

We would not be here without our supporters. We couldn't have survived our primary or general election without a core group of people who believed in us and would always answer the call when we needed them.

As long as we have people willing to, as Teddy Roosevelt said, step into the arena and we have people willing to support them, we as a nation will be fine.

My thanks to them, my volunteers and supporters.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HECK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on this floor for the last time. My purpose is to convey two simple thoughts: first, an expression of gratitude, foremost to my wife, Paula—we are newlyweds; we have only been married 44 years—and to my two sons. Their support has been the only reason that I have been able to do this.

I have been absent. I am sorry. I promise to do better.

Thank you as well to my staff. Every Member here knows we ain't nothing without them. We are just the ornament on the hood of the car, and they are the engine. They have both my undying love and gratitude.

Thank you to my colleagues. My life is enriched, and I am a better person for having known you.

And a very special callout to my dear, dear friend, albeit messy roommate, and an outstanding legislator, DEREK KILMER.

Last, thank you to the people of the 10th Congressional District of Washington, whom I affectionately but sincerely refer to as my bosses. You sent me here to represent a newly created congressional district. It has truly been my privilege. Thank you.

Second, a plea, a plea to all those who follow here: Please, please work to nurture this institution. Institutions sustain us, be they our houses of worship for our faith or this secular equivalent for our democracy. They get us through hard times, but only if we tend to them.

Citizens in a democracy have, of course, rights and responsibilities; Members of this institution, this body, likewise. We are all too aware of our rights here, but it is the responsibilities that bear emphasizing.

We have a responsibility to conduct ourselves in a civil fashion. It is self-evident that civic discourse in America has degraded; some would say that it has even become vulgar.

You know, it is hard to reach agreement with a colleague tomorrow that we have character assassinated today. So let us not measure our success in terms of the number of Twitter followers we have gathered through emotion-charged or clever attacks. Let us not define those with whom we disagree, even if that disagreement is profound, as "the other."

We live in a pluralistic society. Part of our responsibility is to figure out how the political Rubik's Cube comes together; getting to "yes" among different and competing points of view; fashioning a result where everyone can get up from the table, perhaps not with everything they sought, but with enough to vote "yes" while still being true to their values.

There is such a thing as principled compromise. Indeed, I believe that principled compromise is the only way we can move forward and lift up those around us in desperate need of our help.

Do we no longer believe that? Or did we forget it?

Where I have failed to live up to these ideals, I beg your forgiveness. I can only promise to keep trying.

Finally, I cannot help but think of the eternal wisdom of our former colleague, John Dingell, the longest serving Member of this Chamber in our Nation's history. When I arrived here, every first-term Member walked on down to where he sat and sought his advice, and he gave the same to everyone; the same to everyone. He would look us in the eye and say:

You have an important job—a very important job—and you are not a very important person.

Indeed, John taught us that we do not possess power, but that we only hold it in trust. For the privilege of holding the trust for these last 8 years, I am forever changed and forever grateful.

I am 2,300 miles out and headed home.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I permanently yield back.

NONCITIZEN VOTING VIA 1993 NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BROOKS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, this is my fourth speech in a series on voter fraud, election theft, and the Presidential election.

For emphasis, the Constitution mandates that Congress, not unelected Federal judges, renders the final verdict on who won the 2020 Presidential election.

Today, I begin addressing systemic flaws in America's election process that promote voter fraud and election theft, undermine America's election system, and threaten public trust in our Republic.

In America, only citizens are lawfully allowed to vote and control America's elections and destiny, yet, deplorably, in 1993, Democrats rammed through Congress the National Voter Registration Act that, incredibly, makes it illegal—illegal—to require proof of citizenship that prevents illegal aliens and noncitizens from registering to vote.

Why do Democrats undermine our Republic to make illegal alien and non-

citizen voting easier? To win elections, of course.

It is no secret to Democrats or Republicans that, consistent with a 2014 study by Old Dominion University and George Mason University professors, noncitizens and illegal aliens vote 80 percent of the time for Democrats.

