

their manufacturing isn't just immediately shipped off to China.

Biden said he wouldn't ban fracking outright, but will make it impossible to build new projects, build pipelines, or export our clean American natural gas that would decrease global carbon emissions.

These new regulations will take away our choices on healthcare, encourage illegal immigration, discourage the enforcement of our immigration laws, and more than that, this philosophy of regulate at any cost will result in silly regulations like this: Reducing disturbances to Hawaiian spinner dolphins from human interaction.

This is not how we govern.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM JAMES LEAVY

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

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of my godfather and uncle, William James Leavy—a life very well-lived, he passed away February 16, 2021.

Bill Leavy was married to his wife, my aunt, Gloria, for 67 years. They had three children: Cynthia, Cheryl, and Colleen, and one grandchild, Jonathan.

Bill Leavy served in the United States Army in Korea in combat for two full years, and the horrors that he must have seen.

In his later years, he worked as a letter carrier for the post office and was awarded a 50-year gold membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers.

His favorite pastime was poetry, and he was extremely proud of that; and his family knew him as an "Irish poet."

I look back on a life very well-lived. He was my godfather; he was my uncle; and he married the love of his life.

He fought for this country because he loved this country.

And if we could all honor all our veterans, and, tonight, Bill Leavy. Thank you.

FUND THE POLICE FOR PEACEFUL STREETS

(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, in June of last year, the city of Portland, Oregon, cut \$16 million from their police budget, and shut down a unit of the police which was designed to reduce violence in the city.

As Republicans predicted—and a lot of others—this has not led to peaceful streets. Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler has been forced to ask for more funding for police.

This is not unique to Portland. Major cities across the U.S. have seen a spike in violent crime as they cut police budgets. Last year, New York City

defunded their police department budget by about \$1 billion, or 9.2 percent. The result? Murder is up 17 percent; shooting incidents are up 77 percent. In Los Angeles, homicides are now up 23 percent after a defunding.

How much more evidence will the defund the police movement need before they admit they were wrong and innocent people are indeed being killed? On top of this, prosecutors in some areas are refusing to charge perpetrators and putting criminals back on our streets to continue their crimes.

We must push back against these radicals who want to defund the police and stop this crime wave.

WOKENESS

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

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about the state of affairs here in the people's House and the extent to which the majority has been using the time on the floor of this valuable body, the people's House, to promote wokeness first rather than America first. And this is what we see every single day.

Madam Speaker, I have a few of my colleagues here tonight with me because this is such an important time in our country's history. We have so many important issues we need to be addressing, ought to be addressing, and yet, the people's House is not addressing them. And instead, the people's House is focusing on advancing wokeness first instead of America first.

I have got a number of things I am going to get into and talk about addressing these particular issues, but I would just note that my good friend's— and someone I admire a great deal— birthday is tomorrow, and that is Justice Clarence Thomas.

And for those who know his story and have read his biography, his autobiography, written through the eyes of his relationship with his grandfather—"My Grandfather's Son"—Justice Thomas, I think represents all that is great and good about this country.

He represents all that is great and good about overcoming the devastating impact of Jim Crow laws in the South, the discrimination that we saw rampant in his native hometown of Savannah, and watching his life story and walking through his life story, and the progression of what that meant and where he ended up and what he achieved.

And then what we witnessed in that fall of 1991 with the obscene, absurd actions by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary—chaired, by the way, by then-Senator Joe Biden—attacking this good man, Clarence Thomas, attacking his integrity, attacking his character.

And yet, what do we see out of the life and service of Clarence Thomas but

the embodiment of the fulfillment of the American Dream and a recognition of what you can achieve when you fight for it, when you work for it, and you overcome the odds against you. And what a beautiful story it is.

And why do I raise that now? Because in a world of wokeness, in a sea of wokeness, all driving an agenda—purposeful, by the way, by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle—to divide this country by race, to divide this country, and to highlight issues of division and separation, as Justice Roberts fairly eloquently stated, he said: "It's a sordid business, this divvying us up by race." And we see it every single day. And it is highlighted by this body. I am going to go through that in a minute.

Madam Speaker, every single thing this administration, every single thing this Democrat-led House of Representatives, everything that the Democrat-led United States Senate is doing, is designed very purposely to divide us by race, and we should be better than that.

And I think there are things that we all know that are on the minds of the American people, whether it is increasing prices, because we spent \$6 trillion and lumber prices are going up, and housing prices are going up. We have a border that is under assault; cartels who run our border. And we are turning the keys of the kingdom over to Iran and China instead of siding with Israel. And we are flooding the economy with dollars and driving up inflation, but also racking up mountains of debt. All of these things are occurring.

And the regulations that my friend from Texas, Mr. CRENSHAW, was just talking about, the regulation-strangling business, we are paying people more not to work than to work.

And all of our small businesses are at home going, "stop it. Please stop it." I have introduced legislation set up to end those unemployment benefits.

Will we debate those here in this Chamber?

No. No, sir.

Why? Because we are going to advance woke legislation. We are going to talk about woke bills. We are not going to talk about all the small businesses—by the way, often owned by minorities, often owned by people who need to be able to hire people and they can't because this institution spent \$6 trillion and doled it out to destroy the American Dream by paying people more to work than to not work. It is absolutely astounding.

