Bill Cline, of Bradford, Pennsylvania, who passed away on December 29 at the age of 95. Bill is survived by his loving wife, Joyce, who he spent nearly 50 years with; and by daughters Terri Anne, Susan, and Mary Jo; and sons Willard and Mark.

After serving in the United States Navy during World War II, Bill returned home to chase his dream of one day owning his own oil production company. He would go on to serve as the sole proprietor of Cline Oil, Incorporated for more than 60 years and remained the president of the company until his death.

In 1859, Edwin Drake drilled the world’s first commercial oil well in my district, making history in the energy industry. About 7 years ago, I had the pleasure of presenting Bill with the Colonel Edwin L. Drake Legendary Oilman Award to celebrate his contributions to the industry as well. Bill will be missed, and Penny and I wish his family the very best as they honor his life while mourning his loss. Rest in peace.

THE GIFT OF LIFE

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

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lives of millions of innocent babies who lost their chance at life because of Roe v. Wade.

Life is precious. Life is a gift from God, and every human is made in God’s image. Every person born, or pre-born, has inherent dignity and has the right to life.

We have a fundamental duty to fight for the vulnerable and ensure that life is protected, recognizing the right to life is a worthy cause. It is not radical, and it should be bipartisan. I am proud to be an advocate for the unborn. I firmly believe in our responsibility as a society to defend life. I will continue to push for pro-life legislation in Congress, including eliminating the use of taxpayers’ funding in any way to perform abortions.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in fighting for life to protect the most vulnerable among us. Together, we can build a culture that respects God’s gift. That gift is life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LIEUTENANT MICHAEL BOUTTE

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. On February 1, 2021, Lieutenant Michael Boutte in the line of duty. His end of watch was Monday, February 3, 2021.

Madam Speaker, Boutte was a passionate servant in our community, and he will be greatly missed by many. He is remembered for his service not only as a distinguished law enforcement officer but also as an Air Force veteran who served in Operation Desert Storm. In everything he did, Boutte wore his smile with pride and compassion.
A tireless leader in his community, Boutte was responsible for organizing the Silver Alert system and National Crime Night Out for the city of Diamondhead. He was also honored with the Lifesaving Medal and awarded the Officer of the Year Award by the Waveland Community Unity Organization in 2018.

Boutte made our community and his loved ones immensely proud. Our State and our Nation owe him and his family a debt of gratitude for his service and sacrifice. Let us go forth and carry his memory and service in our hearts and prayers.

Madam Speaker, I ask that Members in the House Chamber please join me for a moment of silence to honor the life of Lieutenant Michael Boutte.

**ROE V. WADE**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. Jacobs of California). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, before yielding to my good friend and colleague, there are a number of Members who will be making their way over here. We do have an important caucus going on, on the Republican side, and that caucus is very intense; but we will have Members coming.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER), my good friend and colleague, who has been a big leader in the pro-life movement.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. It is an honor to work with him and to stand with him and some of the colleagues for life—for the unborn.

Madam Speaker, today, I rise to remember children who have lost their lives at the hands of abortionists. It has been 48 years since the passage of Roe v. Wade, and our children continue to suffer and die by the millions. It is unfathomable.

We know many of these children perished in the most horrendous and brutal of ways. The pain must have been excruciating, yet we are still failing to hear their cries. The single most-effective life-saving protection to stopping the spread of this scourge is the Hyde Amendment.

Over 2.4 million children are alive today because of Hyde's protections, which prevents taxpayer dollars from going to pay directly for abortions. We know the Hyde Amendment can't save every life, but it can and it has saved many. Yet this limitation on Federal funds is the number one target for many of my colleagues. Eliminating Hyde protection will cause more child deaths, not less.

Madam Speaker, I also rise today to remember women like Keisha Marie Atkins and Jamie Morales, who died as a result of the abortion procedure. I also remember those who mourn the loss of their babies, who suffer physical, emotional, and spiritual trauma from their abortions. I remember abortion-seeking women today who are offered hopelessness and death and unsanitized, dirty, and subpar clinics when they should be offered hope, prenatal care, and life for the baby inside. Today is a day of remembrance. So let us not forget the women and children who have suffered and perished from abortion. Let us hear their cry and silence them no more.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend for her remarks.

Madam Speaker, tonight is really an appeal—an appeal to my colleagues. It is a cry for survival and justice for unborn baby girls and boys. Unborn children need the President of the United States and all of us to be their friend and advocate, not powerful adversaries. In his inaugural speech, President Biden said: "The dream of justice for all will be deferred no longer." He spoke of "a cry for survival from the planet itself. A cry that can't be any more desperate."

"I—we—believe the dream of justice for all cannot be achieved if an entire segment of society is legally ignored and legally discriminated against because of where they live, in their mother's womb, and how small and unbelievably defenseless they really are. We know the President understands this. He gets it—or at least he once did. He went on to say, "Those of us who are opposed to abortion should not be compelled to pay for them.""

The first movies we see, the videos are to the point—killing the baby to death before he or she is then dismembered and then sucked out of the womb by the suction machine. She walked out of that abortion clinic and has never gone back. She is now a very powerful and articulate spokeswoman for the right-to-life cause. Her book, "Unplanned," I recommend it. It is a book that changes hearts. She was on the other side for years, so much so that she was the director of a Planned Parenthood clinic. Yet when she saw the video itself, the dismemberment of that child, she walked out, and walked out forever.

The same goes for guys, abortionists like Bernard Nathanson, who said, Once you see that ultrasound—and he was one of the founders of NARAL, a very large abortion rights organisation. He said, "I have come to the agonizing conclusion that I presided over 60,000 deaths." And he, too, became a pro-lifer. An ultrasound and prenatal screening where the targeted are no longer persons, but patients, not as a being, to be extinguished or exterminated changed his mind.

Madam Speaker, growing numbers of Americans are shocked that the methods of abortion include dismemberment. They include the literal decapitation of this helpless child. And, of course, drugs like RU-486 starve the baby to death before he or she is then forcibly expelled from the womb.

Madam Speaker, the multi-billion-dollar abortion industry is very clever, and they cleverly market to savagery of choice while going to extraordinary lengths to ignore, trivialize, and cover up the shattered be—deaths caused by abortion.

Madam Speaker, abortion violence must be replaced with compassion and empathy for women and for defenseless unborn babies. We must love them both. Birth is an event that happens to all of us. It is not the beginning of life. That child is just as vibrant before birth as after; just too big to continue inside the womb.
Sadly, more than 62 million babies have been killed by abortion in the United States since Roe v. Wade, a loss of children’s lives that equates with the entire population of Italy. I truly believe that someday future generations of Americans will look on our on this like a period in human history where we did other things in previous centuries, in years back, and wonder how and why a society that prided itself on human rights could have effectuated and enabled the loss of so many defenseless babies—62 million and counting.

