

New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of passing the historic bipartisan infrastructure bill on Thursday.

In August, all 220 House Democrats came here on the floor and voted to support opening debate and to vote on this once-in-a-century bipartisan infrastructure bill this week. Why? Because America simply can't afford to wait any longer.

In New Jersey, our roads are the third worst in the Nation. One-third of our bridges are considered unsafe. Our transit has the worst on-time record in the country. Our train tunnel, which is critical between New York and New Jersey, 20 percent of the GDP runs through that corridor, yet the tunnel is 113 years old and literally crumbling. Moms and dads wait hours in delays to get home every night. It is affecting our businesses and our productivity.

Hurricane Ida and climate change destroyed so many family homes in my community just weeks ago.

The unfortunate reality is this: We just haven't made the investments we need in this country in infrastructure.

China last year spent \$3.7 trillion outside of China on infrastructure, and yet here we are year in and year out calling for infrastructure week and to get it done, and nothing happens. Now is our opportunity to get something done for our country.

This historic bill, \$1.2 trillion, will turn that around and put two million hardworking men and women of labor to work every year for the next decade. It will invest in electric vehicle infrastructure and the Gateway Tunnel, in rebuilding that. The tunnel I talked about that is crumbling, this is going to help fix it. It invests in roads and bridges and transit. Clean water to make sure that we get lead water out and forever chemicals out. It invests in broadband.

After the Problem Solvers Caucus, which I proudly co-chair, worked for months with our Senate colleagues from both sides of the aisle—and so many of us worked on it here in this House—50 Democrats and 19 Republicans in the Senate voted for this bill. Everyone from BERNIE SANDERS to JOE MANCHIN to MITCH MCCONNELL all voted for it and sent it to us early last month.

It is critical to the rest of the country and to New Jersey that we get it done. Not only because it makes these historic investments but because it is about the country coming together, Democrats and Republicans, to show that we can govern.

We need to get everyone on board this week, Democrats and Republicans, because this bill is simply too important for our country and our future. There is nothing partisan about fixing our roads and our bridges and tunnels. There is nothing partisan about investing in fighting climate change, which this bill does. There is nothing partisan

about making sure that we have the resources we need for our economy to run and for people to get to work every day.

I urge my colleagues, every one of them, to come to this Chamber Thursday and to vote for this critical legislation. I know that working together, our best days as a country will always be ahead of us here in the greatest country in the world. And infrastructure is the best place to start; for our President, for our country, and for all of us.

#### STEVE HOWARD IS A HARDWORKING LEADER

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steve Howard of Woodbine, Georgia, on his appointment to the National Association of Counties' Environment, Energy, & Land Use Steering Committee.

Known as an intensively hardworking leader, Steve's accomplishments are impressive. Over the past several years, Steve has led one of the most innovative and economic development projects in Georgia and throughout the country.

He has shown exceptional leadership in the Spaceport Camden project that is a tremendous opportunity for Georgia's First Congressional District. The project encompasses many of the aspects of the committee, making his expertise invaluable.

There is no county administrator who has as much knowledge in energy, environment, and land use as Steve. I know he will be an amazing resource for counties across the Nation. I am proud to see Steve represent our district with the National Association of Counties.

I would like to congratulate Steve on his appointment and thank him for his years of service to Georgia's First Congressional District.

#### SAVANNAH/HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS AN AWARD-WINNING FACILITY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport for being awarded the second-best domestic airport in the United States.

Complemented by an amazing staff, this airport has shown exemplary service to its customers since 1929.

For the past 5 years, Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport has ranked in the top 10 of best domestic airports in the United States.

This award highlights their hard work and dedication to ensure safety and security, while offering the best customer service.

Savannah's airport has been a tremendous economic contributor to Georgia's First Congressional District, supporting the community with over 20,000 jobs. Although small in size, the Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport has had a lasting impact on the

people visiting the great State of Georgia.

I want to extend my congratulations to the great staff, TSA workers, and Savannah Airport Commission for their great work.

I look forward to the continued success of the Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport.

□ 1045

#### REMEMBERING AND HONORING DEBORAH SMITH

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Deborah Smith of Wayne County, Georgia, who, sadly, passed away on September 12, at the age of 51.

Debi devoted her life to improving her community and the lives of others. Debi loved volunteering and helping people.

Debi's love for her community was apparent during her time as the CEO of United Way of South Georgia, where she served eight counties and 26 agencies.

A giant in her local community, Debi also served as the president of the Rotary Club of Jesup and on the board of the Downtown Development Authority.

Debi was recognized by the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce as Ambassador of the Year for her selfless sacrifice toward her community.

I am thankful for the immense impact that Debi had on Georgia's First Congressional District, and I know her legacy will remain.

My thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and all who knew her, during this most difficult time.

#### RECOGNIZING JEFF LUREY

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Jeff Lurey for his long and accomplished pharmacy career.

Jeff discovered his passion for helping others during his time at the University of Georgia's School of Pharmacy. Following graduation, Jeff bought his first pharmacy in 1973 and would go on to own five other pharmacies.

Jeff's accomplishments are nothing short of extraordinary.

From starting the Georgia Pharmacy Foundation to his service on the Georgia Pharmacy Association, Jeff's leadership has been felt throughout the great State of Georgia.

During his accomplished career, Jeff served in numerous leadership positions within the Georgia Pharmacy Association.

Jeff has received numerous awards throughout the State of Georgia for his immense contributions to the pharmacy community.

