

councilmember in 1974. Her husband, who went by the nickname Peaches, accompanied her to every single council meeting to prevent the male councilmembers from harassing or intimidating her.

In 1999, she was elected as the city's first Black female mayor. Her leadership spanned decades, influencing local government and paving the way for future Black women in politics throughout west Michigan.

Hattie Beverly, Teacher Extraordinaire: In 1899, Hattie became the first African-American woman to teach in Grand Rapids Public Schools, a feat that did not come without struggle.

Despite her remarkable academic achievements, she faced resistance from those who believed a Black woman should not teach White children. Yet, she persevered, and we are so much better because she did.

Though her teaching career was tragically cut short when she passed away at the tender age of 30, Beverly's impact resonated beyond her lifetime. Her legacy of determination and excellence paved the way for future Black educators, ensuring the doors she opened would remain open for others to walk through.

Jimmy Carter, Basketball: No, not that Jimmy Carter, but still, he looms large in west Michigan as a basketball phenom and a name truly synonymous with basketball excellence in Grand Rapids.

Jimmy Carter dedicated his life to shaping young athletes. From his high school days at South High School to coaching and mentoring multiple children and young athletes at various schools, Carter's influence in the sports world has been profound.

Carter's contributions extend far beyond the court, as well, proving that mentorship and investing in young athletes can transform lives. He was recently inducted into the Grand Rapids Sports Hall of Fame, and that solidifies his place in history.

Helen Claytor, Activist: Helen Claytor's work with the Young Women's Christian Association extends far beyond Grand Rapids. She was the first Black woman to serve as president of the national YWCA board of directors. Under her leadership, the organization embraced the fight against racism, making racial justice a core tenet of its mission.

Her work reminds us that institutions have a responsibility to be antiracist and that leadership must reflect the values of equity and justice.

Today, her legacy stands tall in Grand Rapids, both figuratively and literally, with her statue near GRCC's campus.

Dr. Patricia Pulliam, Publisher: As an educator, Dr. Pulliam worked tirelessly to uplift students in Grand Rapids, serving as an adviser, mentor, and leader in higher education.

Beyond the classroom, she became a publisher and, later, owner of The

Grand Rapids Times, ensuring that the stories of Black residents were not just heard but celebrated. She also co-founded the GIANT Awards, an annual ceremony recognizing Black excellence in our community.

Her contributions continue to inspire. While the media has often ignored or misrepresented Black voices, thanks to leaders like Dr. Pulliam, those voices are amplified and preserved.

Dr. John Butler, Boxing Champion: In 1953, Dr. Butler became the first Grand Rapids boxer to win a National Golden Gloves title, an accomplishment that cemented his legacy in the sport.

Dr. Butler was not just a fighter in the ring. He was also a fighter for education and equality.

Growing up in Mississippi, he faced the harsh realities of poverty and racism. His mother, determined to give her family a better future, moved them to Grand Rapids, where Dr. Butler found his passion for boxing.

Through the mentorship of his trainer, he not only honed his athletic abilities but also understood the importance of education. That discipline led him to earn a Ph.D. from Michigan State University.

Dr. Butler dedicated his career to the Grand Rapids school system, serving as a teacher and assistant principal and eventually training city employees in public service. He provided guidance to young Black students who faced adversity, making an impact far beyond the classroom.

Today, his legacy is forever etched in the Grand Rapids Sports Hall of Fame, a testament to his dedication to both sports and education.

Paul Collins, Artist: Paul Collins has spent his life using his artistic talents to tell the stories of those often overlooked.

Born in Muskegon and raised in Grand Rapids, Collins was drawn to art from a young age. Despite initial discouragement, he pursued his passion, eventually traveling to West Africa to immerse himself in his cultural roots.

Collins' work has been displayed worldwide, from exhibitions in Africa to murals honoring historical figures in the United States.

He was the first Black artist to paint a sitting President when he painted President Gerald R. Ford.

His contributions to the art world also include designing the Martin Luther King Jr. Nonviolent Peace Prize Medal and the Challenger 7 space shuttle logo.

As we celebrate Black History Month, let us remember that these stories are not just relics of the past, but they are living legacies that continue to shape our community.