And that is what we have. This Chamber is empty. What have we done today? We have voted on a couple of random bills—I don't know if they are suspension bills or what we did today. What are we even going to do this week? The American people don't know, because we are not doing anything. They're looking at this Chamber and they are saying: What are you doing?

We have an obligation to fight and defend the American people and to do

our job, and I am delighted to have my friends from Texas here.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for having this Special Order on such a crucial time in our history.

You don't have to look hard to see the devastation left behind from the wokeism movement currently plaguing our beloved country. Our schools and our universities, our esteemed and feared military, our government on every level, and our history itself are being contaminated by those pushing socialism and division under the guise of being morally woke.

□ 2000

Webster's dictionary defines the word "woke" as being "aware of and actively attentive to imparted facts and issues, especially issues of racial and social justice."

Well, I can tell you with absolute certainty that I am woke to the following:

First, I am woke to the fact that innocent men, women, and children across the country are being hurt and killed because of the left's call to defund the police around this Nation.

I am woke to the fact that Democrats are more than willing to spend your hard-earned tax dollars on housing and free handouts for illegal aliens, but cannot be bothered to care for our homeless and our veterans.

I am woke to the fact that the Critical Race Theory is racist in itself.

And, lastly, I am woke to the fact that painting America as a racist nation is wrong on every level and a slap in the face to those of every color, every ethnicity, and creed who courageously paid the ultimate sacrifice so Old Glory could wave boldly and freely for years to come. Now I am hearing calls from the far left and those who are woke to replace our beloved Old Glory.

Where has common sense gone?

If the left truly wants to discuss social justice, I encourage them to talk to the countless minority business owners who watch their life's work be looted and burned in front of their very eyes last year because of woke ideologies.

Go talk to the engineer who was fired and can't pay his bills now because President Biden has foolishly blocked the Keystone pipeline. Go talk to the migrant woman who was assaulted and raped during her trek to the southern border of the United States because Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS told her to come here and invited her here.

I could go on, but here is the bottom line: If we don't stand firmly against this movement, America, whose mighty wings have fought to defeat evil tyrants, communism, and Nazism in order to lift freedom-loving people out of the hands of oppressors all over this world, could soon be a socialist dictatorship herself and completely unrecognizable to all who love her and

fought for her and died for her. And a world without a free America is a dark world indeed.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas, and I appreciate his remarks and his comments very much.

Madam Speaker, in just a minute I am going to turn it over to the other gentleman from Texas—in just a minute—and I know he has got some issues he wants to talk about involving border security.

Because, as three representatives from Texas here, I think I can speak on behalf of the entire delegation, at least the Republican side of the delegation, that our State is under siege. Our State is under siege in a way that it has not been for upwards of almost 180 years.

And you think about what is happening at the border and the extent to which cartels have operational control of our border, the extent to which we have attacks on American citizens, ranchers who are getting their fences torn down, ranches that are being ransacked.

We have people who are struggling. We have migrants who are dying in these ranches, migrants who are dying on the rivers. We have migrants who are being abused on the journey. We have little girls who are being abused.

If you spend a minute, a minute on the Rio Grande, instead of pontificating in this godforsaken Chamber, and you go talk to these migrants who are coming across the Rio Grande, then you see what is actually happening to these human beings all in the false name of compassion.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS), and I would ask what his views are about the current state of things with respect to the border.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman ROY for not only standing in tonight to speak forthrightly to the American people, but also including other Members of the Texas delegation to have conversations with the American people not just about the topic of being woke, but actually the things that are actually happening to the United States of America.

The Congressman is exactly right, there is a crisis in America today. There is a crisis that takes place because of such a rapid and swift transition to the ultraleft. The transition that has taken place began immediately upon President Biden accepting the oath of office and walking, driving, going back to the White House after he had taken an oath of office, where he raised his hand and he repeated, among the other words, to "well and faithfully execute the laws of the United States."

Well, there is a little bit more than just "well and faithfully execute the laws of the United States." I believe the American people want and need a

stable person who will recognize that they need someone to work in their best interest, in the best interest of their community, in the best interest of their job, in the best interest of safety, in the best interest of trying to give every single person in this country a better opportunity to have a better life. That is what I believe is behind the "well and faithfully execute the laws of the United States."

In fact, what has happened is there is a sweeping revolution that is going on in the United States of America by the elected officials. Elected officials who have turned a blind eye to the things in the past that were seen as stable, as reasonable, and something that was in the best interest to protect the people that they represent.

Day after day we have watched what happened down at the southern border of this country. I, too, went down. I am no stranger to the border. I previously lived in El Paso, Texas, for a number of years. My father served as the chief judge of the Western District of Texas and had to deal with not just the crime, but some of the circumstances that happened along the border. They came home to roost, so to speak, within the United States of America.

And as a Federal district judge, he tried his best to deal favorably, fairly, with people who violated the law. But where there were people who were criminals, who were not here to serve in the best interest of the United States of America, those who would become enemies of the State because what they did is they would import drugs, drugs which would kill Americans.

