

... it is critical to our national security."

Mr. Speaker, he should take his own advice.

#### APPLAUDING PRESIDENT TRUMP'S DECISIVE ACTION

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I applaud President Trump's decisive economic actions that have leveled the playing field between Hoosier businesses and the Chinese Communist Party.

The CCP has taken advantage of hardworking Hoosiers by engaging in currency manipulation, undermining our manufacturing sector, and buying American farmland in an attempt to control our agricultural future.

For too long the CCP has used the exchange rate of their currency as a dagger to be hidden under the cloak of what they describe as fair trade practices. They bought great American companies like Smithfield and masqueraded as a friendly neighborhood face, while silently gutting the already hemorrhaging mom-and-pop pork operations that are important to America's future and food supply.

To top it all off, they tried to deal a lethal blow to the third largest industry in my State by attempting to purchase Indiana steel mills. Enough is enough.

Trump has sent a clear message that America is finished with allowing the CCP to evade U.S. tariffs. Hoosiers don't want the CCP to control our farmland or our markets. It is time to change the unacceptable status quo that has taken hold and put America, not China, first.

#### SUPPORTING THE FARMERS OF EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my unwavering support for the hardworking farmers of eastern North Carolina who are facing enormous challenges.

Inflation continues to cast a shadow over our agriculture community with input costs such as seeds, fertilizer, and equipment. In our State, many farmers have experienced crop losses resulting from drought conditions and Hurricane Helene.

It is hard to catch a break as labor costs continue rising, making it increasingly difficult for farmers to maintain operations and livelihoods. We cannot overlook the well-known effects that tariffs have on our agriculture communities. They hurt farmers' bottom lines and limit market access.

Congress must pass a farm bill that meets the needs of farmers, consumers,

and rural communities. We must respond not just with our words but with deeds.

#### PROTECTING THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let's be clear about why we have the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. It is not some fancy agency. They just simply defend hardworking people. They are the consumers' watchdog.

Think about it. We have \$21 billion back in people's pockets who were cheated by big banks and corporations and \$360 million recovered for veterans who were the victims of fraud. Starting this year, Americans will save \$11 billion a year without bank overdraft fees.

Republicans are letting the President and Elon Musk burn it down. For what? For the banks? For large corporations? For their billionaire buddies? They don't get to pander to working people while doing the banks' dirty work.

We must protect the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. We must protect the consumer's watchdog. We must put people's pocketbooks over billionaires and their buddies.

#### CONGRATULATING SANTIAGO CANYON COLLEGE ON 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

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

Mrs. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Santiago Canyon College for 25 years of providing quality, affordable educational opportunities to students across southern California.

Santiago Canyon College in Orange, in my district, offers one of the largest community college adult education programs in California with over 60 career training certificates. From nurses and teachers to accountants and medical assistants, the top-notch apprenticeship programs at Santiago Canyon are helping students of all backgrounds learn the skills to get jobs and contribute to our communities.

I congratulate Santiago Canyon College President Jeannie Kim, faculty, staff, and students on this outstanding achievement. I can't wait to see what is ahead for the next 25 years.

Go Hawks.

#### SUPPORTING COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for the uninsured, the work-

ing poor, Medicaid recipients, and rural communities, healthcare is hard to find.

Yet, for 60 years, community health centers, or CHCs, have cared for people who would go otherwise unseen and untreated.

In Pennsylvania, that is more than 1 million people, including 280,000 children, nearly 140,000 seniors, almost 15,000 veterans, and about 14,000 agricultural workers, receiving affordable and comprehensive care. In my district, the community health centers and dental centers serve four sites in Barto, Boyertown, Norristown, and Pottstown.

Some of our most vulnerable, those with no health insurance, struggling with addiction or homelessness, have no hope. Importantly, CHC offers not just primary care but preventive care, a critical aspect of our healthcare system. Not only is it cost effective, it is compassionate in giving that hope.

In Pennsylvania, thousands of doctors, nurses, behavioral specialists, and more show up every day for those most in need. They are not in it for the money. They are in it for the love of neighbor.

#### PROTECTING CIVIL SERVANTS

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

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, not since Abraham Lincoln suspended habeas corpus at the height of the Civil War has a President defied the United States Supreme Court. Yet, Vice President VANCE has called for President Trump to fire every civil servant in the administrative State. When the courts stop you, Vice President VANCE said, go like Andrew Jackson did and say the Court has made its ruling, now try to enforce it.

Perhaps the Vice President doesn't know the history that Andrew Jackson's defiance of the Supreme Court led to the forcible removal of Native Americans and the Trail of Tears and shame for the country. It is black letter law.

Vice President VANCE should go back to Yale Law School where both of us studied. Article II has the President administering the law. Article III has the Courts saying what the law is. That has been the bipartisan consensus that even Richard Nixon understood. It is dangerous for him to call on the President to defy the Supreme Court.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair and refrain from engaging in personalities toward the Vice President.

#### AGENT RAUL GONZALEZ OFFICER SAFETY ACT

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 5, I call up the bill (H.R. 35) to impose criminal

and immigration penalties for intentionally fleeing a pursuing Federal officer while operating a motor vehicle, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 5, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 35

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as “Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act”.

#### SEC. 2. CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### “§ 40B. Evading arrest or detention while operating a motor vehicle

“(a) OFFENSE.—A person commits an offense under this section by operating a motor vehicle within 100 miles of the United States border while intentionally fleeing from—

“(1) a pursuing U.S. Border Patrol agent acting pursuant to lawful authority; or

“(2) any pursuing Federal, State, or local law enforcement officer who is actively assisting, or under the command of, U.S. Border Patrol.

“(b) PENALTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), any person who commits an offense described in subsection (a) shall be—

“(A) imprisoned for a term of not more than 2 years;

“(B) fined under this title; or

“(C) subject to the penalties described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

“(2) SERIOUS BODILY INJURY.—If serious bodily injury results from the commission of an offense described in subsection (a), the person committing such offense shall be—

“(A) imprisoned for a term of not less than 5 years and not more than 20 years;

“(B) fined under this title; or

“(C) subject to the penalties described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

“(3) DEATH.—If the death of any person results from the commission of an offense described in subsection (a), the person committing such offense shall be—

“(A) imprisoned for a term of not less than 10 years and up to life;

“(B) fined under this title; or

“(C) subject to the penalties described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“40B. Evading arrest or detention while operating a motor vehicle.”.

#### SEC. 3. INADMISSIBILITY, DEPORTABILITY, AND INELIGIBILITY RELATED TO EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE.

(a) INADMISSIBILITY.—Section 212(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(J) EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE.—Any alien who has been convicted of, who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of a violation of section 40B(a) of title 18, United States Code, is inadmissible.”.

(b) DEPORTABILITY.—Section 237(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.

1227(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(G) EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE.—Any alien who has been convicted of, who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of a violation of section 40B(a) of title 18, United States Code, is deportable.”.

(c) INELIGIBILITY FOR RELIEF.—Chapter 2 of title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by inserting after section 208 the following:

##### “SEC. 208A. INELIGIBILITY FOR RELIEF RELATED TO EVADING ARREST OR DETENTION WHILE OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE.

“Any alien who has been convicted of, who admits having committed, or who admits committing acts which constitute the essential elements of a violation of section 40B(a) of title 18, United States Code, shall be ineligible for relief under the immigration laws, including asylum under section 208.”.