It is our duty to ensure that these trailblazers live on, that we continue the fight for equality, and that we uplift and support Black voices in our community.

It is our duty to ensure that we continue to tell these stories.

Black history is American history, and it is a history that deserves to be honored not just in February but every single day. These achievements are proof that progress is possible, but only if we remain committed to justice, inclusion, the power of education, and advocacy. I am proud to continue to carry on their legacy through this Special Order hour today.

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

REPUBLICAN BUDGET BETRAYAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CARBAJAL) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise on behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. A number of members are going to come to provide testimony tonight about what we perceive is a betrayal of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle of the American people with the recently passed budget resolution that really is going to provide tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans in exchange for cuts in vital, essential programs for working- and middle-class families.

□ 1900

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here with my colleagues from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to call out the partisan Republican budget resolution that passed last night for what it is. It is a rip-off of the American people. Their budget proposes reckless spending to support billionaires and make everyday Americans foot the bill.

It cuts over \$1 trillion, including \$880 billion from Medicaid, in order to partially pay for trillions of dollars in tax cuts for the wealthiest people.

These tax cuts would not go to help everyday Americans. Instead, they would go to the richest 1 percent.

Apart from that, it also increases the deficit and the national debt to the tune of \$4 trillion.

What happened to fiscal responsibility?

This is a betrayal of the American working middle-class families. There are 80 million people in this country who rely on Medicaid. In my district alone, over 236,000 people on Medicaid are at risk of losing their healthcare. This includes nearly 100,000 children and 24,000 seniors.

Not only that, but the budget resolution would also go after the Affordable

Care Act again, and it is projected to raise annual health premiums by roughly \$1,200 for 20 million people. It would force 7 million Americans to lose their health insurance.

This budget resolution does nothing to deliver on the current needs of the American people. As inflation continues to grow and threats of trade wars persist, the cost of necessities like groceries, childcare, and housing will continue to increase putting a greater burden on American families.

Their budget resolution also earmarks \$200 billion to supercharge mass deportations that go beyond violent criminals.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, under this plan, we can expect even higher prices for food and goods, and it further worsens our workforce shortages. The reality is that undocumented workers make up 14 percent of construction workers and roughly 42 percent of our agricultural workforce.

Mr. Speaker, instead of helping everyday Americans, the cuts would go to the richest 1 percent. This is a terrible circumstance.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT), who is my good friend and chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, today the Congressional Hispanic Caucus comes to the floor united as one unit against this Republican budget resolution that slashes at least 1 trillion—that is right, 1 trillion with a capital T—dollars from Medicaid and other essential programs to the American people, to working-class families, to seniors, and to children, threatening 80 million individuals.

This is a matter of life and death, Mr. Speaker. It is a matter of life and death for our communities. At the very least, 20 million Latinos, about one-third of our folks, rely on Medicaid. More than one-half of the Latinos on Medicaid are children. They depend on it.

Many of them are Hispanic, and they will now have to face a precarious situation where they may get an asthma attack at school and maybe that school-based clinic is not open for those critical first minutes of aid.

Many of them are diabetics, and they rely heavily on insulin, and they may not have the Medicaid coverage for insulin to save their lives.

So this is a matter of life and death, Mr. Speaker. This is not just a regular bill that we do in this august body to feel good or to maybe take care of a specific issue in a particular State. This is a matter of life and death.

You have Latinos with renal problems, and cardiovascular problems. High blood pressure is at epidemic levels in the Latino community. This bill, again, presents a situation of life or death for many constituents across the country and the ones whom I represent in New York's 13th Congressional District, where over 500,000 residents of that district rely on Medicaid and over

100,000 rely on Medicare. So over 600,000 of the 780,000 people I represent are either on Medicaid or Medicare. This bill presents a clear and present threat to their health and to their lives.

In addition to that, Mr. Speaker, Republicans also seek to cut \$230 billion in nutritional programs like SNAP and food stamps. That is right. Food stamps are being cut that currently aid 10 million Latinos, including 5 million kids. These nutritional programs are essential to their health and growth. So we are here pushing back on the cuts to food stamps.

