

This is not just withholding payment for a period of time; this is a complete forfeiture.

I propose a balanced budget amendment so we are forced to stop kicking the can down the road and will create a fiscal path that will allow the next generation to thrive.

I also have a bill I call the Citizen Legislature Anti-Corruption Reform Act, or CLEAN Act, a bill that ends congressional pensions for life and requires this body to debate and act on single-issue legislation, codify that all laws passed by Congress apply to all of its Members, reform the broken gerrymandering process by moving all redistricting to independent, nonpartisan, citizen commissions, and to expand access to political party primaries to include both independents and non-affiliated voters.

Is there anyone in this Chamber who does not believe that these measures will make our country a better place? Is there anyone in this Chamber who does not believe these measures will result in a healthier democracy and a system of government where our people have more faith and trust in? Is there anyone here who believes that more citizens serving in this body and more citizens participating in their government would not be a breath of fresh air for our Nation?

If you agree with our ideas, I urge you to join me and cosponsor these measures, join the Congressional Citizen Legislature Caucus, and advocate for these reforms. Share your vision with your constituents because they need to know that our Nation is not resigned to the status quo.

Mr. Speaker, Washington needs fewer politicians and more independent voices focused on serving the American people. That is the reason we are here. Let's not let them down. The time is now to answer their call to fix this system so we can start addressing the challenges that we face as a nation.

#### THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. AL GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is always an honor for me to stand here in the well of the House to know that I am one of less than 450 people in the world who have been accorded the preeminent privilege of standing in the well of the Congress of the United States of America.

□ 1045

It is an honor to stand here at this podium with a rostrum behind me with the word "Justice" etched in it. Right behind me, "Justice" is etched into the rostrum. You can't see it at home because it is low, and it is beneath the view of the camera.

Today, I want to talk about justice, Mr. Speaker. I want to talk about justice and the Justice Department. I do

this, Mr. Speaker, because we have a President-elect who has said he will be a law and order President. I want to make a distinction between law and order and justice, and I want to attribute this to the Justice Department versus a law and order department.

Mr. Speaker, you can have law and order in a dungeon, but you won't have justice. There is law and order in North Korea, but you don't have justice. Justice, Mr. Speaker, is what this Department is all about. It is not the law and order department. One of the best ways to explain it is to harken back to something that was called to our attention yesterday at the hearing for the nominee to become the head of the Justice Department.

When the Honorable JOHN LEWIS spoke, he went back to 1965, and the crossing of the Edmund Pettus Bridge. On that day, George Wallace—one of the great segregationists of his time and, perhaps, the greatest segregationist of his time—had made it perspicuously clear to his troops that, if you maintain order, there will be law to protect you. As a result, those troops beat the marches all the way back to the church where they started. They were peaceful protesters. The Honorable JOHN LEWIS said he thought he might die. That is what law and order meant to a good many people in the South.

Law and order without justice is what took place on that day; but thank God there was a judge, the Honorable Frank M. Johnson. The Honorable Frank M. Johnson issued the order to allow those marches to move from Selma to Montgomery, and he did it notwithstanding his classmate George Wallace having said that they were banned from doing it. This was justice, not law and order alone. This is our fear—that the Justice Department will go back to the hands of someone who may consider it a law and order department and a department in which there is a belief that you can do anything to maintain the order and that there will be law to support your actions and activities.

Mr. Speaker, we must protect the notion of justice for all people in this country. This is why I was there yesterday to lend my support to Senator BOOKER when he spoke about justice and when he indicated that he could not support the nominee. I was honored to be there, seated right near the Honorable JOHN LEWIS when he said he could not support the nominee. I was also honored to be there with the head of the Congressional Black Caucus, CEDRIC RICHMOND, when he indicated: If this nominee is a civil rights advocate, why is the civil rights community so opposed to him? I think those were some very sage comments.

I must tell you that we in this country have come too far to allow the Justice Department to become the law and order department.

#### RUSSIA AND PRESIDENT PUTIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today as co-chair and founding member of the Polish, Hungarian, and Ukrainian House Caucuses.

I am also a strong defender of NATO and of its purpose in linking the free nations of Europe and the United States through this historic, hard-won alliance and security treaty among Europe's sovereign nations that respect the rule of law and our shared passion for liberty.

Our Nation and NATO's members paid the ultimate price in the last century for our priceless gift of liberty. We won the cold war, and our most treasured democratic values of life, liberty, freedom of assembly, press, and religion are under siege today by a predatory and repressive Russia. Go no further than any major business in your district and ask them how many times they are hacked daily by Russian predators—to get a sense of what is going on.

My purpose this morning is to remind our citizenry of the continuing and major, real threat to our NATO alliance and to the destabilization of Europe by Russia that necessitates our strengthening the alliance, not weakening it, to ward off Vladimir Putin's expansionist dreams.

