

one in a quadrillion, or one in"—well, I am not even sure what that number is. Maybe quadrillion. I guess that is 15 zeros. "For former Vice President Biden to win these four states collectively, the odds of that event happening decreased to less than one in a quadrillion to the fourth power.

"13. By purporting to waive or otherwise modify the existing State law in a manner that was wholly ultra vires and not adopted by each State's legislature, defendant States violated not only the electors clause, but also the elections clause, to the extent that the Article I elections clause textually applies to the Article II process of selecting Presidential electors.

"14. Plaintiff States and their voters are entitled to a Presidential election in which the votes from each of the States are counted only if the ballots are cast and counted in a manner that complies with the preexisting laws of each State. The President and vice president of the United States are the only elected officials who represent all the voters in the Nation. Voters who cast lawful ballots cannot have their votes diminished"—or the term we have heard over the last 4 years, disenfranchised—"by States that administered their 2020 Presidential elections in a manner where it is impossible to distinguish a lawful ballot from an unlawful ballot.

"15. The number of absentee and mail-in ballots that have been handled unconstitutionally in defendant States greatly exceeds the difference between the vote totals of the two candidates for President of the United States in each defendant State.

"16. In addition to injunctive relief for this election, plaintiff State seeks declaratory relief for all Presidential elections in the future. This problem is clearly capable of repetition, yet evading review. The integrity of our constitutional democracy requires that States conduct Presidential elections in accordance with the rule of law and Federal constitutional guarantees.

So that is critical.

"18. In a Presidential election, 'the impact of the votes cast in each State is affected by the votes cast for the various candidates in other States.'"

That is in the Anderson case, 460 U.S. at 795.

"The constitutional failures of defendant States injure plaintiff States because 'the right of suffrage can be denied by a debasement or dilution of the weight of a citizen's vote just as effectively as by wholly prohibiting the free exercise of the franchise.'"

And that is from Bush versus Gore.

In any event, Mr. Speaker, it is critical that the Supreme Court step up and take the jurisdiction that the Constitution requires it to take. It won't be fun and it won't be pleasurable, but it is absolutely essential that the U.S. Supreme Court do what the Constitution created them to do, take up this matter with which it has original jurisdiction and determine there were un-

constitutional actions taken that affected the outcome of this election. It was not a free and fair election, and if the Supreme Court does not act accordingly, then, really, the Supreme Court is irrelevant, Congress is irrelevant; and those who would seek to hide ballots in the future, create improper ballots, count ballots multiple times, they will control the future of this country, not the Supreme Court, not Congress, but a newfangled electronic—not just electronic. They used every method known to man. It will make Tammany Hall, and has made Tammany Hall, look like Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. It is time to act. It is time preserve the Republic.

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

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. RIGGLEMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, after 2 years of service, to address this Congress for perhaps the last time. I rise today humbled by the opportunities granted to me by this great country and the citizens of the Fifth District. That I could go from living on food stamps decades ago to serving in this hallowed body is a testament to the American Dream and the opportunity provided by this land of liberty.

I would be remiss if I did not begin this address by thanking my beautiful wife, Christine, and my three daughters, Abby, Lauren, and Lily, for their support throughout this journey. I married Christine fresh out of high school at the age of 19, and she has been my rock ever since. And to have my two new granddaughters in Washington, D.C., with me today is an overwhelming blessing.

I never intended to enter politics or subject my family to the challenges and strains that accompany public life, but they have taken on every challenge and continue to inspire me every day.

I have spent most of my life in service to this country as an enlisted and commissioned airman in the United States Air Force and working for and with intelligence community and Department of Defense organizations. I served in the Balkans during Operation Allied Force, spent time in the Middle East, and deployed immediately after 9/11 as part of a team that mission planned the first bombing runs into Afghanistan.

I was taken away from my family in service to the country I love. And while my family is with me now, I know that they made countless sacrifices to help me get to this point.

