

friends, our family, and our heartland, do not trifle with this representative democracy. For we the people will not stop, we will never back down. We will give our everything to protect those dear to us. This is our country. This is our Republic. Finish the wall.

TO-DO LIST FOR THE PRESS CORPS

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we are now being sent home for 3 weeks. I don't know whether it is coincidence or not that we are being sent home when we have such a problem at our border, and we just got done voting on a few immigration bills.

All of us Congressmen should have a to-do list over the next 3 weeks. I want to give the press corps a to-do list. Right now, our Border Patrol is under a gag order in which they cannot educate the press or Congressmen as to what is really going on. This, at a time when you have almost three times as many people trying to get across the border than at this time last year, and we have huge numbers of unaccompanied minors down there.

The press should be outraged at this gag order. I have been at the border four times so far over the last couple years, and it is always very illuminating what the Border Patrol can say to us. Now, like we are in some totalitarian state, they are not allowed to speak to us.

I don't care whether you care about the government benefits, the unaccompanied minors, the drug trafficking, the human trafficking, the money the drug cartels are making on illegal immigration, we should want to know and we can't know unless the Border Patrol tells us. Please wake up, sleeping press corps.

DISASTER AT OUR BORDER

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, last year Portland, Oregon, cut \$16 million from their police budget. This has led to a twenty-fold increase, unfortunately, in deadly shootings. Mayor Wheeler has been forced to reverse course now and ask for more funding for police.

Similar to this, the Biden administration is having to reverse course due to the crisis on the border. Now, many are getting hung up on using the word "crisis," so FEMA is now involved, and they deal with disasters, hence, the Biden border disaster.

Less than 2 months in, the border is worse than it has been in two decades. And now, Biden has been forced to reverse course and ask Mexico to help control the flow of migrants once again, after previously dismantling the "Remain in Mexico" policy.

Also, on his first day in the Biden administration, they issued a proclamation to halt all border construction, despite Congress funding it and demanding that it be built. Now, just yesterday, the administration has said it was moving forward with border wall construction. Good.

As they are learning in Portland, Seattle, and Minneapolis, the Biden administration is learning law and order is also required on our border or you get a disaster.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Joint Economic Committee:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
March 19, 2021.

HON. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write to respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the Joint Economic Committee effective immediately. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,

DARIN LAHOOD,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1024(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, of the following Member on the part of the House to the Joint Economic Committee:

Mr. ARRINGTON of Texas, to rank after Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER of Washington.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE MODERNIZATION OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(e) of House Resolution 8, 117th Congress, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, of the following Member to the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress:

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, to rank after Mr. LATTA of Ohio.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(f) of House Resolution 8, 117th Congress, and the order of the House of January 4,

2021, of the following Member to the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis:

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS of Iowa.

SCORCHED EARTH TO MISSISSIPPI BURNING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, last March, as the tragic failure of the Trump administration's response to the coronavirus pandemic was becoming very apparent, the House Democratic Caucus held a conference call to discuss the crisis. Recalling the lessons of history, like the aftermath of World War I, the Spanish Flu, the Great Depression, and World War II, that it is usually the least of these among us that are the hardest hit during the crises and the last to recover after these crises are over, if they are able to recover at all; I expressed at that time to the Caucus that the legislation before us offered a tremendous opportunity to restructure things in our vision. I was referring then, as I often do, to the vision expressed in our Pledge of Allegiance to our Nation's flag of liberty and justice for all.

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Shortly after the media reported these comments, Senator MCCONNELL, the majority leader of the Senate, derided them on the Senate floor. Referring to me by position, he declared: "This is not a political opportunity. It is a national emergency."

I wholeheartedly agree with the now-minority leader of the Senate that the coronavirus pandemic was and remains a national emergency. But because the previous administration and Senate Republicans failed to address it with appropriate urgency and a vision of liberty and justice for all, the American people, through the political process last November, entrusted Democrats with an opportunity to build back with a better and more equitable vision for the future of our great country.

The American Rescue Plan has begun that process, and it is enjoying widespread, bipartisan support across the entire spectrum of the country. It did not get a single Republican vote in the House or the Senate. Because of the use of the budget process commonly called reconciliation, Republicans were not able to block by filibuster the American Rescue Plan, and that is proving to be a good thing.

But the Senate minority leader and several of his colleagues seem to be hellbent on using archaic Senate procedural rules to allow the minority in the Senate to block any legislation designed to protect the voting and civil rights of our country's minority citizens as we continue our pursuit toward the fulfillment of liberty and justice for all.

We have been here before. During the 1940s and 1950s, the Senate filibuster was used to kill civil rights legislation and protect Jim Crow laws. Today, Senate Republican leaders are employing the same tactics to obstruct voting rights and civil rights legislation. Their efforts are designed to gain power for their party by suppressing political participation by minorities.

The minority leader has threatened that if Senate Democrats modify the filibuster rules to do to him as he did to President Obama, he will resort to scorched-earth tactics. This threat of scorched-earth tactics by the Senate minority leader in defiance of American democracy is reminiscent of "Mississippi Burning," which highlighted the lynching of three civil rights workers who were simply registering Black voters in Mississippi in June 1964. They were murdered by the KKK, with the cooperation of law enforcement officials, to keep them from assisting minority citizens who simply wanted to vote. It was 44 days before their bodies were located and four decades before anyone faced legal consequences for their deaths.