I must say I am concerned by our President-elect's loose talk about Russia. His naive assumption that personal friendships with Russia's oligarchs—some of whom are active members of Russia's notorious mafia—can overcome strategic, expansionist imperatives that fill Vladimir Putin's mind are truly not in America's interest.

So let's review some recent history.

Domestically, Mr. Putin has suppressed the basic freedoms of the Russian people. His leadership has resulted in countless infringements of human rights violations and other actions that directly conflict with our foundational values in Western democracies.

Putin has an aggressive and very hostile foreign policy toward us—toward the United States—and our top allies. Russia has invaded neighboring sovereign countries, including the Republics of Georgia and Ukraine. Russia has threatened and harassed U.S. military personnel and diplomats overseas, not in the last century, now, orchestrating an anti-American propaganda campaign—the largest since World War II—both in our country and around the world; and it is conducting cyber warfare, as I speak, against our country, our government, our interests, as well as European governments; against political institutes; against our think tanks; against our State voter data systems, as our intelligence services have just informed us; and against our cities and counties, journalists, and individuals.

Information about Putin's aggressive behavior is well-documented and is specifically highlighted in the intelligence briefings that our President-elect began to receive when he secured the Republican Party nomination last year. Despite this, throughout his campaign and as President-elect, Mr. Trump continues to praise and support Putin. He has even taken the foreign dictator's side over those of the leaders of our country he was elected to represent.

Here are examples:

December 18, 2015: During an interview on "Morning Joe," host Joe Scarborough asked Mr. Trump about Putin's alleged killing of journalists and political opponents. Trump answered: "He's running his country, and at least he's a leader. Unlike what we have in this country."

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a list of dozens of journalists in Russia who have been murdered in cold blood because they were reporting on corruption, on growing repression in that society—on what Russia was executing around the world.

#### A PARTIAL LIST OF JOURNALISTS WHO HAVE DIED IN REPRESSIVE RUSSIA

1. July 16, 2000: Igor Domnikov, an editor and reporter for the independent Novaya Gazeta who covered local government corruption, died after being attacked. His assailants are serving prison terms but the ex-government official who orchestrated the attack was not convicted.

2. July 26, 2000: Sergey Novikov, the owner of the independent radio station Vesna, was shot in his apartment. Novikov was a vocal critic of local government corruption and received death threats prior to his murder. The case remains unsolved.

3. Sept. 21, 2000: Radio Liberty correspondent Iskandar Khatloni died from an attack by an unknown assailant. Khatloni, who was also a poet and former BBC correspondent, was covering human rights abuses in Chechnya. The case remains unsolved.

4. Oct. 3, 2000: Sergey Ivanov, the director of the independent and influential TV station Lada, was shot in his apartment. The case remains unsolved.

5. Nov. 21, 2000: Cameraman Adam Tepsurgayev, who shot most of Reuters' footage from the second Chechen conflict, was shot dead in a Chechen village. The Russian government contends that Chechen guerrillas murdered Tepsurgayev, but local residents were doubtful. The case remains unsolved.

6. Feb. 3, 2001: Photographer Valery Kondalkov was killed after the publication of photos he took of the private mansions of urban elite in the city of Armavir. The case remains unsolved.

7. Sept. 18, 2001: Eduard Markevich, the editor and publisher of a local newspaper, was shot in the back after receiving threats and surviving a previous attack. Markevich frequently wrote about local corruption and die suspected perpetrators of his murder are government officials. The case remains unsolved.

8. March 9, 2002: Natalya Skryl, a local business reporter, died from an attack. She was planning to publish an article on the struggle for the control of a local metal plant. The case remains unsolved.

9. April 29, 2002: Valery Ivanov, editor of the independent newspaper Tolyatinskoye Obozreniye, was shot eight times in the

head. His newspaper is known for his coverage of local organized crime, drug trafficking and corruption. The case remains unsolved.

10. April 18, 2003: Dmitry Shvets, the deputy director of the independent television station TV-21, known for his critical reporting on politicians, was shot dead outside the station's offices. He had been investigating a mayoral candidate's links to organized crime. The case remains unsolved.

11. July 3, 2003: Novaya Gazeta deputy editor Yuri Shchekochikhin died from an acute allergic reaction while those close to him believe he was poisoned. Shchekochikhin was working on a corruption case involving high-ranking government officials and had received threats. The government has not opened an investigation and says there's no evidence of foul play.

12. July 3, 2003: Local television reporter Alikhan Guliyev was shot in his apartment building. Guliyev had accused an influential politician of campaign violations, and had survived an attempt on his life in 2002. The case remains unsolved.

13. Oct. 9, 2003: A year after the murder of his predecessor Valery Ivanov, Tolyatinskoye Obozreniye editor Aleksei Sidorov was stabbed by two unknown assailants after receiving threats. Officials initially agreed he was murdered in retaliation for his investigative work, but the case remains unsolved.

