

lot of different numbers. There is one bill before us today. The gentleman says it is not bipartisan. Eighteen Republican Senators voted for it. Granted, neither of his illustrious Senators from his State voted for it, but 18 Republican Senators did vote for it.

The numbers keep jumping around. We have one bill before us today, not the other one you want to debate. We have one bill before us that will build America's infrastructure, a long-overdue investment. We haven't increased investment substantially since the Clinton era. It has fallen apart. If you deny that, I have nothing more to say.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, the \$1.2 trillion Transportation and Infrastructure bill is 100 percent coupled, linked, dependent upon the \$3.5 trillion partisan reconciliation bill.

As our colleagues in the Democratic Party continue to remind us and affirm, investing in our Nation's transportation and infrastructure is a core function of government, and this bill is something I and many other Republicans and Members have tried hard to support.

Unfortunately, the Democrat leadership has made it patently clear that to pass this infrastructure bill, we must pass a completely partisan \$5 trillion budget reconciliation bill with the largest tax hike and government expansion in the history of our Nation. That I cannot support.

□ 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri has 10 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Oregon has 11½ minutes remaining.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. We are going to close the debate for tonight and continue this debate tomorrow. Perhaps Summit will come back to planet Earth.

Mr. Speaker, look, very simply, we are looking at a record investment in our crumbling infrastructure. I will just repeat it one more time: 42,000 bridges on the national highway system in need of serious repair or replacement; 40 percent of the National Highway System needs to be rebedded—that is totally rebuilt. That is expensive, not just another coat of asphalt on top, because it has been neglected for so long.

This is costing Americans every year a thousand bucks for car repair, blown-out tires, misaligned front ends when they hit these potholes.

Americans want this done. Yeah, it is going to increase investment in transit; \$100 billion-dollar backlog to bring transit to a state of good repair in this country.

We have the strongest Buy America requirements of any part of the government. There were two potential problems with Chinese-owned industries. Unfortunately, the Senate couldn't see their way to close those. But the predominant amount of this money—and those loopholes have already been partially closed from other legislation I put through—will be spent on American jobs, American manufacturing made here in the United States of America, another key part of the President's proposal. Bring it home. Make it here. Rebuild our country. To be continued.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the motion to concur in Senate amendment to H.R. 3684 is postponed.

NATIONAL CHOCOLATE MILK DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Penn State University's Berkey Creamery on their 2021 award for Best Whole Chocolate Milk. It only seems fitting to announce this award today, on National Chocolate Milk Day.

The creamery took home this award on August 30 at the World Dairy Expo Championship Dairy Product Contest. And I can attest it is delicious.

Whole milk is the number one provider of nine essential nutrients as well as a great deal of long-term benefits. Millions of Americans nationwide enjoy it. In fact, 70 percent of milk consumed is flavored, with chocolate milk being the most popular. But milk consumption is declining, and due to misguided public policy, this nutritious beverage was removed from the National Lunch Program.

Earlier this year, my colleague, Mr. ANTONIO DELGADO and I introduced the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act. This legislation would provide our students with the nutrient-rich beverage by bringing flavored and unflavored whole milk back into the school cafeterias.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to celebrate today with a large glass of chocolate milk.

RAISE THE DEBT CEILING

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, George Washington fought for the Nation. Abraham Lincoln tried to unify it.

I am absolutely stunned that the United States Senate would not uphold its responsibility to pay America's bills—the bills that we have paid over and over again—by refusing to raise

the debt ceiling for some foolish tomfoolery of politics. What is our Nation up to? What are the Republicans up to?

But I do want to say as well that I look forward to the budget reconciliation or the Build Back America and the INVEST Act traveling the same pathway because my district needs the extra \$20 million that we had established here in the House to be able to help the corridor along Scott Street where Texas Southern University is and the University of Houston, a majority university and a historically Black university.

We have to get to work. We have to realize that the importance of connecting neighborhoods that lost the connectiveness because of major highways is crucial—like I45 North that divided the community; like 288, that is already there, that has divided communities of color.

Let's do the right thing and stand for the American people. Politics has no place for deciding whether people have clean water, whether people have roads that work and mobility, and, of course, broadband.

Madam Speaker, let's stand with the American people.

BIDEN'S 2007 BORDER POLICY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. "Ladies and gentlemen, no great country can say it is secure without being able to control its borders. Period. What I would do about it is what I proposed to do about it almost 13 years ago. I would radically ramp up the number of border security guards we have and increase the use of electronic surveillance material we have to guard the border."

Now, which politician said those words back on the campaign trail back in 2007?

Here is another quote for you: "We simply cannot allow people to pour into the United States undetected, undocumented, unchecked, and circumventing the line of people who are waiting patiently, diligently, and lawfully to become immigrants in this country."

That wasn't President Trump. That wasn't even a Republican. Those commonsense border policy quotes you heard came from none other than President Biden and President Obama.

Those words reveal the Democrats do know what is needed to fix our border crisis, but they are too afraid of what the liberal media and the progressive left would do in order to act.

So I call on President Biden to listen to his own advice and do what needs to be done because "no great country can say it is secure without being able to control its own borders. Period."

REMEMBERING JOHN VALENTINE BURKE

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember and honor John Burke of Savannah, Georgia, who sadly passed away on September 17 at the age of 91.