Madam Speaker, last week, President Biden overturned the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy, the Mexico City policy. His executive order forces—forces—U.S. taxpayers to fund organizations that promote, lobby, or perform abortions on demand in foreign countries.

Americans overwhelmingly oppose using U.S. foreign aid to subsidize abortion. The Marist poll just last week found that more than three in four Americans, 77 percent, oppose using tax dollars to support abortions in over 70 percent. Let’s use those tax dollars to combat AIDS, to help people with malaria.

I am the author of the reauthorization of the PEPFAR program, the AIDS program that is now in effect. It was originally sponsored by our good friend and colleague Henry Hyde, and George W. Bush, it was one of his greatest achievements. That is where our foreign policy dollars and foreign aid dollars need to be spent, on nurturing. There is nothing benign about using those tax dollars to combat AIDS, to help people with malaria.

Among other pro-abortion executive orders, on January 29, the President announced steps to resume funding to the U.N. Population Fund, even though that agency has supported China’s forced abortion policy for decades.

Madam Speaker, I have chaired hearings, 66 of them, on human rights in China over these many years. I have been here 41 years. I can tell you that China treats its women and its women in the most horrific ways. One child per couple, now two children per couple, where coercion is used to enforce it, has led to massive, massive losses of life and to broken women. The U.N. Population Fund has been right there, cheering, supporting, aiding and abetting these crimes against women and children.

Finally, Madam Speaker, by reason of their age, dependency, immaturity, inconvenience, unwantedness, unborn children have been denied justice. When the President calls, we all want justice. And they have been rendered legally persona non grata. Yet, their cries for survival, using the President’s words, can’t be any more desperate than they are.

These children need the President of the United States to be their friend and advocate, not another powerful advocate for survival, using the President’s word, not another powerful advocate for survival, using the President’s word, not another powerful advocate for survival, using the President’s word. I stand for the rights of the unborn and not the rights of the unborn.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Latta), my good friend and colleague. Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman for yielding and, I want to thank the gentleman for his decades of support for life and the unborn in this country and for everything he has done. Thank you very much.

Since 1973, more than 62 million innocent unborn babies’ lives have been taken by abortion in this country. Tragically, abortion continues to put women in danger, takes the life of an innocent child, and fails to recognize the dignity of all lives, regardless of how small.

In 2017 alone, there were roughly 860,000 abortions in the United States. That number is far greater than the population of the district I represent, Ohio’s Fifth Congressional District. While the overall abortion rate is decreasing, the rate of using chemical abortion is going up, accounting for roughly 39 percent of procedures that year.

I am proud that my legislation, the SAVE Moms and Babies Act, would recognize chemical abortions for what it is: dangerous.

Thankfully, there is still reason for hope. Three-quarters of Americans, including a majority of whom identify as pro-choice, want significant restrictions on abortion. This is most certainly taken by the growing pro-life movement advocating for the protection of the unborn children who deserve the dignity of life. Without the right to life, we truly have no other right.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and, again, for all of his work.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend for his leadership and bill, which will save lives.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. Hinson), a new Member but a Member who has secured an important post in the Appropriations and the Budget Committees.

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a voice for the voiceless.

Since Roe v. Wade was enacted by the Supreme Court decision 48 years ago, 62 million abortions have been performed—62 million. This is a tragedy. This is definitely something that is devastating to think about.

We must stand up for the unborn, those who cannot stand up for themselves, I always will, and I am doing that here today. As a mom of two boys, this issue is close to my heart. While reflecting on the lives lost is difficult to do, I am inspired here tonight. I am inspired by the growing pro-life community and movement in our country. I am hopeful that the next generation will fight for life, and I am proud to help lead this fight in Congress, standing with you.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank my friend, the gentleman from New Jersey, for his leadership on this very important issue, and I am honored to add my voice to his and many others in the defense of life here tonight.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her very powerful statement and her leadership, which I know is going to be greatly appreciated.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. Harshbarger), my friend who is a new Member. She is on the Education and Labor Committee, the Homeland Security Committee, and she is a pharmacist.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the right to life.

As a mother, a grandmother of two precious grandsons, and the other mother to many students and young people who I have mentored over the years, I am truly committed to saving the lives of the unborn.

As a pharmacist, I have helped many women through the years with infertility issues and helped them achieve successful pregnancies. These women deserve to have a choice to hold those precious children that many women want to abort. That is why I will continue to advocate on behalf of the right to life.

I believe it is a moral and a God-given responsibility that we protect these treasured trusts from Heaven. We always must remember to protect the most vulnerable among us and give a voice to those voiceless babies, those precious children that somebody would want and somebody would nurture and somebody would love.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for her statement, and I look forward to working with her going forward in this Congress.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Kansas (Mr. Estes), a member of the Ways and Means Committee, the lead sponsor of the Protecting Individuals With Down Syndrome Act, which prohibits abortions based on Down Syndrome.

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I appreciate my friend from New Jersey for yielding and for hosting this special hour.

As Americans, we realize that our government was formed to protect our God-given rights, and among them are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. However, we recently marked the tragic anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision, an anniversary that reminds us that nearly 62 million babies never got a chance to see the world.

This anniversary is also a call to action. As elected officials, we must stand for the rights of the unborn and be a voice for the voiceless. Instead of working to protect innocent life, President Biden has neglected this duty by signing executive orders that are neither pro-life nor pro-taxpayer.
He has reversed the Mexico City policy, forcing U.S. taxpayer dollars to fund abortions in foreign countries, a policy that is opposed by 77 percent of Americans, Democrats and Republicans. And he signaled that he will rescind the Title X protecting Individuals with Down Syndrome Act to safeguard babies with a prenatal diagnosis of Down Syndrome.

Thankfully, more pro-life leaders, activists, and legislators are rising up to defend the unborn across our country. In Kansas, over the last couple of weeks, our State legislature has passed a resolution that puts a Kansas constitutional amendment on the ballot next year to say with certainty that Kansas values the life of the mothers and the babies.

There is so much more work to be done, and I look forward to representing the many pro-life Kansans in Congress.

Madam Speaker, some Members are making their way over from our caucus, but I just want to say a couple of points before closing.

Years ago, a friend of mine by the name of Jean Garton, who was the head of Lutherans For Life, was preparing a speech, a lecture. In that lecture, she had a few slides of unborn children, just beautiful slides of that life before birth. But she also had a couple of slides that spoke truth to power. It was of what the abortion actually looks like, mangled bodies, dismembered children.

While she was preparing that talk, it was late into the evening. One of the children walked in, and out of the mouth of babes comes truth. That child said: Mommy, who broke the baby?

Abortion breaks babies. It hurts women, and we need a reappraisal in this Congress, in legislatures, where they are not supportive of the right to life.

As I said earlier, we will look back someday and say: How could we have allowed it, particularly in the age of ultrasound, where we speak so often of the importance of science?

Babies need help, growth, nutrition, and they certainly need protection legally from this assault on their lives.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening with a heavy heart. Like many Americans, I am saddened by the loss of millions of innocent and precious lives over the last 48 years since Roe v. Wade.