#### SEC. 4. ANNUAL REPORT.

The Attorney General, in conjunction with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives that—

(1) identifies the number of people who committed a violation of section 40B(a) of title 18, United States Code, as added by section 2(a); and

(2) summarizes—

(A) the number of individuals who were charged with the violation referred to in paragraph (1);

(B) the number of individuals who were apprehended but not charged with such violation;

(C) the number of individuals who committed such violation but were not apprehended;

(D) the penalties sought in the charging documents pertaining to such violation; and

(E) the penalties imposed for such violation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and minority leader, or their respective designees.

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK).

□ 0915

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H.R. 35.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, one of the great tragedies that came of the Democrats' 4 years of open-border policies was the number of fatalities of American citizens and law enforcement officers that were caused by high-speed chases of

human and drug smugglers and illegal aliens who poured across our southern border.

The Democrats' open-border policies incentivized and encouraged these tragedies by creating the conditions that made these deadly high-speed chases commonplace.

Just last year, Border Patrol agents in Eagle Pass told us that in the Del Rio sector alone, the cartels were making \$32 million every week from human smuggling. That is just one sector of the southwest border.

These policies created an enormous incentive that emboldened criminals and cartels and human smugglers and illegal aliens alike. High-speed chases with smugglers occurred almost daily in these border communities, placing both law enforcement officials and innocent Americans in grave danger.

For example, last year, criminals led the Texas Department of Public Safety officers on a high-speed chase outside of Del Rio as they attempted to smuggle half a dozen illegal aliens into the interior of our country. At least one of the smugglers himself was a foreign national from Nicaragua. Amazingly, the Biden-Harris administration rewarded this criminal alien with a work authorization.

These criminals also smuggle deadly drugs, like fentanyl, which has poisoned thousands of Americans.

Roughly 1 month ago, in California, a high-speed chase ensued after two men had their car referred for secondary inspection at a port of entry. Border Patrol officers ultimately stopped the men and recovered nearly 5 pounds of fentanyl. That is enough to kill more than 100,000 Americans.

At the beginning of the last Congress, Cochise County, Arizona, Sheriff Mark Dannels, a 38-year veteran of law enforcement, testified before the House Judiciary Committee. Sheriff Dannels told us about a woman named “Wanda” from his county who was killed while driving to her own 65th birthday party by an individual who was evading law enforcement while smuggling illegal aliens. She had hoped to enjoy some time at the party with her son, who was receiving treatment for stage IV cancer. According to Sheriff Dannels, the criminal who caused the crash was smuggling illegal aliens when he fled from law enforcement officers, blew through a red light, and crashed into Wanda's car, cutting it in half and instantly killing her.

These dangerous car crashes kill our law enforcement heroes, as well. On December 7, 2022, Border Patrol Officer Raul Humberto Gonzalez got up, got dressed, and he left for work. His family would never see him again. He was killed later that day in Mission, Texas, doing his job trying to protect our country. A group of illegal aliens led him on a high-speed chase that ended in a fatal wreck that took his life.

Authorities do not have the tools to fully prosecute and punish these criminals. Currently the failure to yield to a

Border Patrol agent or any other law enforcement officer assisting Border Patrol is not explicitly criminalized under Federal law.

At the same time, there are no specific immigration consequences for foreign nationals, including illegal aliens, who intentionally evade the Border Patrol. In other words, criminals and foreign nationals have little incentive not to evade them.

On November 5, the American people sent a strong message to the world: There is only one pathway into the United States, and that is to obey our laws.

This bill sends a message that we will no longer tolerate those who evade our law enforcement officers who are upholding those laws.

H.R. 35 is named in honor and in memory of Agent Gonzalez. It ensures that those who endanger border communities and law enforcement officers by failing to yield to Border Patrol agents will face meaningful consequences, ensuring these illegal aliens can be prosecuted and will be ineligible for immigration relief under our laws.

This legislation also provides escalating criminal penalties if the evasion results in serious bodily injury or death to another person.

Last session, this bill passed on a bipartisan basis, although 154 of our Democratic colleagues opposed this commonsense measure. Taking their cue, Senate Democrats refused to take it up last year. That is inexplicable to me. I don't understand that.

I hope that today, after Democrats have had time to reflect on the matter, especially in light of the decisive verdict of the American people last November, that more of our Democratic colleagues will have seen the light and will join us in protecting the American people from these dangerous criminals and cartels and human smugglers.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Arizona Representative JUAN CISCOMANI for his leadership on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I begin with an urgent constitutional public service announcement based on millions of calls and messages that have been flooding Congress.

There is a serial constitutional violator at large right now in the District of Columbia whose overall project to dismantle our Constitution and rule of law is now the target or subject of at least a dozen different Federal court temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions across the land and also faces emergency civil actions in dozens of other courts and jurisdictions.

The suspect has been described as a very evil individual by Steve Bannon and has been operating in a clandestine fashion with a night crew of computer-hacking juvenile associates, one of whom goes by the alias of "Big Balls" and another one they call "the kid,"

who has been known to post racist and anti-Semitic provocations online.

The accelerating spree of constitutional offenses alarming the Nation involves dozens of episodes of computer fraud and data theft affecting potentially 300 million Americans and escalating threats against congressionally created Federal agencies serving the people from the NIH to the National Weather Service to NOAA to the Department of Justice; public workers; teachers and students; prosecutors of cop-assaulting criminals and seditious conspirators against our government; FBI agents; and anyone who depends on Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, or any other computerized public payment system.

The apparent ringleader of all the constitutional mayhem is a reported father of 12, a formerly deportable undocumented immigrant who worked illegally in the country and is apparently part of a loose network of Silicon Valley billionaires who oppose American constitutional democracy and openly favor creation of a monarchical techno-state under their control.

The suspect was seen yesterday in the vicinity of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW and is known to have been consorting as recently as a few days ago with a convicted felon from New York.

Described as the richest person in the world, the suspect is both a government contractor with billions of dollars in defense contracts—and we learned yesterday \$400 million slated from the State Department for some of his armored Tesla vehicles—and also he is a part-time government worker whose many taxpayer-supported businesses are being investigated, fined, or sued by numerous Federal agencies, including the Department of Transportation, the National Labor Relations Board, the Department of Justice, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The suspect has allegedly been working to seize control over several of these same agencies to shut them down, which would presumably terminate all of the relevant threatening investigations.

The public has never received from the suspect any ethics disclosure forms required of all Federal workers nor any conflict of interest waiver to resolve his glaring conflicts of interest.

The suspect spent his formative years in apartheid South Africa and has been known to post racist and anti-Semitic material and to engage in a Nazi salute in public.

Steve Bannon calls him a truly evil individual. The ringleader and his associates, sometimes called the Muskovites, have been seen by numerous Federal workers violating the separation of powers and the Spending Clause, usurping the powers of this body, trampling the civil service laws, and violating the rights of both his Federal and corporate workers.

The suspect, his sponsors, and accomplices should be considered dangerous

to the constitutional rights, freedoms, and institutions of the people as well as their property, their jobs, and their livelihoods.

