

President Biden, this is a moment of leadership. Stand with the Cuban people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to address their remarks to the Chair.

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

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

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to strongly oppose Democrats' cruel efforts to repeal the Hyde amendment.

My wife, Cathy, and I are proud parents because of two women in difficult situations who chose life and, through adoption, gave us two loving sons.

Since 1976, the Hyde amendment has saved the lives of nearly two and a half million innocent babies, and whether you are pro-abortion or pro-life, as I am, Americans have always agreed, Washington should not use their taxpayer dollars to pay for and encourage abortion.

Unfortunately, that is what President Biden is trying to do, repeal this important humanitarian protection of the innocent unborn.

This is an affront to the majority of Americans who do not want their tax dollars to fund abortion.

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 on the House floor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

CONGRESS MUST ACT NOW

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

Ms. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, libertad. Freedom. Abajo la dictadura. Down with the dictatorship.

These are the calls we are hearing from the people of Cuba.

They have taken to the streets demanding the end of the Castro tyranny.

We see the American flag waving on the streets of Havana because they yearn for the same thing we have: Freedom. We see the American flag waving on the streets of Havana because that is what they want, freedom.

Castro has taken repression to scientific levels. There are at this hour over 500 political prisoners and thousands more are in jail.

Madam Speaker, we are begging President Biden to stand with the Cu-

bans now. The Castro regime has cut off the internet so no one will see how they are torturing the Cuban people. America has the technology to provide internet now in Cuba.

We don't need any study groups about remittances. What we need is action. We need the President to grant the green light now so that Cubans can organize among themselves and can stay in the streets; so they don't feel abandoned; so they know the whole world is watching; so they can decide their own political future. Time is of the essence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind Members to observe proper decorum.

WILDFIRE AND DROUGHT UPDATE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I want to speak with the body here about the situation in the West with wildfire and drought.

As so many of you know from the news, there is wildfire breaking out all over in the western States. My home State of California has several going on right now. I represent the very north part of the State, the First Congressional District, and we have fires routinely reaching now the five-digit mark, including the newest one known as the Dixie fire; it is over 30,000 acres. My understanding is, there are 11,000 new acres just last night burning up in the area of Feather River Canyon.

But this is not, unfortunately, news this time of year in the West. Anything west of the Rocky Mountains pretty much seems to be on the line.

What is going on is that for many years we in this country value the Smokey the Bear principle of putting out fires when they occur in the forest. And I think we still do value that. But what we haven't done on the back side of that is to manage our forest lands.

And so what we have seen in the decades since, a good-minded policy, a good-intended policy, is that the forests have built up so much fuel. So much damage gets done from all this fuel being built up from fire season. It kind of creates its own drought situation inside the forest there when you have more inventory per acre than what the forest can sustain, especially during a drought period. And so in the West, in California, it is known you are going to have drought years, you're going to have wet years. And it kind of goes with the program there.

So I am disturbed that we can't advance the ball more on really the type of forest management we need to be doing. We can sustain X amount of trees per acre, and this is depending on tree type, tree age, particular landscape, the particular weather pattern in a micro area, but if we are not doing

that then we are going to see this year after year.

So the U.S. Forest Service has kind of transitioned from—not that many years ago—about one-third of their budget would go for fire suppression and two-thirds for the good green work we call it, green harvest, permits, maintenance of forest roads and all the other things you do in the off season in order to make the asset protected from fire and also usable to the people, because this is indeed the people's asset. And they are getting less and less access to it because of fire, but also just flat being closed down because of other environmental concerns that have been brought up.

That is a key part of the argument here is that we have had hundreds of thousands of acres burned. I will just stick with California for a moment here. And simple projects after the fact when we are talking salvage, salvage timber that needs to be removed after a fire, if you do that within a reasonably soon amount of time after a fire then you can still get value out of that timber. If you do it soon. No more than a year would be ideal.