14. July 9, 2004: Forbes Russia founding editor Paul Klebnikov was shot in Moscow in a contract killing. The magazine had recently published a feature on Russia's richest people, and Klebnikov himself had written books and articles about business, crime and corruption in Russia. A decade after his death, the case remains unsolved, prompting Secretary of State John Kerry to urge Russia to bring the perpetrators to justice.

15. May 21, 2005: Cameraman Pavel Makeev, while reporting on illegal drag racing, was found dead on the side of a road. Though his death was initially classified as a traffic accident, Makeev's colleagues say his death was related to his work. The case has been reopened but remains unsolved.

16. June 28, 2005: Magomedzagid Varisov, who wrote critical political columns for the weekly Novoye Delo, was shot in his car by unknown assailants with machine guns in Dagestan. Varisov had received numerous threats through years. Three suspects were killed in October 2005, and the unsolved case was closed.

17. Jan. 8, 2006: Reporter Vagif Kochetkov, who wrote for the newspapers Trud and Tulsii Molodoi Kommunar, died from an attack. Officials labeled his death the result of a robbery, though only work-related documents and his cellphone were taken, while his wallet and fur coat were not. A local businessman was charged with the attack but later said he was coerced into confessing.

18. Oct. 7, 2006: Renowned journalist and human rights activist Anna Politkovskaya was shot in her apartment after receiving, and narrowly escaping, numerous death threats. The five men hired to kill her were convicted and sentenced seven years later, but whoever ordered the murder (believed to be \$150,000 contract) remains unknown.

19. Nov. 30, 2006: Prominent investigative journalist Maksim Maksimov was declared dead. He disappeared two years earlier while investigating local corruption in St. Petersburg as well as several unsolved murders. The case remains unsolved.

20. March 2, 2007: Defense correspondent Ivan Safronov died from mysteriously falling from a fifth-floor window while investigating the sale of Russian arms to Syria and Iran. Safronov embarrassed military officials with reports on problems with Russia's nuclear

program. His death has been officially ruled a suicide, but his colleagues and friends say he had no reason to kill himself.

21. Aug. 31, 2008: Magomed Yevloyev, owner of the independent news site Ingushetia, was shot while in police custody. Officials had been attempting to close down Ingushetia for extremism; the site had covered corruption, human rights abuses, unsolved murders, and voting fraud in the 2008 presidential election. Yevloyev was detained as a witness in investigation of a local explosion, and police say the shooting was an accident.

22. Sept. 2, 2008: Television editor Telman (Abdulla) Alishayev was shot by unknown assailants in Dagestan. Alishayev produced an anti-radical Islam documentary two years earlier and received death threats from radical groups.

23. Jan. 19, 2009: Anastasia Baburova, a freelancer for the opposition newspaper Novaya Gazeta, was shot by ultranationalists in a double murder. Baburova had covered the rise of neo-Nazism and race-motivated crimes in Moscow. Her murderers, members of a neo-Nazi group, have been sentenced.

24. March 30, 2009: Layout designer Sergei Protazanov died after an attack by unknown assailants. Protazanov was part of the editorial staff of Grazhdanskoe soglasie, a newspaper known for its critical coverage of the ruling party of Russia. The case remains unsolved.

25. July 15, 2009: The fifth Novaya Gazeta journalist murdered since 2000, Natalya Estemirova was kidnapped and shot execution-style in Chechnya. Her colleagues believe that Chechen officials ordered the Kremlin-backed assassination, as Estemirova had reported on human rights violations committed by authorities in the region. The official investigation pinned the murder on a Chechen rebel who was killed by an air strike, but her colleagues and human rights activists believe this is a cover-up.

26. Aug. 11, 2009: Abdulmalik Akhmedilov, an editor for the independent news website Hakikat and editor-in-chief of the political monthly Sogratl, was shot in his car in Dagestan. Akhmedilov was critical of government efforts to curb religious and political freedom and inaction in investigating assassinations. The case remains unsolved.

27. Dec. 15, 2011: Independent newspaper founder Gadzhimurad Kamalov was shot outside his office in Dagestan. His newspaper Chernovik was known for its investigations in government corruption, police abuse and Islamic extremism, and his name appeared on an anonymous hit list.

28. Dec. 5, 2012: News anchor Kazbek Gekkiyev, who covered social issues, was shot in the head while returning home from work. Several reporters at his state-controlled station, VGTRK, had received threats allegedly from Islamist separatist fighters.

29. April 8, 2013: Mikhail Beketov, founding editor of the Khimiki, died after a 2008 attack by unknown assailants that left him severely brain-damaged, amputated and unable to speak. Beketov had covered government corruption and the planned destruction of the Khimki forest to make way for a planned toll road. In retaliation for his reporting, his car had been set on fire and his dog left dead on his doorstep. He never fully recovered from the attack and died five years later in the hospital.

