and a 4-year-old pays $23,000 a year in child care. That is nearly double the cost of tuition at the University of Rhode Island.

Nationwide, the cost of child care has increased 25 percent in the past decade. That is a terrible deal. It is a raw deal for working families. Democrats have proposed the Child Care for Working Families Act, a better deal.

This bill ensures that no middle class family will pay more than 7 percent of their income on child care. It ensures universal access to high-quality preschool programs. It also raises wages for childcare workers. It focuses on the needs of middle class families and the high cost of child care.

A few months ago, my Republican colleagues passed a huge tax cut for powerful corporate special interests and the wealthiest Americans. Democrats, on the other hand, are offering A Better Deal—a deal that focuses on raising family incomes, reducing costs in people's lives, and making sure people are prepared for jobs in the 21st century.

We propose A Better Deal.

ONE FAMILY ONE RESTAURANT

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

Mr. KNIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the work of One Family One Restaurant, a nonprofit organization in my district that tackles significant homelessness and hunger problems in southern California.

I am proud to recognize its work in giving families who struggle with food insecurity the opportunity to eat at a restaurant. One Family One Restaurant provides a unique and invaluable dining experience to families who otherwise rely on food stamps and too often wait in long lines at food banks to access food. The experience also helps heal hearts and restore a family's dignity and hope.

One Family One Restaurant does not act alone. It relies on restaurants and community members to sponsor meals and local pantries and food banks to help coordinate families in need. It takes the repeated generosity of the entire community to alleviate family hunger in their region.

This year, they will be launching their nationwide America Break Bread campaign. I encourage all of those who seek to help the hungry to join in this effort and follow the footsteps of this stellar organization. It is an honor to bring their work to the attention of the House and the Nation today.

INSULT TO OUR PRINCIPLES

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege of being involved in a number of international organizations representing the United States. We are defined by our love, appreciation for democracy, and for selling that around the world.

The call that was made by the Commander in Chief yesterday to Vladimir Putin, whose election was a failure, at best, was an insult to our principles and our values. This is the leader of a country alleged to have used poison gas on ally soil in London, trying to kill two individuals; had the interaction in Ukraine with the bringing down of the plane; and incarcerating many people in Russia because of their views.

I think this is a poor statement for a country that promotes democracy. The world looks to us and seeks to be, in many instances, like America. They value our concern for human rights and our value of democracy. They wait for us to stand up against despots like Vladimir Putin, yet the President of the United States gives him a jolly congratulations for an election that was not an election.

□ 1115

CONGRATULATING PENN STATE WRESTLING

(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 to congratulate the Penn State wrestling team on winning this year's NCAA Division I National Championship.

The Penn State Nittany Lions are a force to be reckoned with and they proved it again last weekend in Cleveland, Ohio, when they brought home their seventh team title in 8 years. The team went 4-and-1 in the finals, coming back from a 6-point deficit heading into the final round to clinch the title on a pin by junior Bo Nickal in Penn State's final match of the night.

Penn State won the team title with 141.5 points, while Ohio State was in second with 134.5. Iowa took third with 97.

Head coach Cael Sanderson now has 22 national champions as a head coach, 20 at Penn State, and 7 NCAA titles.

I could not be more proud of my alma mater or this team that gave us yet another season to remember. Many college athletes dream about participating at the NCAA championships.

This team truly is the pride of Happy Valley, and I congratulate Coach Sanderson and every wrestler on the team.

We are.

CUT FRIVOLOUS SPENDING

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

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, on September 12, 2017, I released a statement to mark and recognize that the national debt had just exceeded $20 trillion.

I asked my colleagues to follow through with our commitment to reduce expenditures and create economic stability for our future. Since that date, Congress has not taken any action to reduce our deficit or to balance our budget. Instead, we have increased our budget caps to augment Federal spending by more than 10 percent above current levels.

We suspended our debt ceiling, and this week we are preparing to pass our seventh short-term spending bill of the fiscal year. Our grossly negligent spending habits continue with no end in sight. At this rate, I am certain that we will see a $22 trillion national debt sometime around the first of next year.

Mr. Speaker, this fiscal irresponsibility is not what we promised our constituents. We are directly contributing to the bankruptcy of this Nation that we will leave to our grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I beg my colleagues to honor the pledge to cut our spending and reduce our debt before it is too late. We must act now before we cross another trillion-dollar threshold.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 20, 2018.

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, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on March 20, 2018, at 4:49 p.m., and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a Report to the Congress on the Extension of Trade Promotion Authority.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

EXTENSION OF TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 115–104)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Today, I am requesting that the Congress extend trade authorities procedures for 3 years. As required under section 103(c)(2) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (Trade Priorities Act), I have attached to this message the report describing the progress that has been made in trade negotiations by my Administration and the reasons why the extension is necessary.

As noted in the 2018 Trade Policy Agenda, my Administration has launched a new era in American trade policy, driven by a determination to use the leverage available to us as the world's largest economy to open foreign markets, and to obtain more efficient global markets and fairer treatment for American workers. One of the major pillars supporting my trade policy is the pursuit of better trade deals.

As you know, my Administration is pursuing the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement—something many have promised but have failed to deliver. In addition, my Administration is exploring potential trade agreement partners, including in Africa and Southeast Asia.