Today, Republicans are using the big lie about the 2020 elections as a pretext to advance a litany of minority voter suppression laws. They know that our vision of liberty and justice for all enjoys majority support among voters, so they seek to suppress enough votes so that their oppressive policies and bankrupt ideas can prevail. The minority leader wants to allow a minority of his minority to block measures that would prevent a return to bygone days.

To confront this threat, the Senate must eliminate the 60-vote threshold to end a filibuster on voting rights and civil rights legislation. Just as Mississippi Burning was met with the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act, the threat of scorched earth must be met with the For the People Act and the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act.

I didn't march in the streets and spend nights in jail as a young man to find myself fighting the same battles generations later, but it appears the minority leader and his Republican colleagues are preparing to retread old ground, and I am prepared to stand my ground.

To the minority leader and his colleagues, I say: This is not a political opportunity. This is a national emergency.

Since this country's inception, equal rights for people of color have been restricted by those in power who seek to hold on to power by using their power to deny the greatness of this country to those who do not look like them.

Extending debate on legislative issues is one thing, but when it comes to rights rooted in the Constitution, the filibuster has no place.

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

HONORING REV. DR. C.T. WRIGHT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, I am going to do a couple of things right now, and one of the first ones is a little conversation about someone we lost in my community who actually was a friend and a neighbor and had an impact in ways that are hard to describe. I desperately wish the Members of this body could have spent time with him and his wife.

It is Rev. Dr. Professor C.T. Wright. What was so unique about him is that he was a big man, and he had a voice that carried. You would have conversations with him, Madam Speaker, and realize just how incredibly brilliant he was.

He was born in Georgia. He struggled and worked his way up. He ended up with a Ph.D. in history from Boston College. He became a civil rights leader, yet when you would talk to him about that, Reverend Wright—Dr. Wright—actually often wouldn't refer to himself as a civil rights leader. He would say: I want to lead for humanity.

He loved people. It was a different view. He took his struggles, his success, and his academic prowess and said: We are going to make people's lives better. Why would you dare focus on the color of their skin?

I remember one of the most interesting conversations I had with him where he and I were in the back of the room and talked, and he saw many of—actually, almost an example of what we just saw on the floor—the discussions of politics and race, and said: DAVID, it is class and opportunity that divides us. It is not our color; it is our opportunity.

Dr. Wright was just a powerful and brilliant man.

Madam Speaker, you see his wife there, Mary. They were married in 1974. Mary was the epitome of love.

How many of us in our life have that one person?

I am blessed to have a 5-year-old little girl. But even when she was younger, when she would see Mary, Mary would sort of scream, and the two of them would run over and hug each other. She was just the epitome of love.

That made them incredibly powerful, as you felt good by just knowing Dr. Wright and Mary Wright in your community.

The other thing that also made him unique was that he was a passionate conservative. He was a Republican elector. He was the chairman of our

clemency board, and he was on my community school board. He was brilliant, and he cared about humanity. He ran charities and foundations to help all people. They helped people on the continent of Africa and even people all through our community. He was a powerful force for good because he was good, because he was passionate, and because he was caring.

We lost both Mary and Dr. Wright last year.

I am going to put in a much more detailed CV because his history goes on page after page, and we will put that in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Individuals like them bring us together and also make us better. It breaks my heart that more will not get to spend time with him because, after a couple of minutes with him and Mary, you felt different.

The last thing I will say is he loved to give the opening prayer at Republican meetings. What was always so fascinating, Madam Speaker, is you would watch the room, and the room ends up standing and clapping. I was waiting for an altar call. Now, I am Catholic, so I am not used to the concept of an altar call, but watching someone be able to have so much energy, vigor, enthusiasm, love for people, and love for believing that conservatism is how you free people, he made an impact. He made an impact on my life, my family's life, my community, and my State, and I believe he made an impact on this country.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Dr. C.T. Wright, a passionate, faithful, and devoted public servant and valued neighbor. C.T. will be remembered as a mentor and true leader throughout the education, criminal justice, and faith communities in Arizona. He devoted much of his life to civil rights and education, working for many of the country's historically black colleges and universities, where he then moved on to his passion to help with human rights. He founded the Light of Hope Institute, which promotes human rights around the world. He also served as a delegate for the Electoral College and met six presidents. C.T. frequently led prayers at campaign rallies and promoted faith. He proudly served as the Chairman of the Board of Executive Clemency.

C.T. Wright had great passion for his family, education, faith, and freedom. Many will always remember and consider him as their brother. He leaves behind a great legacy that has reached out to communities across Arizona. He was a thoughtful, compassionate, and kind man who always cared for others while ensuring a good future for all.

C.T. Wright served countless communities unselfishly and served as a great leader. May we continue to honor his memory through our passion and service to our communities.

REVISITING NET NEUTRALITY

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, I want to do a handful of other things because, with the craziness of our schedule, we haven't had a chance to sort of walk through a lot of policy thoughts. But there was one that has been bugging me. I have the hour, so I was going to share something that has just been in my craw for a while.