But what happens is that when Forest Service goes to try and contract or do some of the work post fire to remove trees that will be dead or are already dead but still have a salvage value, you can make a timber product out of that, they get sued. The environmental groups come in and sue them saying, oh, we think you are going to take away habitat for the black-backed woodpecker or something like that. And indeed, what has already happened is the environment has already been ruined for quite a few years where the spotted owl might have been, where other owls might have been, or other wildlife had been.

You should see some of the horrific pictures of how the wildlife is affected in a fire like this. And these are not just a slow-moving fire, but these conflagrations that we have these days that move from treetop to treetop across the whole landscape.

And one of the saddest stories you will see is a rancher just right in my home county of Butte on the east side who wrote the story about how their family had been there for at least five generations and long-time ranchers there, and a fire whipped through there and took out so many of their livestock, but also the legacy, the land that they love has been ruined by fire in eastern Butte County, California, last year.

□ 1930

So what are we going to do? Are we going to continue to watch this go on year after year after year?

I have run legislation to try and make it just a little bit simpler to do basic, I think, commonsense idea of trimming around power lines, moving hazardous trees and foliage away from power lines. But that means you are going to have to cut some trees. That

means you are going to have to do some trimming. You are going to have to do some actual work. The environmental groups even sue over that.

I am hearing reports that one of the latest fires might have been where a hazardous tree fell into a power line. Why can't we create a zone around all power lines? The lines are already there—it is not like we are putting in new ones—to make it where there is enough distance around power lines so that if a tree does fall, it doesn't fall into them, and you get two bad things: a fire and blackouts.

So we will continue in Congress here to try and legislate that way. And I want to convince my colleagues on both sides of the aisle that this is very important, because we are losing millions of acres every year to wildfire, losing millions of acres of habitat for wildlife, millions of acres of wood products. As you see with wood products, spiraling—through the roof. It has added \$30,000 to \$40,000 easily to the cost of a new home because of the high cost of wood products. Anybody that has been to any of the vendors to buy a piece of plywood or two-by-four, it affects everybody. It isn't just those building homes.

I mean think about the folks that need—for other disasters, our friends that have to suffer hurricanes down there. Where do they get the plywood to be able to board up for that? We have to produce these products. We have to produce them domestically. We can't import everything in this country.

In my real life, I am a farmer. And we can't continue to have the situation where we are going to rely on imported food or somehow replace our wood products. For some reason, the United States is the number two importer of wood of all countries. Why are we importing wood when we have so much of an overload and over-inventory in our western States? So we should be employing our people and getting that material out.

Now, people are going to be fearful that, Oh, you are talking about clear-cutting. No, it isn't clear-cutting. That is the first thing they want to ask you when you have a press conference or something about it: "So you want to clear-cut everything." No. We do this in zones. We do this with thinning. You do areas where you might do a 30-acre spot but then you plant it back, especially on private land. And you can tell what the private land is versus the Federal land that is basically almost not managed by flying over it after a fire or especially 5 years after a fire when you can see the checkerboard pattern you find so frequently of land ownership in forested areas. The private lands have already reclaimed. They have already salvaged. They have already started planting back. You can see the green; you can see order coming back to those forests there.

In the Federal land, you can still see the same snags. The same ghost trees—

they call them—are there, left behind to—who knows when they will ever get around to it.

And what does that mean? It propagates the next fire, the next time lightning strikes, or the next flame blows through, or the next time there might be some kind of an accident.

So I really, really want to get the attention of my colleagues here in Congress, those that regulate the forest, those in the U.S. Forest Service, and those of the American people, their attention to what is going on, because this is not sustainable. It is not good. It is not good for anything I have talked about with wildlife, the asset the American people own in these Federal lands.

And we must do something to address some things that might be inconvenient: cutting some trees—not all of the trees—you might have control burns during the correct time of the year to get rid of some of the slash. But on the positive side, why aren't we using this biomass, taking this wooded material out here that doesn't turn into a two-by-four or baseball bat, or what have you, and turning that into something useful that we can use to generate electricity.

