

goes wheels up, these people will have a death sentence, and there will be blood on this administration's hands.

CONGRATULATING TERRY HAMBY

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Terry Hamby of Trigg County, Kentucky, for receiving the Distinguished Public Service Award for his outstanding leadership as chairman of the World War I Centennial Commission. Under Terry's leadership the commission completed the construction of the United States National World War I Memorial here in Washington, D.C.

There is no one who better understands the sacrifices of our service-members than Terry. He served for 26 years in our Nation's military, first in the Naval Air Wing during the Vietnam war before joining the U.S. Army Reserve.

After his retirement, Terry continued to honor and serve our Nation's military, and was appointed to the World War I Centennial Commission, and elected chairman in 2017. In just four years under his leadership, the United States National World War I Memorial was completed and opened to the public.

I am privileged to represent Terry in Congress, and I appreciate all he does to recognize our Nation's military. I join Terry's family, friends, and all of those impacted by his life of service in congratulating him on this enormous contribution to our Nation.

CONGRATULATING VERNON ANDERSON

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Vernon Anderson of Calloway County on his induction into the Kentucky Trapshooters League Hall of Fame.

Vernon has qualified 10 times for the Kentucky State trapshooters team and has been a member of the Kentucky Trapshooters League's board of directors for the past 12 years. He humbly describes himself as a consistently good trap shooter, but anyone who can hit 99 out of 100 moving targets at various distances is nothing less than a great shot.

Vernon has always paved the way for younger generations to participate in trap shooting. In 2015, his activism led trap shooting to become an official high school sport in Kentucky. He then became Calloway County High School's coach, where he has passed on his knowledge and passion for the sport to students.

Once again, I would like to congratulate my friend Vernon on this great honor and thank him for his continued service to the students of Calloway County, Kentucky.

ECONOMIC ISSUES AND RISING INFLATION

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss the current state of our economy.

With ill-advised lockdowns finally ending, our economy should be firing

on all cylinders. Unfortunately, we are, in many ways, stuck in the mud.

America has seen a string of disappointing jobs reports that fall short of expectations, and excessive government spending is driving up what is effectively a tax increase on every American—inflation.

Over 8 million jobs are available, even as the government pays people not to work. This is creating a dramatic workforce shortage and forcing our job creators to compete with the heavy hand of government. In fact, our labor participation rate sits at just 61 percent, the lowest total this century when you exclude the opening months of the pandemic.

And the massive spending rammed through by President Biden and Speaker PELOSI is only hurting us. Inflation is surging, affecting the price of everyday items Americans buy, like milk and gasoline.

This \$2 trillion in new spending came despite an economy that was reopening and on the mend, and it made Americans less likely to work and the government more likely to waste hard-earned tax dollars.

But for our Democrat friends, this wasteful spending knows no bounds. President Biden has proposed an outrageous \$6 trillion Federal budget that is a slap in the face to every American taxpayer.

Instead of focusing on a responsible infrastructure bill that repairs our roads and bridges and puts people to work, we see a focus by this body on ramming through the Green New Deal and more wasteful spending.

As leaders, we must change course to create a stronger recovery. As our economy reopens, we must respect taxpayers, support small businesses, and empower Americans to prosper through the dignity of work.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ERNEST ROBERTSON

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private First Class Ernest Robertson of Russell County, Kentucky, who served and paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Korean war. Ernest was killed in action at 24 years old, but his remains have never been recovered.

After basic training at Fort Knox, Ernest was assigned to the U.S. Army's Far East Command, M Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. On April 23, 1951, he suffered a terrible injury and was captured by North Korean forces. On May 6, one day after his 24th birthday, Ernest was killed in action.

The service and sacrifice of our troops must never be forgotten, even long after they have perished. It is truly a tragedy that some brave soldiers have not yet made it home after their horrible death. We must appreciate their sacrifice and remember the cost of freedoms we enjoy here in the United States.

I join with all the First District of Kentucky in thanking Private First

Class Robertson for his service, and his family for their efforts to remember him. He will always be in our thoughts.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our creator, redeemer, and friend, we offer to You all that we have and all that we are this day: Our cares and concerns, our annoyances and aggravations, our fears and frustrations, our tempers and our entanglements, as well as our hopes and happiness, our competence and self-confidence, our strength and our service.

We ask that You would recreate our spirits that we would have what we need to face the vagaries of life with renewed purpose and emboldened faith; that You would redeem our lives and the circumstances we face, that from our anxiety and uncertainty would emerge courage and wisdom; and that You would remind us of the joys of daily life, the blessings of home and the warmth of friendship, that through them we would find the gift of Your abiding presence upholding us in the effort of our labors and the living of our days.

In the redemption of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TENNEY 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

CHILD TAX CREDIT MONTHLY
PAYMENTS

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

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to be with you today and to tell everyone how excited I am that on July 15 checks are going to be arriving at the homes of families with children who have been struggling for a year and a half, and many have really come to the brink because of the pandemic that we are facing.