We have just been through a terrible epidemic in this country of opioid abuse. Opioid abuse that we all recognize, much of it was inherently begun and started here in the United States, but that has taken hold with other drugs now, fentanyl, methamphetamines, heroin, cocaine.

And in that process, we look to where this comes from. This comes from other countries, by and large, other countries who have people who want to kill and make money off the demise of the American people.

Yet the President of the United States, at the time he served as Vice President—because I know because the Drug Enforcement Administration senior officials have repeatedly said that the intelligence that was given to the then-Vice President, now President of the United States, they understood firsthand the danger that came from an open border.

The dangers that came when we did not have active law enforcement and intelligence would cause the deaths of thousands of Americans because of the illicit drugs. Illicit drugs that not only are addicting, but many times mixed in a way that a user never knew they were taking them. The availability of fentanyl, as an example.

Yet the President of the United States, with this vast knowledge of understanding from his service to the

country as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, as chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, as Vice President of the United States, he already knew the story.

The story that he wanted to project was that he is a kid from Pennsylvania, who knew what real America is. But what has happened is that he personally, and the radical left, have created a circumstance in this country that, we, as Republicans, are talking about tonight. That we are supposed to be woke to understanding the social implications. The enormous implications to people that we represent.

Yet, seemingly, it is the police that are the problem. Seemingly, it is the border that is the problem by enforcing the law. Seemingly, it is the ability that they want for criminals to run rampant throughout not just our neighborhoods, but across this country.

Madam Speaker, I would say to the young Congressman from Texas that we need his voice, his voice of compassion, his voice of common sense that says we need to move this country back to where it was simply a few months ago. Where we respect members of law enforcement, men and women of law enforcement who make house calls because they are asked to come and make dispute resolution many times, and then to take care of the law as it applies to a circumstance.

We need to get back to where we understand that the men and women of not just the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Border Patrol are back on their job instead of being moved over to take care of 1 million people who, in the first 6 months, have come through illegally.

We need to go back to elected officials who actually understand that the people who elected them aren't for woke. What they are for is this body to come together to where we understand that we have an obligation to protect the men and women and children and seniors and disabled people of this country. We have an obligation to stand behind our law enforcement and to provide them with better training and the things that they need, equipment, to properly do their job.

Instead, we are watching our country, whether it is Chicago or Los Angeles or New York City where criminals run rampant because of woke, that says we are supposed to defund the police department. We are supposed to defund those activities that would offer safety and security and opportunity for the most vulnerable of our society, and then blame others when people of color or of different races are harmed by criminals and thugs.

I watched this morning on TV of the murder that took place in Chicago of the young couple that came to a stoplight and were accosted and killed by thugs, criminal thugs.

I watched about a young man walking down the street in broad daylight in New York City and was stabbed repeatedly by a criminal this weekend.

No wonder this happens. We have already run the police out of town. We have already run people out of town who legitimately can stand up and have that obligation.

Madam Speaker, I come here tonight to join my two Texas colleagues to say, woke may be a term that we are supposed to get about enlightenment that we need to be good and better to each other, that we need to understand that there are people who might not agree with me, and I might not agree with them.

□ 2015

But "woke" has taken on a different theme. It has taken on a theme of taking on responsibility and respect. It has taken away the ability that we have in this body to effectively even be heard by each other. It has taken away the ability of millions of Americans to where they no longer feel the safety and security of their own home, of their own city street, or even their ability to stand up to those who have a different opinion.

Madam Speaker, I think what Congressman ROY is doing tonight is more than just standing up and expressing an opinion. It actually is an opinion that I believe millions of Americans support and respect by this gentleman doing this Special Order tonight.

I would call on this House of Representatives and all of its Members to understand that this phase we are going through will have a very difficult, difficult conclusion for many people who cannot effectively get through what is happening to them, to people who live in cities where police will no longer be, to small businesses that are burned to the ground, and to judges who are no longer judging based upon the rule of law but rather fear.

Madam Speaker, we as the Republican Party are not standing up and yelling and screaming. We have much resolve to us. But we ask tonight that the American people hear us that we condemned what happened on January the 6th. We condemn what is happening when people take advantage of law enforcement, take advantage of people, and take advantage of this great country.

Let us hope that tonight in our resolve of speaking forthrightly and honestly that we want to be that great country with shining cities on the hill where people work together, where people have a common interest and goals for their communities, and generations of people can work together whether you be a retired senior citizen, Madam Speaker, or whether you be a young child who knows not except that you live in a great country.

We need to speak plainly, but we are not yelling and screaming. We are not blaming someone else for the problems. But we will say this: The Republican Party of this House of Representatives stands for people to be safe in their own homes, for women who are in their own homes with their own children

who will not be taken advantage of because they do know they have a backup and that is the police departments, that they know that the rule of law will effectively provide them with the needs that they have to live in the greatest country in the world, that our law enforcement agencies will know that they can continue to evolve into professionalism, that they will be able to effectively heal themselves and make the changes.

I call on law enforcement to continue to make these changes. My Republican Party has these conversations with law enforcement every day. But I call on the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Christopher Wray, just as when my father, Judge William Sessions, was Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to stand up for law enforcement and expect them and want them to become professional.

Madam Speaker, we must heal what has happened.