30. May 18, 2013: Nikolai Potapov, a former government official and founding editor of the local Selsovet newspaper, was shot in the Stavropol region. Selsovet was known for its coverage of government corruption.

31. July 9, 2013: Akhmednabi Akhmednabiye, deputy editor of the independent newspaper Novoye Delo, was shot

dead outside his house in Dagestan. He covered government corruption, abductions, police abuse and torture and had received numerous threats for his work. His name appeared on an anonymous hit list.

32. Dec. 4, 2013: Arkady Lander, editor of the opposition newspaper *Mestnaya*, died after an 2010 attack by unknown assailants in Sochi. He underwent operations and hospitalizations for three years after his attack, which left him amputated and with a fractured skull. Lander had covered local elections and distributed his newspaper free of charge. The statute of limitations ran out on his case.

33. Aug. 1, 2014: The body of independent journalist and civil activist Timur Kuashev was discovered in the woods after he disappeared a day earlier. Kuashev was threatened by police after reporting on civil liberty and human rights violations by security forces.

Ms. KAPTUR. The interview with Mr. Scarborough took place the day after Mr. Putin praised and propagandized Mr. Trump as “bright and talented” and the “absolute leader of the Presidential race.” That was about a year before our election. Months later, the President-elect asked the Russian Federation to hack Hillary Clinton’s email. How about that by our President-elect?

September 8, 2016: At NBC’s Commander-in-Chief Forum, Mr. Trump praised Putin by saying:

If Putin says great things about me, I’m going to say great things about him . . . I’ve already said he is very much of a leader. The man has very strong control over his country.

He is right about that. If you speak against Putin, you can be murdered in Russia.

America, pay attention.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o’clock and 55 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Lord, God of history and ever present, You sent Your prophet Isaiah to Your people when they were in need of hope and vision.

May Isaiah’s prophetic words guide the Members of this people’s House. Send Your Spirit upon them and our Nation, that we may be open to hearing Your word and actively seeking the salvation You alone can bring.

Make of us a people of compassion and holiness. In pursuing the avenues

of justice for all, may we be a sign to the community of nations. Help each Member to work toward the complete fulfillment of the deepest human hopes and Your inspiring promises.

With humility, let them embrace their calling; to be truly prophetic, as Your servants of old, but earnestly fulfilling Your commands. May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day’s proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. EMMER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. EMMER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, January 12, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*The Speaker, House of Representatives,*  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 12, 2017, at 9:03 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 3.  
With best wishes, I am,  
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

#### HAITIAN WOMEN OF MIAMI 7TH ANNUAL COMMEMORATIVE EVENT

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today marks the seventh anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti which struck near its capital, Port-au-Prince, leaving behind in its wake total devastation and tens of thousands dead.

Haitians have been resilient in their efforts to come back from this massive

disaster, and the United States will remain committed to helping Haiti get back on its feet.

I have had the privilege of visiting Haiti many times during my time in Congress, and, most recently in October, I had the opportunity to travel to Haiti with my dear Florida colleague FREDERICA WILSON weeks after yet another terrible disaster, a hurricane, hit Haiti.

I would like to commend local organizations in south Florida led by the Haitian Women of Miami, FANM, for holding a silent march this afternoon, beginning at 4 p.m., from 62nd Street and North Miami Avenue to the Little Haiti Cultural Center.

Mr. Speaker, let’s continue to help Haiti and the Haitian people.

#### HONORING JUDITH MORRIS

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

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say good-bye to a dedicated public servant and a key part of my team. Judith Morris has served the Olympic Peninsula for a decade, first for my predecessor Norm Dicks, and for the past 4 years in my office.

Judith’s knowledge of the peninsula and her dedication is unmatched. There are few that combine her compassion and guidance to any constituent who had a question or who needed help with a Federal agency. Whether at the office or at the grocery store or at an event, Judith was available.

Mr. Speaker, Judith has served our Nation with distinction, first in the Peace Corps, and now in the United States House of Representatives, making equity and conservation and human rights a tenet of her time in service. Judith’s wit, thoughtfulness, and easy-going manner will be missed.

Our entire community thanks her and her husband, David, an outstanding public servant in his own right, who worked for the National Park Service, for leaving a legacy of integrity, excellence, and service.

I am humbled and honored to offer my sincere thanks to Judith Morris for her dedication to the Sixth Congressional District, and I wish her the best as she continues to explore her passion for travel and service all around this world.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, we celebrated Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, which acknowledges the contributions that men and women in uniform make on a daily basis to keep our communities safe and secure.

It was heartening to see the display of support for these individuals throughout the House Office Buildings