This is the child tax credit that is actually going to reduce child poverty by half in the United States of America. It was part of the American Rescue Plan, which we passed in January, and now it is going to come to help people in the form of a check. These payments provide poor, working- and middle-class families with meaningful tax relief.

In my district, over 70 percent of children will benefit from the expanded credit; over 100,000 families in total. This is the result of our work to make sure that families are no longer suffering because of the pandemic.

HONORING GUY DANELLA ON HIS
RETIREMENT

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor New York Mills Police Officer Guy Danella, who retired from law enforcement after 23 years this past month.

Guy, a native of my hometown of New Hartford, began his service in law enforcement in 1998, with the Oneida County Sheriff's Department as a corrections deputy. During that time, Guy realized he wanted to continue his career as a police officer and became a deputy sheriff with the road patrol in 2000, where he spent 2 years on the DWI patrol.

In 2004, Guy began his career with the New York Mills Police Department, where he would serve for the next 17 years. During his service with New York Mills, Guy became a field training officer, helping to mentor new officers, and was honored with a number of service awards, including the Meritorious Service Award, Exceptional Service Award, and the Patriot Award.

It was an honor to meet with Guy and his amazing daughter, Alex. I hope she fulfills her dream to go to law school someday.

Guy, we thank you for your many years of service to our wonderful community and for helping to train our next generation of heroes. Our community is truly grateful.

AMATEUR RADIO SERVES AN
IMPORTANT PURPOSE

(Mrs. LESKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important contributions of amateur radio operators in Arizona and across the Nation.

Throughout our Nation's history, amateur radio has served an important purpose. From providing a means of communication in times of crisis, to assisting emergency operators in natural disasters, amateur radio operators are an important part of the communities across our country.

Arizona is home to at least 23,000 amateur radio operators and hundreds of amateur radio groups and clubs. This week, the American Radio Relay League will host their annual field day, where thousands of amateur radio groups across the country will prepare for future crises.

Since 1933, amateur radio operators have practiced the rapid and effective deployment of radio communications equipment through these field day events.

I am honored to recognize the important contributions of amateur radio operators, and I wish them a safe and effective field day this weekend.

RECOGNIZING OZZIE FLETCHER

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

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to tell the story of Ozzie Fletcher.

Seventy-seven years ago, on D-day, June 6, 1944, 22-year-old Osceola "Ozzie" Fletcher was working as an Army crane operator on Omaha Beach when he was hit by a German missile, leaving him with serious wounds on his leg and head.

Despite the injuries he sustained that day, Ozzie was overlooked, in fact, denied a Purple Heart simply because of the color of his skin. At the time, our forces were segregated, where Black soldiers could not serve alongside White soldiers.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff learned of Ozzie's story, sending the Army on a 2-month-long fact-finding mission.

This weekend I was honored to attend the ceremony at Fort Hamilton Army Base in my district in Brooklyn, New York, when an historic wrong was corrected and Ozzie was finally awarded the Purple Heart he earned more than seven decades ago, as the Nation observed Juneteenth. This recognition of Ozzie's service was long overdue.

I have great and profound appreciation for his service during World War II and his acts of bravery on that fateful day that changed the course of our world's history.

After the war, Ozzie served as a sergeant with the NYPD, a community relations officer in the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office, and later retired to become a social studies teacher in New York City public schools.

Ozzie has spent his entire life giving back to our country and the residents of New York City, and I am happy to see him finally get the recognition he deserves.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HIMES). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

ENHANCING STATE ENERGY SECURITY
PLANNING AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS ACT OF
2021

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1374) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to provide Federal financial assistance to States to implement, review, and revise State energy security plans, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1374

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 "Enhancing State Energy Security Planning and Emergency Preparedness Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. STATE ENERGY SECURITY PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part D of title III of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6321 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 367. STATE ENERGY SECURITY PLANS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Federal financial assistance made available to a State under this part may be used for the implementation, review, and revision of a State energy security plan that assesses the State's existing circumstances and proposes methods to strengthen the ability of the State, in consultation with owners and operators of energy infrastructure in such State, to—

"(1) secure the energy infrastructure of the State against all physical and cybersecurity threats;

"(2) mitigate the risk of energy supply disruptions to the State and enhance the response to, and recovery from, energy disruptions; and

"(3) ensure the State has a reliable, secure, and resilient energy infrastructure.

"(b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—A State energy security plan described in subsection (a) shall—

"(1) address all fuels, including petroleum products, other liquid fuels, coal, electricity, and natural gas, as well as regulated and unregulated energy providers;

"(2) provide a State energy profile, including an assessment of energy production, distribution, and end-use;

"(3) address potential hazards to each energy sector or system, including physical threats and cybersecurity threats and vulnerabilities;

"(4) provide a risk assessment of energy infrastructure and cross-sector interdependencies;