In my district, Mr. Speaker, there are over 200,000 households that rely on food stamps. If we multiply that by an average of three people per household, we can do the math, and we can see that it will devastate that community. This budget proposal by Republicans seeks to cut, again, \$230 billion in nutritional programs.

The \$200 billion in this budget also seeks to supercharge Trump's massive deportation plan which will decimate the agricultural workforce by 16 percent and lead to increased food prices. Mr. Speaker, you can expect food prices at the cash register in the supermarket to go dramatically up. This is egregious.

We are united in opposition to this betrayal, the Republican budget betrayal. The Congressional Hispanic Caucus stands at once and together in opposition to this Republican budget betrayal.

CHC is committed to protecting Dreamers. Those are young people on average that have been in our Nation for over 20 years. They are nurses and teachers. They are bus drivers. They are members of the Armed Forces. They own their own small businesses, they own their own homes, and yet we cannot regularize their status. We support Dreamers.

We are in support of farmworkers. They have to pick the crops and the fruits that come to our dinner table, and many of them are staying home in fear of being deported. Mr. Speaker, you can expect food prices to go up.

Of course, we are in support of keeping families together. A family that is divided, when a mom or a dad is split from his or her children, that family is a weak family. They become vulnerable, and that translates into a weak nation and a vulnerable nation.

So CHC, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, is in support of Dreamers, farmworkers, and keeping families together.

Latinos voted in favor of lowering costs and increasing wages. The budget passed last night only gives billionaires tax cuts and funds indiscriminate raids in our city, all paid for by working-class families.

Again, Mr. Speaker, CHC stands with our community and rejects the Republican budget betrayal.

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. ESPAILLAT for his remarks.

Before I yield to our next speaker, I wanted to reiterate: Make no mistake,

under this plan we can expect even higher prices for food and goods, and it further worsens our workforce shortages.

The reality is that undocumented workers make up 14 percent of construction workers and roughly 42 percent of our agricultural workforce.

Farmworkers help feed our Nation and allow grocery stores to stay stocked with affordable fruits and vegetables. Unfortunately, this reality is not what my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to admit.

On Monday I offered an amendment to the budget resolution so we can move forward the bipartisan Farm Workforce Modernization Act to provide farmworkers with legal status so they can continue to work on our farms in this country.

Not only is this the right thing to do, but providing farmworkers with legal status helps provide stability and keeps our stores stocked with affordable groceries and domestically grown food, also helping American growers.

Instead, the Rules Committee blocked my amendment, and not a single amendment was made in order. We need to do better than this and deliver on lowering costs for the American people.

I call on my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to reconsider this reckless plan that would benefit billionaires at the expense of everyday Americans.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 16 minutes remaining.

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. RANDALL).

Ms. RANDALL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, Mr. CARBAJAL, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I come before you today to tell a very personal family story that motivated my interest to serve my community here in Congress and that continues to motivate me to think about the impacts on families all across my district and all across the country.

When I was 7 years old, my sister, Olivia, was born with microcephaly. What that means is that her brain was small, and the doctors didn't know why. They didn't know if she would live, how long she would live, and what her life would look like.

I grew up in a family of public servants, a bipartisan family, a biracial family, and my dad, who was a civilian employee for the Department of Defense, had pretty good government employee insurance, but that insurance wouldn't have covered all of the surgeries, specialists, and the equipment that Olivia needed to thrive.

However, gratefully for our family, the Washington State legislature in 1993 voted to expand Medicaid. Washington was one of the first States in the country to lead that charge. For us

that meant that we didn't have to worry about losing our house or what other bills that we could pay so that Olivia could survive and thrive. It meant that she could get multiple wheelchairs and use equipment like inflatable vests that kept her from getting pneumonia more than five times a year. She was able to go to public school and live for 19 years with our family.

For me, I learned that government could be a safety net for families like mine. So for the last 6 years in the Washington State legislature I worked hard to expand healthcare access for folks all across the State and all across my big rural district where hospitals are already struggling because Medicaid reimbursement rates are low, where small clinics and independent providers are shuttering their doors because they cannot afford to stay open.