Sunday, at church, I heard no less than 50 times the word redemption, the words that we are sinners, that we make mistakes, that we need to look at each other with the faithfulness of a great nation. I heard words of love and respect for those even that we disagree with.

But, Madam Speaker, we are not down pounding on tables tonight. We are simply trying to say what we believe is true, and that is that I believe that there are tens of millions of Americans who want and need this country to be safe. They want and need our elected officials, whether they be Republican or Democrat, that they need their elected officials to understand that their life and their family are important, and that until we get back to the standards of performance of expectations where law enforcement is allowed to effectively and professionally be there as the backup, where our military knows that we are there to support them and that our elected officials will stand on the side of righteousness, we are going to continue to wander through this terrible time that I call chaos.

It is my hope, as we drop to our knees this evening, that we do offer a prayer for our President, President Biden. I know him, and I know he has been through difficult times in his life. But, Madam Speaker, I would ask tonight that we give respect and prayer and ask that the President please understand that the most vulnerable who are there still need others to be of assistance, and we need to make sure that this country heals itself with love, respect, and admiration for each other.

I want to thank the young Congressman for tonight, for his bringing forth this opportunity to speak about where our country is. I want him to know that I personally admire him, respect him, and appreciate his sound call for a voice of reason and opportunity for America's future.

May God bless our country.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for allowing me to speak.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas. I particularly thank him for referring to me as young. I will take it.

Interestingly, and I will probably have more to say about this, but it was 10 years ago in July that I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma, with a 4-month-old daughter and a not quite 2-year-old son, not 100 percent sure whether I was going to be able to do like I did last weekend and go see my son play Little League baseball and see my daughter go off to camp last week.

Madam Speaker, that will shift your world view a little bit, as they say, about what is important and what is not important. I can tell you, Madam Speaker, that my dedication to public service was fully renewed after getting through that.

I was very blessed that I got through cancer-free in a matter of months, and Lord willing, I am still cancer-free. There is plenty of wood around here, but I knocked on my head instead.

I am honored the gentleman took the time to come down here and join me and say such nice things. I know the gentleman knows that part of the purpose here is our collective desire in this body to do what is right for this country.

What I cannot for the life of me understand is why my Democratic colleagues continue to insist on using this body to stoke division and to separate us by race, by sex, and by wherever we come from—all the different ways they could possibly come up with to divide us rather than finding ways for us to unite together to protect, defend, secure, and advance this country going forward.

My colleagues from Texas know—I know my friends from Texas know—it has been a full 90 days since the Vice President of the United States was tapped by the President of the United States to be in charge of the border, yet the Vice President has not taken a second to come to the Rio Grande, to come to the Rio Grande Valley, to come to the border.

Now, it wouldn't be enough just to come. By the way, if the Vice President is listening, it is not enough just to go. But it sure would be nice if she could find the southern border on a map, get in her taxpayer-funded airplane, take a direct flight down to the border, and go take the time to meet with Texans, to go take the time to meet with migrants, to take the time to meet with local leaders, and to see what is actually happening in real time at the border.

I know the gentleman knows full well that we just had 180,000 apprehensions in May. We have had over 700,000 apprehensions this year, and we have had over 200,000 got-aways. The Border Patrol estimates 1,000 got-aways every single day coming through between the ports of entry because our Border Patrol is now running processing centers in McAllen.

We all know this. I believe the Vice President knows this. I sent the Vice

President a memo outlining this just in case she doesn't know.

But it is happening to us in real time. It is happening to migrants in real time, and it is happening to ranchers in real time. I know my friends from Texas know that we have had 7,500 pounds of fentanyl that have been intercepted by Border Patrol. Fentanyl is killing our children.

What are we going to vote on this week? What are we going to do this week? I don't even know.

I flew back here from Texas, and I have half my colleagues still voting by proxy even though we are not wearing masks. We are still voting by proxy by saying: I am voting proxy because of the pandemic.

We are not even having half of our committee meetings because we are doing them virtually. We are doing them when we are home in our work periods.

Why aren't we here? Why aren't we here when there are 7,500 pounds of fentanyl pouring into our border? That is just the stuff we are capturing, by the way.

Do you know how many children are dying with marijuana that has been laced with fentanyl? It is happening right now, Madam Speaker.

You hear about the 80,000, 90,000 opioid deaths last year. Madam Speaker, do you know where this stuff is coming from?

Why did Governor DeSantis send resources to Texas to help secure our border? People said: Why would you do that? That is Texas. Because the map and the drugs that are coming into Florida are coming through the Southwest border, and anybody who follows it knows that to be true.

Why is that? Because the cartels that are now running the border profit immensely by moving human beings for profit and by moving fentanyl for profit.

The Cartel Jalisco New Generation just absorbed the Laredo faction and just absorbed the Cartel del Noreste of Los Zetas in Nuevo Laredo. They now have operational control of Tamaulipas. That is a dangerous cartel.

They are moving fentanyl for profit and moving human beings for profit, millions of dollars a day. We know this to be true. We know this from law enforcement agents on the ground—Texans, Federal authorities, Border Patrol, and ICE.

But they are not able to do their job because they are running processing facilities, processing facilities for human beings who we say we are helping because we are saying that we are giving them asylum. By the way, they are not claiming asylum under the statute that the asylum laws were meant to provide.