I know there are millions of pro-life Americans rising up to protect the unborn. Because of this, I am encouraged. I have hope. Over the last 4 years, we saw remarkable pro-life wins all across America. Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, and Alabama. These States acted to protect the most vulnerable among us. From both sides of the aisle, they passed heartbeat bills because they know life—every human life—matters.

Madam Speaker, when Roe v. Wade was passed, we didn't have 3D ultrasounds readily available. We didn't have readily accessible sonograms or the ability to provide lifesaving care to those whom we call miracle babies, children who are pre-born. One week ago, I held a child in my arms, in my hands, who was born at 23 weeks, 1 pound, 8 ounces. She is a miracle baby. America didn't know that pre-born children could feel pain as early as 21 weeks. We now have videos of babies in the womb clapping as their mother sings to them.

Sadly, not all States have seen the light. Back home in Colorado, we are one of only seven States that allows full-term abortion in America. We have to do better than this.

The CDC states that, in 2017, 674,000 Americans died from heart disease, making it the leading cause of death in America. That is not true. The leading cause of death in 2017, in the United States, was abortion, killing 862,000 precious babies. This is not a tragedy; it is an atrocity.

Madam Speaker, I am the mother of four children—four wonderful boys, who I am so proud to be men. I am raising my boys to love America, to love people, and to always do their best. I have been in the doctor's office, and I have seen my baby boys talking and turning in my womb. They are my children. They are made in God's image, in His likeness. They have a God-given purpose and a plan by their Creator who knows them intimately and deeply and loves them, who has a plan, a future, and a desired outcome for their lives. It is my reverence according to God's bent. Before they had taken their first breath, God knew them, and I was blessed to carry them.

Madam Speaker, I have seen women make the choice. I have a waitress in a very questionable situation. Her name is Jasmine Higgs, and her baby boy is Darius. He is alive today because, glory to God, she chose his life.

She said that his life is worth any of the consequences that may come against her.

Madam Speaker, today, with this rise, I encourage my colleagues to be hopeful because a culture that celebrates life is on the rise in America, and I am committed to working with pro-life patriots all across the country until we end the horror of abortion.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) for that very poignant defense of life and the passionate and beautiful story of life.

Madam Speaker, we know that Dr. JOHN JOYCE is on his way. Congressman JOYCE should be here momentarily.

Madam Speaker, I just want to point out one final thing. I just want to point out to my colleagues that we know that this is a difficult time for the pro-life movement in this House. I have been here when we have had majorities and when we have had minorities. Because what we think are our votes, we probably are in the minority right now. But I have to tell you, Madam Speaker, that any victory that results in more child deaths is a Pyrrhic victory. It is no victory at all. These children deserve our respect and our love, and the mothers as well, not the violence of abortion.

I would point out, too, that we do face these enormous challenges. I have been in the movement for 48 years. So I can say this with a sense of knowing the people who make up the pro-life movement. We love those who disagree with us. We respect even those with whom we fundamentally disagree, even when it is not reciprocated.

It is all about respect from womb to tomb and for each other. So as the debates heat up and as we go through this session of Congress, we will, with respect, hear you. We disagree fundamentally because we do believe that it is a truth and a fact that these children are deserving of respect. So I want you to know, Madam Speaker, this will be a very rough couple of years for the pro-life movement in this House.

It has happened before. I was here when Bill Clinton had majorities in both Houses and when Barack Obama had majorities in both Houses. But we will persevere and we will never quit because these children's lives are worth it.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN), who is a member of the Agriculture Committee and the Education and Labor Committee.

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman SMITH for his work on this important and, I think, important and outstanding and excellent opportunity to elevate his hosting this opportunity to lift up the sanctity of life. I think there would be no debate that every life is precious and worthy of dignity and respect.

Jeremiah 1:5 says: "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you." I will repeat that. That is from the Holy Scriptures. "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you."
The right to life should not be a political debate. We should uphold the value and dignity of life, even those who are defenseless and not with us yet. This January marked the 48th anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court ruling on the case of Roe v. Wade that made abortion available throughout pregnancy for nearly any reason. Since that tragic ruling, over 62 million innocent babies have been aborted. In the year following Roe v. Wade, one in every three abortions in the U.S. were funded via taxpayer funds. Again, from the Scriptures, Daniel, one of the great prophets, would not have passed this on to his children, probably would have gone to jail on that basis.

Congress made changes so that taxpayer-funded abortions were prohibited in spending bills, but the Democrats are now placing the long bipartisan Hyde amendment on the chopping block while President Biden rescinds important pro-life protections, like the Mexico City policy, which allows taxpayer dollars to go toward promoting abortion abroad. We are not only doing it here, we are doing this to the rest of the world.

As a father of four and a grandfather of 14, I feel very passionately about protecting unborn babies. Any and all measures that take steps to ensure the life of an unborn child will have my complete support, and I will adamantly oppose any that promote or defend the abortion practice.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his statement.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE), who is a member of the Homeland Security Committee and the Small Business Committee.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER), Madam Speaker, since the Supreme Court wrongly decided Roe v. Wade 48 years ago, we have lost 62 million lives to abortion. Any loss of life to abortion is not only heartbreakingly preventable, it is completely unacceptable in our modern society.

This pin, I always wear on my collar. These two little feet represent the exact size and shape of a baby’s feet 10 weeks after conception. Every day, as I put this pin on my collar, I reflect on the millions of lives lost and the innovations, ideas, and improvements that were lost to our world. If anything else was extinguishing life on the same scale as abortion, every American would be up in arms fighting to right that wrong.

Why is the sanctity of life any different? As Members of Congress, if we are not willing to fight for life, then what are we willing to fight for?

The Lord has blessed me with two children and two grandchildren. Every individual can attest to the indescribable feeling of joy meeting a newborn for the first time and holding that child. Our Creator has a plan for every single one of us, and I will work tirelessly to ensure every life has the chance to realize its full potential.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend for his comments and for his leadership.

Madam Speaker, one of my friends now for quite some time has been the niece of the late Dr. Martin Luther King. Alveda King is her name. Dr. King used to be pro-choice. Very strongly so. She actually had two abortions. Then she became pro-life. And she has become passionately pro-life not just for the babies, but maybe even more so for the women.

She has said: "How can the dream of my uncle, Martin Luther King, survive if we murder the children? She speaks and reaches out to women who are post-abortive with such compassion, as do so many organizations and women; to women who have the abortions, to help them, to love them, and to care for them.

Alveda King is an example to be followed. Like her uncle and his bold and tremendous civil rights leadership, she argues—again, she is the niece of Dr. King—that this is the new civil rights movement and we need to protect and provide legal protection for these innocent unborn babies."