If you know anything about the situation and you are a Republican Member, please get in touch immediately with the Democrats so we can form a majority to stop this unprecedented attack on the Constitution and American law and order before we end up like apartheid South Africa or Orban's Hungary or Putin's Russia.

Now, back to our regularly scheduled program where we avoid the constitutional crisis overtaking the first and greatest multiracial, multiethnic constitutional democracy on Earth and instead pass completely redundant, unnecessary, and sloppily drafted laws that allow us to vote against immigrants, whether documented or undocumented, as Elon Musk was, without either engaging in comprehensive immigration reform or fixing the border.

Now, with this bill, House Republicans are once again seeking to take political advantage of a horrific crime by seizing on the death of Agent Gonzalez in the performance of his duties, while doing nothing to make our border more secure or to repair our broken immigration system.

Everyone knows, of course, that they blew up the bipartisan border security deal that we had at the end of the last Congress.

H.R. 35 seeks to establish new criminal and immigration penalties on anyone—citizens, permanent residents, documented immigrants, or undocumented immigrants—for this offense: fleeing a Border Patrol agent or a law enforcement officer who is working with the Border Patrol.

Fleeing Border Patrol at the border already carries substantial criminal and legal penalties under current law. That is already a crime. Under 18 U.S. Code 758, whoever flees or evades a checkpoint operated by the Customs and Border Protection, or any other law enforcement agency, in a motor vehicle and flees from Federal, State, or local law enforcement in excess of the legal speed limit can be charged with and convicted of high-speed flight from an immigration checkpoint.

Furthermore, many decades of prosecution and case law make it perfectly clear that fleeing law enforcement is a crime involving moral turpitude for which a conviction will render a non-citizen, whether documented or undocumented, immediately deportable and inadmissible to the country.

In other words, what they are dragging us through again is already against the law. If all of it is already a crime, why do we need another version of it, except for plainly opportunistic political purposes.

I know those are the only bills they have been bringing forward. They have got no other agenda for the country. They have handed over the legislative authority of the Congress of the United

States to Elon Musk, the fourth branch of government.

In any event, they want us to pass again something that is already against the law. We don't need it. In fact, this characteristically poorly drafted, pile-on bill is so poorly drafted this time that it could subject not just undocumented people, not just permanent residents, but American citizens to prison sentences for conduct that the vast majority of Americans would not even recognize as a crime at all and would not see as a crime.

Now, unlike existing Federal law or similar State statutes, the bill does not define what it means to "flee." In their haste to get this to the floor, they just rushed over that element of the crime, which is of extraordinary interest to every other jurisdiction and even Congress before when dealing with it. Leave that aside, it does not even require evidence of criminal intent, a guilty mind, what lawyers call *mens rea*, the intention to do the evil thing.

□ 0930

In other words, this bill does not require a person to know that they are fleeing Border Patrol in order to be charged with that crime.

Think about it, Mr. Speaker. It applies to citizens, not just noncitizens, and you can be prosecuted and jailed for fleeing from a Border Patrol that you didn't know was Border Patrol.

This is a radical departure from the prevailing rule in American jurisdictions.

For example, in Maryland—I looked up my State—the offense of fleeing or eluding law enforcement requires that a uniformed officer gives a person a visual or audible signal to stop and prominently displays their official badge or other insignia. If an officer is not in uniform, Maryland requires that an officer give a visual or audible signal to stop while in an officially marked police vehicle to establish the necessary *mens rea* before we put somebody in prison. Under either circumstance, a visual or audible signal can be by hand, voice, emergency light, or siren.

It is not only blue States like mine that require evidence that the accused knew what they were doing was wrong before convicting them of purposefully fleeing from law enforcement. That is the rule almost everywhere.

I am sure the Crime and Federal Government Surveillance Subcommittee chairman, Mr. BIGGS, and the sponsor of this bill, Mr. CISCOMANI, are aware that, in Arizona, the offense of unlawful flight from pursuing law enforcement requires proof that the officer's vehicle had markings indicative of an official police vehicle, evidence that the driver knew that the vehicle was an official law enforcement vehicle, or the defendant must admit knowing that the vehicle was an official police vehicle.

In other words, their own State takes the exact painstaking precautions that

they just run roughshod over in order to get this bill, which has not had a hearing, to the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

Should a defendant choose to exercise their right to trial by jury, the trial judge in Arizona would instruct the jury that they may consider whether the officer operated their emergency lights or siren to determine whether the defendant is guilty of unlawful flight from an actual pursuing vehicle.

As was stated in the collaborative reports "Without Intent" and "Without Intent Revisited," published by The Heritage Foundation, which is adamant about *mens rea*, and the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, "Ensuring that an adequate *mens rea* provision is included in statutes and regulations that create criminal offenses is critical."

The Heritage Foundation says that it is critical to specify that there must be a culpable or guilty state of mind before we put people behind bars. It appears that nearly every State recognized this fact when drafting their statutes carefully to address the fears and consequences associated with people fleeing law enforcement.

We don't want people going to jail because they were simply moving away from a person they thought was a criminal who turns out to be, for example, an undercover police officer.

As a matter of fact, of the States represented by the 32 cosponsors of this legislation, all but two of them specifically require, at minimum, an audible or visual signal to stop the vehicle to prove that there was intentional flight from a pursuing officer.

Looking at statutes that address similar conduct in all 50 States, there are only 6 that do not explicitly require an order, direction, request, or signal to stop the vehicle.

Despite this widely accepted approach to legislative construction, H.R. 35 would allow Donald Trump's Department of Justice to not only convict noncitizens but citizens of a violation of this so-called offense and to deport noncitizens without allowing them their day in court and without requiring any evidence of any knowledge that they were actually fleeing a government agent.

Without any limiting characteristics, under this bill, a citizen could be sent to prison because they did not immediately pull over when hailed by someone—for example, a local undercover officer assisting Border Patrol.

Similarly, in the immigration context, admitting to acts that constitute this nebulous and vague conduct would render a green card holder deportable.

The bill applies its criminal immigration penalties even if the law enforcement officer is in plain clothes and is driving an unmarked undercover vehicle.

There are a lot of good reasons why a law-abiding citizen or permanent resident might be wary of pulling over for an unmarked vehicle. Just last week,

reports emerged of an alarming trend across the country of rapists, criminals, or vigilantes pretending to be immigration enforcement personnel targeting people whom they thought might be undocumented in order to rape them, assault them, harass them, or what have you.

I saw on TV a case last night of a sexual assailant who accosted a woman and forcibly assaulted her while pretending to be an ICE agent. I saw that last night.

Another man, Sean-Michael Johnson, was arrested for impersonating a law enforcement officer, along with felony kidnapping, larceny, and assault and battery, after he impersonated an ICE agent and stopped a group of men in their car because he told them they were not lawfully present in the country.

In this environment, Mr. Speaker, it would be neither unreasonable nor surprising for law-abiding citizens to be wary of pulling over for an unmarked car that claims to be working with Border Patrol. Further, given that the Trump administration is deputizing anyone they can get to aid immigration enforcement efforts, the number of officers, both in police clothing and in unmarked clothing, to whom this law would apply is staggering.

In backing this bill, our colleagues want to impose extraordinary criminal and immigration consequences for not immediately pulling over when an unmarked car driven by a total stranger hails you at a time when criminals, including a pardoned January 6 felon, by the way, are going around impersonating immigration enforcement officers.