They come across the river, and there is a sign on trees at the Rio Grande.

By the way, the Vice President and my colleagues on the other side of the

aisle would know this if they bothered to go to the Rio Grande.

If you walk down to the river, Madam Speaker, there is a sign. It says "asilo" with an arrow, and it points to a bunch of bright lights sitting under the bridge, saying go over there.

When I was at the river, I met about 50 migrants at about midnight. There was a group of them, and they were lost. They were going around in circles. So, I drove my truck down the path so they would have light in the dark, so they could get to the processing center.

These are good people seeking a better life. Ask every single one of them why they are coming here, and it is for a job and opportunity. It wasn't for asylum under our laws. We are making a mockery of our laws by saying that anyone who wants to come to our country for opportunity—God bless them, I understand why; I probably would too. If you look at the opportunity you have here, Madam Speaker, as opposed to El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras right now, I understand. But we are turning our laws upside down. That is not what asylum laws are for.

Why don't we just sit down and figure it out? Madam Speaker, you can't just say wide-open borders. You can't. It is irresponsible.

Listen to the leaders of Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. They say it is irresponsible because it is devastating their own countries.

People say: Why don't they fix it? We should have policies to work with them to try to fix it.

But do you know what would fix it the most, Madam Speaker? If we didn't have a wide-open border. If we actually stood up and said: Sorry, you can't just come in unless you actually qualify under our asylum laws, which is a fraction, a tiny fraction, of the 700,000-plus apprehensions that we have apprehended since January 1.

But why aren't we here debating that? Why aren't we coming up with a solution to this problem so that migrants aren't being abused as I speak by cartels so they can make money?

□ 2030

This is the greatest country in the history of the world, but we allow that to occur. We allow that to occur, and we do so in the name of compassion. We do so when people stand up and say: Oh, well, we want to make sure these folks will get here.

Meanwhile, we have people screaming: Kids in cages.

Anybody remember that? Anybody remember the kids in cages? How many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle ran to the cameras, sat in hearings, and screamed: Kids in cages?

The very structures put in place by the Obama-Biden administration. It is a fact. Everybody knows that that is who created the chain-link barriers in these facilities at the border. Nobody blamed Obama and Biden for doing that.

Air flow, ability to see the migrants, protect them. Oh, no, everybody went out and said: Kids in cages.

Why?

Because we had a massive influx.

But they said: Oh, they are drinking out of toilets.

It was a lie. They weren't drinking out of toilets. They were drinking out of a device that had the water fountain on the top with the toilet down below. We have them in facilities all over, in prisons facilities, where we have people coming in. The water supply in the bathroom right off of this floor is connected to the same water supply between the toilet and the sink. It is a pipe behind the drywall.

Yet they went around saying: Kids drinking out of toilets.

It is shameful. We can't have a rational conversation about what is actually happening in Texas. It is bad. There are children in stash houses right now.

Why are we sitting here doing nothing? Why are we going to have a vote this week on two suspension bills in a quest to go after more wokeness for, I think it is, some LGBTQ small business bill or something on a suspension that failed to get through on the two-thirds vote?

Okay. Debate that. Have it out. They tried to get it through on suspension. It didn't get through. So we are going to do a rule. We won't have any real debate on it, by the way. Everything that the American people see in here is all a sham. There is no actual debate on the floor of this body. And anybody who wants to come debate me on that, I am happy to debate it. There is no debate on the floor of the people's House, ever.

We haven't had an amendment on the floor of the House of Representatives, the people's House, since May of 2016, that was in order on open debate on the floor of the House so that any one of my colleagues could walk down here and say: Hey, I have got an idea. There is a bill. You know what I would like to do? I would like to change something in the bill. Here is an amendment. I would like to send it to the desk, offer my amendment. Hey, what do you think about my amendment? It might make the bill better.

Do you know when I would have liked to have had a debate on that?

Last Friday.

I would have liked to have had a debate on the Juneteenth bill.

Why?

Because the purpose of that bill was excellent. The fulfillment of the Declaration of Independence with the ending of slavery, which we recognize in Texas because of Juneteenth, I didn't support the bill because I didn't think the title was good. There were some other factors. But I didn't support it, and I would have liked to have amended it. Never got a chance to do it, ever. I would have liked to have had the ability to amend it, but couldn't do it.

All right. So you are forced with an up or down vote. We have 2,000-page bills that are \$2 trillion. They are dropped on the floor and they say take it or leave it. And I say, you know

what? I would like to cut something or add something. Can't do it.

I can go up to the Rules Committee and say: Here is my thing. And it gets voted down in the Rules Committee.

If you see amendments on the floor of the House, it is all a fraud. It is all a fraud. They are hand-picked amendments designed to make it look like we are amending, but we are not.

You know, 15 amendments from the majority, 5 amendments from the minority, bam. Hey, look at that. That is debate. We are killing our country by partisan dropping of bills, no matter who is in the majority, by the way.

I said that we haven't had an amendment on the floor since 2016. Guess who was in control of the House for 2 years of that?

Republicans.

When are we actually going to sit down and debate this stuff and do the things that matter?

Again, I go home to Texas and everybody is saying: How can you possibly be allowing this to be occurring on our border?