So, Mr. Speaker, if you have a family with a disabled kid like my sister and you live in Neah Bay in the farthest northwest corner of the lower 48 States, then you have to drive hours and sometimes wait for a ferry that could be 2 hours delayed in order to get to a specialist in Seattle to get your kid lifesaving care.

□ 1915

What will happen if this budget resolution becomes reality and if \$1 trillion is cut from Medicare programs is that we will see potentially per-capita caps. What that means is that we will decide how much the lives of children like my sister are worth. How much will we be willing to pay for the equipment and the specialists and the surgery to keep medically fragile kids alive?

It will mean that folks without disabilities, seniors and low-income children, and folks with private insurance will struggle to afford healthcare in communities like mine and communities across the country.

We are facing a real crisis in our healthcare sector already. We should not be adding to it by cutting \$1 trillion from poor people and people with disabilities, from children, and from seniors who are often dual eligible for Medicare and Medicaid who are able to live in dignity until the end of their days because of this important program. It will keep long-term care programs open if we are able to maintain Medicaid funding.

I am scared. I am scared for my constituents. I am scared for my neighbors. I am scared for the healthcare providers who are just trying to do their jobs. I am also scared for the impact that we will see for years into the future if this budget resolution becomes law, if we deliver trillions of dollars of cuts for families who depend on Medicaid.

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. RANDALL) for her words.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT), chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and my good friend.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, we stood here tonight to warn the American people of these massive cuts in vital programs like the Medicaid program, SNAP, and the Food Stamp program, which provides nutritional assistance to our families, as the Republican majority perpetrates a scam to provide the very wealthiest of Americans a \$4.5 trillion tax cut at the expense of the health of the American people by cutting Medicaid.

Medicaid is a vital program for Americans all over the United States. It is not just urban areas, but rural areas and suburban areas from the North, the South, the East, and the West of the country.

Americans will be dramatically impacted by these cuts. This is not a Republican cut or a Democratic cut. It will impact people across the aisle. Republican Members have many constituents who are on Medicaid and Medicare and who receive SNAP benefits. Yet, the savings will go to the fat-cat executives and shareholders, the wealthiest in America.

Mr. Speaker, we are asking for the American people to be alert of the Republican budget betrayal, that it is a life-or-death matter and puts their lives in danger by denying them the basic healthcare benefits that they are entitled to.

Mr. Speaker, we stand here as one, members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, to say "no" to this plan and to tell the American people that they are not alone and that we are with them in good times and in bad times.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-479. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's biennial report on compliance of group health plans and group health insurance coverage offering in connection with such plans with the requirements of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008, pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 9812(a)(8)(B)(iv); Public Law 116-260, Sec. 203(a)(3); (134 Stat. 2916) and 29 U.S.C. 1185a(a)(8)(B)(iv); Added by Public Law 104-204, Sec. 702 (as amended by Public Law 116-260, Sec. 203(a)(2)); (134 Stat. 2909); to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

EC-480. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Bacillus Thuringiensis* Strain EX 297512 in Pesticide Formulations;

Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2019-0572; FRL-12526-01-OCSP] received February 20, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-481. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Bacillus Thuringiensis* Cry1B.34 Protein; Exemption From the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0988; FRL-12514-01-OCSP] received February 20, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-482. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's withdrawal of direct final rule — Utah: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions and Incorporation by Reference; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule [EPA-R08-RCRA-2024-0408; FRL-12226-03-R8] received February 20, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-483. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — West Virginia Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program; Class VI Primacy [EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0357; FRL 12000-02-OW] received February 20, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-484. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's notice of decision — California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The "Omnibus" Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0332; FRL-9902-02-OAR] received February 19, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-485. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's notice of decision — California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision [EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0292; FRL-11010-02-OAR] received February 19, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-486. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's notice of decision — California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Emission Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Emission Airport Shuttle; Zero-Emission Power Train Certification; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0330; EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0331; FRL-9900-02-OAR] received February 19, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-487. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's issuance of regulatory guide — Acceptable ASME Section XI Inservice Inspection Code Cases for 10 CFR Part 72 (Regulatory Guide 3.78, Revision 0) received February 21, 2025, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law