That is a real trend happening now, and I would love to be convinced it is not if the gentleman has reason to think that all of these reports and arrests of people impersonating officers are wrong.

This is a trend in the country. All of this is simply to give more power to target immigrants, which already exists, just for the purposes of a legislative show. This is outrageous.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, my friend argues that this bill is unnecessary because aliens who are convicted of fleeing an immigration checkpoint are already removable. That part is correct, but there are no corresponding grounds for inadmissibility.

This bill fixes that omission. It also expands the law to someone who is deliberately fleeing the Border Patrol not only from a checkpoint but from anywhere within 100 miles of the border.

This begs the larger question: If, as the Democrats say, this bill simply restates the existing law, then why are they opposing it?

They say you should prove that the alien knows that they are evading the

Border Patrol when they initiate a high-speed chase through a crowded neighborhood. He forgets that there are many, many acts that are themselves deadly and dangerous that we sanction. Drunk driving is such an offense. It doesn't matter if you intended to kill somebody when you got behind that wheel drunk. The behavior itself is deadly and dangerous and punishable under law.

Leading a high-speed chase through a crowded highway is also such an inherently dangerous act, which my friends on the other side of the aisle, for some inexplicable reason, want to excuse.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that the ranking member of the committee has his talking points today when he wants to complain about a businessman helping the administration to save taxpayer dollars, and he is raising histrionics to a new level by talking about a constitutional crisis.

Mr. Speaker, we do have the power of the purse under Article I, but Article II, when given that money, has a responsibility for administering it in a responsible manner. If this administration is going to grant taxpayer funds for irresponsible purposes, or if the last administration granted money to irresponsible recipients, then this administration should be able to reconsider those grants or stop those grants from occurring and direct the money into a more appropriate place.

It doesn't surprise me that the gentleman from suburban Washington, who has so many Federal employees in his district, is now worried that we are going to have a number of Federal employees who are going to be put out of work.

Do you know what, Mr. Speaker? We have too many Federal employees in this country. It is about time that we shrink the size and scope of the Federal Government, and I think that even though it results in people in suburban Washington unfortunately having to seek employment elsewhere, it will save the taxpayers money and improve government efficiency for the long term.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this bill, the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act, because, in recent years, cartels and human smugglers have recruited drivers to transport illegal aliens from the southwest border further into the United States and many of our communities.

Unsurprisingly, when encountered by law enforcement and Customs and Border Protection officials, these drivers routinely flee, often at high speeds.

Raul Gonzalez was a Border Patrol agent who was killed in 2022 in a high-speed chase while pursuing a car filled with illegal immigrants in Texas. That same year, there were six Border Patrol agents who died on the job.

A high-speed chase puts agents, first responders, and innocent bystanders in

danger. Because these chases happen as often as daily to multiple times a day, they take up the bulk of the U.S. marshals' responses to calls.

This bill provides a Federal criminal penalty for individuals who intentionally evade Border Patrol agents or law enforcement officers assisting Border Patrol and provides for escalating penalties when evading law enforcement results in serious bodily injury or death.

The consequences of the Biden-Harris administration's open-borders policies are clear. Now, House Republicans, along with President Trump, can ensure the safety of our communities and the security of our borders.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I encourage my colleagues to do so, as well.

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

Mr. Speaker, yes, we have hundreds of thousands of Federal employees who live in Maryland, and we are very proud of them. I assume the distinguished gentleman from Virginia is proud of the hundreds of thousands of Federal employees who live and work in Virginia, including in Roanoke. They have constitutional rights just like other American citizens have.

None of our rights, whether they are constitutional or in the civil service, should be trashed by an unelected billionaire bureaucrat who doesn't understand our system of government.

As to the merits, the distinguished gentleman talks about high-speed chases, which is what most statutes talk about in the country. This bill—I don't know if the gentleman read the language—doesn't mention high-speed chases or any speed at all. It just says "fleeing." It is the only statute I could find in the country that doesn't define what "fleeing" means.

It is a very sloppy bill that has not had a hearing and that was brought to the floor for political entertainment purposes.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL), who is the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, do you remember when candidate Trump said that, on day one, he would end inflation and bring prices down for American citizens? That is, in fact, the number one reason he got elected.

Guess what, Mr. Speaker? He has done nothing on this. Republicans have spent no time on the floor trying to bring down prices for average Americans. In fact, the data that was just released yesterday says that prices have shot up because of many of the proposals that Donald Trump has put forward and the chaos he is inflicting on the economy.

Are we spending time on that here on the floor? No. We are wasting time on yet another attack on all immigrants, including U.S. citizens.

Once again, the majority is moving a bill to expand the Trump administration's mass deportation machine and trample on the core American principle of due process.

All of these bills that are being put forward utilize a very simple formula: first, take laws that are already on the books about deporting and making inadmissible to the United States people who are convicted of committing certain crimes and fool the American people into thinking somehow that is not already the law; and, second, dangerously expand those laws so that simply being accused of something or admitting to something that no one would reasonably consider being a crime makes it sufficient to now deport someone or make him inadmissible without any due process and without a fair day in court.

This is terrorizing communities across the country, and Donald Trump's obsession with using every lever of government to target immigrants has undermined our national security and our safety by forcing Federal law enforcement officials to abandon fighting drug trafficking or human smuggling and instead focus on arresting, detaining, and deporting immigrants who pose no threat to public safety. Many of them have lived and worked in this country for decades.

Already, we have seen the effects on U.S. citizens, with the unlawful detention of U.S. citizens, the targeting of Native Americans, and the arrest of countless people with no criminal records.

ICE agents are treating the act of speaking Spanish as probable cause for interrogation, and they are revoking all the crucial and successful legal pathways put in place by the Biden administration, like parole and temporary protected status, including, by the way, for Venezuelans and Cubans, who feel Trump's betrayal deeply.

□ 0945

This bill follows the same divisive, deceptive formula. H.R. 35 amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to create a new ground of deportability and inadmissibility for any noncitizen who admits fleeing from Border Patrol while operating a motor vehicle, whether or not they knew it was Border Patrol that they were fleeing from.

Mr. Speaker, let's be clear. Just as I said with the formula, being convicted of fleeing from Border Patrol or any law enforcement already makes a person deportable and inadmissible. That is current law. The key word here is "convicted."

Remember that when we talk about deportability, we are also talking about people who are in the United States lawfully. Many are green card holders and have lived in the United States for decades. If we are going to deport them, I hope that we would all agree that they should have basic due process rights and a day in court, just like any American would want for themselves.

That is why conviction is required for deportation. Convictions also mean that law enforcement can focus on the most serious criminals, not those who are simply accused and may well be innocent.

Let me also debunk the Republican argument that admitting to fleeing is the same as a conviction. That is simply not true. People may admit to fleeing without even knowing that the person chasing them is Border Patrol.

Let me give an example. Let's say that a woman is driving alone on a deserted road at night. She hears a siren. She sees an unmarked car behind her signaling that she should pull over. She had heard many stories about the men who prey on solo female drivers by pretending to be law enforcement, so she slows down and puts on her hazards. She even calls 911 to confirm that they have an officer in the area.

They confirm that one of their officers, who is deputized by CBP, is in the area, so she pulls over. When the officer comes up to her window, she says: I am sorry, Officer. I needed to keep driving while I confirmed that you were with law enforcement since you were in an unmarked car.