I hope my Administration can continue to work with the Congress to pursue new and better trade deals for America's workers, farmers, ranchers, and businesses. Extension of trade authorities procedures is essential to fulfill that task and to demonstrate to our trading partners that my Administration and the Congress share a common goal when it comes to trade.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 20, 2018.*

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 21, 2018.

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 March 21, 2018, at 8:52 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 899.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

PROTECT SPECIAL COUNSEL MUELLER

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, I addressed this House on the issue of Mr. Mueller and his important investigation in the Special Counsel's Office.

I am concerned, as we leave on Thursday or Friday, that the President could fire Mr. Rosenstein—who has authority over Mr. Mueller—or fire Mr. Sessions and put somebody in who will jeopardize Mr. Mueller's investigation.

Accordingly, a bill I have, H.R. 4669, was filed in December to protect Mr. Mueller. It gives him due process rights—if he is fired—to go to court before a three-judge Federal panel to show that he was fired for purposes which were political and not relating to his job performance.

I am filing a discharge petition today. I will be filing it in 10 minutes, asking all Members of the House to sign it; to bring this bill to the floor immediately for a vote so that we can protect the special counsel, protect Mr. Mueller, and protect America.

God Bless America.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 21 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1300

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas) at 1 p.m.

TRICKETT WENDLER, FRANK MONGIELLO, JORDAN MCLINN, AND MATTHEW BELLINA RIGHT TO TRY ACT OF 2018

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 787, I call up the bill (H.R. 5247) to authorize the use of eligible investigational drugs by eligible patients who have been diagnosed with a stage of a disease or condition in which there is reasonable likelihood that death will occur within a matter of months, or with another eligible illness, and for other purposes, 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 787, the bill is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5247

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 the ''Trickett Wendler, Frank Mongiello, Jordan McLinn, and Matthew Bellina Right to Try Act of 2018''.

SEC. 2. USE OF UNAPPROVED INVESTIGATIONAL DRUGS BY PATIENTS DIAGNOSED WITH A TERMINAL ILLNESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter E of chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360bbb et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 561A (21 U.S.C. 360bbb–0) the following:

''SEC. 561B. INVESTIGATIONAL DRUGS FOR USE BY ELIGIBLE PATIENTS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

''(1) The term 'eligible patient' means a patient—

''(A) who has been diagnosed with an eligible illness;

''(B) who has exhausted approved treatment options and is not eligible to participate in (for a reason such as the patient not meeting inclusion criteria) a clinical trial designed to evaluate an investigational drug for the treatment of such eligible illness with which the patient has been diagnosed, including one involving the eligible investigational drug, or for whom participation in such a clinical trial is not feasible (for a reason such as a lack of geographic proximity to the clinical trial), as certified by a physician, who—

''(i) is in good standing with the physician's licensing organization or board; and

''(ii) will not be compensated for so certifying; and

''(C) who has provided to the treating physician written informed consent, as described in part 50 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations), regarding the eligible investigational drug, or, as applicable, on whose behalf a legally authorized representative of the patient has provided such consent.

''(2) The term 'eligible investigational drug' means an investigational drug (as such term is used in section 561)—

''(A) for which a phase 1 clinical trial has been completed;

''(B) that has not been approved or licensed for any use under section 505 of this Act or section 351 of the Public Health Service Act;

''(C)(i) for which an application has been filed under section 505(b) of this Act or section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act, as applicable, that is active; or

''(ii) that is under investigation in a clinical trial that—

''(I) is intended to form the primary basis of a claim of effectiveness in support of approval or licensure under section 505 of this Act or section 351 of the Public Health Service Act; and

''(II) is the subject of an active investigational new drug application under section 505(i) of this Act or section 351(a)(3) of the Public Health Service Act, as applicable; and

''(D) the active development or production of which—

''(i) is ongoing;

''(ii) has not been discontinued by the manufacturer; and

''(iii) is not the subject of a clinical hold under the regulations implementing section 505(i) or section 351(a)(3) of the Public Health Service Act, as applicable.

''(3) The term 'phase 1 trial' means a phase 1 clinical investigation of a drug as described in section 312.21 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

''(4) The term 'eligible illness' means—

''(A) a stage of a disease or condition in which there is reasonable likelihood that death will occur within a matter of months; or

''(B) a disease or condition that would result in significant irreversible morbidity that is likely to lead to severely premature death.

''(b) ALTERNATIVE PATHWAY FOR ELIGIBLE PATIENTS WITH A TERMINAL ILLNESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Eligible investigational drugs provided to eligible patients in compliance with this section are exempt from sections 502(f), 503(b)(4), and subsections (a) and (i) of section 505 of this Act, and section 351(a) of the Public Health Service Act so long as the conditions specified in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) are met with respect to the provision of such investigational drugs.

''(2) COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN REGULATIONS.—The conditions specified in this paragraph, with respect to an eligible investigational drug referred to in paragraph (1), are that—

''(A) the eligible investigational drug is labeled in accordance with section 312.6 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations); and

''(B) the provision of such eligible investigational drug occurs in compliance with the applicable requirements set forth in sections 312.7 and 312.8(d)(1) of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations) that apply to investigational drugs, subject to paragraph (5).

''(3) NOTIFICATION.—The condition specified in this paragraph, with respect to an eligible investigational drug referred to in paragraph (1), is that the sponsor of such eligible investigational drug notifies the Secretary of the provision of such eligible investigational drug for use by an eligible patient pursuant to this section. Such notification shall be submitted within 7 business days of the provision of such eligible investigational drug