Heaven knows, we don't have an oversupply of electricity generated in California. We even saw Texas was a problem last winter. So we are going to need to develop these sources, and that means jobs in these rural communities, jobs cleaning up the forests, any dependable 24/7 electricity supply because you could control the fuel. Solar, you don't control the fuel. You have to have a sunny day without clouds or have it not be nighttime.

The wind machines, you can't control them either. 24/7 fuel sources, whether it is hydro, whether it is new, whether it is natural gas, or biomass using these wooded products, we need to use for something positive anyway, we need to put them to work so we have a stable grid.

Heaven knows, with all the new demands that are being made by environmental-minded people on more electric cars, getting rid of gas stoves, getting rid of gas water heaters—all for electricity. Where is all this electricity going to come from? We can be generating it with things that come from our forests with these byproducts, so we need to be putting them to work.

So I just implore everybody that has a role in making a decision around here, in Congress, with our Federal agencies, environmental groups, could you please back off a little bit and let some of this good work happen. And the American people, listen to what we are talking about and encourage those folks that may be timid or not inclined to want to do the type of forest management, encourage your Member of Congress this has got to be done, because this air quality affects all the west. Last year, some of it even blew back all the way to the East Coast from fires that were happening in Cali-

fornia and the West. So we can do a heck of a lot better.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the time here tonight. I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER), my good colleague.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN "BAM" CARNEY

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great Kentucky Statesman and a true friend. This past weekend, Kentucky lost one of its best. My dear friend, and the former majority leader of the Kentucky House of Representatives, Bam Carney.

Bam represented his home county of Taylor and Adair County in the Kentucky General Assembly for many years. He rose as high as majority leader, and remained there and would have been there as long as he wanted to be majority leader until he fell ill. And those of us who have kept up with Bam over the past year and-a-half know that he fought a battle that few people could have fought over the past year and-a-half.

I am sad to report that this past weekend, Bam passed away, but he will never be forgotten. The history books will write about Bam Carney, and they will talk about his role as majority leader of the Kentucky House of Representatives. They will also talk about his role as a great educator, and a leader for education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Madam Speaker, I want to take a few moments to recognize Bam Carney, my friend. When you are involved in politics, you get to meet a lot of political people. And I had the pleasure of serving in the Kentucky House of Representatives with Bam Carney. I remember when he arrived in Frankfort, Kentucky, a few years after I got there. And Bam immediately made an impression on me. He wasn't like everybody else in Frankfort. Bam was genuine. What you saw is what you got. Bam and I became very close friends. In fact, I considered Bam Carney one of my best friends. We worked together on legislation, our families became close, we played a lot of golf together. I never beat Bam, by the way. Not many people did beat Bam Carney on the golf course. But we became friends. He stayed at my house on weekends. We traveled together. Bam was someone that you could trust. Bam was someone that—in politics it is rare to say—but you always knew where he stood. And if he told you something, then that was good as gold because he stuck with his word.

Bam wasn't like most politicians. Bam didn't want to hide from the controversial issues or the tough issues, the issues that Bam knew might not be the most popular issues in his district. But Bam did what was right and what he felt was right for the people he represented.

Bam was a career educator; a basketball coach. Bam played college baseball

at Berea. Bam was a Christian. In fact, one of the last things that he said was he was ready to go to heaven. And I know that is where he is right now. Bam was a great brother, a great father. Bam was a great leader, a great friend, just an all-around great person.

Kentucky lost a great statesman this past weekend in Bam Carney. I hope that those of us who knew Bam can learn from the greatness of Bam Carney, the great person he was, the great leader he was, and the great representative of the people that he was. Bam represented the people, not the special interests.

Madam Speaker, I can't say enough heartfelt things to Bam Carney's family: His mother, his brothers, his sister, his two sons. They have endured a lot over the past year and-a-half through Bam's sickness, and they never left his side, never gave up hope; always having a positive attitude. Bam Carney is the kind of person that we all need in legislative bodies, someone you can count on and someone that is honest and someone that is in the legislative body for the right reason.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate the time today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the great life of a great Kentucky leader and a great Kentucky friend, Bam Carney.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES OTIS CATLIN

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. James Otis Catlin of Sebree, Kentucky, who passed away earlier this month—July 9, 2021—at the age of 90. James was a hard worker throughout his life. He was a proud Korean War veteran, earning a Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

His love for our country and servicemembers continued after his military career, and he joined the Austin Collins American Legion Post 243 in 1952, eventually becoming its oldest member.