While Jeff's work with the Georgia Pharmacy Association is coming to an end, I am confident that his service to pharmacists will continue.

I am truly grateful for Jeff's contributions, and I thank him for his years of service.

SOLUTIONS TO SOUTHERN BORDER  
CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last week, in her attempt to deflect from the Biden administration's complete and utter devastation at our southern border, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said: "There are a lot of Republicans out there giving speeches about how outraged they are about the situation at the border, not many are putting forward solutions or steps that we could take."

Well, she got one thing right: We are outraged.

We are outraged because, every single day, we hear from constituents who are dismayed, angry about this administration's complete lack of concern for the safety and well-being of our Nation at the southern border.

They resent the fact that, on his first day in office, the unity President gave up on border security and hung a welcome sign in our border communities. Biden sent a very clear message to the world that our rule of law would not be enforced under his administration.

Jen Psaki now has the audacity to complain about Republicans highlighting a crisis that they themselves created and claims she hasn't heard solutions. Jen, if you haven't heard solutions, circle back and listen.

To start, the biggest thing the Biden administration needed to do to protect our country was nothing at all. The former administration had laid out a clear and effective border security measure that safeguarded our communities, protected public health, and incentivized legal pathways to citizenship.

Yet, Biden has systematically unraveled all of the former administration's effective policies in the name of lawlessness just to score political points with the radical and progressive left.

I cannot fathom how anyone in a position of authority—Jen Psaki, President Biden, Vice President HARRIS, Secretary Mayorkas—would spend more time ignoring our laws than correcting the crisis that they created.

So, Biden administration, now that we have gotten your attention, please listen to how you fix this crisis.

Number one, enforce the laws that are written. Don't undermine our national security with political pandering.

Two, complete border construction. Right now, there are millions of dollars' worth of building material rusting in the desert because Biden put a halt to the Congress-approved and paid for border construction. This is a disastrous waste of taxpayer dollars and a tragedy for our border security.

Number three, reinstate the remain in Mexico policy so that those seeking asylum can be processed orderly, without putting our borders at risk. We had the buy-in and cooperation of all the

Central American countries. Biden threw that cooperation out the window.

Number four, require a negative COVID test before entering into the southern United States to actually protect public health. The Biden administration's current COVID policy is hypocrisy. Right now, international travelers who fly into the United States must show proof of vaccination or a negative test, while illegal immigrants can walk across the border without any public health requirements.

I mean, hell, in the midst of the fourth worst COVID surge, Secretary Mayorkas himself confirmed that none of the 15,000 Haitians brought into this country from under the bridge were tested for COVID.

The absence of accountability and urgency in this matter is shameful. The hypocrisy is disastrous.

Number five, quit encouraging people to make the disastrous trek to America. Just last week, we saw thousands of Haitians and their families make the treacherous journey to our border, many suffering from heat-related injuries and other diseases. Then, Mayorkas finally admitted that over 10,000 Haitians were brought into this country without being vetted.

Number six, promising amnesty, tax remittance, healthcare, and sanctuary cities to illegals, stop it. Again, these liberal policies are enticing people to break our laws.

So next time, before Jen Psaki or anyone in the Biden administration criticizes House Republicans for talking openly about how to combat a national security crisis of their own making, I suggest she circle back and revisit all that we have said in the preceding months.

The great hidden provisions in the new reconciliation package present the most disastrous immigration policies in our Nation's history. I don't envy Jen Psaki's job of having to defend the destruction of this country.

Mr. Speaker, we are a country of laws. Our laws need to be enforced. I continue to fight for the security of this Nation and our southern border.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President and to address their remarks to the Chair and not to a perceived viewing audience.

REMEMBERING INNOCENT LIVES  
LOST ON 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
9/11 TERROR ATTACKS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, we remembered the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks. I rise today to remember the innocent lives that we lost.

At 8:46 a.m., American Airlines Flight 11 flew into tower one of the

World Trade Center. Not long after, Flight 175 roared over lower Manhattan into tower two.

While Americans around the country were grappling with the events that had just transpired, a third plane, Flight 77, crashed into the Pentagon, the center of our Armed Forces and national defense.

In southwest Pennsylvania, the fourth flight, United 93, originally headed to San Francisco, was hijacked and made the abrupt turn toward Washington, D.C. But because of the brave passengers and crew members who attempted to take back the plane, it crashed into a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

Now, I had the humbling opportunity to join over 450 family members of United Flight 93 passengers and crew members at the memorial site on the 20th anniversary of that tragic day. During the ceremony, we heard from Captain Kurtz, USS *Somerset*; Governor Wolf; Gordon Felt, brother of Edward Porter Felt, who perished in the crash; Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS; and former President George W. Bush.

The ceremony was a chance to reflect on the events of that fateful day and to honor the lives lost and the heroes that united us.

In the days, weeks, months, and now two decades that followed September 11, our country joined together to face the very evil which attempted to take us down.

We will forever be indebted to our servicemen and -women who joined the fight to protect our freedoms. We must remember the sacrifices made by our servicemembers and the first responders and their families every day since.

While today's world has grown no less dangerous, we, as Americans, are resilient. We will continue to fight the evil and terror that exists today, and we will continue to be a beacon of freedom to the world.

Let us reflect on the gift of life so tragically lost at the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

Let us honor the memory of every American who perished on that fateful day. Their legacies will be forever entwined with the strength and courage that define our great country.

We will never forget, not 20 years later, not ever. May God continue to watch over our first responders, our men and women in uniform, and all those who keep us safe.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 55 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.