It is the fundamental duty of the Federal Government to secure the border of the United States, yet we have fentanyl pouring in. We have cartels who run the border. We have Mexico becoming a narco-terrorist state. We have danger to citizens in our country actually occurring.

We have human trafficking and sex trafficking occurring in San Antonio, Austin, all the way up I-35, going over to Houston. We stopped cars in the San Antonio suburbs that have nine immigrants in them going to a stash house in Houston, driven by an American citizen employee of a cartel.

I offered an op-ed explaining that to the San Antonio Express-News, along with the district attorney of Kendall County, Texas, and the San Antonio Express-News wouldn't print it, a fact-based op-ed. We ended up printing it in National Review or someplace online.

Who wants to have a conversation about this stuff?

The American people do. Everybody I talk to in Texas knows this is real. But here we are, and we have a House body and, frankly, an administration that is more interested in advancing wokeness every single day than addressing a wide open border that endangers us and the migrants who seek to come here.

I can't emphasize that enough: a wide open border that endangers American citizens, endangers our children, and endangers the migrants who seek to come here, which my colleagues on the other side of the aisle pat themselves on the back in the false name of compassion that open borders is somehow good for migrants. And it is a lie. It is a blatant lie.

Instead, what are we going to get?

We are going to get a so-called infrastructure bill next week, which will come through here on partisan lines. And what are we going to have in there?

There are the provisions and programs that prioritize funding based on

race, ethnicity, gender, and socially disadvantaged status. One provision, it finds that race and gender-neutral efforts alone are insufficient.

The bill includes a study on how Federal infrastructure planning exacerbated systemic racial, regional, social, environmental, and economic injustices.

We have a bill that establishes 41 new Federal programs, \$20 million a year for implicit bias research and training grants related to racial profiling; \$5 million a year for a program to increase transportation job awareness and diversity; a carbon pollution reduction program.

On the international stage, what do we see?

Our own diplomats are undermining the greatness of America. We have got Linda Thomas-Greenfield, the Ambassador to the United Nations, who said that racial equity is her top focus, and that white supremacy is woven into our founding documents and principles.

Our adversaries, like Russia and China, are weaponizing the leftist agenda. At the summit in Alaska, Secretary Blinken brought up China's imprisonment of millions of Uighur Muslims, and China responded by arguing that the U.S. is not much different, mentioning Black lives matter. The Uighurs.

Military and veterans: Instead of working to develop a lethal, battle-ready force that will kill people and destroy things when called up to do so, which is the purpose of a military, under the guise of reviewing extremism within the ranks of the military in March, Special Operations Command hired its first chief diversity and inclusion officer.

We have seen examples of West Point cadets forced to attend critical race theory presentations. A Space Force officer was fired for saying, "The diversity, inclusion and equity industry and the trainings we are receiving in the military . . . is rooted in critical race theory which is rooted in Marxism."

The Biden VA will now be using American taxpayer dollars to cover sex reassignment surgery.

I had multiple parents of the kids that I was able—or 18-year-olds I was able to nominate to go to academies, and we had a celebration in San Antonio, and every single one of the parents were coming up to me and showing me these videos from the Air Force Academy, West Point Academy, talking about, you know, people having two moms and two dads and all of this woke training. For heaven's sake, it is the military.

I mean, China and Russia is just looking at us and saying: What in the world? Well, they are licking their chops.

You have got critical race theory in education. We are seeing a large-scale effort to impose tyranny over the minds of our children through taxpayer-funded indoctrination.

In Evanston, Illinois, students listened to "Not My Idea: A book about

Whiteness,” which states that “whiteness is a bad idea,” and “always was,” and that “you can be white without signing onto whiteness.”

In Cupertino, California, third graders were required to deconstruct their racial identities and then rank themselves according to their “power and privilege.”

In Oregon, “ethnic standards” will require kindergartners to “understand their own identity groups, including but not limited to race, gender, family, ethnicity, culture, religion, and ability.”

An advisory board linked to Virginia’s Loudoun County Public School District demanded that teachers be dismissed if they criticize the district’s equity training, inspired by critical race theory.

We saw the fellow who was removed or told that he had to be suspended in Loudoun County—I think he was finally restored—because he dared to speak up about this.

Meanwhile, we have got woke corporations all across America and their corporate boards moving the Major League Baseball All-Star Game from Atlanta, Georgia, which is 50 percent Black, to 10 percent Denver. I bet all of those White Coloradans driving around in their Subarus, patting themselves on the back when they go hiking with a rainbow flag on the back of their car or something, feel good about themselves, instead of celebrating Hank Aaron in Atlanta, Georgia.

Why?

Because Georgia was moving an election reform bill with laws that were almost identical to Colorado.

The Major League Baseball said: Oh, no, we are going to go join the woke brigade and we are going to go forward and we are going to move everything to Colorado.

Nothing was proved by that other than Major League Baseball’s weakness.

I talked about border security because it is so critical to the people of Texas. We can talk about the other things that are critical, all of these programs I just talked about.

People asked: Well, Congressman Roy, why do you come down here and often vote “no”?

Because every single bill dropped on the floor of this House spends money we don’t have, adds regulations that are going to kill small businesses, divides us by race, or adds more laws to the books.