James was a dedicated servant of the Lord and an active member of Sebree General Baptist Church. His humble service touched many in Webster County and all of Kentucky's First Congressional District.

I will always be grateful for the sacrifice of our Nation's heroes. I was proud to represent James in Congress, and his enduring legacy of service and faith will live on through his family, friends, and all those he impacted.

HONORING MARK AND LORI WILSON

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, for 141 years, on the first Saturday in August, people from all over Kentucky make their way to the small community of Fancy Farm in far Western Kentucky for the annual Fancy Farm picnic, hosted by St. Jerome Catholic Church in Graves County.

Thousands gather to enjoy good food, good people, and good old-fashioned political stump speaking. Over 19,500 pounds of pork and mutton are served, along with hundreds of pounds of fresh home-cooked vegetables and homemade pies and cakes. All funds raised benefit St. Jerome Catholic Church for

charitable endeavors. Additionally, the Fancy Farm picnic is entirely a community effort made up of local volunteers.

Madam Speaker, today, I would like to honor two of those volunteers—Mark and Lori Wilson—for their 15 years of service as chairs of the picnic-speaking committee. Mark and Lori have dedicated countless hours to make the Fancy Farm picnic a great success.

I was especially honored when Mark and Lori asked me to serve as master of ceremonies at the 2012 Fancy Farm picnic when I was Kentucky's commissioner of agriculture. Their efforts to create a successful picnic every year are invaluable.

Mark and Lori Wilson will be stepping aside and paving the way for new community leaders to step up and fill this role. However, I know that Mark and Lori will continue to be an active presence not only on the Fancy Farm stage, but in their proud Graves County community. I personally appreciate not only their years of service, but also their friendship.

□ 1945

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. COMER for his tribute to the good people of Kentucky and the service you do there. They are served well by him and the work he does here in Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, I would like to re-sume for a few moments to what I was mentioning beforehand on forestry and the effects on our natural resources. Year after year, as I was mentioning, there are tens and hundreds of thousands, even millions, of acres of wildfire affecting our habitat and air quality. What I didn't get to touch on was water quality as well.

You will find, when you burn these mountainsides, you burn those slopes, and indeed, with so much inventory on hand there of trees per acre and brush and other dead vegetative materials, when this all burns, it burns catastrophically. In a lot of cases, you get a moonscape that is left behind. With that, there is a great amount of ash and other material that, because it is on a mountainside and hillside, it eventually is picked up by the next rainfall and/or snowpack and washes down the whole watershed into our brooks, creeks, streams, rivers, and, eventually, the lakes that we have.

This also creates a toxic environment, when you have that much ash material going down and almost actually plugging the lakes, for example.

I talked to folks in the hydroelectric business there. With all that ash and soil erosion—really, the soil erosion is a big, big part of that, too—they have to go in and clear the bottom of the lakes in some cases to keep their hydro projects running. Otherwise, you have less and less electricity being generated and the cost of all that to the taxpayers and to those water rights holders, et cetera.

When we talk about wildfire in the West, it isn't just, yes, we lost a few trees and some deer got burned, some mountain lions and bear, and all that, which is all really important, but there is a lot more than meets the eye with all this.

If we talk about the electricity grid for a moment, if the hydroelectric plants can't operate—and we are already stretched the way we are for electricity in the country and in the West because the shift has been pushed, with so much emphasis on doing it all with solar or wind power because we want to fulfill these renewable ideals. They are fine. They are fine in their own segment, what have you, but they are not fulfilling that big of a percentage of our grid yet.

