

BUILD BACK BETTER

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

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in favor of the Build Back Better agenda and the investments it makes in our Nation's care economy. Specifically, I urge the House to invest \$250 billion over 10 years in Medicaid Home and Community Based Services. This will give domestic workers a long overdue raise in wages and vastly expand covered services for aging families.

Expanding Medicaid will fail a tragic gap in our long-term care system that forces seniors and people with disabilities out of their homes.

Today, over 3.5 million older adults and people with disabilities receive Medicaid for home-based care, but because of caps on coverage, 820,000 Americans remain on wait lists. Meanwhile, domestic workers earn poverty wages without access to a safety net.

Let's pass both the Build Back Better Act and the bipartisan infrastructure bill to right this wrong, invest in our care economy, and protect American working families.

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OPPOSING \$3.5 TRILLION SPENDING PACKAGE

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

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Democrats' \$3.5 trillion spending spree that favors green special interests over American wages and livelihoods.

This legislative package is pushing amnesty, adds trillions to our already historic levels of debt, expands the welfare state to disincentivize work, and enacts Green New Deal policies that will drive up utility bills for Americans across the Nation and destroy our American energy industry.

Additionally, the crippling tax hikes could cost up to 4 million jobs nationwide, with the middle class and our Main Street businesses burdening much of the cost.

One proposal pushed by Democrats, the elimination of the stepped-up basis, effectively creates a new, second death tax that would eviscerate over 1 million jobs and hurt farmers and ranchers across the country.

While some of these proposals may not currently be in the House bill, we must remain vigilant until Senate Democrats and the administration take these harmful policies off the table entirely.

Folks in my district, and I believe most Americans, do not want a top-down, one-size-fits-all, job-killing agenda that will completely reshape our society.

Everyday working-class Americans are hurting, not the rich. I will oppose

any measure that results in higher taxes, lower wages, higher prices, more government control, and less economic growth.

SUPPORTING HAITIAN REFUGEES

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of refugees who are at the border seeking refuge and asylum due to economic conditions and a climate crisis in Haiti, where they witnessed a horrible earthquake and several devastating storms. They seek shelter, food, and opportunities.

In recent days, Haitians have shown up at our door. They are looking to get our help. America has a longstanding tradition to help refugees. It is simply inhumane to turn our backs on them. They have witnessed horrendous climate conditions, the assassination of a President, and instability in their Nation for many decades.

We must continue to hold the torch. We must continue to provide access to each and every one of those refugees who come to our door, and we will be able to determine which are allowed to be granted asylum.

Let's uphold our legacy of America, a nation of immigrants.

TRIBUTE TO NAVY CORPSMAN MAXTON WILLIAM "MAX" SOVIAK

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

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Hospital Corpsman Maxton William "Max" Soviak of the United States Navy, who made the ultimate sacrifice while securing safe passage for his fellow Americans in Afghanistan on August 26.

Max grew up in Berlin Heights, part of the Fourth District of Ohio. He attended Edison High School, where he played for the football team and was a member of the State championship wrestling team. His proudest decision, according to his family, was to enlist as a Devil Doc in the Navy after high school.

A Devil Doc's mission is to perform lifesaving work even as unknown dangers advance. Amid the deteriorating security conditions at Hamid Karzai Airport in Kabul, with the likelihood of an attack increasing, Max stood at the gates to help evacuate American citizens and our Afghan allies.

Throughout his career, and especially during his service in Afghanistan, Max embodied the words of the Corpsman's Pledge: "I shall do all within my power to show in myself an example of all that is honorable and good."

Mr. Speaker, Maxton Soviak is an American hero who will never be forgotten. He served his Nation bravely and honorably. We will never be able to repay his sacrifice, but we must always remember it.

SUPPORTING VOTER RIGHTS

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

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Mr. Speaker, Georgia was one of the first States in the country to pass a voter suppression bill after the 2020 general election, but S.B. 202 is just our State's latest attempt to disenfranchise minority communities.

Georgia has a long history of undermining the right to vote, from the Jim Crow era to more recent voter roll purges and exact-match policies. This week, news from Georgia and Florida confirmed, yet again, that bills like S.B. 202 were adopted because Republicans are afraid that they will lose elections if all eligible voters participate.

It is time for Congress to fix what the Supreme Court broke in 2013 when they effectively gutted the Voting Rights Act.

I proudly supported the For the People Act and the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, both of which laid essential groundwork toward protecting our democracy. I now look forward to supporting the Freedom to Vote Act in the coming weeks.

OPPOSING THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION

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

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address H.R. 5305, the continuing resolution for short-term government funding that passed the House last night, which I voted against.

Earlier this year, House Democrats passed their \$3.5 trillion partisan budget package, which significantly increased funding for their own spending priorities. However, this bill did not include funding for our military, the Department of Homeland Security, or grants for law enforcement.

Now, House Democrats have introduced their continuing resolution to fund the government and raise the debt ceiling through December 2022 to allow even more taxpayer dollars to go toward their spending spree.

Mr. Speaker, funding the government should be a bipartisan issue. Yet, rather than working together, Democrats expect Republicans to give them a blank check for their unprecedented spending. Democrats are responsible for expenditures; they need to take responsibility for the borrowing, too.

