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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STANTON).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 28, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable GREG STANTON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

WHO PAYS FOR THE WOKE?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, during the Trump administration, Republicans passed one of the biggest tax cuts in American history and the largest regulatory relief ever. Together, they produced the biggest economic expansion in our lifetimes.

Before the lockdown left took a wrecking ball to our economy, Americans were prospering with the lowest

unemployment rate in 50 years, the lowest poverty rate in 60 years, and the fastest wage growth in 40 years. For the first time in decades, the income gap was narrowing.

Well, Joe Biden and the Democrats have reversed these policies with reckless abandon, and it is no coincidence that real wages for Americans have declined every single month since he took office.

History is crystal clear on this point: No country has ever taxed, spent, and borrowed its way to prosperity, but many have done so to their ruin.

Brian Riedl tallied up the total cost of the Democrats' new spending bills for the New York Post today and estimates \$8 trillion over the next 10 years, more than \$60,000 per family. Joe Biden and the Democrats tell us it won't cost you a penny. It will all be paid by somebody else.

But here is the dirty little secret of government spending. Government cannot put a dollar into the economy that it hasn't first taken out of the same economy. Every dollar it gives to you, it must take from you, and there are only three ways to do that: through current taxes, which rob you of your current purchasing power; through borrowing, which robs you of your future purchasing power; or by printing money, which robs you every time you go shopping by reducing the value of your earnings, while it silently hollows out your savings and retirement funds.

Don't fall for their lie that their taxes will only fall on businesses. Businesses don't pay business taxes; you pay business taxes. You pay them as a consumer through higher prices; you pay them as an employee through lower wages; and you pay them as an investor through lower earnings. That is your retirement fund.

You know they are coming after working families because they want to hire 87,000 new IRS agents—87,000 new IRS agents. That is every man, woman,

and child living today in Miami Beach, Florida, or Ogden, Utah. Imagine the entire population of one of those cities hired to go after every taxpayer in America.

And get this: The Democrats' so-called American Families Plan will require your bank to report every one of your private transactions over \$600 to the IRS—every transaction you make over \$600 automatically reported to the IRS.

Does that sound like they are coming after the Biden family? No, they are coming after your family.

If you are typical, you already paid more in taxes last year than you paid for food, clothing, healthcare, and entertainment combined. Yet, according to the Democrats, that is just not enough.

What else do you get for your \$60,000 of new taxes and inflation and tax-driven price increases? Well, you get amnesty, legal permanent residence, and a fast track for citizenship for 8 to 10 million foreign nationals who illegally entered our country and demand to stay.

Now, let's just take the lower number, 8 million. That is the entire population of Wyoming, Alaska, Vermont, South Dakota, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Montana, and Maine combined—this at a time when real family earnings are declining, crime is increasing, homelessness is rampant, and mounting debt is killing the American Dream of a better future for our children.

Explain to me how American workers are helped by flooding the labor market with low-wage labor.

Of course, the woke ruling class makes out very well. That \$60,000 taken from your earnings over the next decade will, for example, pay bonuses of up to \$50,000 each for reporters and bloggers across the country who so shamelessly do the Democrats' bidding. There are lavish handouts to Ivy

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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League universities and the fashionable elite who buy \$82,000 Teslas.

There is even a new civilian climate corps, presumably filled with officious little climate pioneers ever eager to report whose chimney is smoking, who is watering the lawn on the wrong day, and who is spreading forbidden climate disinformation.

It is easy to make fun of all this until you realize this is about to become law. America, for God's sake, wake up. Our country is on the precipice.

I have just one question for my Democratic colleagues: What makes you think socialism will work any better here than everywhere else it has been tried?

HONORING THE LIFE OF CORPORAL HUNTER LOPEZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marine Corps Corporal Hunter Lopez, my constituent, who was killed in action on August 26, 2021, while serving our Nation in Afghanistan.

Today, I humbly rise to honor his memory in the hope that Americans across the country and future generations will come to know his story.

Corporal Lopez was a selfless young man with an infectious smile who truly lived his life with a larger purpose in mind. That purpose was serving our country and contributing to something greater than himself.

He was born in Palm Springs, California, on January 15, 1999. Growing up in Indio, he possessed a passion for service from a young age. His parents, Herman and Alicia, both public servants with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, instilled in him the courage, kindness, and resolve that led him to join the Marine Corps.

Corporal Lopez was a history buff, an ambitious student, and an avid Star Wars fan with an affinity for quizzing his friends and family on the movie series' trivia.