We are still reliant upon a big part of our grid coming even as legacy from coal, natural gas, hydro, and nuclear. We are not just going to replace that overnight, and we are not going to do it, certainly, cost-effectively with these expensive forms of electricity.

Everything still needs to remain on the table. It is very important that we are domestically in charge of our electricity generation, our energy, and our energy policy not relying on imported.

The wildfire effects do have a wide ripple across a lot of our lives. It gets back to: Are we going to manage our forests, or are we going to watch them burn?

Manage it means jobs for us. It means wood products that are grown domestically, paper products. Heaven knows, we use plenty of paper around here. Why not have that product come from something that is going to employ somebody and help make our forest a better place?

For the power grid, we always seem to be on the edge, in the hot summer, of having to shut off. Indeed, they call it Flex Alert in California, where they are asking people to shut down the usage of electricity. They already contract ahead of time with large manufacturers like the cement manufacturers and others to say that we might need you—they are contracted ahead of time to shut down at a phone call, basically, saying: We are going to have to shut you off for the rest of the afternoon. Stop that production and stop that work because the rest of our power grid is going to be in trouble if we don't get these voluntary, precontracted sign-ups shut down.

They are asking regular households to do that. I saw an alert the other day—it is almost hysterical—asking people to not charge their electric cars between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. This is at the same time we are getting the bum's rush to say: Hey, convert to electric cars.

California has a mandate to eliminate new combustion engine cars by, I think, 2035. Just make it up out of nowhere, no more of those cars.

Are we going to have a power grid that can do that? And then, do people want to buy these cars? Is it more than

just idealists who want to purchase these vehicles or more who want to just drive in the special high-occupancy vehicle lane that has a sticker on it in California so you can use your car there?

Is this what vehicle choice looks like for folks? I am not against them, but I don't like having things crammed down people's throats like that either.

So, what are we going to do? Our forests, our energy grid, all of these things work together. I was talking about the fires that break out because the trees and other foliage can come in contact with power lines, or a downed power line might light up a forest as well.

We have to be wise about how we are managing these things. Forestry is required that takes that into account.

Our power lines, we still need to deliver the power from where it is generated. We have so much hydroelectric power up in my area, yet they want to remove dams. They want to remove the dams that are making this clean, 100 percent renewable power up in the Klamath Basin, where farmers this year are getting zero percent of their allocation of water—zero.

How do you do that to a group of people, just taking that away? Especially in the Klamath Basin, these farmers own the water rights for that Klamath Project that was built by the Federal Government, and Oregon, of course, has upheld that water right. Yet, the Federal Government muscled the water away anyhow, just muscled it away because it thinks it can.

Agriculture in California has taken devastating hits on water supply this year. Some districts are as low as 5 percent, and even others getting zero. Others are getting smaller cuts but still getting cut.

In our State, we have many crops that we grow over 90 percent of what the United States uses. In my area, there are a lot of olives grown, table olives and olive oil. Imagine not being able to get that commodity and having to rely on imports totally for that because we don't have a heads-up plan in this country that accounts for what we produce and should be producing.

Our wood products need to come from the U.S. Our ag products need to come from the U.S. Our energy, so we can be self-sufficient, needs to come from the U.S.

We need to store more water in the Western States so we can produce these things, so we can produce hydroelectric power, so we can produce these ag products. We have environmental groups pushing to tear dams out that are already in place, stretching our power grid, stretching the food that comes to your table.

Just look them up. How many crops come from California that you rely on nationally that you wouldn't get if they weren't grown there, or we can turn to other countries to import from?

There was kind of a popular saying or a bumper sticker amongst agriculture

some years ago: If you like imported oil, you will love imported food.

At what point are we going to wake up to this? Environmental groups are doing a lot of winning on this. Yet, at the end of the day, what they are pushing for doesn't actually do much to help the species they claim to be saving.

The delta smelt, which is part of the delta just east of the bay area in northern California, since 1992, I think they have been usurping and taking away more and more water from agriculture, from human use, to run through the delta to try to keep the salinity level low, with the theory that will help the delta smelt.