John served his community by sharing his passion for sports and the outdoors through his writing. A native of Maine, John began his life in the Coastal Empire when he was stationed as a Marine at Parris Island, South Carolina. After leaving the Marine Corps, John began his career as a reporter with the Savannah Morning News where he worked for over 50 years.

John's passion for life and the outdoors inspired him to document his travels to Alaska. A recipient of many honors throughout his lifetime, John's most cherished memory was being the grand marshal of the 2007 Savannah, Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

As a devoted outdoorsman, John served the Savannah community as an advocate for hunting and fishing conservation.

I am grateful for John's service to his country and community, and I know his impact will never be forgotten.

BIDEN'S ASSAULT ON AMERICAN ENERGY

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I ask that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, we are here tonight as members of the House Energy Action Team to discuss the Biden administration's assault on American energy.

His policies have hurt our constituents, and tonight, members of the HEAT team will talk about how these actions continue to harm their districts. The last 9 months have painted a portrait of what the Biden administration's energy policies mean for our country.

Madam Speaker, it is not a pretty picture. As we speak, Biden's allies in Congress intend to pass their \$3.5 trillion budget reconciliation package, only making this situation worse.

Let's take the natural gas tax, for example. It will increase everyday Americans' bills by hundreds of dollars and destroy hundreds of thousands of American family-sustaining jobs. This will rob opportunity from the very communities that I represent in Penn-

sylvania and hundreds of towns just like this. And we will hear more about that this evening.

This tax is a solution in search of a problem, and it is creating that problem. The United States has led the world in reducing greenhouse emissions in the last two decades, and the energy industry is voluntarily reducing methane emissions.

Innovation is the ultimate answer to cutting emissions, and we cannot afford to stifle advancement. As a Nation, we cannot tax our way to a cleaner environment. And Americans are fed up with taxes. The biggest tax that our citizens are now facing is inflation. Across the board, prices are rising.

The energy sector is particularly worrisome with gas prices climbing 63 percent in my home State of Pennsylvania. This cost falls disproportionately on low-income Americans. It is not fair for them to foot the bill for the policy preferences of liberal coastal elites.

Let's take another example of the Biden administration's war on American industry. In their attempts to enact provisions of the Green New Deal, they have smothered American innovation. For years, our Nation has been at the cutting edge in nearly every sector of the economy. From cyberspace to advances in manufacturing, America has always stayed one step ahead of its competition. But that is starting to change.

American researchers and developers have always been able to count on the access to the resources needed to manufacture new pioneering products. But a rising China threatens that access.

Of the 35 essential minerals listed for the U.S. economic and national security, China is the top producer or top supplier of 23 of them. China controls the production of 80 percent of rare earth elements, 70 percent of graphite, almost 60 percent of lithium, and almost 60 percent of vanadium, and 36 percent of cobalt.

Products like batteries and semiconductors that are needed in the liberals' remaking of America require large amounts of these rare earth elements.

The good news is we have them, right here within our borders. The bad news is that under the Biden administration's burdensome regulations, companies are unable to mine these very elements that are under the ground that we stand on. We need to unshackle the American worker and allow businesses to extract these minerals so that we can make the products of the future right here at home instead of relying on foreign rivals.

As the last 9 months have clearly shown, these policies are not the right way forward. Congress must continue to embrace the bottom-up innovation that will result in leaps in efficiency far greater than any mandate—instead of expensive taxes that will take money out of working Americans' pockets.

We have a great group of colleagues here tonight from the House Energy Action Team to talk about how their communities are being affected by this administration.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON).

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the Biden administration's attack on American energy production.

Last month, as America faced 40 percent higher prices at the pump as a result of his failed policies, President Biden found himself begging OPEC to open the valve to alleviate the pinch of skyrocketing prices. To no one's surprise, OPEC refused.

Earlier this year, in a baffling sequence of events on his very first day in office, President Biden canceled the Keystone XL pipeline project, eliminating 11,000 U.S. energy jobs here at home.

□ 2015

And then he gave a green light to Russia's Nord Stream 2 pipeline across Europe. Perhaps most appalling is that the Nord Stream 2 decision was made in the wake of Russian hackers shutting down the Colonial Pipeline, affecting tens of millions of American up and down the East coast.

These misguided policy decisions by the Biden administration have caused irreparable harm, not just to the U.S., but also to our European allies who are growing increasingly weary of how the Kremlin may use its newfound grasp on the region's energy supplies to advance their geopolitical influence.

Destroying American energy production under the false pretense that doing so is somehow saving the environment is nothing more than a mismatch of problems and solutions. It is a disastrous display of virtue-signaling.

Meanwhile, in the midst of soaring inflation, American taxpayers are the ones left paying the price, robbed of both reliable energy options and their hard-earned money.

Madam Speaker, the Biden administration's policies are damaging American energy independence and security. We must reverse course and return to a path of American energy leadership, not foreign reliance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. BALDERSON.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, last week, the U.S. Energy Information Administration reported that Russia is now the number two oil importer to the U.S.—let that sink in—behind only Canada. Russian oil imports increased by 23 percent in May to nearly 850,000 barrels a day from the previous month.

Up until the Biden administration took over, we were energy secure and no longer dependent upon Middle East oil. Now President Biden is asking