He was also incredibly thoughtful. He was the kind of person who would take the time, while serving overseas, to write letters to his grandparents in their native Spanish, despite not being fluent himself, just because he knew they would appreciate it.

Corporal Lopez always strived for excellence, and his determination to succeed motivated his friends and those around him to reach their full potential.

After graduating from La Quinta High School and achieving the rank of captain as an Explorer Scout with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Corporal Lopez joined the Marine Corps, where he served for 4 years.

His first 3 years were with the Fleet Antiterrorism Security Team Company A, 5th Platoon, before he joined the 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Division, Golf Company, 1st Platoon, 3rd Squad.

It was with the 2nd Battalion that Corporal Lopez served in Operation Allies Refuge, contributing to the largest airlift in history and aiding the evacuation of over 120,000 of our fellow Americans, allies, and Afghan partners, a truly heroic and historic effort.

On August 26, 2021, Corporal Lopez was stationed at the airport in Kabul. That day, under the blazing sun, Corporal Lopez and his fellow marines worked tirelessly to evacuate the thousands of women, children, and families who came to the airport desperately seeking safety, protection, and refuge.

Striving to bring calm to a panicked crowd, Corporal Lopez put the safety of others above his own. As the crowd grew more intense, Corporal Lopez and his fellow marine, Sergeant David Traylor, spotted two young girls, trapped under the weight of a fleeing crowd, about to be crushed.

The two marines successfully pulled the children to safety, saving their lives. They gave each other a fist bump, a very small celebration for an incredible task that they had just achieved. And then the explosion happened.

That day, Corporal Lopez gave his life to save the lives of others. I can't think of anything—anything—more noble than that.

Corporal Lopez saved two lives at the Kabul airport, and because of him, two children now have a future and the promise of a new life, many others reached safety, and many others have a reason to hope.

We lost Corporal Lopez and 12 other servicemembers on August 26. Each and every day since then, the Lopez family and the families of all our Nation's fallen heroes continue to feel their loss. They feel the loss of a loved one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation, and they feel the loss of a hero who died serving a purpose larger than themselves.

To the Lopez family, parents, Herman and Alicia; sister, Trinity; and brother, Owen: You are in our constant prayers, and our entire Nation grieves your loss, stands with you, and supports you.

We will continue to tell the story of Hunter's remarkable service, compassion, strength, and valor so that his legacy will live on for generations to come.

HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY OF CORPORAL HUNTER LOPEZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, to my colleague, my Democrat colleague: From west Texas, our heartfelt condolences to Corporal Lopez and his family for that ultimate sacrifice.

I am about to really launch into the debate over the tax-and-spend bill, but we stand united for our troops and for those who are willing to give up their

tomorrow, or their today, so that we can have a future in this country.

God bless the Lopez family, and I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

CONGRATULATING WYLIE LITTLE LEAGUE
BASEBALL TEAM

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a few outstanding members of the next generation of west Texans.

The Wylie Little League baseball team from Abilene, Texas, represented not only District 19 well but the whole State of Texas in the Little League World Series there in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

This team knows what it is like to compete in true west Texas fashion. The success of this team is unprecedented, winning against teams from Washington, New Jersey, and Nebraska.

To the Wylie All-Stars, their proud parents and coaches, and especially Manager Reggie Regala, west Texas is so proud of you, all of your achievements, and your outstanding representation of west Texas and Congressional District 19. Thank you.

Go All-Stars. And God bless west Texas.

A TAX ON EVERY AMERICAN

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, we are, as a Nation, looking down the barrel of the largest tax-and-spend proposal in the history of the United States, this while our Nation suffers from a recession and major runaway inflation on account of policies from my Democrat colleagues to sideline labor by paying people more to be on unemployment than to go to work. So you have labor sidelined, which distorted supply and demand.

You also had a bill that was \$2 trillion, with the flag of COVID relief wrapped around it, to bail out union pensions and blue States and blue cities that were broke before COVID ever hit our shores. This has created inflation, a tax on every American.

The answer from my Democrat colleagues is to tax the middle class, to chase jobs back overseas. After the tax cuts lifted 6 million people out of poverty, gave us the largest wage increase in 20 years, the largest household income increase on record, we want to tax our job creators. We want to load the working man and woman and families with lower wages, with higher cost of goods and services. That is what the tax will translate into for these folks.

This is not only the largest tax increase; it is not only the largest spending boondoggle; it is the largest redistribution of wealth, the largest expansion of government, the most radical reimagination of our government's role in the American people's lives in the history of our country. I believe that. I don't think that is hyperbole.

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What are we taxing? To make America less competitive and to put more burden on the American people? To what end? To pay for the green new