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), Mr. BABBIN is a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Science, Space, and Technology Committee. Dr. BABIN is the sponsor of H.R. 28, Protecting Life in Crisis Act.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, we really appreciate Representative SMITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solemn memory of the 62 million innocent lives who have been aborted since the tragic ruling on Roe v. Wade. Tellingly, earlier this week, as my wife of 48 years and I welcomed our 17th grandchild into the world, I was reminded of just how precious life really is.

Unfortunately, the Biden administration has already shown a blatant disregard for the word of our Nation. The President has promoted abortion at home and abroad by reversing the Mexico City policy and by taking the first steps in rescinding a protect life rule known as Hyde.

Although the fight for life will be an uphill battle under this particular administration, we will never give up. Life is just too important. In our Declaration of Independence, it is written that we have the right to life. That is the first of the inalienable rights that we are granted, the right to life. And although the fight for life will be tough this administration, we will resolve ourselves to continue this battle.

At a time when Americans are so deeply divided in our Nation, I pray to our Good Lord above that we unite in the belief that life is precious and it should be defended at all costs. May we be the generation that will see Roe v. Wade overturned.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.
economic devastation that we have seen in so many of our communities?
But some of the other side is where we have seen around the country, even with the headwinds of the pandemic, where are we seeing the economy moving in the right direction? Where are we seeing communities that have, we used to use the term, green shoots. That is sort of overused anymore.
And there is also a substantial difference from what we see in some of the coastal economies to much of the rest of the Nation.
I am blessed to represent the Scottsdale, Phoenix, Carefree, Cave Creek, Fountain Hills area, so Phoenix and some of its suburbs. And we have some folks that have just been crushed, whether they be in the hospitality business and tourism-related businesses, some of the restaurants.
But yet, we have been shocked at also how healthy our economy has been because of the diversity of these very same people finding other ways to survive. And that is actually one of the secondary things we want to try to talk about this evening, is, as the Democrats who run this place, they are in charge, will they actually be creative, they be forward-thinking enough to say, as we are looking at tax policy, where we are going to do stimulus policy, regulatory policy, are we building it for what the future of the economy looks like, for the future of the country, and will it be designed to actually help all Americans?
So some simple examples, and I am going to then use some of the display boards. We know there is already $1 trillion sitting in bank accounts at the Treasury right now that are supposed to be helping schools, States, others who are in need right now. And instead, today, we spent all day debating $1.9 trillion of new spending over the next year. Instead of saying, hey, there is $1 trillion sitting in these accounts. What can we do to help the Biden administration get it out the door, get it to those schools, to healthcare workers, to the places that are already designated?
That is part of the problem around this place is we engage sort of in the theatrics, but the really assisting and providing the management to actually get to where the need is, that is secondary because, in some ways, that doesn’t give you the same opportunity.
So a couple of things I wanted to walk through is, if I come to you and tell you there is $1 trillion already sitting in accounts right now—it turns out, CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, just did some projections, and we want this better. But this is as if the additional $1.9 trillion of spending were not to happen; we would just stay where we are at with the dollars that are already appropriated, with the budget that is already sort of modeled out.
If you actually look here, 2020, miserable fall in the size of our economy.
But our projections are functionally, by the end of the year, we expect growth to actually be substantially positive. We are looking at a year with just under 4 percent GDP growth. That is terrific. I would like to see it more, and, more importantly, we would actually target some of the resources, instead of doing what is often referred to around here as a peanut butter spread, where we are going to spend lots of money so we make sure we don’t annoy any constituent groups; or particularly let’s put money where you know, we made these public employee unions happy. We made this group happy.
I think this needs to be less about making our politics happy and making this line go up even further. And that is actually what, if we would actually draft the legislation, I think you would see Republicans line up with Democrats and probably, not for $1.9 trillion but almost for $3 trillion of new spending. But there are some real opportunities to make this GDP growth substantially, substantially better.
As we sort of walk through some of the ideas that I want to promote, and I am trying to find some of my friends on the other side, particularly the Joint Economic Committee Democrats and some of the Ways and Means Democrats, there is something very special going on, and we need to seize this as an opportunity.
In a time that has been so difficult for so many small businesses in America, small entrepreneurs, microentrepreneurs, something has happened. Do you know this last year was the biggest year ever in this country for people starting new little businesses? Filings for new LLCs, just starting new businesses. And you can see it here in the chart.
That is a pretty big spike when you consider 2019 was one of the greatest economic expansion years in modern history. 2018, 2019 were remarkable years economically, and yet, 2020, in the middle of such difficulties, we are seeing people becoming entrepreneurial, taking risks.
If we are going to work on public policy, where we want to build a more egalitarian, a more robust economy next year, this year, future years, how about a conversation where we get the Democrats to actually talk to us as Republicans, instead of just run us over policy-wise. How do you provide access to capital to some of these microbusinesses, these businesses that are being started in people’s back bedrooms?
How do you actually provide them a cleaner path through the regulatory body, the license that is that intimidating?
Are we willing to be creative enough that, if you are poor and you happen to be willing to start a microbusiness and you live in public housing, you are actually allowed to run that business in the public housing, instead of being threatened with losing your lease?
If you actually care about people, this is the time we say there is some-thing going on in our society and our economy; is this one of the great disruptions a lot of the economists have been talking about, that when we have gone through this upheaval of this last year, what the future is going to look like?
And does Congress actually provide assistance in a way that makes this economic change happen in a positive way? Or do we do what we are seeing in today’s budget document, which was functionally, $1.9 trillion, and most of it going to fund the stimulus economics, States and municipalities, where the numbers were stunningly out of whack? Or are we functionally funding the last decade’s economy and not moving to the future economy?
Now, I can try to explain this. If you will take a look at the bottom chart here—I put two charts on one board—you will actually see spending per government job lost. And the only point I am trying to make with this board is there about $350 billion set aside in the Democrats’ budget reconciliation bill.
There have been about 350,000 jobs lost in the government sector. But let’s first just do it by States. If that money were used for States, that is $1 million a job. If it is all of them, it is still $350,000 a job.
This is actually how—if you actually care, here is the problem, here is the math of how much money is in that that you start to realize something is not lining up. And I desperately hope we can actually have an intellectually honest conversation saying, you want to help States and municipalities? We know from the Census Bureau—and it was as of the end of the third quarter because that is the last number we had—State revenues were up. State and local revenues were up over 17 percent last year, which is remarkable to think about, because it is unlike everything we have been told.
Yes, there are municipalities around this country where their revenues have been crushed. They are also the very municipalities that have been most aggressive in their shutdowns. Maybe those places we need to look at and figure out how we help them.
But the math is the math, and State and local revenues are up, if you take the entire country, they are up rather dramatically.
The top part is part of the argument of targeting. If you are going to have impact in the country while spending lots of money, do you spend it in a way where you actually put the money in places that—let’s be honest—don’t need it? Or do you put the money to those who are actually worthy?
And we can actually tell, because we can see it just in the aggregate. This is actually about commercial bank deposits, and this is telling us big businesses that got access to capital, wealthier people that actually got certain types of stimulus; stunning, stunning, stunning rise of cash sitting in banks right now.
Did the Democrats actually intend to hand these same people that much more money?