Mr. Speaker, there are many tens of millions of illegal aliens and other noncitizens in America. In 2010, the Census found 11 million illegal aliens in America. A 2018 Yale study estimated as many as 22 million illegal aliens in America. There are simply so many, that no one can keep track of how many.

Similarly, no one knows how massive the illegal alien voting bloc is or how many voted in 2020. Hundreds of thousands? Oh, most certainly. Millions? Very likely.

But what we do know for sure is that the illegal alien voting bloc was large enough and critical enough to winning the Presidential race, that at the October 22 Presidential debate, Joe Biden openly and publicly solicited their illegal votes by promising: "Within 100 days, I am going to send to the United States Congress a pathway to citizenship for over 11 million undocumented people."

Think about that for a moment. A Presidential candidate on national TV promises amnesty and citizenship to illegal aliens in hopes of inspiring them to illegally register to vote and vote for that candidate.

If that brazen solicitation of illegal voting for up to 22 million illegal aliens is not criminal solicitation of voter fraud and election theft, it darn well ought to be.

And don't think for a moment that Joe Biden did not know exactly what he was doing. After all, on May 11, 1993, then Senator Joe Biden personally voted for the National Voter Registration Act that makes it illegal—illegal—to require proof of citizenship when illegal aliens and other noncitizens seek to register to vote.

Mr. Speaker, all Americans deserve an election system that stops voter fraud, prevents election theft, and accurately records only lawful votes cast by eligible American citizens. Unfortunately, America's election system is so riddled with systemic flaws that far too many elections are stolen from candidates and the American people.

In my judgment, that is exactly what happened in the 2020 Presidential election, where the election theft was so massive as to favorably compare to that old adage: You can't see the forest for the trees.

Again, in my judgment, if only lawful votes cast by eligible American citizens are counted, President Trump handily won the electoral college and a second term as President.

As such, it is my duty, under the United States Constitution, on January 6, if the required one Senator will join me, to object to and later vote to reject electoral college vote submissions from States whose election systems are so badly flawed as to render

their vote submissions unreliable, untrustworthy, and unworthy of acceptance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President-elect.

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ADDRESS THE COVID ISSUE NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. O'HALLERAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, well, here we are again. The CDC just announced that we are going through the most difficult time in U.S. public health history. Why are we here again?

Two weeks ago, I asked that this body not leave, and we stay until we finish up the process of a COVID package. Today, we are back here again, still not having done that, and now Christmas is approaching. We will probably be leaving here next week, hopefully, with a package. But right now, that still is an unknown.

I asked before August the same thing, that we not go back for August break until we identify a package and get it done in a bipartisan way, working toward protecting the American people, protecting families of America, protecting American businesses.

Since then, we now have a projection by one of the top groups that have projected deaths, and they are saying 350,000 deaths just after Christmas.

On December 1, 2,760 people died; on December 2, 3,157. Those projections are identified as increasing because of the amount of people hospitalized and the percentages historically that have been indicated.

I ask Leader MCCONNELL to please reconsider his statements. First, he had indicated that we were going to be able to address this issue just after the election. Politics should not be playing a role in this process.

Now it is, when the new decision comes out by the bipartisan group in the Senate, he says he rejects it, and that maybe after the first of the year we will get to it.

How many Americans have to die before we get serious about this? How many of our fellow citizens have to die, our friends, our neighbors? I don't know if there are any family members who have died, but they are in danger, I can guarantee.

Our hospitals, our doctors are pleading day after day after day, do something about this. Please do something about this. We are overwhelmed. We can find beds for the doctors to be able to treat our citizens. What we cannot do is find doctors and nurses and technicians that are working 7 days a week, 16-hour days, going back to their families, going to bed, and coming back again.

I do not understand it at all. If we are concerned about the economy, let's be

concerned about the economy. The more deaths, the worse our economy will suffer.

Homelessness, food instability, increasing mental health issues, education, increasing domestic violence, crime, this is going to continue to get worse unless we address the COVID issue now, not later, but now.