The population has continually decreased since that time to where, when they are out there doing surveys—they call them trawls. The last several surveys, they haven't found any. They are not finding the species. Yet, hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water and more are just being flushed through the delta because they still have the biological opinions put out by somebody in government and somebody willing to sue to stop the ability of that water to be used properly, for people use or even a purpose that would be helpful for the economy.

Why does it have to be this way? There is a page on Facebook that I would invite everybody to look at and to watch if you are interested at all in where your food comes from and why our resources in California and the West are being managed the way they are but especially with the intent being on our water supply in California.

California water supply isn't just important to California. It is important to the whole country for these fresh fruit and vegetable products, the nut crops, and other things that are produced there that are not produced anywhere in this country otherwise or in very, very tiny percentages elsewhere.

All of your almonds pretty much come from California. Yet, there is all this rhetoric out there, like the almonds are using all the water, that we are exporting all the water. No, the water doesn't actually leave the State. Each almond nut doesn't have that much water in it. It goes back into recharging the groundwater. It goes back into keeping the local economy growing those trees that replace CO₂ with oxygen.

Madam Speaker, I would like for you to check out this page on Facebook. It is called the California Water for Food and People Movement. A young lady named Kristi Diener on there puts out excellent information all the time on all the different aspects of California water and why that is important to everybody.

We have the possibility of adding more water supply to our States. We could raise the Shasta Dam located in Shasta County near Redding, California, far up north. You could raise it 18 feet and augment it by about 630,000 acre-feet of additional water supply when you fill the lake.

Also, another one called Sites Reservoir in the western part of the Sacramento Valley, it is about 70 to 80 miles south of the Shasta Dam. That would mean up to 1.5 million acre-feet of water that could be stored there when you fill that project.

Those chunks of water would go a long way toward helping to keep the crops growing, as well as people's needs and cities.

It is my view, as low as the lakes are getting right now, Lake Shasta, Lake Oroville, Lake Folsom, San Luis Reservoir, where water is transferred to after having been pumped through the delta—except they can't because the State pumps and the Federal pumps are hardly running because they think they are helping the delta smelt. If these reservoirs are all full, we can go up to 5 years if we are not wasting the water on biological things that don't make sense.

We need to do a lot more to augment our water supply so we can keep growing the crops and have an economy of domestically grown products that are high quality and that people enjoy. And they won't know they are missing it until you can't get it.

For seeing good information, on this Facebook page, the California Water for Food and People Movement, check into that because it is at least a counterargument to what you hear all the time in the press and in the news about what farmers are doing or how water storage is bad and how dams are bad.

Dams, you get several good things by their existence. You get stored water for people in ag, as well as water that would not exist in summertime or in the fall that you could help with fish flows. Imagine that? You get hydroelectric generation. You get prevention against floods because you can store this water during the wild rainy season and keep that.

The Army Corps of Engineers runs those operations for flood control around the country. Imagine the flooding you would have in those regions that can have that high flow during extraordinary rain events.

You get recreation. You get a lot of good things from storing water, and we used to do that. We used to think ahead to do that. Now, we think we are getting ahead by tearing out this infrastructure that people need and actually can be beneficial and is beneficial to nature as well.

We have to start thinking soundly and logically about what we are doing. That is why I have spent so much time on the Agriculture Committee, the Natural Resources Committee, and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee talking about these issues. We have an opportunity with an infrastructure bill or two or three coming up here to do some real things in that.

□ 2000

I think most people when they think of infrastructure are thinking of our

highways, the basic transportation they use every day. They are thinking of things like levies, whether that is in my area of northern California or Louisiana or all around the country, that help prevent floods and keep water where we want it instead of where we don't want it, and water storage itself, the dams that make so much possible, as I mentioned, hydroelectric power, stored water, recreation, and flood control. It just makes sense.

Why aren't we getting back to a sensible way of thinking about that?

We are just letting the environmental groups and the press—they seem to want to cozy up to their argument and not get the counter side to this.