Though my time in this Chamber will be shorter than I may have hoped, I am proud of what we have accomplished. Just 2 weeks ago, this House passed H.R. 2466, the State Opioid Grant Authorization Act of 2020. A bill that

might seem like a footnote in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to some can save countless lives. One of my priorities during my time in Congress has been addressing the very real crisis of opioid addiction, which has devastating consequences for families across this great Nation.

I was sitting at my desk in Congress about 1 year ago when I got the call that my cousin, Trey, had overdosed not far from where I was sitting.

I talked about this with my friend and colleague, Congressman DAVID TRONE, the Democratic party lead on the State Opioid Response Grant Authorization bill and the leader of the Freshman Working Group on Addiction. He had lost a nephew, Ian, to the scourge of addiction. We knew that something had to be done, and we came together in a bipartisan way to accomplish something great.

A special thanks to Representatives SHERRILL and ARMSTRONG for their incredible support on this legislation.

Trey and Ian, we worked to honor your memories and to help those who might not be able to help themselves.

During my time in Congress, I have worked to expand access to broadband internet in rural areas, especially in those remote areas of the Fifth District. Our rural communities need broadband access to keep up with the demands of the modern economy. Closing the digital divide is critical in enhancing economic opportunity, job creation, access to healthcare, and education in rural America.

My district carries history matched by few in this Nation. The first representative from my district was James Madison. I have used his legacy to guide me in my fight to protect constitutional principles, and I believe that his example is one that can guide all representatives in this body.

James Madison said this: "A well instructed people alone can be a permanently free people."

I internalized that statement into a baseline for carrying out the duties as a representative of the people, duly elected by the citizens of Virginia's Fifth District. My background as a veteran and Air Force intelligence officer employed at times by the National Security Agency and working with other government agencies taught me the value of honor, service, and integrity in all I do. It also taught me the invaluable lesson of considering the source when evaluating information from my colleagues and constituents and when fighting radicalization and disinformation campaigns.

James Madison also stated that "knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power knowledge gives."

A well instructed people and a knowledgeable people—pillars of a working republic. Those pillars are now being assaulted by disinformation and outlandish theories surrounding this Presidential election.

As we transition to a new administration, I implore all to consider the sources of information you receive, to fact-check diligently and to recognize that many bad actors who spread spurious and fantastical conspiracy theories under banners like QAnon, Kraken, Stop the Steal, Scamdemic, and many other emotive terms and coded language are not disseminating information rooted in knowledge, but with questionable motives. They are rooted in misunderstanding or fraud or, in some cases, ignorance.

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To all those on the end of the disinformation firehose, please know that I am you and you are me.

Unbiased, fact-based information sustains our republic. My objective in serving my district was never to judge others, because all of us are only human. None of us has a special dispensation to rule over another.

We are common in our belief that the Constitution stops the tyrannical encroachment of a man, woman, or group claiming to have some extraordinary knowledge that allows them insights that we as individuals cannot attain.

Disinformation hinders our free exchange of ideas and creates super-spreader digital viruses that create a fever of nonsense.

Disinformation operations can attack specific pillars of democracy at strategic moments: from belief in democratic elections, to trust in public health and public institutions. In technical terms, sophisticated influence operations using combinations of bot-like-networks and synchronous mass posting behavior, termed “coordinated inauthentic behavior,” is a tactic, a tactic which disinformation peddlers such as QAnon community members use with great success to hijack the national conversation.

My 2 decades of intelligence, warfighting, and counterintelligence experience coupled with serving in the 116th Congress is why I will not allow conspiracy peddlers to hijack our ability to conduct reasonable policy discussions for the betterment of all Americans.

Just like creating a vaccine to eradicate COVID-19, we must work together to inoculate against the social contagion of disinformation, conspiracies, anti-Semitism, dehumanization, racism, deep state cabal nonsense, cults, and those grifters posing as servants of the people.

Big data, machine learning, and facts-based analysis are the ingredients for our digital vaccine. If we build that vaccine, we can encourage facts over fantasy, people over politics, love over hate, and unity over division.