Our leadership has been attempting to address this issue for some time. There is only one stumbling block and that is over in the Senate.

I don't care if you agree with what has been proposed or not. Sit down at the damn table and talk about it. If you have to be there 20 hours a day, sit down and talk about it.

You wouldn't do this in your normal life in business. I have never done that in my normal life in business. When we have something moving forward, we work at it, time and time and time again; and we have to do that now, with COVID. Not later, now.

URGENT NEEDS OF TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Mr. Speaker, I also want to talk a little bit about Arizona's First Congressional District and our country, on the need to extend the Tribal deadline from December 31 for another year to make sure they have the opportunity to use the funds that were given to them.

There is an assumption that you can, over a 6-month period, put millions of dollars out there and get something done right away. I know that; I am a former project manager. I know to build a building it takes 2 to 3 years to get the planning done and get the work done.

And here, the CARES Act clearly indicated a need for COVID relief for the Tribal Nations, not just because they have not been able to address the issue, but they need to address the issue.

Mr. Speaker, I say one more time, let's get this COVID thing done.

CURFEWS AND COMMON SENSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, Governor Newsom made a groundbreaking discovery regarding COVID-19 last week. Apparently, it has learned to tell time. Thus, acting under the strictest of scientific standards, he has ordered Californians to run home before 10 p.m., lock their doors, and hide from this insidious virus until daybreak.

Unfortunately, COVID doesn't seem to be following the curfew, so Newsom is now threatening yet another hard lockdown of virtually the entire State throughout the Christmas season. Don't we now our plague apparel.

There is just one nagging question the Governor hasn't bothered to answer. If these lockdowns are so successful, why do we need to keep having them?

Now, we are told not to worry. We are cheerfully assured that the jobs

that are being destroyed are non-essential. That is their term, non-essential.

Well, I have news for these self-absorbed elitists. If a job is putting food on your table and a roof over your head that job is essential for you and the family that depends upon you.

Last spring, I asked Anthony Fauci if he had taken into account the human cost of these lockdowns, the suicides, the drug and alcohol abuse, the domestic violence, the deferred health screenings and treatments, and the poverty related deaths that his policies were setting into motion. No, we really haven't considered that, he breezily replied.

Don't know, don't care.

But before Fauci and his followers took a wrecking ball to our Nation, poverty had dropped to its lowest rate since 1959. Unemployment was the lowest in 50 years. The income gap was narrowing. Wages showed their strongest growth in 40 years.

How many millions of these jobs have now been wantonly destroyed by autocratic officials who seem oblivious to the damage that they are causing?

Now, according to the CDC's best estimate, those under 50 have a 99.98 percent chance of recovering from COVID, if they get it at all; 99.98 percent. And 40 percent who get it don't even know they have it.

Even for the most vulnerable group, over 70, the survival rate is 94.6 percent.

Now, Sweden did not force its businesses to close. Sweden didn't shut down its schools and abandon its children to the streets. Sweden didn't even adopt a mask mandate.

Sweden did what free societies do; they gave the best advice they could, and they trusted their citizens to use their own good judgment of what measures made sense to them.

The result? Well, as of this morning, Sweden's mortality rate from COVID is 154 deaths per million below that of the United States. If we had Sweden's rate, that would mean over 50,000 fewer American deaths from COVID.

Meanwhile, Sweden has sustained a fraction of the economic damage that our lockdown leftists have inflicted on innocent Americans. Globally, the United Nations warns that 130 million people will starve to death around the world because of the economic damage caused by these measures.

Mr. Speaker, this has to stop. The good news is that more and more Americans are questioning the lunacy of these policies and the hypocrisy of those who impose them. Newsom's curfew order was met with spontaneous defiant demonstrations across the State. Elected sheriffs are increasingly refusing to enforce these autocratic orders. Pastors are reopening their churches. Businesses are reopening, even as their owners are taken away in handcuffs.

All mass hysterias are driven by blind fear, fanned by politicians and