Meanwhile, I have many constituents who aren't farming at all this year, not growing crops and doing that honest, good work that they have done for generations. These are good, hardworking people. Sometimes I wonder why they keep doing it because they don't seem to be appreciated for what they are doing. It is always a fight. They always have got to be heading into town to defend something, defend their water supply, defend their land uses, or defend against some more regulations thought up by somebody in Sacramento or in Washington, D.C., who really doesn't understand or seem to care about why they do what they do.

It makes this hard sometimes because as a Representative I go back home, and I tell them: We are not having any really great answers coming out of Washington, D.C., lately.

Under the Biden administration they are talking about pushing to reinstall the WOTUS regulations, the Waters of the United States. There are those in the Federal Government and environmental movements who think that every drop of rainfall somehow belongs to the Federal Government or State government for them to regulate.

Madam Speaker, you have people trying to collect rainwater off their roofs into rain barrels and getting in trouble for that sometimes. The water running off their driveway, they can't corral that water. They can't build a stock pond to keep water for their stock because somehow that is affecting the whole water table or the whole water system. That is how far they want to interpret things—Waters of the United States.

I tell you what, Madam Speaker, not everything belongs to the government. We have operated agriculture in this country for 200 years and done pretty well for the most part, and we are always working to improve and have better, more efficient water usage, better fertilizers, developing herbicides and things that leave less of a footprint behind or zero footprint behind and still produce a safe crop.

People really should be asking questions. Ask these questions of the Biden administration. Ask them of the EPA. Ask them in your home State, Madam Speaker, as you see this stuff going on.

Where are we going to get our food supply?

Where are we going to get our electricity supply?

Where are we going to get our wood supply?

Where are we getting our fuel from?

Enjoy this \$4 fuel—almost \$5 as I saw on the way to the airport today in Sacramento.

It doesn't have to be this way.

We need pipelines, we need domestically produced energy, and we can do it ecologically soundly. This isn't new ground. This isn't the 1850s or the 1860s when they hydraulic mined old mountain sides and they killed all the buffalo and cut all the trees. We are way smarter than that.

Yet, Madam Speaker, you would still think that from the way the media covers it and the way the environmentalists talk about it in their groups and their fundraising pushes that it is the 1860s all over again. It isn't. We are pretty wise about how we manage our resources for our farms.

These are our families' legacies.

Why would we not take care of them?

Why would we not take care of the soil?

We do. We can do it better than any of those folks with their wide-eyed ideas who come around saying: "We could put your land into a long-term legacy that we help control," and pretty soon you are eating from their hand on how you manage your own farm, how you manage your own land, or maybe you decide to manage not to farm it for a while. You might be required to farm it anyway because it is now a habitat.

Where did all this come from?

Don't we trust rural people anymore to make good decisions?

Don't we trust these people who work from sunup to sundown who provide for us from their heart and from their soul?

Don't we trust them?

Do we trust bureaucrats in D.C. or Sacramento or other State capitals?

I don't. Not anymore.

We have got to do better, and it is going to take the American public getting behind this, not just politicians here and not just ones locally because sometimes they are hesitant, and they are afraid to. We have to be bold. We have to be loud about this. And we have to speak up every 2 years at election time if they are not doing it because we are in big trouble right now.

If California doesn't get above average rainfall next year, I don't know how much of agriculture is going to be in business. The lakes are getting to be at record low pretty soon. If California is not farming nearly to the percentage of what it does, it will affect everybody in this country. They will see it in prices, and they will see it in availability.

Look at the store shelves already, how hard it is to keep certain things on the shelf when you go in and ask for it and it is not there, Madam Speaker. In

restaurants if you ask for certain menu items, they are not even there.

I went through a drive-through the other day, and half the items weren't available.

What is going on in production?

Yes, we know it has been a year of COVID, but production of basic hard items, car parts, any other manufactured item, nobody is going to work, or nobody can get the resources mined and shipped and made into an end product that people need.

We have to wake up here.

What is going on that the means of production we are either exporting it or we are shutting it down and we are putting the clamps on it?