That constitutes an admission that she was intentionally fleeing from law enforcement. Under this bill, even if she is a lawful permanent resident who has been in this country for 10 years or 20 years, she has just rendered herself deportable. A conviction requirement importantly ensures that people have due process and that that essential context isn't missed.

Just last week, The Washington Post reported an uptick in people who are impersonating immigration enforcement officers to harass and attack people they suspect of being undocumented. One North Carolina man showed a woman a fake badge and told her that he would deport her if she didn't come to a motel and have sex with him.

He ended up being arrested and charged with impersonating law enforcement, kidnapping, second-degree forcible rape, and assault. In this environment, it is not surprising that people keep driving away when unmarked cars tell them to pull over, claiming to work with Border Patrol.

U.S. citizens should also be aware of the fact that the new criminal penalties in this bill would subject U.S. citizens to draconian mandatory minimums for something as minor as failing to immediately stop when hailed by an unmarked police car.

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 20 seconds to the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, this bill applies to anyone within 100 miles of the border. That is two-thirds of the population of the United States, cities like Jacksonville; Charleston; Green Bay, Wisconsin; Grand Forks, North Dakota; and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Fear is already pervasive. People are afraid to go to work and school. Businesses are hurting. Local economies and communities and States, from Nebraska to Ohio to Texas, are hurting.

Mr. Speaker, this bill plays on fear. It is cruel. It is unnecessary. It is dangerous for all Americans' due process rights. I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Democrats even listen to themselves. The gentlewoman just told us that this bill is simply duplicative of existing law and, therefore, a farce. A moment later, the gentlewoman told us that it is a dangerous expansion of existing law. I ask them to pick at least one side or the other and stick to it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST).

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 35, legislation named after Agent Raul Gonzalez, a 38-year-old father of two, who lost his life in an ATV accident on December 7, 2022, as he was attempting to apprehend a group of immigrants who had entered the country illegally.

This legislation not only honors the sacrifice of Agent Gonzalez, but it reinforces Republican support to secure our border.

This legislation helps fulfill the promise that President Trump made to the American people to protect those who protect each of us. This legislation will protect American communities by imposing criminal penalties on people who evade U.S. Border Patrol agents or other law enforcement agents at our border.

This legislation will also help protect the brave men and women who enforce our border, those who risk their lives for the mission of keeping us safe and providing a secure border for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to work alongside President Trump to make our country safe for all American citizens. I am proud to support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to please vote "yes" on H.R. 35.

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

Mr. Speaker, just in answer to a couple of the recent comments that the good gentleman, the floor manager, says: How could it be possible that this bill is both duplicative and wildly expansive?

Mr. Speaker, it is duplicative of the actual criminal offense. That already exists. It is already a crime for somebody at the border to flee in a high-speed chase away from an officer. That is already a crime.

What is expansive is this applies to citizens. It goes way beyond the border. It goes all over the country. It doesn't define what it means to flee. It doesn't require a high-speed chase.

As the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL) was saying, it can apply to a woman who hears on the

news, the way I heard last night, that there is a maniac out there claiming to be an ICE agent who is attacking women. She hears about it, and then a plainclothes officer in an unmarked car begins to chase her. If she moves away and stops three or four blocks later, she is guilty of violating their sloppily drafted bill.

If Republicans are serious about it, we should go back and have a real hearing, and the majority should look at what States across the country are doing.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BYNUM).

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 35.

Let's call this bill what it is: fear-mongering dressed up as officer safety.

This bill echoes one of the darkest chapters in our Nation's history, the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. Just like that shameful law, H.R. 35 forces local authorities and encourages the deputizing of randos to do the Federal Government's work, punishing them if they refuse.

Back then, it was hunting down people who dared to seek freedom. Today, it is forcing local police to become Federal enforcers, which is a violation of States' rights.

This bill is duplicative of existing law. It threatens members of our community who are here legally and lacks the surgical precision needed for solid immigration policy. We need to start focusing on real solutions for the border.

I support law enforcement. I support public safety, but I oppose the Federal Government overreach that erodes local control and threatens civil rights.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to continue seeking comprehensive immigration policy reform and to vote "no" on H.R. 35.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. DE LA CRUZ).

Ms. De La CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 35, the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act, which I am proud to have co-led with Congressman CISCOMANI.

Agent Raul Gonzalez was stationed in my community of McAllen, Texas, and was dedicated to protecting the Rio Grande Valley and, quite frankly, all of the Nation. In 2022, he tragically lost his life while pursuing a car full of illegal immigrants.

By passing this legislation, we can take critical steps to protect the safety of law enforcement officers and prevent this tragedy from ever happening again.

This bill will make failing to yield to Border Patrol agents or law enforcement a Federal crime. Further, if anyone is killed during the apprehension, it could result in life in prison.

Criminals will think twice before engaging in dangerous and reckless behavior like a high-speed chase from Border Patrol agents.



Law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities. I am committed to protecting those who protect us, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill in honor of the life and service of a Texas hero, Agent Raul Gonzalez.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. TLAIB).

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, here we go again. We are voting on yet another bill that just promotes racial profiling.

That is exactly what is happening because Americans right now who are Brown or Black or have an accent and who are American citizens are carrying passports with them. Why? It is because we are going to allow the targeting of communities that look like my district, to police them and to militarize them.

This bill strips away the right to due process. We already know that. I think that many of my colleagues who are supporting this know that.

This is going to target even legal permanent residents. The majority is going to separate families instantly without ever allowing anyone to be able to go to trial or even have a conviction. It is absolutely and clearly unconstitutional.

Everyone in our country has rights, and I want my residents to hear me say this again: Everyone has rights, no matter their status, in the United States of America.

This is what Republicans want. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to make racial profiling the law of the land and make discrimination the law of the land. That is what my Republican colleagues want. Republican Members want to go back to that kind of militarization and policing of targeting people who look like my mother and who look like my neighbors in the 12th Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I will be very clear, though. What my colleagues don't get, and I want my residents to hear me when I say this, is that no President—none—has the power to end constitutional rights, the right to due process; not one.

Mr. Speaker, this is not about fixing our immigration system. The dollars and the people who support measures like this and the fear-mongering want a broken immigration system because, as the ranking member probably knows, they make money off of our broken immigration system.

If my colleagues really wanted to address it, let's get to the core issues of the fact of who is benefiting the most from not allowing our families and our loved ones who have been here for decades and years to be able to have a pathway to citizenship. It is because someone benefits from it, and it is unfortunate.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats will have the backs of our immigrant neighbors and even our American citizens who feel like they are being targeted by this law.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I assure the gentlewoman that the innocent victims of these high-speed chases come from all races and all backgrounds.

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

Mr. ONDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 35, the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act.

This important legislation would make it a crime to evade arrest or detention while operating a motor vehicle within 100 miles of the U.S. border. For aliens, the bill would go a step further, making it a deportable offense to flee from a pursuing Border Patrol agent.

Our southern border is under attack, and our Border Patrol agents are on the front lines. The former administration depleted Border Patrol resources, leaving them with an impossible task that routinely puts them in harm's way.

The Border Patrol experienced over 5,700 encounters every day in December 2022, the month that Agent Raul Gonzalez was killed while pursuing an illegal alien who was evading arrest.