I am now serving on the board of a nonpartisan organization that will utilize advanced analysis, data methodologies, and network modeling to track disinformation over social media.

If you are in the grifting and propaganda business, know that I am not going anywhere.

As I go back to my incredible life on 50 acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains, I can reflect on how I conducted myself in Congress.

My dear friend, Congressman KEVIN BRADY from Texas, told me he appreciated that I “called balls and strikes” even when it was not advantageous to me. To be clear, KEVIN BRADY is an example of that service and what calling balls and strikes looks like. So let me call three pitches right now.

First, I will always fight disinformation wherever I see it, hear it, or watch it. For those who spread disinformation, know that I will not stop in tracking those who push falsehoods onto decent Americans. Radicalization through disinformation has no place in the United States, and in this fight, I will not relent.

Second, working together for the betterment of the American people in a bipartisan way is not a bug, it is a feature.

Third, people are more important than party. Pandering is a political sickness.

As I reflect on the accomplishments we have made for the Fifth District, I am moved to recognize some of the many people who have made these accomplishments possible.

Esther Page and Denise Van Valkenburg are dedicated public servants who served the Fifth District from before my time in office. Regardless of the party affiliation of the Representative, they served the people of the Fifth District of Virginia exceptionally, and they should be lauded for their efforts.

To Jim Pomeroy, Steve Harvey, and Josiah Leonard, your service has not gone unnoticed.

It was never my plan to be a politician, so I should thank my staff for helping me to learn this process and do my best to serve the Fifth District.

Dave Natonski, who served as my chief of staff through good times and bad, was an invaluable asset and friend.

My current chief of staff, Haley Brady, is as competent as she is great.

A big thank you to my legislative team, without whom the legislative accomplishments could not have happened: Borden Hoskins, a financial services savant with as devastating a wit as a pen; Eli Woerpel, my right hand on everything broadband and agricultural; Jason Eagleburger, my friend and confidante, who spearheaded the China Task Force and helped with complex policy issues; Nicole Nentwich, who was my go-to for healthcare policy; and Lexi Klein, who my Fifth District constituents love and appreciate.

To my communications team, thank you for your sound advice and constant guidance.

Joe Chelak has been with me since I started my run for Congress, and his strategic leadership has been invaluable to my success.

Kate Currie has made the most of her time in my office and exhibited incredible talent.

And to Ben Mullany, without whom I would not have gotten this far, thank you.

Jimmy Keady, thank you for talking me into this craziness, and your leadership and guiding me through this beautiful and treacherous passage.

Chris Woodfin, thank you. Your counsel has been invaluable.

To the Cloakroom, thank you for putting up with me these last 2 years.

And to my congressional colleagues, where there are far too many to name and thank, know that I am not far away. I am always available for a snort of bourbon, a tippie of irreverence, and a nod to Bigfoot.

In January of next year, the Fifth District of Virginia will be represented by a new Member, who I hope will heed these lessons: that service to your district should be your priority; courage in the face of disagreement should be lauded, not ignored; and to always remember the strength of holding to your principles will last far longer than any allegiance to a position or a party.

There is an incredible dart game scene in the show “Ted Lasso” where Ted is vastly underestimated in a darts competition and ends up besting an arrogant opponent, a former owner of the soccer team that Ted coaches. Please watch that scene. In that scene, Ted quotes Walt Whitman: “Be curious, not judgmental.”

Let’s not throw hyperbolic darts at each other. Let’s rely on facts and compassion. Let’s listen together and move this country forward together.

May God bless the Commonwealth of Virginia, may God bless this Congress, and may God bless the United States of America.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(b) of House Resolution 967, the House stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2020.

Thereupon (at 2 o’clock and 6 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, December 14, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. WATERS: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 5001. A bill to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to clarify that the definition of a debt collector includes, in all cases, a person in a business the principal purpose of which is the enforcement of security interests; with an amendment (Rept. 116-638). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. Supplemental report on H.R. 5828. A bill to support remediation of illicit cross-border tunnels, and for other purposes (Rept. 116-471, Pt. 2).