So part of what we are arguing for is, please, could we actually take a step back and understand the data? It is not slowing things down. It is actually not sticking to the very pockets that actually don’t need it.

The brutal political part is the folks that actually have these huge deposits, they are also the ones that often finance those campaigns.

So let’s actually walk through—and this one is a little tougher, and I probably will do more on the floor on it in the future because I want to go into some depth—$15 minimum wage. Okay. I am one of those who genuinely, desperately wants to find ways to help the working poor.

Understand what was accomplished in 2018 and 2019. There seems to be this fear of actually acknowledging that there was an economic miracle going on. It just rise of wealth and income for the working poor in modern history. It was the first, not one, but 2 years in modern economic history where income inequality in this country actually shrank.

If you saw someone end up with a society that becomes dangerously fractured as income inequality splits and splits and splits apart, there should have been joy in this body in 2018 and 2019 when that very income inequality shrank.

The left can make whatever reason, excuse needed to at least acknowledge it happened. The working poor’s wages went up dramatically.

Nutrition, if you care about hunger, it was the first time in modern years where, what do they call it, food fragility, food stress, actually shrank. These are good things. Maybe we need to take a step back and say what did we do for 2018? What did we do, as a body, for 2019 that created such prosperity, where revenues—so tax receipts is the thing to call it, ways and means, tax receipts actually went up?

If you actually did inflation-adjusted dollars, I think we had the number two and number three best years in U.S. history post-tax reform.

We need to have an honest dialogue, and I know this is really difficult for the left. There are things for us on the right that are really difficult. But the fact of the matter is; whether things have changed in regulation; whether it is the things that changed in our tax code, whether it was the adoption of technology, there were lots of things moving in those couple of years there. But the fact of the matter is, U.S. society got much healthier, and not at cost to the Treasury.

If the truth here is that we care about where we are growing economically, that we care about the economic stress, we really care about the working poor, a $1.9 trillion spending stimulus while ignoring the fact that we had a couple of years where we actually had success in shrinking income inequality, maybe we need to understand what we did there and do more of it.

There is a reality here. If you want the working poor to have a better life, we can raise their wages to $15 an hour. But there is some more time on a couple of these boards in the near future to try to understand: Do you do what happened in 2018 and 2019, where what we saw is wages, almost everywhere in the country moved functionally above the minimum wage because of the scarcity of labor? Labor became valuable.

There is also another controversial subject we are going to have to have an ongoing discussion on: immigration issues in regard to the importation of low-skilled labor. It was somewhat restricted in that time. Competition for labor shrank; therefore, the value of that labor went up.

There is a foundation of a robust economy, a tax code that is working, earned income tax credit, and things of that nature being expanded, and also not flooding the market with others who aren’t getting spent. It functionally went to make people’s bank accounts more robust. When you went down, the money was really getting spent. It wasn’t going into populations that aren’t going to spend it because you don’t get any multiplier in the economy. Lots of good data exist on this, and you saw it in a previous chart when you saw how much is just sitting in bank accounts right now.

Back to trying to make a point. This indicates income by households. I want to make sure I say this the right way. If you take a look at what I often refer to as sort of the miracle of 2018 and 2019, income for the working poor populations were in the lower percentiles. All of a sudden, their curve was much steeper than those who had typically benefited.

There is a series of data like this that we will show you, if you care about the working poor, that mimic what the Republicans accomplished in the tax reform and in the regulatory reform. If you are on the left, put it under a different name. But the fact of the matter is, the data is the data. There were some really wonderful things happening for the poor and the working poor in this country.

Instead of going through the next couple of boards, I will save those for when we do a concentrated conversation.

Madam Speaker, in sort of building a closing here, it has been a crappy month, a lot of challenges in Congress. We have gone through something I really thought I would never see.

But I always thought, even outside, when many of us are standing in front of microphones and being a bit hyperbolic, whether that day voters will actually hear our words is when we tell stories because math is too difficult, there have always been those moments in the back—or the joy of being in the Ways and Means Committee where we share a common back room, unlike so many other committees where you go off separately.

In this time of COVID, we don’t have those conversations right now. We don’t hear each other’s arguments and, hopefully, build policy that is good for the country.

What we saw on the floor earlier today, I think, is somewhat shameful, a $1.9 trillion budget box, which is designed basically to be able to run through the process, get through the Senate with 51 votes, we don’t have to negotiate with any Republicans.

But what was also sort of heart-breaking is so many of the things that were said just weren’t true. They weren’t mathematically true. They weren’t policy true. They weren’t historically true.

The Speaker got up and said, I think, 83 percent of the benefits of tax reform went to the top 1 percent. That just isn’t true. We have lots of papers and other things that say it isn’t. I am sure the smart people around her know it is not true. But around here, if you say something enough times, it becomes part of, sort of, congressional folklore. To be correct, it turns out 20 percent of the benefits went to the top 1 percent, but they pay just a stunning percentage of Federal income tax.

How do we ever build policy, particularly for economic growth, for opportunity for everyone, and build a much more, shall we say, fair and egalitarian society when in the debates we have, so much of the discussion is make-believe? The math isn’t true. Yet, if we say it enough times, you will hear it repeated over and over. I will argue that is where a lot of the crisis is around here.

My family joke that Daddy works in a place that is a math-free zone was meant to be funny. It wasn’t supposed to be true. The problem is, it is true.

How do you make public policy in times of difficulty, when you want to have an economic future that is good for everyone, but when so much of the debate has so little to do with the truth?
Democrat colleagues on finding the things that look like they work and do more of it.

I desperately hope we can find some Democrats who are less bathin in partisan rage, or whatever the proper term would be, and are willing to look at the math. Some good for all, good for the country, good for someone like myself who has a 5-year-old. I want her future to be amazing.

I truly believe our society is at the moment of an economic disruption that, if we can get our policy right, the next couple of years can be pretty darn amazing. The next decade could be just awesome. But right now, our regulatory policy and our reimbursement policies aren’t there.

How do we get the conversation to move back to things that will make this future amazing instead of just burying my 5-year-old daughter in more debt?

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

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported that on January 21, 2021, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill:

R.R. 35. To provide for an exception to a limitation against appointment of persons as Secretary of Defense within seven years of retirement of Lieutenant General Eric P. West, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general through March 1, 2021; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-110. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter to report violations of the Antidiscrimination Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; Public Law 116-92; to the Committee on Appropriations.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 7 o’clock and 9 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, February 4, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

RULES AND REPORTS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(d), executive communications [final rules] submitted to the House pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1) during the period of August 21, 2020, through January 3, 2021, shall be treated as though received on February 3, 2021. Original dates of transmittal, numbers, and referrals to committee of those executive communications remain as indicated in the Executive Communication section of the relevant CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC-110. A letter from the Under Secretary, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter to report violations of the Antidiscrimination Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1351; Public Law 116-92; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-111. A letter from the Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, concerning final rule — T-1353: Amendment to the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Eric P. West, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general through 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-112. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter to report violations of the Antidiscrimination Act, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2366(c)(1); to the Committee on Armed Services.