The following year, the Biden administration doubled down on its open-border policies, surging these encounters to 2.5 million in 2023.

Under President Biden's so-called leadership, border wall materials were sold off, and razor wire was removed.

Under President Trump's leadership, we are taking full advantage of our resources to secure the border, and Mexico and Canada have already agreed to bolster enforcement.

The Trump policies are already working. Yesterday, The Washington Times reported what they called a reverse flow of illegal immigrants streaming back home after being blocked at Trump's border.

□ 1000

When migrants learn of the new, enhanced security measures at the southern border, they are giving up and going home. Border Patrol agents who previously encountered as many as 10,000 illegal immigrants in a day are seeing fewer than 500.

By passing this legislation, we are showing Border Patrol agents that we have their backs and that we prioritize their safety. This bill provides additional protections for Border Patrol agents by imposing harsher penalties for illegal aliens evading arrest at our border.

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

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, Democrats have been saying for 2 weeks now, instead of stopping the stupid spending, they attack the guy who is exposing the stupid spending. I think we should maybe get rid of the stupid spending.

Trans comic opera in Ireland, Sesame Street on Iraqi television, I think maybe we should focus on that. No. No. No. We can't do that.

I think this just underscores the fundamental difference between the left and those of us in the Republican Party, those of us who are conservatives.

The left thinks the bureaucrats are smarter than we the people. You have to trust the bureaucracy. You have to trust the experts in the government. I would rather trust the people, the 77 million people who elected President Trump who told us he was systematically going to go through these agencies and identify dumb things where taxpayer money is going to. He told us he was going to do it. The American people understood it. He got elected, and now he is carrying out that mission. Now they are attacking the guy who President Trump has put in charge of this effort.

The bureaucrats who decided Big Bird and Bert and Ernie on Baghdad TV was a good use of taxpayer money, can't question them. We can't do that. We can't question the people in the bureaucracy. We can't question the 108,000 people who work at the Department of the Treasury. No. No. No. They are smarter than the folks President Trump has asked to come in and look at where our tax money is going.

Think about this, the smartest bureaucrat in the history of the world, Dr. Fauci, the things he told us. We weren't allowed to question him for 2 years, and he ran our lives.

Here is the irony: Everything he told us turned out to be false. He told us the virus didn't come from a lab. Yes, it did. We have agencies now that tell us that and confirm that. He told us the vaccinated couldn't get it. He told us the vaccinated couldn't transmit it. He was wrong on both those counts. He told us that masks work. He told us 6 feet social distancing was based on science, but they just made it up.

Here is the kicker: He told us this is the first virus in history where there was no such thing as natural immunity. We can't question him. We have to trust the bureaucracy. I prefer to trust the people.

By the way, remember when they tried to set up a bureaucracy in the government that was going to tell us what we were allowed to say? They actually tried to set up the Disinformation Governance Board as if a bunch of Federal bureaucrats can tell us what we can say, what we can't say, what is information, and what is disinformation. You have to be kidding me.

I will trust the guy who was elected by 77 million Americans. I will trust the Constitution that says: The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States.

Do you know why they did that in the Constitution? Because that is the guy who puts his name on a ballot and has to get votes, not the bureaucracy.

It is not the thousands and thousands of people who think they are so much smarter than us regular folks who just get to vote.

I trust the guy who was elected and the people he has put in charge of this effort. He told us he was going to do it. The American people elected him to do it. Maybe we should focus on stopping the stupid spending. After all, we have a \$36 trillion debt.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. JORDAN. Finally, I will just say this: It is a good bill by a good Member of our Congress, Mr. CISCOMANI. We passed it last year. We should pass it again.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI), the author of this measure.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MCCLINTOCK for yielding me time here to talk about this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 35, the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act.

We have heard talk on both sides of the aisle on the floor on this bill on the merits of it, and I am very proud to be supporting this and to actually share a little bit of the story of how we came about this bill.

One of my first official meetings that I had after being elected in '22 was to go back to one of my border counties in Cochise. This meeting happened in early '23.

I asked them, if there is one bill that I could start on immediately, what would it be? This meeting included law enforcement, local law enforcement from the State, from the county, Border Patrol, and stakeholders. The unanimous vote and feedback was to make sure that something like what happened to Agent Raul Gonzalez never happened again. The issue we homed in on dealt with the issue of high-speed chases and the inability of law enforcement to be able to pull over and punish those that are fleeing law enforcement and their failure to yield not being a Federal crime. This was it.

To all those on the other side of the aisle here who criticize this bill as saying that it is anti-fill in the blank, this came from the same people that my friends on the other side claim that this is against. This is a bill that came from the feedback of those that are highly impacted by this in our border communities.

It is not only law enforcement that is suffering and actually being risked in this kind of activity, it is innocent bystanders that are hurt by these high-speed chases that are literally dying in border communities and being killed by these pursuits.

The bill is simple: It makes evading law enforcement within 100 miles of the

border a Federal crime. To me, it is simply common sense that this should be a Federal crime. Far too many lives have been jeopardized and even tragically taken, like I said, at the hands of bad actors who engage in these high-speed chases.

If you evade CBP or local law enforcement, you clearly don't have good intentions. That is obvious. Unfortunately, the current law does not make this a crime in and of itself. It leaves the burden of prosecuting these individuals to our local border communities, as if they don't have enough challenges already with what the previous administration caused at the border.

Not only is this bill common sense, it is crucial and in some cases, even life-saving.

To quote one of my constituents, he said: At least once a week there is a high-speed chase through town that includes a 15-mile-an-hour school zone. Do residents need to die to get the attention needed to correct the border problem?

The sad truth is that some have died, both law enforcement and innocent civilians. Law enforcement wants this bill, Mr. Speaker. Mayors in my border districts want this bill. My constituents want this bill, but every opposition that I have heard from my friends on the other side is coming from the same people that stood by as the previous administration and the White House caused this border crisis. Forgive me if I am not moved by those arguments. I am moved by the feedback from those that are on the front lines of this border crisis.

I consistently hear about the detrimental impact that high-speed chases have in southeastern Arizona and across the southern border, specifically in the county that I mentioned earlier, Cochise County.

This criminal activity is not just reserved to drug cartels or illegal immigrants or smugglers themselves. These cartels are targeting American citizens to be those drivers. In most cases, those drivers happen to be American citizens, as well.

Yes, this legislation goes beyond just the illegal immigrants that are driving. It goes to punish also U.S. citizens that are engaging in this activity. Any one endangering American lives should be held to account.

This bill is about supporting our law enforcement communities who deal with this crisis on a daily basis to stop the smuggling and trafficking.

In calendar year 2022 and 2023, Cochise County reports booking 2,884 individuals for border-related crimes, costing over \$9.4 million to that local community. This is in one county, in one State. I have seen the toll it takes firsthand in our communities.

We should be asking ourselves why these people are fleeing law enforcement. The answer is: These are bad actors who the cartels want to evade law enforcement.

Finally, I will highlight the hero that this bill is named after.

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

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Agent Raul Gonzalez was killed in 2022 while pursuing illegal immigrants in Texas. His death underscores the tragic truth that our Customs and Border Protection agents and officers risk their lives every day to protect our community.