Does anybody think we need more laws, more spending when we are \$30 trillion in debt?

I just once would like to see an actual debate with the 435 Members representing the American people in this Chamber about what in the world we are going to do about \$30 trillion in debt.

But we got nothing. We have got an empty Chamber. The American people can hear my voice echoing. We are not going to actually have a debate about

it. We are just going to spend more money. It is just a race to see who can spend more money.

Does anybody have any belief that we are not endangering our kids and grandkids?

I mean, if somebody wants to come down here and expound on modern monetary theory about how spending all this money is absolutely fine, I am happy to listen. Most people in America don’t believe it. We will have \$30 trillion in debt soon; \$6 trillion spent in the last year.

Do you know how much it cost to win all of World War II?

It was \$4.1 trillion in current dollars.

We just spent \$6 trillion in a year—appropriated. We will spend it out in a little over a year; \$6 trillion.

We are shutting down small businesses, closing our schools. We have 100,000 small businesses closed, 100,000. And now we are paying people more not to work than to work.

Why do you suppose the Vice President of the United States refuses to come to the southern border? Why do you suppose the Vice President of the United States, or the President, refuses to go to the southern border and refuses to take me up on my offer to debate the Vice President anywhere, any time about the border?

Because she knows and the President knows they have zero defense for our current border policies. There is literally no ability to defend the current border policies of the United States. It is laughable. A high school debate team would destroy the President or the Vice President in a debate about our current border because it is so unbelievably unforgivable to turn our borders over to cartels.

But that is what this administration has done. And, again, look, it is all tied back together. This is all in the name of supposed compassion for people and a continued desire to try to drive a wedge and say: Oh, Republicans just don’t want those Brown people to come here across our river. That is what it is about. That is the purpose of the fight and the divide.

Meanwhile, ask any Border Patrol agent, ask anybody along the Rio Grande, ask anybody who is being affected by it, ask any of the migrants about what is happening, how it is happening, about the journey. I am not saying the migrants who come here don’t want to be here. They do.

But look in the eyes of the little 7-year-old girl on the border that I looked into, who had no mom, no dad, no uncle, no aunt, no brother, no sister, nobody with her. But we don’t care. It is all fine. It is all fine for us to have a system in which a 7-year-old girl takes a journey by herself from Guatemala through Mexico in the hands of the cartels to get to our border. We say that is fine.

□ 2045

I can’t state enough—and the reason I am using this time, and I went a lit-

tle longer than the time I thought I was going to use, is because my friend from Texas used a little more time, and I appreciated his being here.

Every single person I talk to in Texas views this through the lens of an existential crisis, and yet it is absolute silence from the administration and this body.

People wonder why Governor Abbott is starting to say he is going to take it upon himself and the State to build a wall or to fund resources at the border.

We have had to do it for years, by the way. Basically, a billion dollars a year, or at least per session, Texas has been funding technology.

Do you know how often the Border Patrol is using technology funded by Texans? Cameras—because their Border Patrol cameras weren’t working—radios. Now the Governor is going down there saying he is going to do a lot of this, and Texas has got to figure out how to fund it.

It is our border; they are our communities. Yet crickets, absolute crickets, devastating crickets, from the Democrat-led House of Representatives and the Democrats in the White House, President Biden and Vice President Harris, who refuse to even come to the border.

I don’t know, the longer this goes on—I get why the Vice President won’t go to the border. How can you look any American in the eye and say you are doing your constitutional duty to defend the United States of America and secure our borders?

Does anybody understand in this Chamber and comprehend how bad it is for our future and the future of our neighbors to the south to empower cartels the way we are empowering them?

Instead of being able to compete with China, by having a robust free trade throughout the Western Hemisphere, to be able to have a strong Mexico that isn’t a narco-terror state, that we can partner with, that we can partner with countries throughout the Western Hemisphere and compete against China and not have this pressure valve coming to our border; instead, we are damaging these countries and empowering the narco-terror state in Mexico, empowering cartels, weakening our country, and endangering Americans.

My friend from the House Judiciary Committee is here, and I am about to give my time up. I will give you a little warning here. In a couple of minutes, I am about to yield.

I appreciate the work that he is doing, with my friend from Colorado, trying to navigate the complexity of antitrust laws with respect to the size of massive companies, particularly massive big tech companies. We are going to have a pretty robust day tomorrow in the House Judiciary Committee. I do want to thank him, since we are here in the Chamber together, for the work that he is doing to try to address that.

I don’t know if I will agree with every bill tomorrow. I know I am going

to support at least one or two. We will see what happens during the process of amending and debating.

What I would say to my friend is that it would be great if we could address every issue with both sides of the aisle engaging and offering amendments and restore regular order so that we can try to get to the heart and the truth of these issues.

We are never going to deal with our spending issues in this country if we don't sit down and roll our sleeves up, like a family or small business has to do. We are never going to address something like the border if we don't sit down and give and take and offer solutions that will work. We are never going to solve healthcare; we are never going to be able to have a strong national defense, without, by the way, being involved in endless conflicts.

I joined with my Democrat friends last week on a measure involving our presence in Iraq. I think we can find agreement at times if we will sit down and do it. But we can't bury our head in the sand and ignore existential crises and hope that they will just go away.