Heaven knows \$6 trillion out of thin air spending last year because of the COVID mess, and yet trillions and trillions more are being proposed and sought to be spent upcoming on things that are not going to produce a rebounding, stronger economy but instead fulfill political goals.

What are we doing?

They are still pursuing high-speed rail in California—something the voters were told would cost \$33 billion when it was voted on, I think in 2008, \$33 billion the voters were told. That price now is over \$120 billion. It is only partially done. It is going to stop in an orchard somewhere around Bakersfield and go to another town in the northern part of the valley there where it will be a full rail line. For a \$120 billion price tag we could build three large dams and lakes, and California would not be worried about water supply once those were built and filled.

Yet we chase these boondoggle things, either to fulfill campaign promises or some kind of idea of that something will be green and environmental. We are not going to have the resources we need the way we are going to fulfill the power grid for the amount of electricity that needs to be produced. We are not going to have it. We are going to wake up someday with electric cars that won't go and appliances that won't turn on because of shortsighted thinking.

Do the math, Madam Speaker. We have got to do the math and hold accountable the people who are spreading this misinformation. If it just doesn't seem right or sensible to you, Madam Speaker, trust your little voice. Trust your instinct on that because when this stuff doesn't add up, you are probably right. It doesn't. I have seen it enough around here to know it doesn't add up long-term.

I don't normally do this open mic business here, but I am watching my constituents being burned out of where they live. I am watching them being pushed out by an economy that doesn't support what they used to produce of things that people need and people used to need and still will need. I am watching normal, hardworking Americans feeling a little hopeless right now, and I don't feel great about it because there is not more I can do as one of 435 in this room to help fix it.

But we get up every day, and we try and get this message out. That is why I use this microphone, because we can't let this fall on our watch.

I ask the people to dig in, pay attention, and hold accountable those who are putting the noose around the neck of our rural economy and things that all Americans rely on.

Help us out. We desperately need it.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 26. An act to amend the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, to correct a provision on the prohibition on the use of a reverse auction, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-1624. A letter from the SVP/Controller, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, transmitting the 2020 Management Report of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines including financial statements, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)); (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-1625. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the annual report to Congress concerning the intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communications, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 2519(3); Public Law 90-351, Sec. 802 (as amended by Public Law 111-174, Sec. 6(3)); (124 Stat. 1217); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1626. A letter from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting the annual report on bankruptcy statistics mandated by the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 159(b)(3); Public Law 109-8, Sec. 601(a); (119 Stat. 119); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1627. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Sioux City, IA [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0176; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ACE-8] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1628. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Wareham, MA [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1187; Airspace Docket No.: 20-ANE-9] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1629. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Worcester, MA [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1188; Airspace Docket No.: 20-ANE-10] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1630. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0199; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00016-R; Amendment 39-21579; AD 2021-11-17] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1631. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0113; Product Identifier 2017-SW-140-AD; Amendment 39-21584; AD 2021-11-22] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1632. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0140; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-01531-T; Amendment 39-21582; AD 2021-11-20] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1633. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1113; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00893-T; Amendment 39-21580; AD 2021-11-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1634. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Canada Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited) Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0185; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00265-R; Amendment 39-21581;

AD 2021-11-19] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1635. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Engine Alliance Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0445; Project Identifier AD-2021-00268-E; Amendment 39-21588; AD 2021-12-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1636. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2020-1183; Project Identifier 2019-SW-008-AD; Amendment 39-21565; AD 2021-11-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1637. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0458; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00595-T; Amendment 39-21602; AD 2021-12-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received June 30, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2928. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a voluntary Cyber Sense program to test the cybersecurity of products and technologies intended for use in the bulk-power system, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-92). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2931. A bill to provide for certain programs and developments in the Department of Energy concerning the cybersecurity and vulnerabilities of, and physical threats to, the electric grid, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-93). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PALLONE: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3119. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-94). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. ROSS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 535. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2467) to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2668) to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to affirmatively confirm the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to seek permanent injunctions and other equitable relief for violations of