By passing this legislation, we are showing them that we have their backs. That is why this bill is supported by law enforcement groups like the National Border Patrol Council and the National Sheriffs' Association and many local law enforcement groups in Arizona, as well.

This bill passed last Congress with bipartisan support. I hope and encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, prioritize border security, and make our border communities safer.

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

Mr. Speaker, the distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee (Mr. JORDAN) invites us to believe that we should just suspend our own interests in legislative power. We should no longer defend the laws we have passed, the programs we have adopted, the money we have appropriated but that we should turn it over to the new fourth branch of government, Elon Musk, who can do whatever he wants.

Then he wants to also delegate to Mr. Musk our oversight power. We have an entire committee chaired by Mr. COMER. We have our own subcommittee on Oversight in the Judiciary Committee, but do they want to have hearings on Big Bird and Ernie and all of the alleged waste, fraud, and abuse that Mr. Musk is finding with his untutored, unvetted, juvenile computer hacker crew?

Come on. Let's show some institutional self-respect. This is the Congress of the United States. We are not delegating our power to Elon Musk or anybody else.

Mr. Speaker, many of our great heroes have understood that sloppy legislation undertaken as part of an attempt to whip up anti-immigration hysteria comes to haunt not just the immigrant community, of course, but citizens, too.

This bill is a great example of that because I don't know if they meant to write it this way, but it applies to citizens. It doesn't require mens rea, so call the Heritage Foundation about that. They are opposed to bills like this that don't require you prove that people have a specific intent to violate the law and commit a criminal offense. It doesn't define what fleeing even means. It doesn't require a high-speed chase, which is what they keep talking about. That is already against the law in lots of places.



It is a sloppy bill that is going to come back and haunt us if it were ever to become law, which it won't.

Thomas Jefferson said during the 1798 Alien and Sedition Acts where people were trying to whip up hysteria—

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I first am tempted to address my friend's obsession with Elon Musk. The situation is pretty simple: A new boss takes over and he brings in an auditor. The auditor calls in the Democrats and says, I would like to see your expense account receipts, and the Democrats go absolutely berserk.

Now, what does that tell you about what has been going on with our money all this time?

My experience has been that the most closely guarded secrets of government are not those that are marked "top secret," they are the secrets that are embarrassing.

Elon Musk is embarrassing the Democrats, which is why they have unleashed this torrent of invective, vitriol, and character assassination upon him, and why they have spent so much time today obsessing on Elon Musk rather than the bill before us to protect the victims of illegal immigration that they themselves unleashed upon our country.

Mr. Speaker, Scott Jennings of CNN recently wondered aloud: What possesses the Democrats to constantly take the 20 percent side of every major issue, whether it is waste in government, men competing in girls' sports, crime and homelessness, or, in this case, border security? They seem instinctively to reject a commonsense position expressed by 80 percent or more of the electorate and double down on the 20 percent or less position taken only by the lunatic fringe of the radical left, and they are doing that again today.

□ 1015

High-speed chases due to human and drug smuggling at the border have claimed the lives of far too many Americans, including a Border Patrol agent who was simply trying to protect his local community. This bill, named in his memory, makes it a Federal crime to evade the Border Patrol or local law enforcement acting in support of the Border Patrol within 100 miles of the international border.

If you are a foreign national, it makes a conviction or admission of such a crime grounds for inadmissibility and removability. If you endanger our local law enforcement officers or innocent bystanders by initiating a high-speed chase, we will throw you in prison for a long time. Then, we will send you packing when you get out.

I suspect this bill has the support of well over 80 percent of the American

people, yet once again, the Democrats oppose it. I suspect most will vote against it, as they did last year.

The American people have seen this unfold in this Chamber time and time again. They clearly understand what is at stake, and they well understand the implications to the sovereignty of our country and to the safety of our communities. Last November, they gave us the votes to pass this legislation, and they gave us a President who will sign it. Let's get on with it.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition H.R. 35. This bill is a solution that has already been addressed in law. Right now, the House of Representatives has important work to do. The deadline to fund the government is only one month away, and the price of eggs is skyrocketing under President Trump. But instead of addressing these problems, Republicans put forward the same messaging bill we voted on last Congress.

To be clear, fleeing the border patrol already carries criminal and legal penalties under current law, and a conviction for fleeing border patrol already makes a person deportable. This bill is poorly written and politicizes a tragedy. It does nothing to make our border more secure or fix our broken immigration system. Republicans continue to demonstrate they are not willing to work toward real solutions to bring order to the border and fix our immigration system.

This is another bill in a series of Republican slippery-slope immigration bills that erodes the rights of everyone present in the United States, including green card holders, students, temporary workers, DACA recipients, and even citizens. It attacks due process under the United States Constitution and targets immigrants who are lawfully in the United States. In H.R. 35, there is no requirement that a noncitizen actually be charged by law enforcement, making a person deportable without even being convicted of a crime. Our Constitution holds that in the United States, you are innocent until you are proven guilty. This bill undermines that basic principle.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 5, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 264, nays 155, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 42]

YEAS—264

Aderholt  
Alford  
Allen

Amodei (NV)  
Arrington  
Babin

Bacon  
Baird  
Balderson

Barr  
Barrett  
Baumgartner  
Bean (FL)  
Begich  
Bentz  
Bergman  
Bice  
Biggs (AZ)  
Biggs (SC)  
Bilirakis  
Bishop  
Boebert  
Bost  
Brecht  
Bresnahan  
Buchanan  
Budzinski  
Burchett  
Burlison  
Calvert  
Cammack  
Carey  
Carter (GA)  
Carter (TX)  
Case  
Ciscomani  
Cline  
Cloud  
Clyde  
Cole  
Collins  
Comer  
Costa  
Courtney  
Craig  
Crane  
Crank  
Crawford  
Crenshaw  
Cuellar  
Davids (KS)  
Davidson  
Davis (NC)  
De La Cruz  
DeLauro  
Deluzio  
DesJarlais  
Diaz-Balart  
Downing  
Dunn (FL)  
Edwards  
Ellzey  
Emmer  
Estes  
Evans (CO)  
Ezell  
Fallon  
Fedorchak  
Feenstra  
Finstad  
Fischbach  
Fitzgerald  
Fitzpatrick  
Fleischmann  
Flood  
Fong  
Fox  
Franklin, Scott  
Fry  
Fulcher  
Garbarino  
Gill (TX)  
Gillen  
Gimenez  
Golden (ME)  
Goldman (TX)  
Gonzales, Tony  
Gooden  
Goodlander  
Gosar  
Gottheimer  
Graves  
Gray  
Green (TN)