EC-115. A letter from the Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting a letter to report violations of the Antidiscrimination Act, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2366(c)(1); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-116. A letter from the Director, Office of Worker’s Compensation Programs, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department’s Annual Report to Congress on the FY 2019 operations of the Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs, pursuant to 30 U.S.C. 84(c) and (d); (101 Stat. 1513, Sec. 426(b) (as amended by Public Law 105-275); (116 Stat. 2061); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-117. A letter from the Compliance Specialist, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department’s Major final rule — Independent Contractor Status Under the Fair Labor Standards Act [Docket No.: EC-117] (RIN: 1235-AQ45) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

EC-118. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a letter to report violations of the Antidiscrimination Act, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1320d-5(d); Aug. 14, 1995, ch. 531, Sec. 1135(d) (as added by Public Law 107-188, Sec. 143(a)); (116 Stat. 628); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-119. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation Co-ordinator, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a letter to report violations of the Antidiscrimination Act, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1320d-5(d); Aug. 14, 1995, ch. 531, Sec. 1135(d) (as added by Public Law 107-188, Sec. 143(a)); (116 Stat. 628); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.


EC-121. A letter from the Assistant Legal Advisor, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112(h); Public Law 92-403, Sec. 1(a) (as amended by Public Law 94-444); (110 Stat. 3807); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-122. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s Inspector General Semiannual Report to Congress for the period April 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020, pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC-123. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s Major final regulations — Denial of Deduction for Certain Fines, Penalties, and Other Amounts; Related Information Reporting Requirement, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 6011; (116 Stat. 2061); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-124. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s Major final rule — Guidance Under Section 1061 (TD 9945) (RIN: 1545-BO81) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-125. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service’s Major final rule — Credit for Carbon Oxide Sequestration, pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 48(a)(1); (116 Stat. 2061); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-128. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report entitled, “Medicare National Coverage Determinations; Year 2019” pursuant to section 1885(f)(7); Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, section XVIII, Sec. 1869(f)(7) (as amended by Public Law 106-554, Sec. 1(a)(6)); (114 Stat. 2764A; Joint Committee on the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

EC-129. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Contract Year 2022 Policy and Technical Changes to the Medicare Advantage Program, Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit Program, Medicaid Program, Medicare Cost Plan Program, and Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (CMS-4190-F2) (RIN: 0938-AT97) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); joint to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. MCCARTHY, for the Committee on Rules, House Resolution 91. Resolution providing for consideration of the Resolution (H. Res. 72) removing a certain Member from certain committees.

Ms. BROWNLEY, for herself, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MALINOWSKI of New Jersey, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 741. A bill to support the sustainable aviation fuel market, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Armed Services, Defense, Small Business, and Technology, and Ways and Means, for a period subsequent to the House in the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUD (for himself and Mr. HARKNS):

H.R. 742. A bill to require short-term limited duration insurance issuers to renew or continue in force such insurance coverage at the option of the enrollee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CALVERT:

H.R. 743. A bill to direct the United States Postal Service to place within ZIP Code 92880 any area of Eastvale, California, that is not within such ZIP Code, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LOWE, Ms. MILLEY of Wisconsin, Mr. GRUJALVA, Ms. MORELLE, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WELCH, Mr. TONKO, Ms. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. KILMER of Connecticut, Mr. MINEAR, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. PORTER, Ms. SHRES, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mrs. DINGELL, and Ms. JATAPAL):

H.R. 744. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to revise the policy of the Agency to address the threats of climate change, to include considerations of climate change in the strategic plan of the Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. SAN NICOLAS):

H.R. 745. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to include credit scores with free annual credit reports provided to consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. DAVIDSON (for himself, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. BUD, and Mr. HERN):

H.R. 746. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to secure medical opinions and make determinations for veterans with service-connected disabilities who die from COVID-19 to determine whether their service-connected disabilities were the primary or contributory cause of death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Ms. DEGETTE (for herself and Mr. BUSHNELL):

H.R. 747. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for acquiring equipment and supplies capable of performing same-day clinical laboratory testing in a point-of-care setting, and to assist laboratories in meeting the cost of acquiring testing equipment and supplies for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. HAYES, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 748. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to require the safe storage of firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DelBENE (for herself and Mr. JOYCE):

H.R. 749. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the 50 percent limitation on the deduction for meal expenditures does not apply to provisions of certain fishing boats or at certain fish processing facilities; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART (for himself, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. DEutch, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida):

H.R. 750. A bill to establish the Federal Clearinghouse on School Safety Best Practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DIXON of Alabama (for himself, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. WEVER of Texas, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. BALDRESON, Mr. RIECHTALKER, Mr. HOGINS of Louisiana, Ms. CHISHOLM, Mr. MANN, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. BACHUSS of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROS, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. GIRRS, Mr. WOOMACK, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. FEGERSON, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. HERRICK, Mr. CATTORN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. KELLER, Mr. CAR, Mr. EMMER, Mr. VALADAO, Mrs. BOBERDT, Mr. and Mrs. GALLOWAY):

H.R. 751. A bill to prohibit a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 752. A bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require Federal political appointees to sign a binding ethics pledge, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 753. A bill to prohibit congressional recesses until Congress enacts a balanced budget resolution on the budget that results in a balanced Federal budget by the last fiscal year covered by such resolution, to establish a budget on individually, to Executive Schedule positions and Members of Congress engaging in lobbying activities at the Federal level, to terminate further retirement coverage for Members of Congress under the Federal Employee Retirement System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, Rules, Oversight and Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. BOBERT, Mr. GARTZ, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. MOONEY, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama):

H.R. 754. A bill to prevent States and local jurisdictions from interfering with services held at houses of worship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia (for himself, Mr. BANKS, Mrs. BOBERT, Mr. GARTZ, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama):

H.R. 755. A bill to amend the Federal Secu- rity Act to require a certification that States and units of local governments will not impact the operations of a small business concern to receive funds from the Coronavirus Relief Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. POSEY, and Mrs. LIRSKO):