SUPPORT WOMEN BY PASSING THE WOMEN'S HEALTH PROTECTION ACT

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

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, America is a great Nation, but with all the challenges we face—protecting our homeland, repairing our broken infrastructure, taking care of our seniors, creating an economy that works for working people—extremist politicians continue to find time for their war on women.

When I was a police officer, I put away rapists, stalkers, and domestic abusers. Now, extremist politicians in Texas and my State of Florida are instead trying to empower those same criminals to sue victims if they get an abortion.

Let me be clear: No Florida woman needs to justify her healthcare decisions to anyone. It is our freedom to decide versus your attempts to control.

When I chose to start a family, I did not ask my Senator, my Congressman, nor my Governor for permission. Every woman has the right and the freedom to make her choice for herself and to do so based on her own personal, individual circumstances.

The Constitution is a stubborn thing. This week, we will preserve the constitutional protections of the 1973 decision in *Roe v. Wade*. I ask my colleagues to support women by voting for the Women's Health Protection Act.

HONORING THE OMAR FAMILY

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

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Omar family.

On Labor Day, Kelly and Jay Omar ran out to pick up dinner for their family while their oldest child, Briar, looked after his four siblings.

It wasn't long after they left that the kids started smelling smoke. Briar and his sister Peyton began looking around and noticed that the playpen was on fire.

The 13-year-old immediately sprang into action, getting his four sisters, the youngest of whom is just 6 months old, out of the house.

After Briar got his sisters to safety, he went back into the house in hopes of putting out the flames with a nearby fire extinguisher, but the blaze had grown too large to contain. Smoke surrounded him, making it nearly impossible to breathe or see the way out. Luckily, their family dog, Mandy, nudged Briar before guiding him out of the house and back to safety.

Kelly and Jay Omar returned to find their house engulfed in flames but felt a sigh of relief as they counted each of their children outside and out of harm's way.

Although they are devastated by what they lost, they remain fortunate for what they still have.

Thank you for the heroic efforts of Briar to save his sisters.

ALLOW MEDICARE TO NEGOTIATE DRUG PRICES

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, for far too long, the pharmaceutical industry has dictated who in America has access to the medicines they need for their health and well-being and who doesn't, leaving millions of Americans in districts like mine to make impossible choices about their healthcare.

Already this year, drug companies have hiked the prices of 1,100 prescription drugs, more than 90 percent of which were above the rate of inflation. The largest single price hike for a prescription drug this month was nearly 16 percent, while inflation has risen slightly more than 2 percent.

Big Pharma's bottom line should never be more important than the health of my constituents in the Seventh District of Pennsylvania or the American people at large.

That is why I recently organized a letter signed by 14 of my colleagues, asking our leaders to allow Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices and include that language in the budget reconciliation bill currently being negotiated.

Here is the truth: Giving Medicare the power to negotiate would lower the cost of prescription drugs for hard-working families so that everyone has access to the medicines they need. It would also result in nearly half a trillion dollars in savings for taxpayers, money that we can invest in making healthcare more affordable for even more people.

WISHING BURDETT LOOMIS A SPEEDY RECOVERY

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

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that you all join me in wishing Burdett Loomis a speedy recovery.

You may not know Bird, unless you took a political science class at the University of Kansas anytime in the last 40 years, in which case he was probably your favorite professor. Or maybe you would know him from his decades as the KU Washington Semester coordinator, helping students gain real-world experience at various organizations and congressional offices here in D.C.

Regular followers of Kansas politics and government will, of course, know him for his insight, wit, and frequent interviews and columns in the local news.

He is an irreplaceable member of our community whose contributions are too numerous for me to list in my short time here. He has been a trusted friend and adviser to many Kansas officials over the years, and I am personally grateful for his guidance through-

out my time in Congress and his unconditional dedication to the State of Kansas and the well-being of its democracy.

Bird has a huge community wishing him well. From students to Senators and so many in between, we look forward to seeing you soon and are keeping you in our thoughts.

REMEMBERING LIVES LOST IN BOULDER, COLORADO, MASS SHOOTING

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

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, 6 months ago today, we experienced a tragedy in my community of Boulder, Colorado.

On a Monday afternoon in March, 10 lives were lost at our local King Soopers as a gunman opened fire on customers and employees.

Ten lives were taken far too soon—daughters, sons, neighbors, spouses, coworkers, community members, each of whom left a profound impact on our community.

While the national news may have moved on, for our community, for the families, friends, and neighbors, we are still grieving and still healing.

May we continue to remember them. May we lift up their families and friends in our prayers and in our thoughts.

In the words of Thomas Campbell: "To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."

Our community remains strong in the face of this senseless act of violence. In strength, in kindness, and in compassion, may we move forward.

HAITIAN REFUGEES HAVE RIGHT TO SEEK ASYLUM

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

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, for many of our residents, the images of the United States Customs and Border Patrol officers on horseback whipping Black Haitian immigrants at the border were triggering. It was traumatic. It was a reminder of our country's ugly history and its decades of mistreatment of Black folks.

What we all witnessed in Del Rio, Texas, was disgusting, not just because of the rogue, out-of-control CBP but also because the actions were a blatant betrayal of our human rights values.

Those brave Haitian refugees have a legal right to seek asylum in our country, like all who are fleeing violence and repression.

America is supposed to be a safe haven. Instead, Black asylum seekers at the border are being met with violence and deportation back to a crisis-stricken country.

All Black Haitians deserve to be treated with human dignity, and we must do better. Our failure to act