Greene (GA)  
Griffith  
Grothman  
Guest  
Guthrie  
Hageman  
Hamadeh (AZ)  
Harder (CA)  
Haridopolos  
Harrigan  
Harris (MD)  
Harris (NC)  
Harshbarger  
Hern (OK)  
Higgins (LA)  
Hill (AR)  
Hinson  
Houchin  
Houlahan  
Hoyle (OR)  
Hudson  
Huizenga  
Hurd (CO)  
Issa  
Jack  
Jackson (TX)  
James  
Johnson (LA)  
Johnson (SD)  
Jordan  
Joyce (OH)  
Joyce (PA)  
Kaptur  
Kean  
Keating  
Kelly (MS)  
Kennedy (NY)  
Kennedy (UT)  
Kiggans (VA)  
Kiley (CA)  
Kim  
Knott  
Kustoff  
LaHood  
LaLota  
LaMalfa  
Landsman  
Langworthy  
Latta  
Lawler  
Lee (FL)  
Lee (NV)  
Letlow  
Loudermilk  
Lucas  
Luna  
Luttrell  
Lynch  
Mace  
Mackenzie  
Magaziner  
Malliotakis  
Maloy  
Mann  
Mannion  
Massie  
Mast  
McCaul  
McClain  
McClain Delaney  
McClintock  
McCormick  
McDonald Rivet  
McDowell  
McGuire  
Messmer  
Meuser  
Miller (IL)  
Miller (OH)  
Miller (WV)  
Miller-Meeks  
Min  
Moolenaar  
Moore (AL)  
Moore (NC)

NAYS—155

Boyle (PA)  
Brown  
Brownley  
Bynum  
Carbajal  
Carson  
Carter (LA)  
Casar  
Casten  
Castor (FL)  
Castro (TX)  
Cherfilus-  
McCormick  
Chu  
Cisneros  
Clark (MA)  
Clarke (NY)  
Cleaver  
Clyburn  
Cohen  
Conaway  
Connolly  
Correa

Crockett	Kelly (IL)	Randall
Crow	Khanna	Raskin
Davis (IL)	Krishnamoorthi	Rivas
Dean (PA)	Larsen (WA)	Ross
DeGette	Larson (CT)	Ruiz
DelBene	Latimer	Sánchez
DeSaulnier	Lee (PA)	Scanlon
Dexter	Levin	Schakowsky
Dingell	Liccardo	Schneider
Doggett	Lieu	Scott (VA)
Elfreth	Lofgren	Sewell
Escobar	Matsui	Sherman
Espallat	McBath	Simon
Evans (PA)	McBride	Smith (WA)
Fields	McClellan	Soto
Figures	McCollum	Stansbury
Fletcher	McGarvey	Stevens
Foster	McGovern	Strickland
Foushee	McIver	Subramanyam
Frankel, Lois	Meeks	Swalwell
Friedman	Menendez	Takano
Frost	Meng	Thanedar
Garamendi	Mfume	Thompson (CA)
Garcia (CA)	Moore (WI)	Thompson (MS)
Garcia (IL)	Morrison	Tlaib
Garcia (TX)	Moulton	Tokuda
Goldman (NY)	Nadler	Tonko
Gonzalez, V.	Neal	Torres (CA)
Green, Al (TX)	Neguse	Torres (NY)
Hayes	Norcross	Trahan
Horsford	Ocasio-Cortez	Tran
Hoyer	Olzewski	Turner (TX)
Huffman	Omar	Underwood
Ivey	Pallone	Vargas
Jackson (IL)	Peters	Velázquez
Jacobs	Pingree	Wasserman
Jayapal	Pocan	Schultz
Jeffries	Pou	Waters
Johnson (GA)	Pressley	Watson Coleman
Johnson (TX)	Quigley	Williams (GA)
Kamllager-Dove	Ramirez	

## NOT VOTING—14

Donalds	Kelly (PA)	Pettersen
Gomez	Leger Fernandez	Scott, David
Grijalva	Mills	Sherrill
Himes	Mullin	Wilson (FL)
Hunt	Pelosi	

□ 1045

Mses. McCLELLAN and JOHNSON of Texas changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. VEASEY changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I recently gave birth and am unable to travel to D.C. to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 42.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 32. An act to clarify where court may be held for certain district courts in Texas and California.

## SUPPORTING ORPHAN WELL GRANT FLEXIBILITY

(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. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bipartisan bill, the Orphan Well Grant Flexibility Act. We all know

that orphaned wells, either unplugged or improperly plugged, can pose serious environmental health risks to surrounding communities.

In Pennsylvania alone, there are more than 27,000 documented abandoned and orphan oil gas wells across the State. This is not just a Pennsylvania issue, however, as abandoned wells are found across the country.

The Orphan Well Grant Flexibility Act, which I introduced alongside my colleague, Congressman DELUZIO from Pennsylvania, will empower States to maximize their flexibility when plugging abandoned oil wells and cut red tape to accelerate environmental rehabilitation.

We have many of the resources we need to plug these wells. It is our job to ensure they are able to be used for their intended purpose. I thank Congressman DELUZIO for joining me in leading this critical effort. I encourage all my colleagues to support this legislation.

## UNHOUSED TRAGEDY

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I want to share the words of a mother in Detroit who today said she was sorry but she tried. She is talking about the fact that she was evicted. A mother of five, she had no choice but to park her minivan in the parking lot of downtown Detroit on one of our coldest nights. She lost two of her children, a 2-year-old and a 9-year-old. They froze to death in the car.

We know that last year we saw a record 18 percent rise in homelessness in our country. Nearly 150,000 children are unhoused every night. We know, again, that our country spends trillions of dollars, though, on weapons and war, while children freeze to death in our country.

It is estimated that ending homelessness in our country could cost as little as \$11 billion. The Pentagon spends \$12 billion a year on F-35 jets that can't even fly in the rain. Our priorities are fundamentally broken.

I want to tell Ms. Williams we failed her. She should not be apologizing because she tried. We are not trying hard enough here in this institution to protect her and her children.

## HONORING THELMA BAKER

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

Mr. DOWNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Thelma Baker. Thelma is what one might call a local legend, both in Missoula County where she made her home and across the Treasure State.

To some, she was known as the owner and proprietor of the Thunderbird and

Canyon Motels, to others a great-great-grandmother. Those are two greats for the folks keeping track at home.

The Thelma I knew was a tireless advocate for conservative causes, who lived a life of dedicated service to her community, to her State, and to her country. She was a voting member of the Montana electoral college since 2000 and was actively involved with local organizations like the University of Montana Grizzly Athletic Association, Copper Connections, and the Missoula Chamber of Commerce.

Thelma lived the life of a model citizen, and generations of Montanans will be better off for her devotion to civic engagement and community involvement.

May her memory be a blessing.

## GEORGIA'S UNION CITY NAMED CITY OF CIVILITY

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

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Union City, Georgia, for being named a City of Civility by the Georgia Municipal Association.

Union City has adopted a civility resolution and a pledge built on active listening, empathy, and respect for differing opinions, efforts which, to quote from their materials: Encourage “respectful and constructive dialogue” in public spaces.

We, this body, must work harder than ever before to improve our civic and political discourse. Recalling the words of President Abraham Lincoln in his first inaugural address: May we not let passion break our bonds of affection, that we be touched by the better angels of our nature.

I am proud that leaders in my district in Georgia are setting this example for the entire Nation. I congratulate Mayor Williams and the Union City Council for earning this distinguished recognition.

## GIVING POWER TO PARENTS

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I commend President Trump for his steps to close down the Department of Education and to return power back to the parents. For too long the Department of Education has overstepped its bounds, imposing top-down policies that have done more harm than good.

Since its creation, this bureaucracy has grown into a bloated, unaccountable institution that prioritizes Federal control over the actual needs of our children. It has drained billions of taxpayer dollars, while delivering little in the way of education. Sadly, we have declining test scores, a one-size-fits-all curriculum, and policies that have often placed ideology over learning.