H.R. 756. A bill to restrict certain Federal assistance benefits received to be citizens of the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. STEFANIC, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. CLINE, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. POSEY, Mr. WEVER of Texas, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mrs. BOBERT, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. BARD, and Mrs. RICE of Oklahoma):
H.R. 758. A bill to limit the availability of COVID-19 vaccines for certain individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:
H.R. 759. A bill to modify the treatment of Federal custody by reason of their immigration status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:
H.R. 760. A bill to amend the Wilderness Act to authorize U.S. Customs and Border Protection to perform certain activities to secure the international land borders of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provision as may be within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KATKO (for himself and Mr. KEATING):
H.R. 761. A bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to provide that the supplemental security income benefits of adults with disabilities, if such disabilities shall not be reduced by reason of marriage, to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. JONES, Ms. KEATING, Mr. KRANICH, Mr. LIEU, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MENO, Mr. NERAL, Ms. PAPPAS, Ms. PORTER, Mr. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SUCOZI, and Mr. VARAS):
H.R. 763. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to include a child in the national clearinghouse for information relating to child abuse and neglect; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. LEE of Nevada (for herself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. GALLEGOS, Mr. GELALVA, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. HAYES, Mr. Himes, Ms. PORTER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MOORE of Virginia, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NAPOLI-TANO, Ms. OMAAR, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SHERRIES, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. TTUS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, and Ms. VELAZQUEZ):

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LUFTKREMEYER, and Ms. SPEIER):
H.R. 766. A bill to require directors of medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit annual fact sheets to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the status of such facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BARR, Mr. POSEY, Mr. BARK, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. HILL, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. BUDI, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. ROSE, Mr. STEHL, and Mrs. WAGNER):
H.R. 768. A bill to require the Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies to take risk-based models of institutions into account when taking regulatory actions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York (for himself, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. JEFFPRES, Mr. NADLER, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. ESFAVALL, Mr. CAROLYN L. MALONEY of New York, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. DELGAIDO):
H.R. 767. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 40 Fulton Street in Middletown, New York, as the "Benjamin A. Gilman Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Ms. DINGELL):
H.R. 768. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify the process for registrants to exercise due diligence upon discovering a suspicious order, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as may be within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. BERNSTEIN, Mr. COLE, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. O’HALLERAN, and Ms. HINSON):
H.R. 769. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve obstetric care in rural areas; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 770. A bill to establish the United States Commission on an Open Society with jurisdiction over Transporation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as may be within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PANETTA (for himself, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. SUCOZI, Mr. CHOW, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida):
H.R. 771. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide funding for State strike teams for resident and employee safety in skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself, Mr. HAGEDORN, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. MCCULLUM, Ms. OMAAR, Mr. EMMER, Mrs. FRICBACH, and Mr. STAUBER):
H.R. 772. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, as the "Jim Ramstad Post Office"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Ms. SCHACHTER, Mr. BARRAGAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. KILDER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DOUGGETT, Mr. TRONE, Mr. CARDELLINO, Mr. RYUS, Mr. POYAN, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. NAPOLETANO, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. SPANBERGER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. NEUSE, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. MCCOLLUM of California, Mr. TONKO, Ms. OMAR, Mr. CARSON, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. JONES, Ms. MENG, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. CHOW, and Mr. LEVIN of California):
H.R. 773. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to provide a 1-year waiting period before medical debt will be reported on a consumer's credit report and to remove paid-off and settled medical debts from credit reports that have been fully paid or settled, to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to provide a timetable for verification of medical debt and to increase the efficiency of credit markets with more perfect information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself, Ms. STEFANIC of California, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. SARBAZ):
H.R. 774. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require certain tax-exempt organizations to include on annual returns the names and addresses of substantial contributors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. SCANLON (for herself, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Ms. ESCOBAR):
H.R. 775. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to promote access to voter registration and voting for individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. SCANLON (for herself, San NICOLAS, and Ms. NORTON):
H.R. 777. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the intimidation of election officials and poll workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DINGELL, Mr. CARSON, Mr. JONES, Mr. BROWN, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. TAKANO):
H.R. 778. A bill to authorize the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to award grants to eligible State, Tribal, and territorial public health agencies to develop and administer a program for digital contact tracing for COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TRONE (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. MOORE, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER):
H.R. 779. A bill to provide for a Federal partnership to ensure educational equity and opportunity; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:
H.R. 780. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the continued implementation of the Climate and Health program by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. VAN DREW:
H.R. 781. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the provision of cable service and telephone service to charge veterans' organizations residential rates for
such services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. VARGAS (for himself, Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. foster, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. MEeks, Ms. VElAZQUEz, Mr. CARHajal, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. NAPOLITano, Mr. BLumenauer, Mr. JONES, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. VICENTE GONzALEZ of Texas, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. ROYAL-ALLARD, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. OCASIO-CorteZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. Vela, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. WatsoN Coleman, Ms. BROWNley, Mr. SAN NIColAs, Mr. SOTO, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. LIe of CaliFornia, and Ms. CHUI):

H. R. 782. A bill to clarify that eligibility of certain mortgages with Federal credit enhancement shall not be conditioned on the status of a mortgagor as a DACA recipient if all other eligibility criteria are satisfied, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. LABAR of Washington):

H. R. 783. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. YOUNG:

H. R. 784. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to allow infant food combinations and dinners as WIC-eligible foods; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Mr. BLumenauer, Ms. BonamiCi, Mr. BowmAn, Mr. CASTen, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. HASTINGs, Mr. JONES, Mr. KaeHele, Ms. LIe of CaliFornia, Mr. McGOvERN, Mr. Moulton, Ms. OCASIO-CorteZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. ShakerskY, Ms. TLAIB, and Mrs. TRahan):

H. J. Res. 23. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right to vote to citizens sixteen years of age or older; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H. Res. 92. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KAPTuR:

H. Res. 93. A resolution calling for the establishment of a new unit of the National Institutes of Health, to be known as the National Institute of Viral Diseases, to increase research in the field of viral disease causes, prevention, and treatment; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOONEY (for himself, Mr. DunCan, Mr. LambORn, Mr. CLINe, Mr. Norman, Mr. StrueHe, Mr. GroTHman, and Mr. HICK of Georgia):

H. Res. 94. A resolution protecting religious freedom in America; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DeSAULNiER introduced a bill (H. R. 785) for the relief of Maria Isabel Buego Barrera, Alberto Buego Mendoza, and Karla Maria Barrera De Bueso, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H. R. 740. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. BROWNLEY:

H. R. 741. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 and Amendment XVI

By Mr. BUDD:

H. R. 742. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. CALVERt:

H. R. 743. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H. R. 744. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. COHEN:

H. R. 745. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. DAVIDSON:

H. R. 746. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 Clause 18 To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vest ed by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. DEEGEtTE:

H. R. 747. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. DeLAURO:

H. R. 748. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1

By Ms. DeLBENE:

H. R. 749. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART:

H. R. 750. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. DUNCAN:

H. R. 751. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H. R. 752. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H. R. 753. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protects the right of all Americans to gather in worship. The jurisdiction of Congress in governance of the federal judiciary is contemplated in Article I, Section 8, "... To constitute Tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court;" and Article III, Section 1, "The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish."

By Mr. GOOD of Virginia:

H. R. 754. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Ninth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution maintains that the American people's rights are not limited to those clearly enumerated in the Bill of Rights: "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."

Congressional jurisdiction is established throughout Article I, Section 8, which contemplates Congress's authority, "... To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes;...

