

the areas of the border where you see the biggest increases in illegal crossings, we know that there is a crisis in the United States. And it is not just people in South and Central America coming across. We are seeing people from Middle Eastern countries. There have been people on the terrorist watch list who are coming. I hope that as she comes back from that trip—hopefully she has met with Border Patrol agents.

People have told us what the problems are. The President could address all of this today by reversing some of his executive actions that have opened the border. But if he doesn't, I hope Congress would look at bringing legislation to confront a lot of those challenges that I talked about.

I am not sure if you all anticipate bringing bills like that, but I would ask the gentleman if he had any comment on that.

Madam Speaker, I would be happy to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As you mention, we were on it this week with the presence of Chairman Powell at our select subcommittee hearing. Chairman Powell made two things very clear to us.

Number one, he says it would be a big mistake to put the brakes on too soon; that we must allow families to get back on their feet, communities to get restored. And he advised against us doing anything too soon.

He also made it very clear that if he and the Fed were to make some determination that inflation is becoming a problem, the Fed could deal with it.

You may recall that he indicated that a lot of the price increases have come about as a result of bottlenecks that have existed in the system as people are gearing back up, and he thinks that is going to be temporary. He also feels that if it looks like this is going to go beyond being temporary, that he has the tools to make the kind of adjustments that are at least necessary to keep the economy flowing and to keep inflation in check.

I think that on my side of the aisle, we are very comfortable following the advice of Chairman Powell, and I would hope that this is an issue that will not get politicized. We need to get this country back on track. We need to get families back in touch with each other. We need to keep this country moving in a positive way. So I think we are going to wait and take advice from Chairman Powell on whether we should do anything legislatively to deal with that issue.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As we know, the Federal Reserve Chairman has some tools available to him, if need be, to address problems in the economy that we are starting to see, but we also know that those tools are very harsh. Hopefully, those tools would be a last resort.

So it is important for us, as policymakers, to not just sit back and wait

for problems to occur that then the Federal Reserve Chairman has to address because we haven't. Because we know if he does those things, whether it is limiting money supply, interest rate increases, those are all things that would hurt hardworking families all across the country.

So as he even recognized, right now the enhanced unemployment benefits that are, by all accounts, the reason that we are having a worker shortage, the reason that every small business is having trouble getting more people back to work so they can meet that supply demand that is starting to create inflation, he did acknowledge that when those enhanced benefits run out, then you will see the worker shortage get better and improve and people start going back to work.

We could end those earlier, acknowledging there are millions of job openings. We shouldn't be paying people money to not work when there are jobs that are available right now and they can't find takers.

What we have seen is a majority of States now have said: We are going to end those benefits on our own so that people can get back to work, so that we can get our economies moving.

Many large States—Florida, Texas, Tennessee, and many other States—by the end of next week will do that.

I am proud that yesterday in my State, our Governor, who is a Democrat, signed a bill working with Republicans to end our enhanced unemployment benefits in Louisiana by the end of July.

□ 1115

He acknowledged, as a Democrat, that you can work together, and that this is a problem, so let's address this problem. While States are addressing it, some are not. Many have.

But, hopefully, Congress can look at ways where we can address some of these problems earlier so that it doesn't fall in the lap of the Federal Reserve Chairman, and then he has to take harsh steps to deal with the problems that we should be fixing as we see them coming.

I yield to the gentleman if he has anything else. That is all I have.

Mr. CLYBURN. I assure you that, in my instance, my Governor is a Republican. In fact, he was the first Governor to endorse the previous President. But we are very close friends, and we have been in consultation over what to do as we go forward.

I am working very closely with him and working very closely with other Governors, as well. I think that each State is unique when it comes to how to stand back up as we go forward.

I am proud that Louisiana is moving in the right direction. I applaud John Bel Edwards for working closely with you. I assure you that I am working just as close with the Governor of South Carolina and other Governors to make sure we do what is necessary to apply our efforts in such a way that it

won't cause problems for States as they stand back up.

Mr. SCALISE. I appreciate that because I work well with our Governor. We might not see eye to eye on everything, but Governor John Bel Edwards is addressing those problems adequately. He worked with the Republican legislature. They got an agreement, and it was a good agreement.

I know you have a good relationship with your Governor. You and I have a good relationship. Hopefully, we can use those good relationships to prove people wrong who look at Congress and say: Why can't they get agreements on things?

Again, we are seeing some positive movement on the Senate side. I haven't seen the details, and the details are very, very important. But, hopefully, on these big issues, we can work together and build those relationships so that we can actually solve these problems and solve them in a way that doesn't harm families, where it could end up in a harsh place if we don't confront those problems. I know we will be talking more about that in the future.

If the gentleman is not the one doing the colloquy in the future—we hope the majority leader is back—I have enjoyed this colloquy with you. We, obviously, enjoy our relationship on many fronts, but it has been a pleasure to work with you on the colloquy.

Hopefully, the majority leader is here next time, and he has big shoes to fill. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. CLYBURN. I thank the gentleman for his friendship and kind remarks today. But I am looking forward to the majority leader coming back and taking his rightful place at this mike. The gentleman and I can continue our relationship with the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis and in other areas around the Capitol.