I will just close by renewing my call to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, the Vice President and the President. Let's actually focus on these crises like the border, and let's actually do our job and our constitutional duty to address them. Let's actually do what we said we were going to do when we took our oaths to the Constitution of the United States, and we said we wanted to be a part of the people's House to debate, to amend, to vote.

I am not afraid of what we are going to do tomorrow. To my friend, we are going to offer bills, we are going to debate, we are going to amend, and we are going to vote. We should do that on the floor of this House, Madam Speaker. We should do that on the floor of this House.

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

LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, to Mr. ROY, I look forward to our debate tomorrow and I think a good resolution on a number of important issues before the committee.

Madam Speaker, I rise this evening to honor Pride Month.

I want to begin by saying that we are grateful to the members of the Congressional LGBTQ-plus Equality Caucus, who continue to be champions for full equality for our community.

Each year, we gather as a community in June to celebrate the progress that our community has made, that is the LGBTQ-plus community, and also to reflect on the work ahead and how

much remains to be done. It is an opportunity each year to really celebrate the progress we have made and recommit ourselves to the work that remains. This year is no different.

In 2021, we come together on the floor of this House to celebrate Pride Month with some very great highs and some very deep lows. Our community was deeply impacted by COVID, both because preexisting conditions added to people's vulnerabilities, but also because segments of our population already face isolation, which was made even worse during the pandemic.

Like all communities, we have been shocked at the efforts to undermine our democracy and restrict the right to vote, restrictions that we know will impact our community, particularly people of color, trans people, and those with disabilities.

Of course, this year alone we witnessed a historic number of anti-transgender laws being introduced around the country, many of them passing. Opponents of equality have decided to zero in on the most vulnerable within our community, the community that is subject to the greatest amount of violence and the worst kind of discrimination, and we must stand up in force against this.

But it wouldn't be Pride Month without a celebration, and we have much to celebrate this year.

In the last 6 months, Congress passed the NO HATE Act, which strengthens hate crimes reporting; we passed the Pulse Night Club Memorial bill. Now the Senate has passed it, and it goes to the President's desk for his signature.

In February, I proudly introduced H.R. 5, the Equality Act, with 224 original cosponsors. It passed the House with bipartisan support. President Biden has challenged Congress to do everything in its power to get him the bill, get it to his desk for his signature.

We are rolling up our sleeves to get the bill passed in the Senate. I am particularly proud that the House of Representatives did its part in passing this critical piece of legislation.

No American should be forced to live in fear of legal discrimination simply because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and they certainly shouldn't have to worry about whether or not the person in the White House or the State legislature will undermine what few protections they do have.

The Equality Act is a commonsense piece of legislation that gets to the core issue of equality by expanding the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other existing laws, to ensure that LGBTQ Americans can live their lives free from discrimination.

Equality is a founding principle of this great country, and I hope that by the time I stand before you for Pride Month next year, we will have turned this bill from a hope into a reality.

I am very proud to have the support of so many Members of Congress and so many colleagues. In fact, every single Democrat is an original cosponsor of

the Equality Act, including, of course, you, Madam Speaker.

So I am proud to be a part of a caucus that understands the fundamental importance of recognizing the dignity and value of every person, and Pride Month is about expressing that and affirming that to all LGBTQ-plus people all across this country and all across the world.

Tonight, I am proud to have one of the co-chairs of the Equality Caucus, MARK TAKANO, Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, a member of the LGBTQ community, a very close friend, a deeply respected colleague, and a great champion for the equality of our community.

I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) to share his views on the celebration of Pride.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I thank my true friend from the State of Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), who chairs the LGBTQ-plus Equality Caucus, for his work.

I want to say that Pride is always a very special time of year. It is a time of protest, a time of celebration, a time that we remember the struggles, honor the trailblazers, and appreciate the progress that we have made in the fight toward equality.

Throughout our history, LGBTQ people have been denied their basic rights. To this day, LGBTQ Americans across the country still face discrimination in key areas of life, from housing to healthcare.

While the Supreme Court has ruled to expand nondiscrimination protections in employment and made marriage equality the law of the land, in 29 states LGBTQ people aren't fully protected from discrimination.

That is why we are working hard to get the Equality Act signed into law.

Discrimination in this country has also been enshrined into policies at every level, including in the military.

Despite this, thousands of brave LGBTQ Americans have still stepped up to serve our country in uniform. For decades, LGBTQ members of the U.S. military and veterans have faced discrimination stemming from official military policies, including Don't Ask, Don't Tell and the Trans Military Ban.

Before Don't Ask, Don't Tell became an official military policy, servicemembers who were LGBTQ had to hide their identities, and those who were suspected of being LGBTQ were targeted by horrendous and traumatizing so-called witch hunts, which stripped them of their dignity and mistreated them based on a suspicion that had nothing to do with their service.

It is estimated that approximately 114,000 servicemembers were discharged on the basis of their sexual orientation between World War II and 2011, while an estimated 870,000 LGBTQ veterans have been impacted by "hostility, harassment, assaultive behavior, and law enforcement targeting" by discriminatory military policies.

Many LGBTQ veterans who were discharged on discriminatory grounds are