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H. R. 756. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. HERRREll:

H. R. 757. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. HINSON:

H. R. 758. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:

H. R. 759. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:

H. R. 760. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. KATKO:

H. R. 761. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI:
H.R. 762.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. KUSTER:
H.R. 763.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, the Taxing and Spending Clause: “The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States . . .”

By Mrs. LEE of Nevada:
H.R. 764.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 1 provides Congress with the power to “lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises” in order to “provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States.”

By Mrs. LESKO:
H.R. 765.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Articulate I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, the Taxing and Spending Clause: “The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States . . .”

By Mr. LOUDERMILK:
H.R. 766.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:
H.R. 767.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MCKINLEY:
H.R. 768.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:
H.R. 769.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article One, Section 8, United State Constitution

By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 770.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PANETTA:
H.R. 771.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 18

By Mr. PHILLIPS:
H.R. 772.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution provides Congress with the power to establish Post Offices.

By Ms. PORTER:
H.R. 773.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:
H.R. 774.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, reads, “The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States:

By Ms. SCANLON:
H.R. 775.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII.

By Ms. SCANLON:
H.R. 776.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII.

By Ms. SPEIER:
H.R. 777.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TRONE:
H.R. 779.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:
H.R. 780.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. VAN DREW:
H.R. 781.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Id. art. I, § 8, cl. 3. Congress is enumerated the power to regulate commerce. This bill regulates how telecommunications company may set commercial service billing rates for a Veteran’s Service Organizations.

By Mr. VARGAS:
H.R. 782.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
(1) To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes, as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution; (2) To make all laws necessary and proper for executing powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. YOUNG:
H.R. 783.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mr. YOUNG:
H.R. 784.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2.

By Mr. DeSAULNIER:
H.R. 785.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8.

By Ms. MENG:
H.J. Res. 23.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 24: Mr. ESTRS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. BARN.
H.R. 28: Ms. VAN DUVY.
H.R. 40: Mr. CARDENAS.
H.R. 56: Mr. VARGAS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. HORSFORD, and Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 79: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 82: Mr. SARBANES and Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 151: Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, and Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 173: Mr. VELA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. SAN NICOLAS.
H.R. 218: Ms. VAN DUVY, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. LALMALFA, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri.
H.R. 246: Mr. CLENT.
H.R. 263: Mr. COOPER, Ms. SPANBROOK, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. TURNER, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. LER of California, and Mr. CONN.
H.R. 275: Ms. HARRSBARGER, Ms. VAN DUVY, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.
H.R. 280: Mr. BILIAKES and Mr. MOONEY.
H.R. 304: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 310: Mrs. HARTZLER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COMER, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, and Mr. LAMB.
H.R. 322: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.
H.R. 369: Mr. MRVAN and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 378: Mr. HICE of Georgia.
H.R. 377: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H.R. 378: Mr. JACOBS of New York.
H.R. 380: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 392: Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 393: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 446: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 472: Mr. CLINE and Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 498: Ms. CHENY, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BENZTZ, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 499: Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 507: Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. STEHLE, Mr. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. BARD.
H.R. 506: Mr. BROOKS.
H.R. 510: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 512: Mr. GRUMET, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H.R. 521: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 532: Mr. ROSE, Mrs. MILLER-MEERS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KELLER, and Mr. McCaul.
H.R. 533: Mr. RUZ.
H.R. 537: Mr. SABLIN.
H.R. 541: Mr. VAN DUVY.
H.R. 543: Mr. BENZT.
H.R. 552: Mr. KELLER.
H.R. 558: Mr. GUEST.
H.R. 564: Mr. LYNCH and Mr. WEXTON.
H.R. 567: Mr. KRAATING and Mr. SALAZAR.
H.R. 574: Mr. CHU.
H.R. 575: Mrs. PINGREE.
H.R. 582: Mr. BARN and Mr. GOHMERT.
H.R. 588: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Mr. SHERRILL.
H.R. 596: Mr. BILIAKES.
H.R. 616: Ms. OMA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CARSON, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.
H.R. 622: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. BERA.
H.R. 635: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. SPEIER.
H.R. 637: Mr. MCEACHIN and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 669: Mr. SARBANES, Ms. OMA, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 682: Ms. VAN DUVY, Mr. RICK of South Carolina, Mr. McCaul, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FERGUSON, and Ms. MALLIAKIS.
H.R. 694: Mr. MCLINN, Mr. GIBBS, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. ROSE, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Ms. KATZELER, Mr. MURR of Alabama, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. PERRY, Mr. BACON, Mr. STIVERs, Mr. GUEST, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. DIAB-BALAT, Mr. RICK of South Carolina, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WENSTERUP, Mrs. McClaN, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 693: Mr. Case.
H.R. 695: Mr. Cole, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Murphy of Florida, Mr. Harder of California, Mr. Ruiz, Mr. Mann, and Mr. Balderston.
H.R. 707: Mr. Moore of Utah.
H.R. 708: Mr. Sarbanes.
H.R. 712: Mr. Fitzgerald.
H.R. 725: Mr. Perry.
H.R. 732: Mr. Hastings.
H.R. 738: Mrs. Bratton and Ms. Tlaib.
H.J. Res. 11: Mr. Cole, Mr. Rodney Davis of Illinois, Ms. Mace, and Mr. Smith of Nebraska.
H.J. Res. 19: Mr. Perry.
H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. Costa, Ms. Kuster, Mr. Cárdenas, Ms. Norton, Ms. DelBene, Mr. Kilmer, and Ms. Sherrill.
H. Res. 33: Mr. Desaulnier.
H. Res. 47: Miss Rice of New York, Ms. Craig, Mr. Smith of New Jersey, Mrs. Watson Coleman, and Mr. Evans.
H. Res. 52: Mrs. Lesko and Mr. LaMalfa.
H. Res. 71: Mr. Rutherford, Mr. McGovern, Mrs. Hartzler, Mr. Smith of Nebraska, Mr. Bentz, Mr. Cline, Mr. Jackson, Mrs. McClain, Mr. Thompson of California, and Mr. Valadao.
H. Res. 72: Mr. Mfume, Mr. Evans, Ms. Meng, Ms. Lee of California, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Brendan F. Boyle of Pennsylvania, Ms. Pingree, Mr. Schneider, Ms. Clarke of New York, Ms. Adams, Mr. Costa, Mrs. Bratton, Mr. Torres of New York, Mr. Huffman, Ms. Castor of Florida, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Carson, Mr. Payne, Mr. Blumenauer, and Mr. Connolly.
H. Res. 74: Mr. Costa, Ms. Kuster, Mr. Cárdenas, Ms. Norton, Ms. DelBene, and Ms. Sherrill.
H. Res. 81: Ms. Van Duyne, Mr. Hagedorn, Mr. Harris, Mr. Jacobs of New York, Mr. Joyce of Ohio, and Mr. Emmer.