Mr. SCALISE. He will probably be moving around even faster. I will not challenge him to a race. I am not quite where he is yet, but I am working to get there.

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

#### INVESTING IN AMERICA'S RECOVERY

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

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, nearly 40 percent of Americans before COVID couldn't cover an unexpected \$400 expense without selling belongings or going into debt. And no one pays a greater price for poverty than our kids.

I am proud of our work to pass the American Rescue Plan and deliver a lifeline for millions of struggling Americans. Starting July 15, that lifeline gets stronger.

In a few weeks, and again every month throughout 2021, hardworking families will get a check of up to \$400

per child. That check will help millions of parents buy healthy food, new clothes, shoes, and books for their kids, pay rent and utilities, and even afford childcare so they can get back to work.

In my own home district in New York's capital region, these checks will reach more than 37,000 households and help lift more than 5,000 of our kids out of poverty. These are not just lasting investments in America's recovery; they are the downpayment on our brightest future.

I urge every parent and family that has struggled to make ends meet during this pandemic to visit [childtaxcredit.gov](http://childtaxcredit.gov) and make certain that you are signed up.

#### PRICE OF INFLATION PAID BY MIDDLE-CLASS FAMILIES

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, despite our Nation sitting on the edge of a fiscal cliff, the Biden administration continues to propose trillions upon trillions of dollars in new taxpayer spending.

Sadly, yet not unexpectedly, the American people are beginning to see the consequences of taking their hard-earned tax dollars for continued and unprecedented levels of deficit spending.

The Consumer Price Index has increased 5 percent from this time last year, which marks the fastest rate of inflation since right before the economic crisis in 2008 and a nearly 13-year high. This is in addition to producer prices rising 6.6 percent over the past year, the fastest increase on record.

I don't care what the reasons are; I know that Americans are feeling it right now in their pocketbooks. Rising inflation at this rate is the same thing as a tax, and American consumers are feeling it as they shop for the essentials.

Gasoline is 56 percent more expensive today than it was 12 months ago. Transportation services are up 11 percent since last year. Together, food and energy prices have increased 3.8 percent, which is the fastest rate since 1992.

Middle-class families are paying the price for the lack of fiscal responsibility shown by this administration.

It is time to get our fiscal house in order to ensure our children and our children's children are left a thriving economy.

#### REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

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

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, for decades, the Hyde amendment has

shielded the American taxpayer from being forced to fund abortion. And for decades, the Hyde amendment has enjoyed broad bipartisan support. Even President Biden supported the Hyde amendment as recently as 2019.

Unfortunately, that is no longer the case. Now, President Biden has reversed course, proposing we repeal the Hyde amendment.

In turn, this would require American taxpayers, no matter what their personal beliefs, to fund abortion.

Madam Speaker, this is wrong. Every life is blessed with inherent worth, infinite potential, and sacred dignity.

As a child of adoption myself, I would not be here today if not for my mother's decision to choose life over abortion.

I urge my colleagues to stand strong in support of the Hyde amendment and against this radical new position of President Biden.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18 and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BUSH). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

#### REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

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

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, as a father of four, I believe that life is a gift that must be cherished and defended.

For me, a pro-life father of four, a huge part of my story is my son Isaac. Isaac was born with Down syndrome. I know that with our love and support, he is capable of moving mountains.

The sad news is that many don't believe that people like my son deserve a right to life or to reach their full potential.

This is why I am a cosponsor of legislation like H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act. This bill will help ensure that taxpayer dollars do not go toward taking away any child's right to life.

Imagine a world where every child was given the opportunity to dream, accomplish, and succeed. The world would be a much better place, our future brighter than ever.

That is why I will always support legislation that ensures every life is protected.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means,

and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18 and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair previously advised, the request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

#### HAVE CBO ISSUE INFLATION PROJECTIONS

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

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, the American people deserve to know the true cost of government spending.

Last month, working families adjusted their budgets around a 5 percent jump in prices, an effect of the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan that many economists predicted would occur.

Despite these predictions coming true, many Democrats—not all, I hope—are eager to use the same partisan budget reconciliation process again to spend even more.

That is why I have introduced the Stop Inflationary Spending Act to require the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office to project the inflationary impact of reconciliation bills. This would mean the American people would know the impact on their family budget before Democrats use a partisan process to spend \$6 trillion on unaffordable initiatives that dramatically increase the role of government in their lives and constrain growth in the real economy, which is the private-sector innovators, entrepreneurs, and hardworking people.

Madam Speaker, inflation is a tax on everyone. When inflation was a significant concern in the 1980s, CBO issued inflationary projections for individual bills. Restoring this practice for reconciliation bills that spend big is a commonsense reform.

#### RECOGNIZING MICHAEL NESSLAGE UPON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Michael Nesslage, who has served as fire chief in Hiawatha, Iowa, for the last 16 years. I want to congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement this week.

Chief Nesslage dedicated his professional life to protecting and serving others. As Hiawatha's fire chief, Chief Nesslage successfully started ambulance service in the area and spearheaded the creation of a volunteer firefighter program. Not only did Chief Nesslage help establish the program, but he also closely coached and mentored those seeking careers as first responders.

Chief Nesslage continues to be a role model for our entire community.